



FACTSHEET

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Did you know that...

TREMENDOUS INCREASE OF CELLULAR PHONE SUBSCRIBERS IN SOUTHERN MINDANAO IN 2000

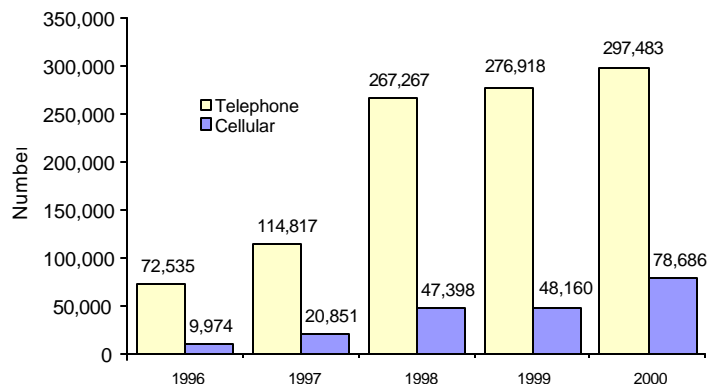
The number of cellular phone subscribers in Southern Mindanao increased by an enormous 688.9 percent, from 9,974 subscribers in 1996 to 78,686 subscribers in 2000. Between 1999-2000, the growth of cellular phone subscribers accelerated more rapidly, even surpassing the growth in the number of telephone lines working.

The number of cellular phone subscribers has been constantly increasing since 1996 until 2000. It showed the biggest change during the period 1997 to 1998 with a jump of 127.3 percent. The number of subscribers in 1998 was 47,398, more than double the 1997 figure of 20,851.

Meanwhile, the number of working telephone lines in the region had a continuing increase from 1996 to 2000. From a total of 72,535 working telephone lines in 1996, it reached 297,483 in 2000, signifying an additional 224,948 working lines or 310.1 percent increase within the five-year period.

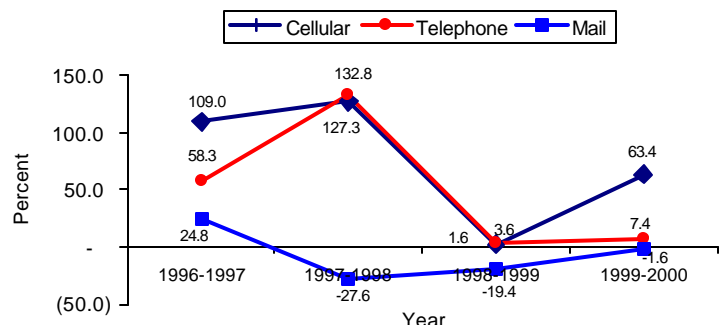
The number of existing working telephone lines started to accelerate higher from 1997 to 1998. From 114,817 working lines in 1997, it rose to 267,267 in 1998, indicating a 132.8 percent increase.

Fig.1 Number of Working Telephone Lines and Cellular Phone Subscribers, Region XI: 1996-2000



Source: National Telecommunications Commission XI

Fig.2 Percentage Increase/Decrease in Number of Cellular Phone Subscribers, Working Telephone Lines & Posted Mails, Region XI: 1996-2000



Source: Philippine Postal Corporation, Region XI

On the other hand, the volume of posted mails decreased by 28.4 percent from 1996 to 2000. In 1996, around 8.9 million mails were handled by Philippine Postal Corporation XI, which dropped to 6.4 million in 2000.

The volume of posted mails started to drop in 1998 and continued to decline in 1999 and 2000. From 8 million mails in 1998, it decreased by 19.4 percent in 1999, and down by 1.6 percent from 1999 to 2000.

The increase of cellular phone subscribers affected negatively the volume of posted mails. This implies that people tend to use cellular phone/ telephone for communication rather than mail.

Number of Posted Mails, Region XI: 1996-2000

Province/City	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Davao Oriental	360,514	443,511	349,823	302,688	297,553
Davao Province	1,187,298	1,537,910	1,090,832	932,188	893,904
Davao del Sur	617,857	799,040	643,503	495,319	448,096
South Cotabato	620,704	791,064	569,474	465,853	525,615
Sarangani	299,618	435,686	320,511	237,995	219,279
Davao City	4,928,594	5,830,188	4,055,978	3,396,860	3,372,217
General Santos	857,723	1,232,253	980,160	628,375	595,615
REGION XI	8,872,308	11,069,652	8,010,281	6,459,278	6,352,279

Note: Percent totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source of data: Philippine Postal Corporation, Region XI