



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Statement on the 2021 first semester official poverty statistics

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**At the start of the Duterte administration in 2016,
we pursued the zero-to-ten point socioeconomic agenda
to help us achieve the Ambisyon Natin 2040.**



Lift 6 million Filipinos
out of poverty by 2022

This early gain in reducing poverty was driven by prudent macroeconomic management and the enactment of a number of reforms that increased income opportunities for the people.



**Comprehensive tax
reform program**



Build, build, build



**Rice tariffication
law**

**Even when we had achieved our 2022 poverty goals by 2018,
this government did not slow down on its reform agenda.**



**Pantawid Pamilyang
Pilipino Program (4Ps)**



**Universal Health
Care Program**



**National ID
Program**

The results of these game-changing reforms are clear.

Prior to the pandemic, economic growth averaged 6 percent, inflation averaged 3 percent, and the rates of poverty, unemployment, and underemployment were at record lows



**Strong economic growth,
low and stable inflation**



**Lowest unemployment
underemployment rates.**



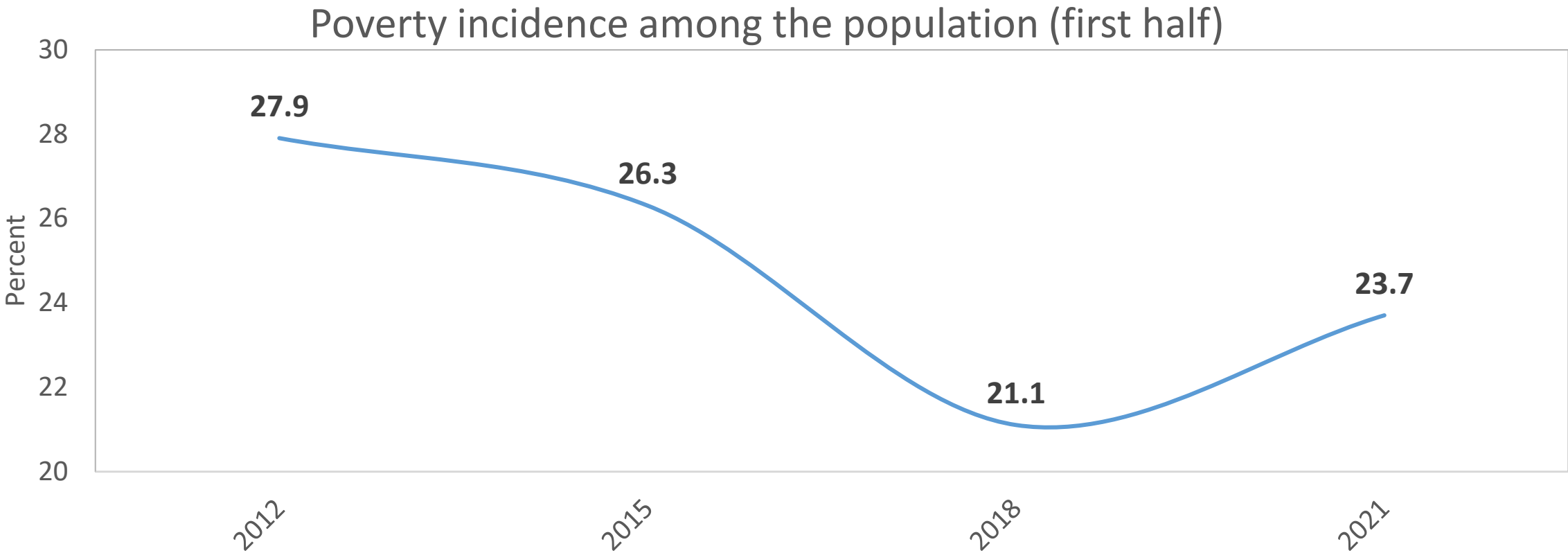
**Lowest
poverty rate**

However, the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily halted our progress. In 2020, people's income and jobs were significantly affected by stringent quarantines.

As we began to cope with the virus starting the fourth quarter of 2020, we gradually relaxed restrictions and managed risks better. By the first half of 2021, quarantine imposition became more targeted at areas of highest risks.



Poverty incidence among the population increased to 23.7 percent during the first half of 2021 from 21.1 percent in the same period of 2018.



Source: PSA

Notes: 1. 2012 Poverty Statistics were generated using food thresholds that were estimated using prices collected for 2006 based Consumer Price Index (CPI). The Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) used the urban-rural information based on the 2010 Census of Population and Housing and weights computed based on 2010-based population projections.

2. 2015 and 2018 Poverty Statistics were generated using prices collected for the 2012-based CPI price data collection. The FIES made use of urban-rural information from the 2015 Population Census and the 2015 based population projections.

Regions with stricter quarantines tended to see larger increases in poverty compared to regions placed under less stringent quarantines.

Region	Poverty incidence among the population (%)		
	2018	2021	Change (in ppt)
PHL	21.1	23.7	2.7
NCR	6.6	7.8	1.2
CAR	17.9	16.2	-1.7
R1	11.7	20.2	8.5
R2	19.3	20.9	1.6
R3	10.4	18.2	7.8
R4A	10.5	14.8	4.3
R4B	20.5	25.7	5.2
R5	28.1	33.5	5.5
R6	20.9	25.3	4.4
R7	24.3	33.0	8.8
R8	37.3	36.0	-1.3
R9	39.9	37.4	-2.5
R10	32.0	33.8	1.8
R11	23.8	19.4	-4.4
R12	33.6	34.1	0.5
Caraga	35.2	38.3	3.1
BARMM	63.2	45.8	-17.4

In the final months of the Duterte administration, we will vigorously pursue the economy's full recovery to restore jobs and bring more people out of poverty.

Economic Development Cluster's 10-point policy agenda

1. Metrics
2. Vaccination
3. Healthcare capacity
4. Economy and mobility
5. Schooling
6. Domestic travel
7. International travel
8. Digital transformation
9. Pandemic flexibility bill
10. Medium-term preparation for pandemic resilience



COVID-19 has tested our resolve to achieve the Ambisyon Natin 2040, but we will not waver in our goal to provide a better life for all Filipinos.



As of 10 December 2021, we achieved our target of registering 50 million Filipinos to the national ID program. The Land Bank of the Philippines has also opened more than 6.7 million bank accounts among low-income registrants.



50,014,382

STEP 2*

Biometrics capture
(in the registration centers)



4,414,393

STEP 3*

PhilSys Number and PhilID issuance

6,786,939

Bank account openings

**as of 10 December 2021*

We end this year on track to an early recovery. Our growth prospects are encouraging. As we collectively strive towards our 2040 vision, the poor will be at the center of our recovery and development strategy. No one will be left behind.



Thank you very much. The NEDA and PSA family wishes everyone a merry Christmas and a safe holiday season.

