



## Poverty in Region XII worsens between the period 2006 and 2009

The latest poverty estimates of the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) showed that poverty situation in Region XII worsened between the period 2006 and 2009. Poverty incidence in the region, or the proportion of families with per capita income falling below the poverty line, was estimated at 28.1 percent in 2009. This was 1.0 percentage point higher than the 27.1 percent poverty incidence in 2006.

### Poverty Incidence, Region XII: 2003, 2006 & 2009

Area	2003	2006	2009	Diff (06-09)
<b>Region XII</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Cotabato	22.2	23.3	25.6	2.4
Sarangani	36.7	34.0	40.7	6.7
South Cotabato 1/	22.8	22.8	23.6	0.8
Sultan Kudarat	37.3	38.7	35.2	(3.4)
Cotabato City	25.3	20.6	23.7	3.1

Source: NSCB 1/ - Includes Gen. Santos City

### 40 percent of Sarangan families considered poor

Sarangani province posted the highest poverty incidence in 2009 at 40.7 percent followed by Sultan Kudarat with 35.2 percent. Poverty incidence in Cotabato Province was estimated at 25.6 percent while South Cotabato had 23.6 percent. The proportion of poor families in Cotabato City was estimated at 23.7 percent during the same period.

Among the provinces, however, only Sultan Kudarat managed to reduce its poverty incidence from 38.7 percent in 2006 to 35.2 percent in 2009 and improved the living conditions of about 5,471 families.

### P78,840 annual income needed to stay out of poverty

The said data set also showed that the per capita poverty threshold in the region, or the amount needed by a person to satisfy his food and other basic needs annually, was estimated at P15,762 in 2009 or about P1,314 monthly.

### Annual Per Capita Poverty Threshold: 2006 & 2009

Area	2006	2009	Inc/Dec
<b>Region XII</b>	<b>12,530</b>	<b>15,762</b>	<b>25.8</b>
Cotabato	12,314	15,486	25.8
Sarangani	11,953	14,987	25.4
South Cotabato 1/	13,046	16,413	25.8
Sultan Kudarat	12,463	15,661	25.7
Cotabato City	13,133	16,520	25.8

Source: NSCB 1/ - Includes Gen. Santos City

This would mean that in 2009, a family of five in the region needed a monthly income of P6,570 or P78,840 annually to provide for the family's basic food and non-food needs to stay out of poverty.

### Threshold increased by 25.8 percent

Dictated by price movements, the 2009 poverty threshold was 25.8 percent higher than the P12,530 poverty threshold estimated in 2006. The inflation rate in the region from 2006 to 2009 was

estimated at 20.1 percent and inflation on food items further stood at 25.8 percent.

Among the provinces, poverty threshold was highest in South Cotabato at P16,413 while lowest in Sarangani at P14,987. Poverty threshold in Cotabato City was estimated at P16,520.

### 21,882 more poor families in 2009

In terms of magnitude, the number of poor families in the region in 2009 was estimated at 224,882 families. This represents an increase of about 10.8 percent or 21,882 families from the 203,000 poor families listed in 2006.

### Magnitude of Poor Families, Region XII: 2006 & 2009

Area	2006	2009	Inc/Dec
<b>Region XII</b>	<b>203,000</b>	<b>224,882</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Cotabato	50,320	55,908	11.1
Sarangani	33,202	39,182	18.0
South Cotabato 1/	61,036	78,304	28.3
Sultan Kudarat	51,158	45,687	(10.7)
Cotabato City	7,284	5,800	(20.4)

Source: NSCB 1/ - Includes Gen. Santos City

South Cotabato registered the most number of poor families with a total of 78,304 poor families or about 34.8 percent of the region's poor. About 17,268 families were added to the ranks of its poor since 2006. Cotabato Province, on the other hand, had an estimated 55,908 poor families while Sultan Kudarat had 45,987 poor families. Sarangani Province, despite posting the highest poverty incidence among the provinces, only had 39,182 poor families.

### Income versus inflation

The increase in the mean per capita income of the bottom 30 percent of families was eroded by the high inflation rates. Increases in income ranged from 20.0 percent to 25.3 percent while the inflation rates ranged from 20.1 percent to 25.8 percent.

Indicator	2006	2009	Inc/Dec
CPI on All Items	133.4	160.2	20.1
CPI on Food Items	132.2	166.3	25.8
Mean Per Capita Income (Php)			
<b>First Decile Class</b>	<b>6,939</b>	<b>8,327</b>	<b>20.0</b>
<b>Second Decile Class</b>	<b>9,652</b>	<b>12,093</b>	<b>25.3</b>
<b>Third Decile Class</b>	<b>11,996</b>	<b>14,730</b>	<b>22.8</b>
Fourth Decile Class	14,415	17,739	23.1
Fifth Decile Class	17,016	21,287	25.1
Sixth Decile Class	20,336	25,750	26.6
Seventh Decile Class	24,617	31,600	28.4
Eighth Decile Class	31,337	40,723	30.0
Ninth Decile Class	44,275	60,265	36.1
Tenth Decile Class	96,152	146,630	52.5

The mean per capita incomes of the bottom 30 percent of families were also below the P15,762 annual per capita poverty threshold.