



## Participation rate declining in Ilocos government schools

Attainment of Goal 2 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) which is to achieve universal primary education by 2015 remains a tough task in Region 1 as the region's Net Enrollment Ratio (NER), or participation rate, in government schools continued to decline from School Year (SY) 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008. NER is the ratio of the enrollment for the age group corresponding to the official school age in the elementary/secondary level to the population of the same age group in a given year. The official school age is 6-11 for elementary and 12-15 for secondary.

Data from the Department of Education (DepEd) Region 1 showed that in SY 2003-2004, Region 1's NER in the elementary level for government schools, was recorded at 82.9 percent. This continuously declined in the succeeding SYs reaching 74.9 percent in SY 2007-2008 or an average annual decline of 2.0 percentage points. The average NER during the period SY 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008 was registered at 78.8 in government elementary schools and 5.9 in private elementary schools. This translates to 84.7 percent NER for both government and private schools which means that about 15.3 of the region's 6-11 years old population are out-of-school.

The same trend was observed for secondary level NER for government schools. From 82.4 percent in SY 2003-2004, it plunged to 52.8 percent in SY 2007-2008, or an average annual decline of 7.4 percentage points.

The regional trend was also observed in all the provinces and cities. The province of La Union registered the highest annual average decrease in elementary level NER for government schools with a 3.0 percentage point average annual decrease from SY 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008. In the same period, Vigan City registered the highest annual average decrease in secondary level NER for government schools with a 13.3 percentage point average annual decrease.

Meanwhile, Cohort Survival Rate (CSR) in elementary government schools in the region showed slight improvement, from 77.0 percent in SY 2003-2004 to 79.1 percent in SY 2007-2008, or an average annual increase of 0.5 percentage point. CSR is the percentage of enrollees at the beginning grade or year in a given school year who reached the final grade or year of the

**Table 1. Net Enrollment Ratio in Elementary and Secondary Levels for Government Schools, Region 1, Province/City, SY 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008**

Province/City	ELEMENTARY					SECONDARY				
	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
Region 1	82.9	80.9	78.8	76.5	74.9	82.4	69.6	53.2	52.8	52.8
Ilocos Norte	84.7	82.4	79.4	77.0	75.7	70.4	61.4	47.3	46.3	45.0
Ilocos Sur	75.2	73.2	77.7	76.4	74.3	71.2	46.8	37.6	36.9	37.1
La Union	85.0	82.5	76.7	74.6	72.9	84.6	72.7	48.8	49.0	47.6
Pangasinan	84.4	83.0	81.2	78.5	76.8	86.0	53.7	57.7	57.8	58.4
Alaminos City	84.5	84.0	79.8	79.3	77.5	83.8	81.8	64.2	62.0	62.2
Candon City	71.3	69.6	83.2	67.4	67.0	69.5	64.7	51.0	52.7	53.0
Dagupan City	78.8	76.4	73.6	74.7	74.1	73.6	65.9	48.2	48.1	48.2
Laoag City	67.3	66.1	64.7	64.6	63.4	90.2	75.5	61.6	54.6	54.9
San Carlos City	88.7	87.3	84.4	82.3	81.0	85.1	70.5	51.2	51.9	51.7
San Fernando City	a/	a/	57.6	56.8	56.1	a/	a/	39.4	36.1	35.5
Urdaneta City	82.9	79.8	77.0	73.5	72.8	92.3	88.5	68.5	68.7	67.9
Vigan City	a/	68.9	64.6	62.6	64.0	a/	142.7	110.7	106.5	102.7

Source of Basic Data: Department of Education Region 1

Note: a/ City data included in the province

**Table 2. Cohort Survival Rate in Elementary and Secondary Level for Government Schools, Region 1, Province/City, SY 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008**

Province/City	ELEMENTARY					SECONDARY				
	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
Region 1	77.0	78.0	80.9	74.8	79.1	82.8	68.7	69.9	69.2	72.1
Ilocos Norte	80.0	82.5	81.7	81.6	82.4	87.5	79.9	76.6	80.6	75.5
Ilocos Sur	79.1	79.7	80.9	81.4	81.8	79.9	62.2	62.9	69.7	67.8
La Union	68.8	69.2	72.1	72.1	74.8	80.1	75.7	64.7	70.0	67.8
Pangasinan	78.8	79.1	86.7	78.4	82.0	83.8	67.3	75.4	69.3	74.3
Alaminos City	80.1	87.6	68.6	73.6	84.2	78.6	81.7	78.3	80.9	85.1
Candon City	88.3	80.8	62.8	39.2	81.1	81.3	60.2	69.2	75.0	76.3
Dagupan City	76.9	73.9	73.3	78.5	65.5	70.7	77.1	65.1	56.3	54.3
Laoag City	87.4	78.1	80.8	89.7	83.4	75.7	72.2	77.9	76.0	73.0
San Carlos City	70.8	64.2	66.3	66.4	69.8	73.6	61.4	56.2	60.6	60.3
San Fernando City	a/	a/	53.2	65.0	65.3	a/	a/	44.7	60.2	75.8
Urdaneta City	74.2	78.2	70.5	76.2	68.4	82.3	63.0	62.4	62.5	66.6
Vigan City	a/	83.8	91.7	88.5	87.6	a/	49.5	58.4	60.0	69.4

Source of Basic Data: Department of Education Region 1

Note: a/ City data included in the province

elementary/secondary level. On the contrary, CSR in secondary level government schools declined, from 82.8 percent in SY 2003-2004 to 72.1 percent in SY 2007-2008, or an average annual decrease of 2.7 percentage points.

On the average, Laoag City registered the highest CSR in elementary level at 83.9 percent from SY 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008 while San Fernando City recorded the lowest at 61.1 percent. On the other hand, Alaminos City had the highest average CSR in secondary level, with 80.9 percent while Vigan City had the lowest at 59.3 percent.

With the continuously declining NER and slight improvements in CSR during the period SY 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008,

**Table 3. Net Enrollment Ratio in Government and Private Elementary Schools, Region 1, SY 2003-2004 to SY 2007-2008**

SY	Government	Private	Total
2003-2004	82.9	6.1	89.0
2004-2005	80.9	6.3	87.2
2005-2006	78.8	4.0	82.8
2006-2007	76.5	6.5	83.0
2007-2008	74.9	6.5	81.4
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>84.7</b>

Source of Basic Data: Department of Education Region 1

Region 1 has an uphill climb in achieving the second goal of the MDGs. Based on the above figures, the region has a low probability of achieving this goal by 2015.