



Expected Voters Turn-Out:

1.7 Million Voters in Davao Region to Vote on May 10 Elections

Based on the average voting rate in the last two presidential elections, i.e., the 1992 synchronized election and the 1998 national and local elections, around 78 percent or approximately 1.7 Million registered voters in Davao Region are expected to exercise their right of suffrage on May 10, 2004 elections.

The number of registered voters in the region showed an increasing trend from 1998 to 2004. The official data released by the Commission on Election (COMELEC) XI reveals that this year's voting population in Davao Region has increased to 2,130,269. The 2004 figure is higher by 394,756 or 22.7 percent than the 1,735,513 voters listed in the May 14, 2001 national and local elections.

Among the provinces in Davao Region, Davao del Norte and Davao del Sur have the highest percentage increase of registered voters from 2001 to 2004 with 26.6 percent each. They are followed by Compostela Valley (13.3%) and Davao Oriental (11.6%). Davao del Sur, including Davao City remained to have the highest number of registered voters, while Davao Oriental had the least with only 235,796.

The voters turn-out in Region XI manifested an erratic trend from 1992 to 2001. During the 1992 synchronized elections, 71 percent of the registered voters casted their votes. In 1995 elections, the voters turn-out dropped to 67 percent. While in 1998 elections, 85 percent of the registered voters exercised their right of suffrage, this however, declined to 75 percent in 2001 elections.

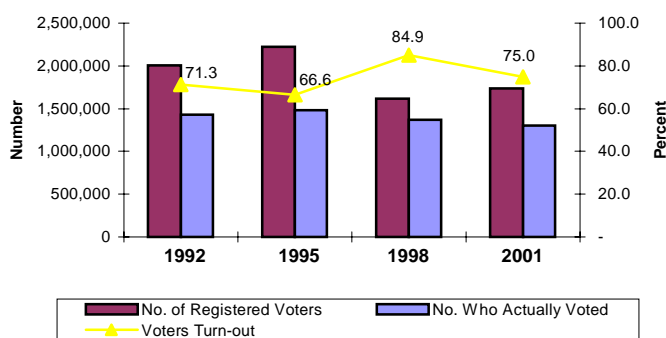
The erratic trend in voters turn-out was also evident in the provinces. In 1992 elections, Davao del Sur had 72 percent voting turn-out. It dropped to 66 percent in 1995 but an increase of 19 percentage points was recorded in 1998 elections. However, the voting turn-out dropped again to 73 percent during 2001 elections. All provinces had their lowest and highest voting turn-out in 1995 and 1998 elections, respectively.

Number of Registered Voters in Davao Region, 2001 and 2004

Province/City	Registered Voters		% Inc/(Dec)
	2001	2004	
Davao Oriental	211,262	235,796	11.6
Davao del Norte	336,753	426,167	26.6
Compostela Valley	263,624	298,563	13.3
Davao del Sur	923,874	1,169,743	26.6
Davao Region	1,735,513	2,130,269	22.7

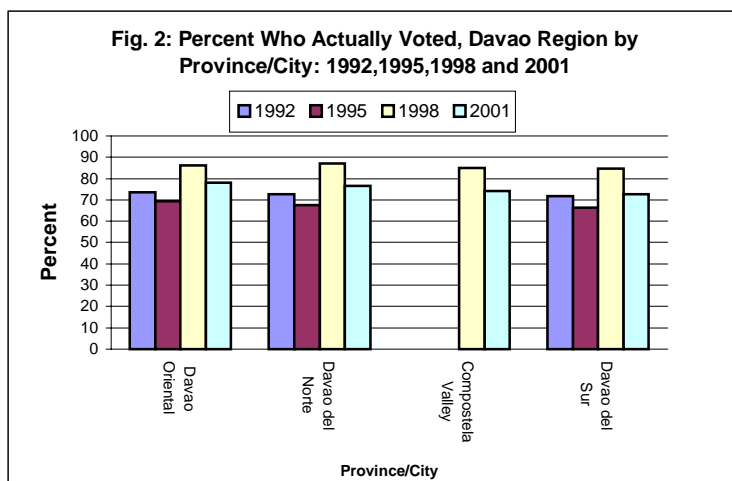
Source of data: COMELEC XI

Fig.1: Registered Voters Who Actually Voted & Voters Turn-Out, Davao Region: 1992,1995,1998 and 2001



Source of data: COMELEC XI

Fig. 2: Percent Who Actually Voted, Davao Region by Province/City: 1992,1995,1998 and 2001



Note:
1992 and 1995 data include South Cotabato, Sarangani, and GenSan.
Data of COMVAL in 1992 and 1995 election included in Davao Del Norte.
Data of Davao City included in Davao Del Sur.