



SPECIAL RELEASE

APRIL 2021 EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN SOCCSKSARGEN REGION (Preliminary Results)

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Labor Force Survey (LFS)

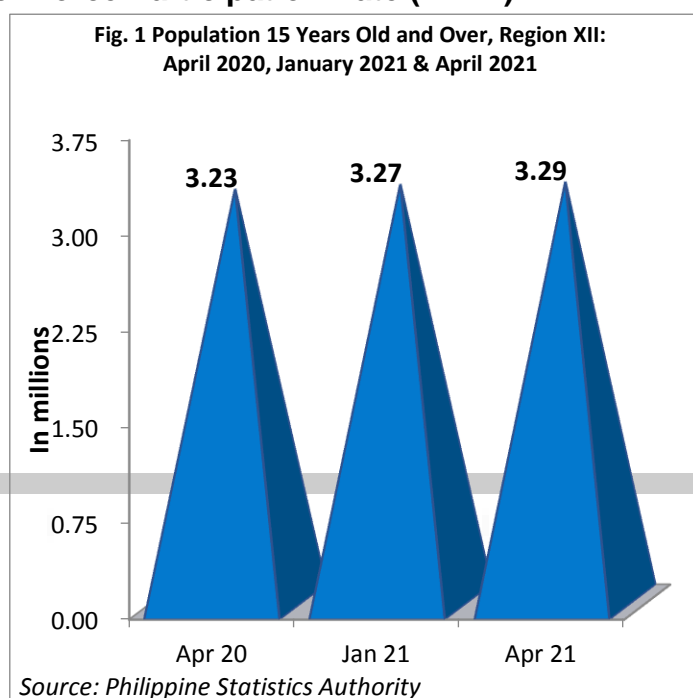
The Labor Force Survey (LFS) is a quarterly survey of households conducted nationwide by the PSA to gather data on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population. It adopted the 2013 Master Sample Design, with a sample size of approximately 44,000 households. The PSA makes use of the Computer Aided Personal Interviewing (CAPI) in the field enumeration through tablets which started last January 2017 round of LFS.

It aims to provide a quantitative framework for the preparation of plans and formulation of policies affecting the labor market.

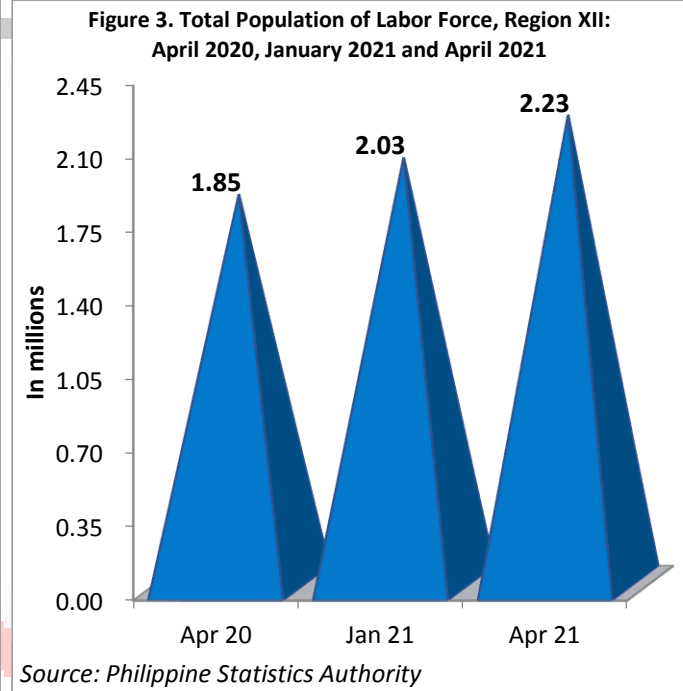
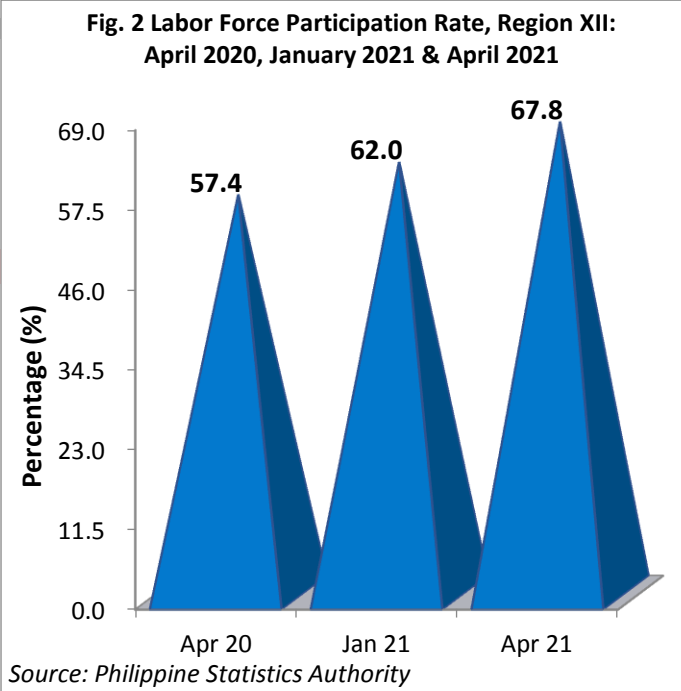
Specifically, the survey is designed to provide statistics on levels and trends of employment, unemployment and underemployment for the country, as a whole, and for each of the administrative regions.

Population 15 Years Old and Over & Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

The population 15 years and over in SOCCSKSARGEN Region reached 3.29 million in April 2021, more than 56 thousand higher compared to previous year's 3.23 million and almost 20 thousand higher compared to the January 2021 with 3.27 million (Fig. 1). These 3.29 million constituted 4.4 percent to the 74.97 million population 15 years old and over nationwide.

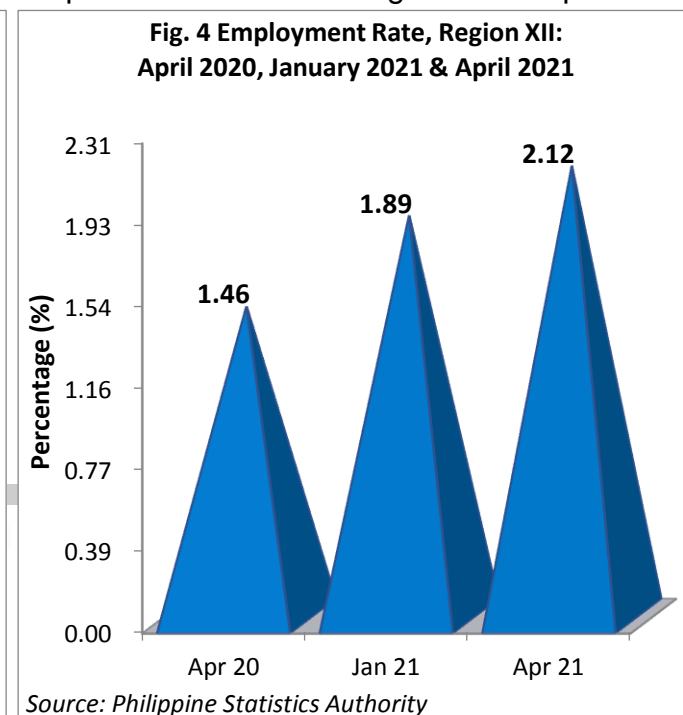
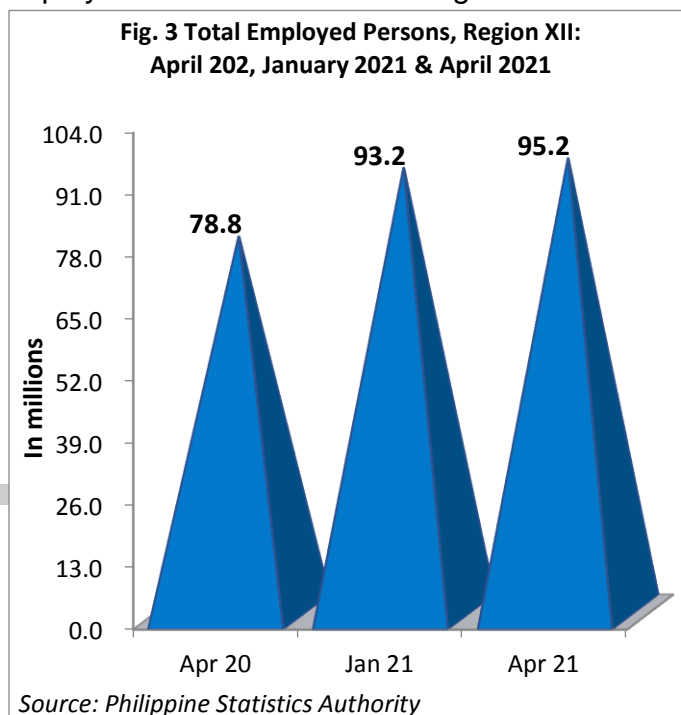


Persons in the labor force rose to 2.23 million in April 2021 from about 1.85 million in 2020, an increase of 20.5 percent or about 376.98 thousand individuals added to the labor force in 2021. Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in April 2021 was estimated at 67.8 percent, higher than the 57.4 percent recorded a year ago and an improvement from the 62.0 percent recorded in January 2021.



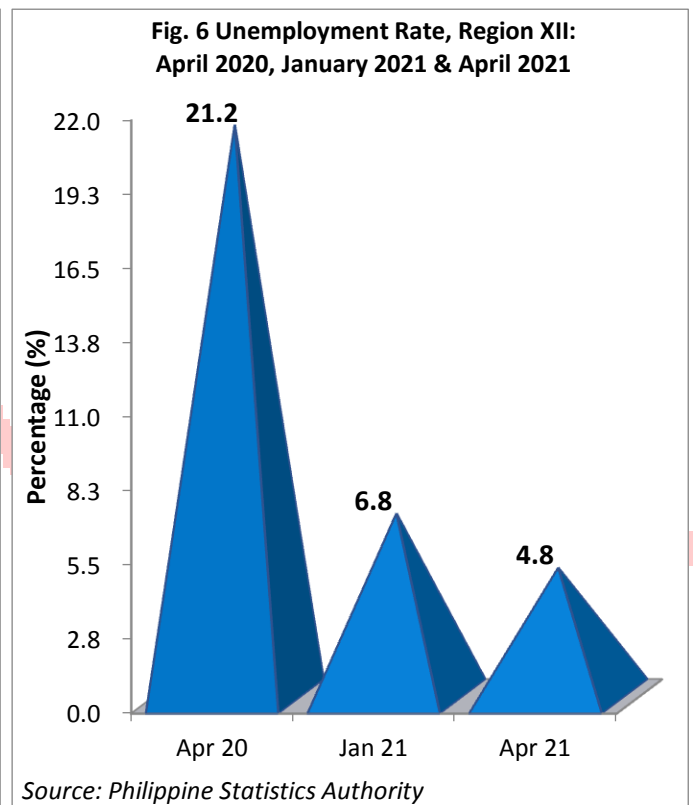
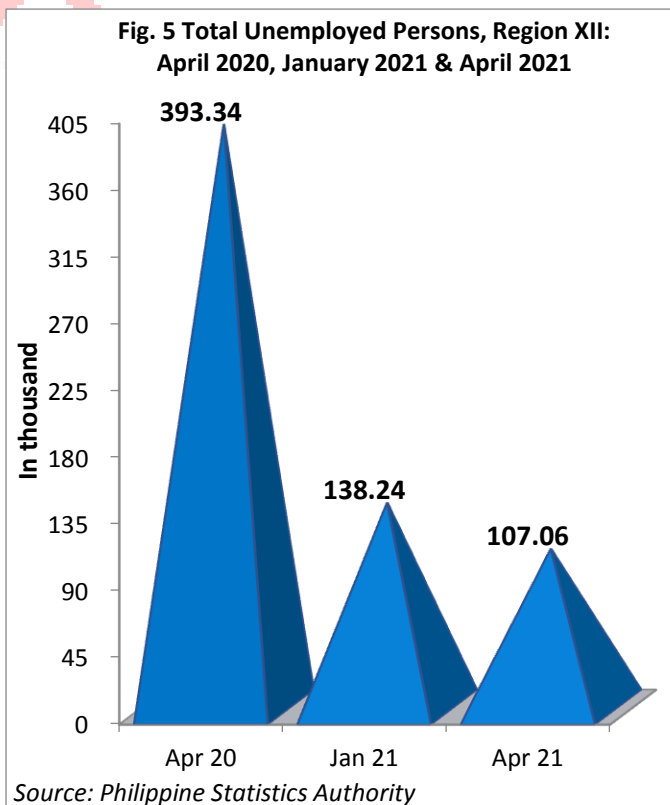
Employed Persons

Of the 2.23 million work force of SOCCSKSARGEN Region in April 2021, 95.2 percent or roughly 2.12 million individuals were employed. It is higher by 45.2 percent from last year's estimates of 1.46 million. Out of the 17 regions in the country, SOCCSKSARGEN was ranked 3rd in terms of employment rate after Zamboanga Peninsula at 96.7 percent and Davao Region at 95.8 percent.



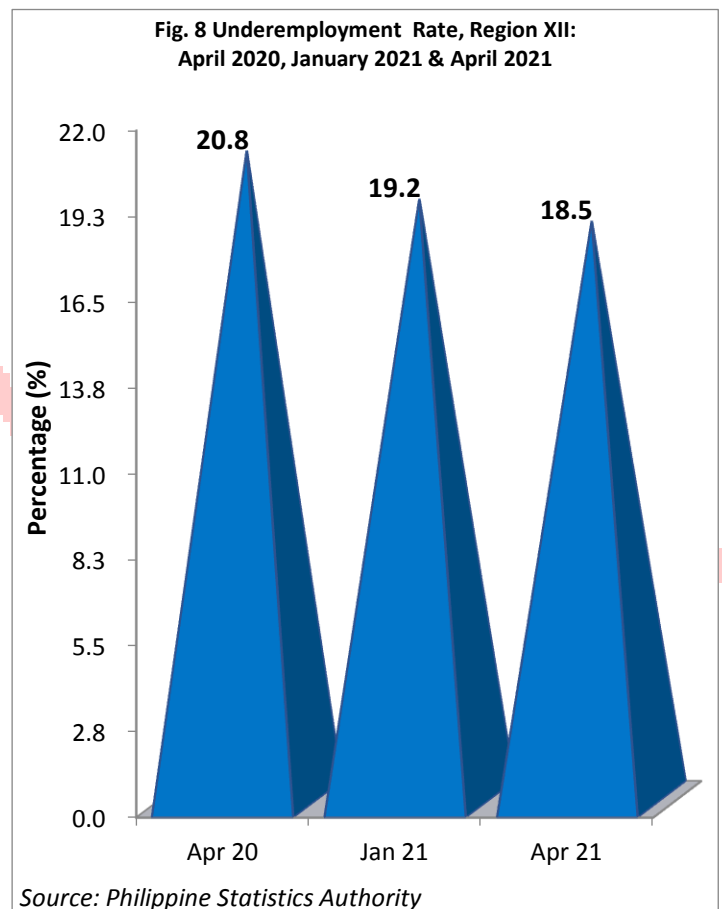
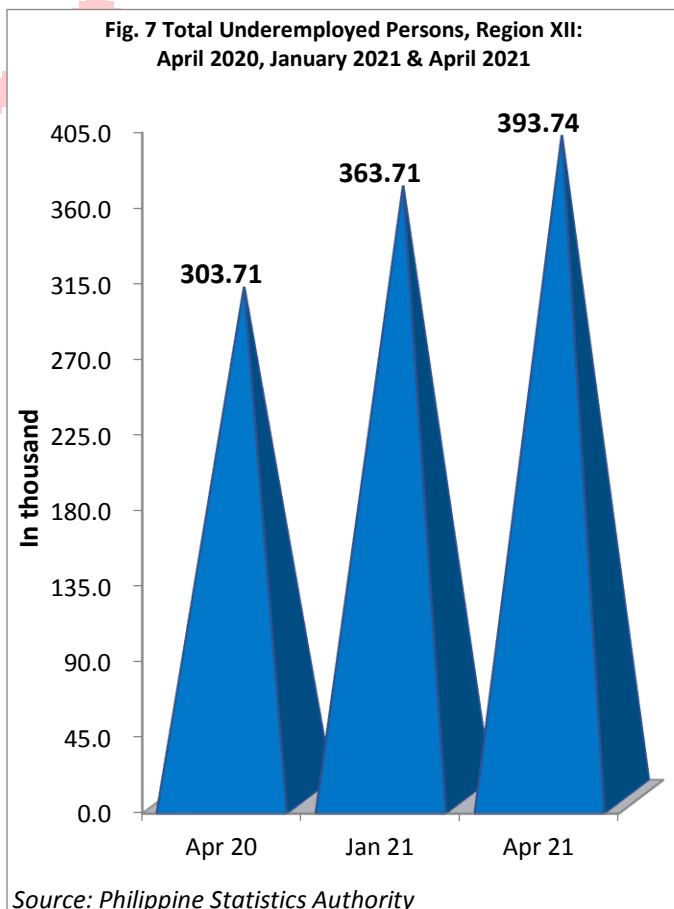
Unemployed Persons

Out of the 2.23 million total work force of the region in April 2021, about 4.8 percent were unemployed. These are persons who were without work, seeking for work and/or currently available for work during this period. Compared to last year's 393.34 thousand unemployed persons, jobless individuals dropped to 107.06 thousand, a marked improvement over last year's figure and last January's 138.71 thousand. SOCCSKSARGEN Region's unemployment rate was the 15th highest among the 17 regions in the country and was 3.9 percentage points lower than the 8.7 percent national average.



Underemployed Persons

Underemployment rate was estimated at 18.5 percent, slightly better than the 20.8 percent recorded in April of the previous year and an improvement from the 19.2 on January 2021. Underemployed persons increased to 393.74 thousand persons from 303.71 thousand recorded in April 2020. Underemployed persons are employed persons who express desire to have additional hours of work in their present job, or an additional job, or to have a new job with longer working hours.



Notes:

- Details may not add up due to rounding.
- Based on the final results of the April 2020 and preliminary results of January and April 2021 Labor Force Survey (LFS).

Definition of Terms

Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) - refers to persons 15 years old and over who are either employed or unemployed.

Population 15 Years Old and Over - refers to number of population 15 years old and over excluding overseas workers.





Employed - Employed persons include all those who, during the reference period are 15 years old and over as of their last birthday and are reported either at work or with a job but not at work.

Underemployed – Underemployed persons include all employed persons who express the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job, or an additional job, or to have a new job with longer working hours.

Unemployed - Unemployed persons include all those who, during the reference period, are 15 years old and over as of their last birthday and reported as: a) Without work, b) Currently available for work, and c) Seeking work.

Approved for Release:

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