

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL OFFICE-COTABATO

PRESS RELEASE

PSA Cotabato Provincial Statistical Office to Conduct the 2022 January Labor Force Survey (LFS) and 2021 Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) – Visit 2

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A total of 1,555 households in Cotabato Province were systematically drawn for the 2022 January Labor Force Survey (LFS) and 2021 Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) Visit 2 which will start on January 10-until January 31, 2022.

The LFS is a nationwide quarterly survey of households conducted by the PSA to gather data on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population. It aims to provide statistics on levels and trends of employment, unemployment and underemployment of the country, as a whole, and for each of the administrative regions.

On the other hand, the 2021 FIES is the 19th in a series since it was first conducted nationwide in 1957. This survey aims to gather data on family income, sources of income, family expenditures and related information affecting family income and expenditure levels and patterns in the Philippines. It also aims to determine the income distribution, levels of living and spending patterns, and the degree of inequality among families. Further, it also aims to provide benchmark information to update the weights used in the estimation of Consumer Price Index (CPI) as well as to provide inputs in the estimation of the country's poverty threshold and incidence.

The FIES is conducted every three years in two separate visits – Visit 1 covers family income and expenditures for the period January to June 2021 which was conducted in July 2021 was to offer inputs for the estimation of the 2021 First Semester Poverty Statistics while Visit 2 – will collect the same data for the period July 2021 to December 2021 which will be conducted on January 2022 will provide inputs to the estimation of the 2021 Full Year Poverty Statistics.

Fifty-five hired Statistical Researchers to be directly supervised by regular Field Supervisors will visit the sample households for the face-to-face interview using the Computer Aided Personal Interviewing (CAPI) with strict adherence to minimum health protocols.

The PSA appeals to the public to actively participate in the conduct of the said surveys by providing truthful, complete and accurate information that will ultimately serve as vital input in evidence-based planning and decision making.

Further, the PSA assures its respondents that all information collected from them shall be kept **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL** as explicitly provided in Section 26 of RA 10625 which stipulates that "individual data furnished by the respondents to statistical inquiries, surveys and censuses of the PSA shall be considered as privileged information and such shall be inadmissible as evidence in any proceedings".

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