

AFF is region's top contributor to GRDP in 2006

The Ilocos Region's agriculture, fishery and forestry (AFF) sector regained its billing as the region's biggest contributor to the economy in 2006. It was the first time since 1999 that the sector had the biggest share to the GRDP at 43.4 percent. Service sector, which was the region's biggest contributor from 1999-2005, comprised 43.0 percent. The lower percent share of the service sector was brought about by the slower growth of the trade subsector. Industry sector's contribution, on the other hand, continued its decreasing trend after it fall to only 13.6 percent in 2006 as mining and quarrying and electricity, gas and water recorded negative growths in the said year.

Coming from the heels of its best performance of 7.7 percent growth rate in 2005, AFF's growth rate, however, tapered off to 7.3 percent in 2006. The decelerated growth was the second time in seven years after the AFF sector has recovered from the negative 0.1 percent growth it posted in 1999. The slower growth was brought about by the lower production of other crops and livestock.

Despite the slowed growth rate of the AFF, it is still one of the sectors that posted the highest growths in 2006. It contributed 3.1 percentage points to the 6.2 percent growth of the region's GRDP. Service sector contributed 2.2 percent while industry contributed 0.8 percent.

The 6.2 percent growth posted by the Ilocos region's GRDP was the highest in nine years. From 1996 to 2001, the GRDP exhibited a downward-upward growth highlighted by its slump in 1999. Starting in 2002, however, the GRDP's growth rate has been generally increasing recording a five-year average of 5.0 percent from 2002-2006.

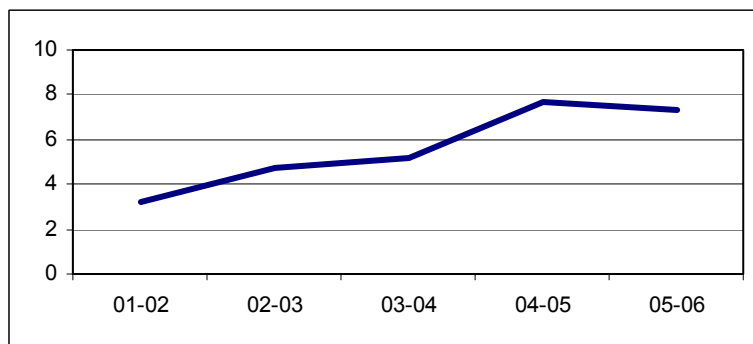
The GRDP is the aggregate gross value added of all productive sectors of a region during an accounting period. Addition of the GRDP of all regions would yield the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

**Table 1. Percent Distribution by Sector, Ilocos Region, 1997-2006
At Constant 1985 Prices**

Sector	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
AFF	42.4	41.3	41.6	40.9	42.2	41.7	42.1	42.0	43.0	43.4
Services	40.5	39.8	41.8	41.9	43.2	42.9	43.5	43.6	43.4	43.0
Industry	17.2	18.9	16.5	17.2	14.6	15.3	14.4	14.4	13.6	13.6
GRDP	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

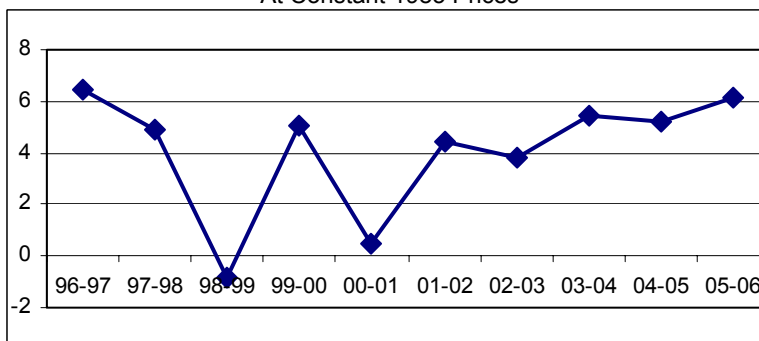
Source: National Statistical Coordination Board

**Fig 1. AFF Sector Growth Rate, Ilocos Region, 2001-2006
At Constant 1985 Prices**



Source of Data: National Statistical Coordination Board

**Fig 2. GRDP Growth Rate, Ilocos Region, 1996-1997 to 2005-2006
At Constant 1985 Prices**



Source: National Statistical Coordination Board