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PSA BARMM Release 2024 Functional Literacy, Education, and Mass Media Survey Results

The Philippine Statistics Authority – Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (PSA-BARMM) officially released the 2024 Functional Literacy, Education, and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMS) results during a Regional Data Dissemination Forum in Cotabato City on May 30, 2025. Led by OIC Regional Director Engr. Akan G. Tula, the event showcased key findings on literacy and media exposure in the region. The survey, conducted every three years, assesses Filipinos' reading, writing, and numeracy skills to inform educational policies.

The findings reveal that 81% of Bangsamoro residents are literate in basic reading, writing, and arithmetic, while 64.7% possess functional literacy—meaning they can understand and use information effectively. The survey also examined household access to mass media and ICT devices, underscoring the role of media in promoting information dissemination and digital literacy.

Stakeholders from agencies such as the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE), Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority (BPDA), and Bangsamoro ICT Office (BICTO) attended, emphasizing the importance of collaboration to improve literacy levels. MBHTE's Crisalyn D. Miraato highlighted that literacy remains relatively low,

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- MAY 2025 INFLATION RATE FOR BARMM

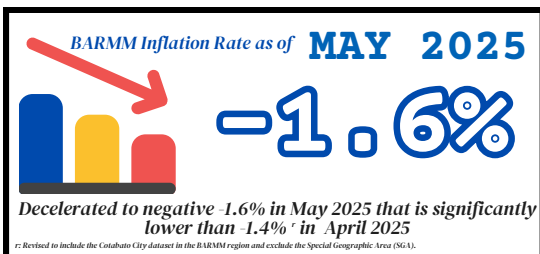
especially among youth, and urged the use of FLEMMS data to strengthen reading, numeracy, and information literacy.

National Statistician and Civil Registrar General Usec. Claire Dennis S. Mapa, PhD noted that the 2024 survey provides more detailed, province-level data, covering over 572,000 individuals across 177,000 households, offering a comprehensive view of the nation's literacy landscape. Chief SOCD Edward Donald F. Eloja stressed that education is vital for positive regional development. The PSA-BARMM aims for these data to catalyze targeted interventions, foster partnerships, and elevate educational standards in Bangsamoro communities, paving the way for sustainable progress.

BARMM region recorded a headline inflation rate of -1.6 percent in May 2025, slightly lower than the -1.4 percent registered in April 2025. In contrast, the inflation rate in May 2024 was significantly higher at 5.8 percent.

Basilan, Lanao del Sur, and Cotabato City posted lower inflation rates compared to the previous month, while Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi recorded higher inflation rates than in the previous month.

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The overall inflation in BARMM decreased to -1.6 percent in May 2025, primarily driven by the decrease on Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels index, which decreased to 1.0 percent from 0.4 percent; Transport index, which declined to -0.4 percent from 0.5 percent; and Personal Care, Miscellaneous Goods, and Services, which dropped to 0.7 percent from 1.3 percent.

For food commodities, inflation retained its revised rate of -3.6 percent in May 2025. A year earlier, in May 2024, food inflation was significantly higher at 7.3 percent.

As of May 2025, the Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) in BARMM stood at PhP 0.80.



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PSA BARMM Conducts Second Level Training on 2024 ASPBI at SICT Data Processing

PSA BARMM successfully conducted the Second Level Training for the 2024 Annual Survey of Philippine Business and Industry (ASPBI) and the related Survey on Information and Communications Technology (SICT) Data Processing.

Held from May 26 to 30, 2025, at the PSA-BARMM office in Cotabato City, the training involved personnel from five Provincial Statistical Offices. Trainers from PSA Central Office included Mr. Lorenzo L. Bautista and Mr. Jonathan L. Dela Cruz, Services Statistics Division.

The activity focused on manual and machine processing of questionnaires to ensure accurate data collection. This training prepares staff to efficiently handle survey operations, supporting the 51st ASPBI and 10th SICT, both vital for economic data collection nationwide.



PSA BARMM Holds First Coordination and Consultative Meeting with Shari'a Court Clerks

PSA-RSSO BARMM, led by OIC- Regional Director Engr. Akan G. Tula, successfully conducted its first Coordination and Consultative Meeting on May 6, 2025, at Lakandula Hall, RSSO BARMM, Cotabato City.

The event aimed to address issues related to civil registration and document correction. Attendees included top officials such as Atty. Maqtahar L. Manulon, PSA Region XII Director, and representatives from the PSA Central Office. Shari'a Court Clerks shared their concerns regarding registration processes. The meeting fostered open dialogue, clarified procedures, and promoted cooperation.

Participants agreed on strategies to improve civil registration services across the Bangsamoro region, ensuring faster, more inclusive, and efficient documentation processes for the community.



PSA-BARMM Successfully Conducts Five-Day Mobile Civil Registration Service in Datu Piang, Maguindanao del Sur

From April 21 to 25, 2025, PSA RSSO BARMM successfully conducted a five-day mobile civil registration service in Datu Piang, Maguindanao del Sur, led by OIC-Regional Director Engr. Akan G. Tula.

The activity aimed to bring vital PSA services to more remote areas of Bangsamoro. The team served 490 clients and processed 807 transactions, including civil registry document imprinting in SECPA copies. Due to high demand, some residents queued as early as midnight to ensure they could be accommodated.

The initiative highlights PSA's commitment to extending essential services to underserved communities in the region.



STATrivia

The 2024 Functional Literacy, Education, and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMS) results revealed that 90.0 percent or 9 out of 10 Filipinos aged 5 years and over had basic literacy. This translates to approximately 93.07 million individuals aged 5 years and over who can read, write, and compute out of the estimated 103.46 million individuals in the same age group.

Basic literacy rates varied across regions with Central Luzon (Region III) having the highest basic literacy rate at 92.8 percent.

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