



Child development in the Ilocos Region deteriorated from 2000 to 2006

The Child Development Index (CDI) revealed that the development of children in the Ilocos Region continued to deteriorate from 2000 to 2006. The CDI is a multi-dimensional tool that monitors the average development of children in three areas, namely: health, education and quantity of life as measured through the Child Health Index (CHI), Child Education Index (CEI), and Quantity of Life Index (QOLI), respectively.

CDI in the Ilocos Region declined from 0.802 index point in 2000, 0.792 index point in 2003, to 0.740 index point in 2006. Based on the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) classification¹, the region's CDI was rated as "high" (CDI 0.8 - 10.0) in 2000 but was downgraded to "medium" (CDI 0.5 - <0.8) in 2003 and 2006. The deterioration of the CDI in the region is attributed to decreases in the children's quality of life in terms of access to education and in terms of quantity of life based on the income of their families from 2000 to 2006. Despite declining CDIs, Ilocos Region consistently maintained its #5 rank among other regions in the country in 2000, 2003 and 2006.

CHI, which is measured using infant mortality rate and child mortality rate as indicators, was recorded at 0.986 in 2000 and 2003. This slightly improved to 0.987 in 2006. Infant mortality rate in the region decreased from 2000 to 2006 as the number of infant deaths occurring before reaching 12 months of life in the region continuously declined. On the other hand, child mortality rate, or the number of deaths below 5 years of age showed minimal changes in the same period.

CEI, which is measured using net enrollment rate (NER) in elementary and secondary levels as indicators, decreased in the Ilocos Region from 2000 to 2006. The region's CEI decreased from 0.857 in 2000 to 0.784 in 2003 and further dipped to 0.646 in 2006. Net enrollment rate in elementary level decreased from 2000 to 2006, meaning, fewer 6-11 year-old children went to school in 2006 as compared in 2000. Similarly, net enrollment rate in secondary level decreased in the same period.

QOLI, which is measured using poverty incidence among children as indicator, slightly increased from 0.564 in 2000 to 0.605 in 2003 but went down to 0.587 in 2006. Meanwhile, in terms of magnitude of poor children, the region registered an increase of 48,454 poor children between 2003 and 2006.

Table 1., CDI, CHI, CEI, QOLI and Rights-based CDI in Region 1, 2000, 2003 & 2006

YEAR	CHI	CEI	QOLI	CDI	Rights-based CDI
2000	0.986	0.857	0.564	0.802	0.765
2003	0.986	0.784	0.605	0.792	0.762
2006	0.987	0.646	0.587	0.740	0.703

Source of Data: National Statistical Coordination Board

Table 2. CHI and CEI Indicators in Region 1, 2000, 2003 & 2006

YEAR	CHI Indicators		CEI Indicators	
	Infant Mortality Rate a/	Child Mortality Rate b/	Elementary Enrollment Rate c/	Secondary Enrollment Rate c/
2000	17.9	10.0	92.4 d/	79.0 f/
2003	16.2	11.0	88.5 e/	68.3 g/
2006	15.7	11.0	76.5 e/	52.8 g/

Table 3. Poverty Incidence and Poverty Magnitude among Children in Region 1, 2000, 2003 & 2006

YEAR	Poverty Statistics		Increase/Decrease	
	Poverty Incidence (in %)	Magnitude of Poor	Poverty Incidence	Magnitude of Poor
2000	43.6	760,135		
2003	39.5	691,595	(4.1)	(68,540)
2006	41.3	740,049	1.8	48,454

Source of Data: National Statistical Coordination Board

The rights-based CDI², which includes indicators that measure the accountability of the dutybearers, slightly deteriorated in the Ilocos Region from 2000 to 2006. The region's rights-based CDI was recorded at 0.765 in 2000, 0.762 in 2003 and 0.703 in 2006.

Two rights-based indicators were used in the computation of the rights-based CHI: percentage of fully immunized children (9-11 months) and percentage of pregnant women with 3 or more prenatal visits.

¹ Using HDI classification of levels of development

² http://www.nscb.gov.ph/headlines/StatsSpeak/2008/061008_rav_children.asp

a/ Infant Mortality Rate – no. of infant deaths occurring before reaching 12 months of life in a given period per 1,000 live births. Source: DOH

b/ Child Mortality Rate – no. of deaths below age 5 per 1,000 live births during a given period. Source: NSO

c/ Based on school age population adopted by DepEd for school yrs of interest

d/ Enrollment data for SY 1999-2000. School age covered are those aged 7-12

e/ School age population adopted by DepEd covered those aged 6-11

f/ Enrollment data for SY 1999-2000; School age covered are those aged 13-16

g/ School age population adopted by DepEd covered those aged 12-15