



PRESS RELEASE

Highlights of the Region VIII (Eastern Visayas) Population 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH)

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- The population of Region VIII - Eastern Visayas as of 01 May 2020 is 4,547,150 based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH). This accounts for about 4.17 percent of the Philippine population in 2020.
- The 2020 population of the region is higher by 107,000 from the population of 4.44 million in 2015, and 445,828 more than the population of 4.10 million in 2010. Moreover, it is higher by 936,795 compared with the population of 3.61 million in 2000. (Table 1)

Table 1. Total Population of Region VIII - Eastern Visayas
 (Based on Various Censuses)

Census Year	Census Reference Date	Total Population
2000	May 1, 2000	3,610,355
2010	May 1, 2010	4,101,322
2015	August 1, 2015	4,440,150
2020	May 1, 2020	4,547,150

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- The population of Region VIII increased by 0.50 percent annually from 2015 to 2020. By comparison, the rate at which the population of the region grew from 2010 to 2015 was higher at 1.52 percent. (Table 2)

Table 2. Annual Population Growth Rate: Region VIII – Eastern Visayas
 (Based on Various Censuses)

Intercensal Period	Annual Population Growth Rate (%)
2000 to 2010	1.28
2010 to 2015	1.52
2015 to 2020	0.50

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



- Among the six provinces comprising Region VIII, Leyte had the biggest population in 2020 with 1,776,847 persons, followed by Samar (Western Samar) with 793,183 persons, Northern Samar with 639,186 persons, Eastern Samar with 477,168 persons, and Southern Leyte with 429,573 persons. Biliran had the smallest population with 179,312 persons. (Table 3)
- The City of Tacloban, the only highly urbanized city in the region posted a population of 251,881 persons.

Table 3. Total Population by Province/Highly Urbanized City Based on Various Censuses: Region VIII - Eastern Visayas

Province/Highly Urbanized City	Total Population			
	2000	2010	2015	2020
Biliran	140,274	161,760	171,612	179,312
Eastern Samar	375,822	428,877	467,160	477,168
Leyte	1,413,697	1,567,984	1,724,679	1,776,847
<i>City of Tacloban</i>	178,639	221,174	242,089	251,881
Northern Samar	500,639	589,013	632,379	639,186
Samar (Western Samar)	641,124	733,377	780,481	793,183
Southern Leyte	360,160	399,137	421,750	429,573

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- Biliran was the fastest growing province in the region with an annual population growth rate (PGR) of 0.93 percent from 2015 to 2020. It was followed by Leyte (0.63 percent), Eastern Samar (0.45 percent), Southern Leyte (0.39 percent), and Samar (Western Samar) with 0.34 percent. Northern Samar posted the lowest provincial PGR of 0.23 percent. (Table 4)
- The City of Tacloban posted a PGR of 0.84 percent.

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Table 4. Annual Population Growth Rate by Province/Highly Urbanized City
Based on Various Censuses: Region VIII - Eastern Visayas

Province/Highly Urbanized City	Annual Population Growth Rate (%)		
	2000 to 2010	2010 to 2015	2015 to 2020
Biliran	1.43	1.13	0.93
Eastern Samar	1.33	1.64	0.45
Leyte	1.04	1.83	0.63
<i>City of Tacloban</i>	2.16	1.73	0.84
Northern Samar	1.64	1.36	0.23
Samar (Western Samar)	1.35	1.19	0.34
Southern Leyte	1.03	1.05	0.39

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- Region VIII is composed of one highly urbanized city, one independent component city, five component cities, 136 municipalities, and 4,390 barangays.
- Among the cities (excluding the City of Tacloban) and municipalities in the region, the largest in terms of population size is Ormoc City, an independent component city in the Province of Leyte with 230,998 persons. It was followed by the City of Calbayog, Samar (Western Samar) with 186,960 persons, and City of Baybay, Leyte with 111,848 persons. (Table 5)

Table 5. Top Ten Most Populous Cities*/Municipalities:
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas, 2020

Rank	City/Municipality	Province	Total Population
1	Ormoc City	Leyte	230,998
2	City of Calbayog	Samar (Western Samar)	186,960
3	City of Baybay	Leyte	111,848
4	City of Catbalogan	Samar (Western Samar)	106,440
5	Catarman	Northern Samar	97,879
6	City of Maasin	Southern Leyte	87,446
7	Palo	Leyte	76,213
8	City of Borongan	Eastern Samar	71,961
9	Hilongos	Leyte	64,514
10	Abuyog	Leyte	61,216

* Excluding the City of Tacloban

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Census of Population and Housing

- Maslog in Eastern Samar is the least populous city/municipality in Region VIII with 5,463 persons. It was followed by Mercedes in Eastern Samar with 6,112 persons, and Limasawa in Southern Leyte with 6,191 persons. (Table 6)

Table 6. Ten Least Populous Cities*/Municipalities:
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas, 2020

Rank	City/Municipality	Province	Total Population
1	Maslog	Eastern Samar	5,463
2	Mercedes	Eastern Samar	6,112
3	Limasawa	Southern Leyte	6,191
4	Maripipi	Biliran	6,373
5	San Vicente	Northern Samar	6,928
6	Matuguinao	Samar (Western Samar)	7,364
7	Tunga	Leyte	7,656
8	San Jose de Buan	Samar (Western Samar)	7,767
9	Talalora	Samar (Western Samar)	7,856
10	Pagsanghan	Samar (Western Samar)	7,959

* Excluding the City of Tacloban

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Census of Population and Housing

- Of the 4,390 barangays in Region VIII, the largest in terms of population size is Barangay 105 (Suhi) in the City of Tacloban with 12,296 persons. It was followed by Mercedes in the City of Catbalogan, Samar (Western Samar) with 12,281 persons, and Dalakit (Pob.) in Catarman, Northern Samar with 12,075 persons. (Table 7)

Table 7. Top Ten Most Populous Barangays:
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas, 2020

Rank	Barangay	City/Municipality/Province	Total Population
1	Barangay 105 (Suhi)	City of Tacloban	12,296
2	Mercedes	City of Catbalogan, Samar (Western Samar)	12,281
3	Dalakit (Pob.)	Catarman, Northern Samar	12,075
4	Canlapwas (Pob.)	City of Catbalogan, Samar (Western Samar)	11,805
5	Barangay 106 (Santo Niño)	City of Tacloban	11,661
6	Tambulilid	Ormoc City, Leyte	11,405
7	Liloan	Ormoc City, Leyte	10,434
8	Poblacion	Albuera, Leyte	9,905
9	Barangay 91 (Abucay)	City of Tacloban	9,892
10	Ipil	Ormoc City, Leyte	9,464

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Census of Population and Housing

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