

Ilocos Region's population to breach 5 million mark in 2010

The Ilocos Region is projected to be inhabited by over 5 million people in 2010. With an estimated 2.0 percent growth rate in 2005-2010, around 98,040 persons will be added every year to the region's population. Although the region's population growth rate will eventually slow down to about 1.0 percent during the period 2035-2040, more than 3 million people would have been added to the region's population from 2005-2040.

The males are expected to dominate the region's population albeit they only outnumber the females by less than 1 percentage point. Females, on the other hand, will continue to outlive their men counterparts by about six years. By 2010, women in the Ilocos Region will be living at an average age of 74.72 while men are expected to live at an average age of 68.37. Relatedly, the Ilocos region's women will have the longest life expectancy, which will reach 80.32 by 2040, among the women in the country.

Among the provinces, Ilocos Norte will remain the province with the longest life expectancy for both its men and women. Men in the province are expected to live at an average age of 68.97 while women are expected to live at an average age of 75.95 by 2010. This trend will remain until 2040 when women in Ilocos Norte will be living at an average age of 80.85 and their men counterparts at 74.77. Ilocos Sur will have the shortest life expectancy at 65.96 for men and 74.33 for women by 2010. It also has the biggest gap on the life expectancy of its men and women at 8.37.

As the population growth rate will slow down, the population is also expected to become older. In 2005, the 0-14 age group comprised around 34.0 percent of the region's total population while the age group 65 and above consisted only around 5.5 percent. By the year 2040, however, the 0-14 age group will account for only around 23.7 percent of the population while the 10.0 percent of the population will be comprised by the 65 and above age group.

Figure 1. Comparative Population of 0-14 and 65 and above Age Groups Region I: 2000-2040 (Medium Series)

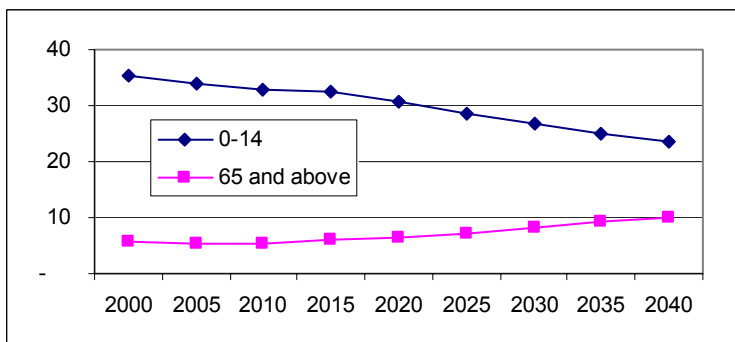


Table 1. Projected Population by Five-Year Interval by Sex, Ilocos Region: 2000-2040 (Medium Assumption)

Year	Both Sexes	Male	Female
2000	4,220,900	2,118,500	2,102,400
2005	4,682,700	2,351,600	2,331,100
2010	5,172,900	2,599,000	2,573,900
2015	5,673,600	2,850,900	2,822,700
2020	6,160,900	3,094,900	3,066,000
2025	6,629,900	3,328,400	3,301,500
2030	7,079,500	3,551,600	3,527,900
2035	7,498,200	3,758,900	3,739,300
2040	7,873,600	3,946,100	3,927,500

Table 2. Life Expectancy At Birth, Region I by Province 2005-2010 (Medium Assumption)

Province	Male	Female
Region I	68.37	74.72
Ilocos Norte	68.97	75.95
Ilocos Sur	65.96	74.33
La Union	68.82	75.60
Pangasinan	68.91	75.14

The projected slowdown in the population growth rate is being attributed to the active participation of women in economic activities. Other reasons cited were the focus of today's youth to higher education; the increase of women's awareness of their reproductive rights; and, more active use of family planning methods by married couples.

The above figures are the results of the 2000 Census-based national, regional and provincial population projections released by the National Statistics Office (NSO). The population projections are generated by NSO with assistance of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Population Projections with regards to assumptions and methodologies adopted. The methodology used for the generation of these projections was approved by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) Executive Board on February 8, 2006 as endorsed by the Technical Committee on Population and Housing. The preparation of population projections is a designated statistical activity to be done after every Census year as mandated under Executive Order No. 352, "Designation of Statistical Activities that will Generate Critical Data for Decision-Making of the Government and the Private Sector", issued on July 1, 1996.