



Davao City is the least poor among cities and municipalities in Davao Region

Among the cities and municipalities in Davao Region, Davao City, with 14.9 percent poverty incidence, is the least poor in 2003 according to the 2003 City/Municipal Poverty Incidence based on Small Area Estimates, (SAE), by the World Bank and the National Statistical Coordination Board, (NSCB).

Poverty incidence, as defined by the NSCB in 1997 Philippine Poverty Statistics, refers to the proportion of population or families with per capita income less than the per capita poverty threshold to the total number of population or families.

Poverty Threshold or Poverty Line refers to the cost of the basic food and non-food requirements valued in peso. The basic non-food requirements cover the non-food expenditure items of the Total Basic Expenditures. In the Philippine official methodology, the poverty line may be viewed as the minimum income required to meet the food requirements and other non-food basic needs. (1997 Philippine Poverty Statistics, NSCB)

The other two cities of Davao Region, Tagum with 15.4 percent poverty incidence and Digos, with 18.2 percent poverty incidence, for the same period ranked second and third least poor cities/municipalities, respectively. Davao City's top ranking in 2003 was an improvement over that of the 2000 estimates, in which Tagum City's poverty incidence at 13.6 percent, was slightly lower than that of Davao City at 13.8 percent.

Among the ten least poor cities/municipalities in Davao Region, aside from Davao City, five were in Davao del Sur, three in Davao del Norte and one in Compostela Valley Province.

In Davao Region, the municipality of Jose Abad Santos in Davao del Sur had the highest poverty incidence, with 84.6 percent poverty incidence, followed by Don Marcelino, Davao del Sur at 80.8 percent poverty incidence and Sarangani, Davao del Sur at 78.7 percent. This would mean that in these cities/municipalities around 80 out of 100 individuals are poor.

Table 1. Ten Least Poor Municipalities/Cities in 2003, Region XI

Municipality/ City/ Province	2000		2003		Inc/Dec from 2000 to 2003
	Poverty Incidence	Rank	Poverty Incidence	Rank	
Davao City	13.8	2	14.9	1	1.1
Tagum City, Davao del Norte	13.6	1	15.4	2	1.9
Digos City, Davao del Sur	23.8	4	18.2	3	-5.6
Padada, Davao del Sur	24.1	5	22.0	4	-2.1
Hagonoy, Davao del Sur	37.1	9	22.6	5	-14.5
Panabo City, Davao del Norte	23.4	3	22.7	6	-0.6
Monkayo, Compostela Valley	41.1	11	25.3	7	-15.8
Santo Tomas, Davao del Norte	32.7	8	26.3	8	-6.4
Bansalan, Davao del Sur	32.1	7	26.9	9	-5.2
Matanao, Davao del Sur	42.0	14	28.4	10	-13.7

Source: NSCB, Small Area Poverty Estimates, Philippines, 2003

Table 2. Ten Poorest Municipalities in 2003, Region XI

Municipality/ Province	2000		2003		Inc/Dec from 2000 to 2003
	Poverty Incidence	Rank	Poverty Incidence	Rank	
Jose Abad Santos, Davao del Sur	64.0	4	84.6	1	20.6
Don Marcelino, Davao del Sur	68.9	2	80.8	2	11.8
Sarangani, Davao del Sur	60.6	8	78.7	3	18.0
Talaingod, Davao del Norte	69.4	1	78.6	4	9.2
Laak, Compostela Valley	62.3	5	69.6	5	7.3
Malita, Davao del Sur	61.0	7	64.6	6	3.6
Santa Maria, Davao del Sur	56.3	12	63.6	7	7.3
Manay, Davao Oriental	61.4	6	63.4	8	2.1
Tarragona, Davao Oriental	60.3	9	62.3	9	2.0
Caraga, Davao Oriental	66.6	3	57.3	10	-9.3

Source: NSCB, Small Area Poverty Estimates, Philippines, 2003



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Among the ten poorest municipalities in Davao Region, five of them are in Davao del Sur, three in Davao Oriental and one each in Davao del Norte and Compostela Valley Province.

In Mindanao, from the same 2003 SAE on Poverty Statistics, the least poor city/municipality was Kidapawan City, North Cotabato at 12.5 percent poverty incidence, followed by Gen. Santos City at 14.0 percent and Polomolok, South Cotabato at 14.3 percent poverty incidence. Davao City at 14.9 poverty incidence ranked number 4 among the least poor cities/municipalities in Mindanao.

Table 3. Ten Least Poor Municipalities/Cities in Mindanao, Philippines, 2003

Rank	Municipality	Province	Region	Poverty Incidence (%)
1	Kidapawan City	North Cotabato	XII	12.46
2	Gen. Santos City		XII	13.98
3	Polomolok	South Cotabato	XII	14.29
4	Davao City		XI	14.94
5	Tagum City	Davao del Norte	XI	15.42
6	Cagayan de Oro City		X	15.50
7	Koronadal City	South Cotabato	XII	16.18
8	Digos City	Davao del Sur	XI	18.22
9	Padada	Davao del Sur	XI	21.99
10	Hagonoy	Davao del Sur	XI	22.60

Source: NSCB, Small Area Poverty Estimates, Philippines, 2003

Among the ten least poor cities/municipalities in Mindanao, 5 are found in Davao Region, 4 are in SoCSK SarGen Region and 1 in Northern Mindanao Region.

The municipality of Siayan in Zamboanga del Norte, at 97.5 percent, has the highest poverty incidence among the cities/municipalities in Mindanao. That would mean that only 3 out of 100 individuals in Siayan are non-poor. This is followed by Sominot, Zamboanga del Sur with 87.5 poverty incidence and Tangcal, Lanao del Norte at 86.7 poverty incidence.

Table 4. Ten Poorest Municipalities/Cities in Mindanao, Philippines, 2003

Rank	Municipality	Province	Region	Poverty Incidence (%)
1	Siayan	Zamboanga del Norte	IX	97.46
2	Sominot	Zamboanga del Sur	IX	87.54
3	Tangcal	Lanao del Norte	X	86.72
4	Midsalip	Zamboanga del Sur	IX	86.32
5	Bacungan	Zamboanga del Norte	IX	85.17
6	Jose Abad Santos	Davao del Sur	XI	84.63
7	Godod	Zamboanga del Norte	IX	84.58
8	Lapuyan	Zamboanga del Sur	IX	84.35
9	San Luis	Agusan del Sur	Caraga	83.06
10	Poona Piagapo	Lanao del Norte	X	81.68

Source: NSCB, Small Area Poverty Estimates, Philippines, 2003

Among the ten poorest municipalities in Mindanao, in 2003, six are found in Zamboanga Peninsula Region, and two in Northern Mindanao Region and one each in Davao and Caraga Regions.