

## PRESS RELEASE

## Cotabato Province has a 1.5 Million Population based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing

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The Province of Cotabato (North Cotabato) has a total population of 1,490,618 as of May 1, 2020 based on the result of the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH) recently released by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). The population count was declared official for all purposes by the President of the Republic of the Philippines pursuant to Proclamation No. 1179 dated 06 July 2021.

The population of Cotabato province increased by 110,871 persons from 1,379,747 in 2015 which translates to 1.64 percent annual Population Growth Rate (PGR). The annual PGR of the Province of Cotabato has the highest annual PGR among four provinces in Region XII followed by the province of South Cotabato with 1.35 percent.

Among the 17 municipalities and one component city in the province, the municipality of Midsayap recorded the highest number of population with 165,376 persons followed by the municipality of Pikit with 164,646 persons and the City of Kidapawan (capital) with 160,791 persons. The least populated municipality in the province is Antipas with only 26,817 persons.

Meanwhile, the total population of Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN) is 4,901,486 while the country has a total population of 109,035,343. The latest population data are available at https://psa.gov.ph/population-and-housing.

Despite the pandemic brought about by the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the PSA has proudly overcome unprecedented challenges to collect and produce high-quality data that are critical in decision-making for good governance, development planning, risk reduction and crisis response, social welfare programs, and business market analyses, among others.

The PSA would like to extend its utmost appreciation to the public for their support and response to the 2020 CPH despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 CPH is the country's 15th Census of Population and 7th Census of Housing since 1903.

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