



# SPECIAL RELEASE

## HIGHLIGHTS OF BICOL REGION POPULATION DENSITY Based from the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH)

**Date of Release:** 04 August 2021

**Reference No.** 2021-018

The population of Bicol Region as of 01 May 2020 is 6,082,165, representing the total number of persons living in the six provinces of the region, including Filipinos in Philippine embassies, consulates, and missions abroad, based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH).

**Table 1. Total Population of Region V (Bicol Region)  
Based on Various Censuses**

Census Year	Census Reference Date	Total Population
2010	May 1, 2010	5,420,411
2015	August 1, 2015	5,796,989
2020	May 1, 2020	6,082,165

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

With a total land area of approximately 18,114.47 square kilometers, the population density of Bicol Region in 2020 was 336 persons per square kilometer. This represents an increase of 16 persons per square kilometer (4.9%) from the population density of 320 persons per square kilometer in 2015. In 2010, there were 299 persons residing in every square kilometer of land.

**Table 2. Population Density of Region V (Bicol Region)  
Based on Various Censuses**

Census Year	Population Density (Persons per Square Kilometer of land)
2010	299
2015	320
2020	336

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Among the six provinces comprising the region, Camarines Sur had the biggest population in 2020 with 2.07 million, followed by Albay with 1.37 million, Masbate with 909 thousand, Sorsogon with 829 thousand, and Camarines Norte with 630 thousand. Catanduanes had the smallest population with 272 thousand.

In terms of land area, Camarines Sur had the biggest land area of 5,511.90 square kilometers, followed by Masbate with 4,138.56 square kilometers, and Albay with 2,574.91 square kilometers.

Population density refers to the number of persons per square kilometer of land. The population figures used in this report were from the results of the 2020 CPH. Meanwhile, the land areas were based on the 2013 Masterlist of Land Areas of Cities and Municipalities provided by the Land Management Bureau (LMB) to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

Among the provinces, Albay was the most densely populated with a population density of 534 persons per square kilometer. This surpassed the regional population density of 336 persons per square kilometer. Camarines Sur and Sorsogon also surpassed the regional level with population density of 375 persons per square kilometer and 391 persons per square kilometer, respectively.

Catanduanes was the most sparsely populated province with population density of 182 persons per square kilometer.

**Table 3. Total Population, Land Area, and Population Density by Province in Region V (Bicol Region): 2020**

Province	Total Population	Land Area (square kilometer)	Population Density
<b>V- Bicol Region</b>	<b>6,082,165</b>	<b>18,114.47</b>	<b>336</b>
Albay	1,374,768	2,574.91	534
Camarines Norte	629,699	2,277.93	276
Camarines Sur	2,068,244	5,511.90	375
Catanduanes	271,879	1,492.16	182
Masbate	908,920	4,138.56	220
Sorsogon	828,655	2,119.01	391

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Among the cities/municipalities in Bicol Region in 2020, seven had a population density of more than 1,000 persons per square kilometer. Of these most densely populated cities/municipalities, three each were in Albay and Camarines Sur, and one in Camarines Norte. Camaligan in Camarines Sur was the most densely populated municipality with 5,350 persons per square kilometer. It was followed by Naga City with 2,702, Daet in Camarines Norte with 2,428, and Legazpi City in Albay with 1,297 persons.

Table 4. Ten Most Densely Populated Cities/Municipalities in Bicol Region: 2020

Rank	City/Municipality/ Province	Total Population	Land Area (square kilometer)	Population Density
1	Camaligan, Camarines Sur	25,036	4.68	5,350
2	City of Naga, Camarines Sur	209,170	77.40	2,702
3	Daet (Capital), Camarines Norte	111,700	46.00	2,428
4	City of Legazpi (Capital), Albay	209,533	161.61	1,297
5	City of Tabaco, Albay	140,961	117.14	1,203
6	Daraga, Albay	133,893	118.64	1,129
7	Milaor, Camarines Sur	33,963	33.64	1,010
8	Mallipot, Albay	40,857	44.13	926
9	San Jose, Camarines Sur	43,973	48.04	915
10	Nabua, Camarines Sur	86,490	96.20	899

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Gigmoto in Catanduanes was the most sparsely populated municipality in Bicol Region in 2020, with 48 persons residing in every square kilometer. Milagros in Masbate followed with 102 persons. San Miguel and Panganiban, both in Catanduanes and Garchitorena in Camarines Sur, had 121 persons residing in every square kilometer.

Table 5. Ten Most Sparsely Populated Cities/Municipalities in Bicol Region: 2020

Rank	City/Municipality/ Province	Total Population	Land Area (square kilometer)	Population Density
1	Gigmoto, Catanduanes	8,712	181.82	48
2	Milagros, Masbate	57,538	565.30	102
3	San Miguel, Catanduanes	15,680	129.94	121
4	Panganiban, Catanduanes	9,713	79.96	121
5	Garchitorena, Camarines Sur	29,436	243.80	121
6	Caramoran, Catanduanes	32,114	263.74	122
7	Baras, Catanduanes	13,484	109.50	123
8	Capalonga, Camarines Norte	36,223	290.00	125
9	Del Gallego, Camarines Sur	26,403	208.31	127
10	San Lorenzo Ruiz, Camarines Norte	15,757	119.37	132


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The 2020 CPH was undertaken by the Philippine Statistics Authority pursuant to Republic Act No. 10625, also known as the *Philippine Statistical Act of 2013, Executive Order No. 352 – Designation of Statistical Activities That Will Generate Critical Data for Decision-Making of the Government and the Private Sector*, and Batas Pambansa (BP) Bilang 72, which provide the basis for the decennial conduct of the integrated census of population and housing.


May 2020 was declared as the National Census Month pursuant to Proclamation No. 928, s. 2020, which provided that the 2020 CPH be conducted in May 2020, with 01 May 2020 as the census reference date. However, in light of the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the census enumeration was moved to September 2020. Information on the count of the population was collected with 12:01 AM of 01 May 2020 as the reference time and date, in accordance with the provisions indicated under BP 72.

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has declared official for all purposes the population counts by province, city/municipality, and barangay based on the 2020 CPH under Proclamation No. 1179 dated 06 July 2021. The population counts were based on census questionnaires administered by about 6,218 enumerators deployed by the region during the nationwide census taking.

The successful completion of the census-taking amidst the COVID-19 pandemic would not have been possible without the cooperation and support of the census respondents and barangay officials regionwide. The PSA V would also like to thank the members of the local census coordinating boards, officials of national government agencies and local government units, media practitioners, private agencies, non-government organizations, homeowners' associations, building administrators, and all other census stakeholders. Credits also go to the thousands of enumerators, supervisors, and other census workers hired by PSA V for the 2020 CPH.



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