



Did you know that . . .

Northern and Eastern Samar are included in the top ten provinces with the highest expenditures on social services in 2005 and 2006?

Northern Samar and Eastern Samar were included in the top ten provinces in the country with the highest percentage expenditures on social services in 2005 and 2006. Northern Samar ranked sixth with 40.6 percent expenditure in 2006 while Eastern Samar placed tenth, spending 35.3 percent of its budget for social services. Sorsogon topped all other provinces spending 68.0 percent in 2006.

In 2005, Northern Samar ranked eighth while Eastern Samar ranked tenth among all provinces. Social services expenditures include expenditure on education, culture and manpower development, health, social security, welfare and employment, housing and community development, and land distribution.

The social services expenditures of Northern Samar in 2006 reached 171.1 million pesos, posting a 15.0 percent increase from the previous year's level of P148.8M. The expenditures in Eastern Samar also increased from P128.9M in 2005 to P133.9M in 2006, the bulk of which went to health services, particularly hospital services. The increase in social expenditures in the two provinces can be attributed to the presence of foreign-assisted projects like the Fifth Country

Table 2. EXPENDITURES ON SOCIAL SERVICES BY PROVINCE, REGION VIII: 2005-2006

Province	Expenditures on Social Services (In million pesos)		Percent of Social Services Expenditures to Total Expenditures	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
Leyte	13.7	15.0	1.8	1.9
Biliran	49.9	50.9	28.1	28.7
Southern Leyte	102.4	102.4	30.5	29.5
Samar	117.2	136.9	26.9	27.3
Eastern Samar	128.9	133.9	34.5	35.3
Northern Samar	148.8	171.1	38.8	40.6

Source: *The Philippine Countryside in Figures, 2006 Edition*
National Statistical Coordination Board

Table 1. TOP TEN PROVINCES WITH HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF SOCIAL SERVICES EXPENDITURES TO TOTAL EXPENDITURES, PHILIPPINES: 2005-2006

Province	Percent of Social Services Expenditures to Total Expenditures			
	2005	Rank	2006	Rank
Sorsogon	33.7	12	68.0	1
Bulacan	55.3	2	58.4	2
Surigao del Norte	26.3	32	55.9	3
Rizal	54.4	3	47.8	4
Negros Oriental	39.4	6	42.6	5
Northern Samar	38.8	8	40.6	6
Antique	42.8	4	38.5	7
Abra	38.9	7	36.9	8
Oriental Mindoro	28.7	24	36.3	9
Eastern Samar	34.5	10	35.3	10

Source: *The Philippine Countryside in Figures, 2006 Edition*
National Statistical Coordination Board

Programme for Children (CPC V) of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and many others.

A bigger budget for social services would mean more and better delivery of basic services for a greater number of constituents and a better quality of life for the people. In 2000, Northern and Eastern Samar registered high poverty incidence among its population of 49.5 and 55.6 percent, respectively. The two provinces, however, recorded a significant reduction in poverty in 2003 posting a 40.8 and 41.1 percent poverty incidence, respectively as a result of increased expenditures on social services.

The Philippines, as member of the United Nations, is committed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. The attainment of the MDGs depends on the capacity of government agencies, local government units and private sector to allocate budget for the MDG programs and projects.

For your inquiries and other information needs, visit or call the:

NATIONAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION CENTER
NATIONAL STATISTICAL COORDINATION BOARD
G/F Calzita Bldg., No. 143 P. Zamora Street, Tacloban City

Telefax No. (053) 325-7508
URL: www.nscb.gov.ph/ru8
E-mail Address: nscbru8@yahoo.com