



PRESS RELEASE

PSA-Isabela hosted the Provincial Data Dissemination Forum on Population Counts for the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH)

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10 August 2021 – City of Ilagan. The Philippine Statistics Authority Isabela Provincial Statistical Office II (PSA-IPSO) announced the total population of Isabela province as of May 1, 2020 during a Provincial Data Dissemination Forum on Population Counts conducted on August 10, 2021 via simultaneous face-to-face and internet platforms.



In her opening statement, PSA - Regional Director Marilyn T. Estrada emphasized the need of accurate and timely population counts as a fundamental and critical input for the creation of public and private sector plans and programs. Despite the country's COVID-19 predicament, he said, the PSA went through with the census

because the government recognized the need to update the counts in order to have a more effective recovery strategy during this time of pandemic.

PSA-Isabela Chief Statistical Specialist Julius M. Emperador unfolded the results of the 2020 Census of Population and Housing through his presentation. Accordingly, the province had the largest population count among the five provinces in the Cagayan Valley Region, according to CSS Emperador, with 1,697,050 inhabitants as of May 1, 2020. This accounted for about 46 percent of the region's population in 2020. He also mentioned that the province's population in 2020 is higher by 103,484 from the population of 1,593,566 in 2015 and 207,405 more than the 1,489,645 population in 2010. From 2015 to 2020, the province's population grew at a pace of 1.33 percent per year, compared to 1.29 percent per year from 2010 to 2015.



Atty. Eduardo R. Cabantac, Planning and Development Officer of the Province of Isabela, discussed the impact of the updated population counts on provincial development. He explained that the government is concerned about uncontrolled population growth since it will result in resource shortages, delaying economic progress and worsening the employment situation. He also claimed that updated population counts suggest improved management and preservation of population-level resources and the environment, emphasizing the impact on planning, lobbying, and social mobilization in the province. He mentioned that population can be used on planning together with available resources as basis for development plans. Importance of population data is to plan for the humans as the end goal, all for human purposes.



Furthermore, Isabela State University President Dr. Ricmar P. Aquino, Ph.D., stressed the importance of current population counts in the academe, particularly in terms of research and development. He stated that academic institutions can contribute to policy formulation by conducting research and development activities, which should be one of any educational institution's key inputs and outputs. He said that population is very important and indispensable. He also mentioned that there is a need to offer extensive statistical data analysis courses in order to have a reliable analysis on the data figures especially on population data.

Mr. Oliver B. Francisco, City Planning and Development Officer of the Local Government Unit of Cauayan City, gave a detailed presentation on the impact of the updated population count. In his lecture, he went over the various uses of the updated population count in depth. He enumerated the diverse uses of the population census in different sectors.

In his closing remarks, EnP Ernesto M. De Peralta, Jr., PSA-IPSO Supervising Statistical Specialist, expressed his gratitude to everyone, particularly the partner agencies, for the success of 2020 CPH. “He also commended all the census personnel, both hired and regular PSA-Isabela employees, for their dedication in completing their tasks during the census undertaking.

The activity was attended by a total of 69 virtual and face-to-face participants.

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