

NEW OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF URBAN AREAS IN THE PHILIPPINES



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Background

- Barangay (or village) is the smallest political unit in the Philippines
- Criteria in identifying an urban barangay uses the 1970 definition which is based on:
 - population density
 - presence of establishments
 - presence of community facilities
 - occupation of the inhabitants



Background

- For example, urban areas include
- all cities and municipalities which have a population density of at least 1,000 persons per sq. km .;
 - Central districts (poblaciones) with street pattern, 6 establishments and 3 community facilities i.e. town hall, park, market place, public building



Background

- For example, urban areas include
- Barangays with at least 1,000 inhabitants that is not part of the central districts but in which the occupation of the inhabitants is predominantly non-farming/fishing



Background - URBAN POPULATION

| YEAR | TOTAL POPULATION | URBAN POPULATION | PERCENT URBAN |
|------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 2000 | 76,504,077 | 36,739,849 | 48.0 |
| 1990 | 60,697,994 | 28,498,325 | 47.0 |
| 1980 | 48,098,460 | 18,042,045 | 37.5 |
| 1970 | 36,684,486 | 11,677,820 | 31.8 |



Problems with 1970 Definition

- Increasing cities/municipalities with population density of 1,000 persons per sq. km.
- Concept of “poblacion” is vague
- Mandatory facilities within a barangay (1991 Local Government Code)
- Predominant occupation is asked from key informant



PROCESS

- Data used:
 - 2000 census barangay characteristics
 - Revalidation survey in 1,180 sample barangays (of the almost 42,000 barangays nationwide)



PROCESS

- Factor analysis performed to determine which among the barangay characteristics and population cut-off are to be considered
- Variables included also
 - Distance of facilities to the barangay
 - Characteristics of the barangay
 - No. of establishments



PROCESS

- Logistic regression was applied to confirm the results generated from the factor analysis; 12 simulation runs were made.



NEW DEFINITION OF URBAN AREAS

1. If the barangay has a population of 5,000 or more, then a barangay is considered urban, or

2. If the barangay has at least 1 medium or 1 large establishment, a barangay is considered urban, or



NEW DEFINITION OF URBAN AREAS

3. If the barangay has 5 or more small establishments and 5 or more facilities, then a barangay is considered urban.



NEW DEFINITION OF URBAN AREAS

Where:

Establishment is defined according to size of employees as follows:

Small establishment - 10 – 99 employees

Medium establishment - 100 – 199 employees

Large establishment - 200 & over employees



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NEW DEFINITION OF URBAN AREAS

Where:

Presence of facilities

considers also the 2 km. radius distance from the barangay hall, if the facility is not present in the barangay



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Application of the Final Criteria

Using 1990 and 2000 CPH Data
(all barangays subjected to the criteria)

| Data Used | Definition | Urban Barangay | | Urban Population | |
|-------------|------------|----------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| 2000 CENSUS | 1970 | 9,950 | 23.7 | 36,739,849 | 48.0 |
| | Proposed | 3,831 | 9.1 | 28,095,222 | 36.7 |
| 1990 CPH | 1970 | 10,728 | 25.6 | 28,498,325 | 47.0 |



Application of the Final Criteria

Using 1990 and 2000 CPH Data

(* NCR barangays automatically classified as urban)

| Data Used | Definition | Urban Barangay | | Urban Population | |
|-------------|------------|----------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| 2000 CENSUS | 1970 | 9,950 | 23.7 | 36,739,849 | 48.0 |
| | Proposed* | 4,751 | 11.3 | 29,652,052 | 38.8 |
| 1990 CPH | 1970 | 10,728 | 25.6 | 28,498,325 | 47.0 |



Application of the Final Criteria

Using 1990 and 2000 CPH Data

(*NCR barangays automatically classified as urban)

(**NCR and HUC barangays automatically classified as urban)

| Data Used | Definition | Urban Barangay | | Urban Population | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| 2000 CENSUS | 1970 | 9,950 | 23.7 | 36,739,849 | 48.0 |
| | Proposed* | 4,751 | 11.3 | 29,652,052 | 38.8 |
| | Proposed** | 5,398 | 12.9 | 30,953,430 | 40.5 |
| 1990 CPH | 1970 | 10,728 | 25.6 | 28,498,325 | 47.0 |



Ending Notes

New urban definition is

- **More strict**
 - due to higher population and restriction on the facilities to be included
 - exclusion of mandatory facilities I.e. schools
- **Simple and operationally practical**
 - Perception of a barangay being predominantly agriculture avoided
 - Instability of concept of poblacion cleared
 - Specific facilities becoming obsolete over time eliminated



Next steps

- Include new definition (with information on distance) in the next Census (2007 Census of Population in August)
- Include questions to come-up with comparative statistics for the new and old definition of urban areas





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www.census.gov.ph



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