

SPECIAL RELEASE

Literacy Rate among Household Population Five Years Old and Over in the MIMAROPA Region (2020 Census of Population and Housing)

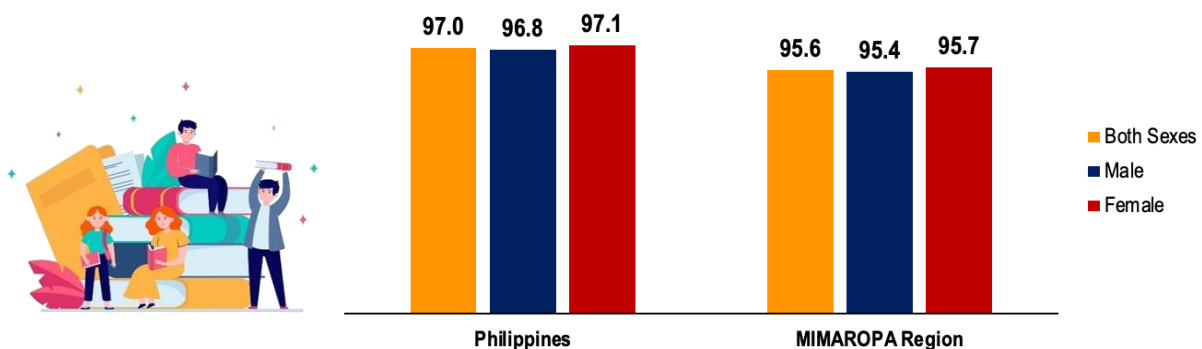
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Literacy rate in the MIMAROPA Region reaches 95.6 percent

Based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH), of the 2,880,314 household population five years old and over in the MIMAROPA Region, 2,752,559 persons (95.6%) were literate. In the 2020 CPH, a person is considered literate if he/she is able to read and write a simple message in any language or dialect.

The regional literacy rate in 2020 was 1.4 percentage points lower than the national literacy rate of 97.0 percent. In terms of sex, female's literacy rate in 2020 at 95.7 percent was slightly higher than the literacy rate of males at 95.4 percent. (Figure 1 and Table A)

Figure 1. Literacy Rate of the Household Population Five Years Old and Over by Sex, The Philippines and MIMAROPA Region: 2020



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, *2020 Census of Population and Housing*

Literacy rate is highest among household population 15 to 19 years old

In the MIMAROPA Region, the literacy rate is highest among household population whose age is 15 to 19 five years old at 98.8 percent. The same age group had the highest literacy rate for male household population (98.7%) and female household population (98.9%).

The age groups 10 to 14 years old and 20 to 24 years old closely followed with corresponding literacy rate of 98.6 percent (male: 98.4%, and female: 98.8%) and 98.2 percent (male: 98.1%, and female: 98.4%). (Table 1)

Table 1. Literacy Rate of the Household Population Five Years Old and Over By Age Group, MIMAROPA Region: 2020

Age Group	Literate			Literacy Rate (in Percent)		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
All Ages	2,752,559	1,400,088	1,352,471	95.6	95.4	95.7
5 - 9	294,970	152,108	142,862	82.8	82.5	83.2
10 - 14	352,797	182,049	170,748	98.6	98.4	98.8
15 - 19	334,457	170,670	163,787	98.8	98.7	98.9
20 - 24	288,069	147,757	140,312	98.2	98.1	98.4
25 - 29	245,458	124,792	120,666	97.5	97.4	97.7
30 - 34	212,729	109,037	103,692	97.2	97.1	97.4
35 - 39	191,838	99,116	92,722	96.9	96.8	96.9
40 - 44	173,261	90,232	83,029	96.8	96.8	96.8
45 - 49	152,921	79,576	73,345	96.5	96.5	96.6
50 - 54	135,003	69,407	65,596	96.9	96.8	97.0
55 - 59	113,888	58,111	55,777	96.8	96.7	96.9
60 - 64	93,455	46,425	47,030	96.1	96.2	96.1
65 years and over	163,713	70,808	92,905	93.8	93.9	93.7

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Census of Population and Housing

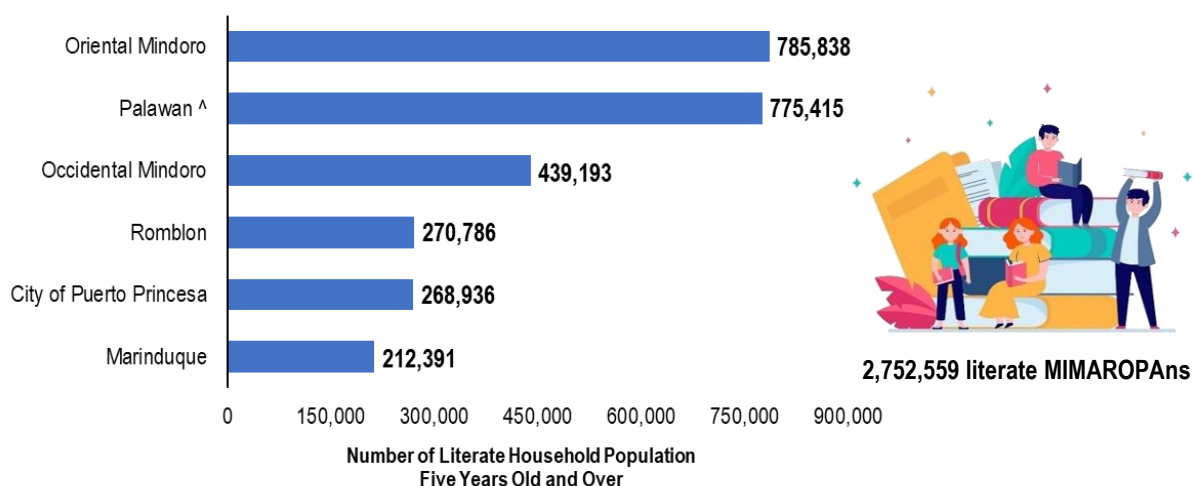
On the other hand, senior citizens and children belonging to the age group of five to nine years old had low literacy rates. The literacy rate among household population 60 to 64 years old was at 96.1 percent with males (96.2%) had a higher literacy rate than females (96.1%). Likewise for the household population 65 years and over at 93.8 percent literacy rate (male: 93.9%, and female: 93.7%). (Table 1)

Meanwhile, children whose age is between five to nine years old had 82.8 percent literacy rate with males' literacy rate of 82.5 percent fared lower than females' literacy rate of 83.2 percent. (Table 1)

Nearly three in every ten literate MIMAROPAns reside in Oriental Mindoro

Among provinces in the region, Oriental Mindoro had the highest number of literate household population whose age is at least five years old. This number reached 785,838 persons or 28.5 percent of the region’s literate household population five years old and over. The province of Palawan closely followed with 775,415 persons which translates to a 28.2 percent of the regional number of literate household population. Meanwhile, the province of Marinduque had the least number of literate population at 212,391 persons. (Figure 2)

Figure 2. Number of Literate Household Population by Province and Highly Urbanized City, MIMAROPA Region: 2020



Note: ^ Excludes the highly urbanized City of Puerto Princesa

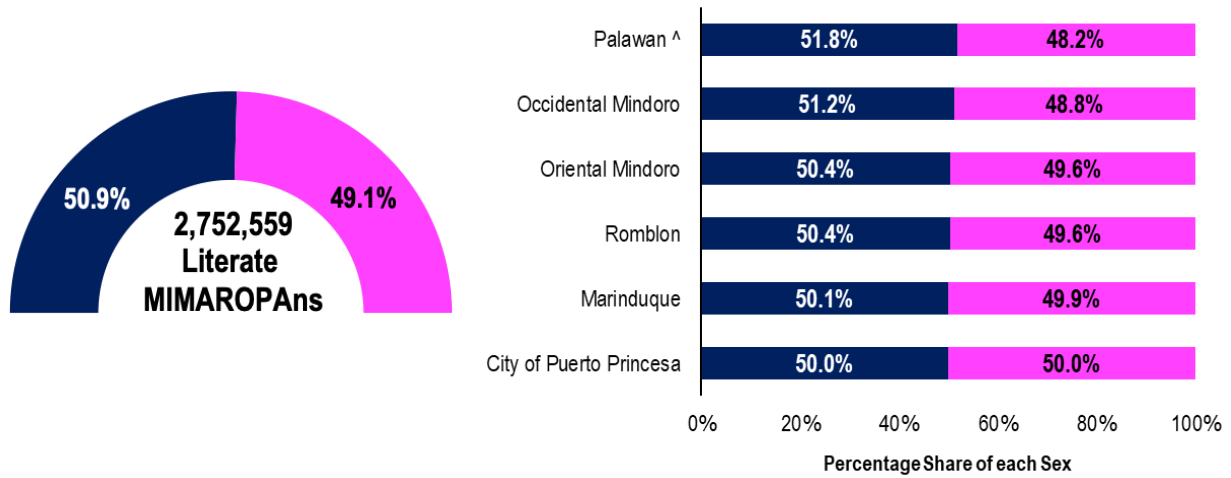
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Census of Population and Housing

Number of literate males is higher than the number of literate females

In terms of the number of literate household population five years old and over by sex, male household population outnumbered female household population in the region with a share of 50.9 percent. The same trend holds for all provinces in the region wherein the highest share of literate males in the provincial literate household population was at Palawan with 51.8 percent share. This was followed by Occidental Mindoro where literate males had 51.2 percent share to the province’s literate household population. Meanwhile, the larger share of literate males was seen in Marinduque at 50.1 percent.

In the City of Puerto Princesa, being the lone highly urbanized city in the MIMAROPA Region, the literate male household population had a share of nearly 50.0 percent to the literate household population of the said city. (Figure 3)

Figure 3. Percent Share of Literate Males and Females to the Total Literate Household Population by Province and Highly Urbanized City, MIMAROPA Region: 2020



Note: ^ Excludes the highly urbanized City of Puerto Princesa

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Census of Population and Housing

Provincial literacy rate is highest in Marinduque

Among provinces in the region, Marinduque posted the highest literacy rate at 98.6 percent. This was translated from the province's 212,391 literate household population aged five years old and over out of 215,350 household population whose age is at least five years old. Two other provinces had a literacy rate higher than the regional rate (95.6%), namely: Romblon (96.6%) and Oriental Mindoro (96.5%). Meanwhile, Occidental Mindoro had the lowest literacy rate at 94.8 percent. (Table 2 and Table B)

Table 2. Literacy Rate of the Household Population Five Years Old and Over By Province and Highly Urbanized City, MIMAROPA Region: 2020

Province and Highly Urbanized City	Literate			Literacy Rate (in Percent)		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
MIMAROPA Region	2,752,559	1,400,088	1,352,471	95.6	95.4	95.7
Marinduque	212,391	106,390	106,001	98.6	98.5	98.8
Occidental Mindoro	439,193	224,807	214,386	94.8	94.6	95.0
Oriental Mindoro	785,838	396,179	389,659	96.5	96.4	96.7
Palawan ^{1/}	775,415	401,849	373,566	93.2	93.2	93.1
Romblon	270,786	136,467	134,319	96.6	96.5	96.7
City of Puerto Princesa	268,936	134,396	134,540	97.9	97.7	98.0

Note: 1/ Excluding the highly urbanized City of Puerto Princesa


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Census of Population and Housing


In the City of Puerto Princesa, 268,936 out of 274,781 household population five years old and over were literate. This corresponds to the city's literacy rate of 97.9 percent. (Table 2 and Table B)

In terms of sex, female's literacy rate in all provinces of the region except Palawan was slightly higher than the literacy rate of males. The largest difference on the literacy rate by sex was observed in the province of Occidental Mindoro with female's literacy rate was higher by nearly 0.4 percentage points than male's literacy rate. On the other hand, the literacy rate among males was higher than the literacy rate among females by 0.1 percentage points in the province of Palawan. (Table 2)

The statistics presented in this Special Release were based on the information provided by the respondent or any responsible household member who provided answers to the questions and gave information about all the household members.

For the 2020 CPH, literacy data of household members five years and over were collected by asking the respondents, "*Can ___ read and write a simple message in any language or dialect?*"


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TECHNICAL NOTES

I. Introduction

The Philippine Statistics Authority conducted the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH) in September 2020, with 01 May 2020 as reference date.

The 2020 CPH was the 15th census of population and 7th census of housing that was undertaken in the Philippines since the first census in 1903. It was designed to take inventory of the total population and housing units in the country and collect information about their characteristics.

The Philippine Standard Geographic Codes as of March 2022 was used for the disaggregation of geographic levels of the 2020 CPH.

II. Data Collection

Data on literacy provides an important indicator that will serve as guide to planners in formulating policies and programs for the development of the country's educational system.

The statistics presented in this report were based on the information provided by the respondent or any responsible household member who may provide accurate answers to the questions and give correct information about all the household members; hence, it should be used with caution.

III. Methodology

The population and housing censuses in the Philippines are conducted on a "de jure" basis, wherein a person is counted in the usual place of residence or the place where the person usually resides. The enumeration of the population and collection of pertinent data in the 2020 CPH referred to all living persons as of 01 May 2020.

For the 2020 CPH, literacy data of household members five years and over was collected by asking the respondents, "*Can ___ read and write a simple message in any language or dialect?*".

IV. Concepts and Definition of Terms

A **household** is a social unit consisting of a person living alone or a group of persons who sleep in the same housing unit and have a common arrangement in the preparation and consumption of food.

Household population comprises of persons who belong to a household.

Sex is the biological and physiological reality of being a male or female.

Age refers to interval of time between the person's date of birth and his/her last birthday prior to the census reference date. It is expressed in completed years or whole number.

Simple literacy is *the ability of a person to read and write a simple message*. As such, a person is said to be literate if he/she can both read and write a simple message in any language or dialect. A person who cannot read and write a simple message, such as "I CAN READ" is considered illiterate. Moreover, a person is still considered illiterate if he/she is capable of reading and writing only his/her own name or numbers. Similarly, a person is illiterate if he/she can read but not write or he/she can write but not read.

A person who knows how to read and write but at the time of the census can no longer read and/or write due to some physical defect or illness is still considered literate. Example of this is an aged person who knows how to read and write but can no longer perform these activities due to poor eyesight or hand injury. Persons with disability who can read and write through other means such as the use of Braille are considered literate.