

## Mindanao

**Overview:**  
Mindanao is the second largest, and the southernmost island in the Philippines. It is a strong agricultural area supplying a large portion of the food supply for the entire country.

**Territory:**  
Located just north of Indonesia and Malaysia, Mindanao is divided into six regions, which are further subdivided into 25 provinces. The six regions: Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX); Northern Mindanao (Region X); Davao Region (Region XI); Soccsksargen (Region XII); Caraga (Region XIII); Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

**Location:**  
In the Philippines archipelago between the Philippine Sea and the South China Sea, east of Vietnam.

**Latitude and Longitude:**  
800 N 125 00 E

**Time Zone:**  
GMT +8

**Total Land Area:**  
94630

**EEZ:**

**Climate:**  
Generally fair and balmy, tropical climate, evenly distributed throughout the year. It is characterized by a uniform distribution of rainfall, temperature, humidity, and air pressure.

**Natural Resources:**  
Mindanao is endowed with rich mineral resources. Its metallic deposits include lead, zinc, ore, iron, copper, chromite, magnetite and gold. Gold mined in Mindanao accounts for nearly half of the national gold reserves. Its non-metallic mineral resources include marble, salt, sand, gravel, silica, clay, and limestone.

### ECONOMY:

Total GDP:	
2004	194,151,692.00 USD

Per Capita GDP:	

% of GDP per Sector:			
	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
2004	33.8%	28.4%	37.8%

% of Population Employed by Sector			
	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary

### External Aid/Remittances:

**Growth:**  
GDP growth at 4.4 % for 2004; industry will expand by 3%; agriculture, fishing and forestry is expected to increase by 3.8%.

Labour Force:	
2005	8,437,000

Unemployment	
Year:	Unemployment Rate (% of pop.)
2005	8.64%

**Industry:**  
There has been large investment in steel and the San Miguel distillery.

**Niche Industry:**  
Petroleum naphtha as well as cetyl and stearyl alcohols, commonly used for industrial preparations, were among the non-traditional export products which contribute significantly to Mindanao's exports.

**Tourism:**

Cultural diversity and the island's natural beauty make Mindanao one of Asia's favored tourist destinations. White sand beaches, scenic volcanoes, vast orchid gardens, and various ethnic festivals are only some of its unique tourist attractions. In 2004 there were 2.4 million visitors Regions X and XI are the major tourist destinations in Mindanao with more than 1.2 million foreign and domestic tourists. The increase in tourist arrivals could be attributed to the various major activities in the regions like the Kadayawan Festival in Davao, the Cagayan de Oro City fiesta, the Hermosa Festival in Zamboanga as well as the tourism week observance of other key destinations in Mindanao.



<b>Imports and Exports:</b>	
Exports (2004): \$ 1,529,272,849; Imports (2004): \$ 657,974,799; Projected (2004) trade surplus of 22.6% Exports:(1st quarter of 2005) Among the top five exported products: Bananas (US\$79.5 million); Coconut oil (US\$86 million); Fresh pineapples (US\$33.5 million); Tuna (US\$22.3 million); Iron ore agglomerates (US\$14.8 million). Others: nickel and iron ore; desiccated coconut; Imports: milk, flat rolled iron, wheat, kraft liner;	
<b>Tot. Value of Imports</b>	0.00 ()
<b>From Eu:</b>	
<b>Import Partners (EU:)</b>	
<b>Partners Outside EU:</b>	
<b>Import Partners:</b>	
<b>Tot. Value of Exports</b>	()
<b>To Eu:</b>	
<b>Export Partners:</b>	
<b>Partners Outside EU::</b>	
<b>Export Partners:</b>	
<b>Main Imports:</b>	
<b>Main Exports:</b>	

## TRANSPORTATION/ACCESS

### External:

#### Number of Airports: 15

Mindanao's total visitor arrivals are estimated to grow by 8.9% from 2.2 million in 2003 to 2.4 million in 2004. The total number of air passengers (2004) 2,593,516; volume of Air Cargo (Metric Tons)74,696. Davao City International Airport is still the busiest airport in Mindanao accommodating approximately 1.4 million incoming and outgoing passengers. Cagayan de Oro Airport is the next busiest airport admitting more than 0.5 million passengers.

#### Number of Main Ports:

total of 472 commercial private ports;

### Internal:

#### Air

The small airlines such as Asian Spirit, South Phoenix and South East Asian (Seair) Airlines have contributed in linking areas not served by other national carriers;

#### Road:

no. of Motor Vehicle Registration (2004) 625,047; 60% of national roads paved (3,959 Km); 2,625 gravel;

#### Sea:

no. of Sea Passengers 16,988,094; volume of Sea Cargo 22,745,152 (metric tons); 12 base ports; 29 feeder ports;

### Other Forms of Transportation:

#### Economic Zones:

Designated by the government for development into balanced agricultural, industrial, commercial, and tourist/recreational regions. Various incentives to Ecozone Enterprises apply only to registered Ecozone companies and only during the period of their registration with PEZA.

#### Energy Policy:

The Alliance for Mindanao Off-Grid Renewable Energy (AMORE), a seven-year project of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in partnership with the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and the private sector through Mirant Philippines, provides a sustainable approach to bring electricity to remote communities with renewable energy. AMORE aims to establish sustainable renewable energy systems in at least 360 remote rural communities of former rebel combatants in Western and Central Mindanao.

Year	Total Energy Production (Mwh)	Type			Total Energy Consumption (Mwh)	Sector				
		Thermic (Mwh)	Geothermic (Mwh)	Other (Mwh)		Domestic (Mwh)	Commercial (Mwh)	Public Service (Mwh)	Industry (Mwh)	Public Lighting (Mwh)
2007	56,784	9,330	10,465	0	56,784	15,830	12,679	0	15,888	0



**Official Currency:**  
Filipino peso

**Banking and Insurance:**

Number of Banks and Credit Unions:  
Number of Agricultural Credit Unions:  
Number of Insurance Companies:

(2004) The number of banks operating in Mindanao increased by 2%. From January to December 2004, there were 896 banks operating in Mindanao from a total of 877 banks in 2003. During the first quarter of 2004, the BSP has approved the merger of three Mindanao banks, paving the way for the formation of the biggest rural bank in the Philippines. Quasi-banks in Mindanao registered with BSP rose by 8.5% or 1,713 institutions registered last year as against 1,578 in 2003.

**Financial Services:**

**Communications/E-Commerce:**

(2004) installed telephone lines, 711,839; subscribed telephone lines, 252,449;

**Public Ownership:**

**Land Use:**

(hectares) Total: 10,199,886; Alienable and disposable: 4,131,306; Forested: 6,068,580; Service: 278, 000.

**Agriculture/Forestry:**

Agriculture is the driving force behind Mindanao's economy. Close to a third of its land area is devoted to agriculture. More than one-third of the island's labor force is employed in the agriculture, fishery and forestry sectors. Total staple crop (palay and corn) and livestock production in Mindanao registered a 7.7% growth to 7.48 million MT in 2004 from 6.95 million MT in 2003. Among the top performing commodities this year include palay 3.4 tons (2004), corn, carabao and chicken. Chicken production increased by 7.2% from 215,911 MT in 2003 to 231,512 MT in 2004.

**Marine Activity:**

**Fishing:**

Fish production 1.74 Million MT in 2004 (highest growth in past 5 years) Aquaculture: 45.11% (70% seaweed); commercial 32.9%; municipal 21.9%. Resource is becoming scarce; therefore, there is a prohibition of certain harvesting equipment.

**Marine Life:**

**Critical Issues:**

In recent years, the area has come under scrutiny, with the rise of Islamic terrorist organizations tied to the Middle East conflict. Mindanao is a staging ground for such terrorist groups as Abu Sayyaf and Jemaah Islamiyah that undermine the more moderate and nationalistic aspirations of independence seekers like the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

**JURISDICTIONAL RESOURCES**

**Capital:**

Davao

**Political System:**

**Political Parties:**

**Important Legislation:**

**Principal Taxes:**

**Associated Power:**

**Citizenship:**

**Paradiplomacy:**

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Population 18,133,714 (2000); one quarter of the total Philippine population lives on the island of Mindanao. It is home to 27 indigenous cultural communities. One-third of the population is aged 15-19 years. (2004)

2000			
Island	Area (km sq.)	Population	% of Total Population
Mindanao	94,630	18,133,714	100%

<b>Population:</b>	
Year	Resident Population

Age of Population:	0-14	15-24	25-49	50-64	65 and up
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**Migration:**



from Luzon and the Visayas

<b>Crude Birth Rate:</b>	
2000	21.17%

**Life Expedctancy:**

<b>Crude Death Rate:</b>	
2000	4.4%

**Ethnicity:**  
Muslim or Moro populations, comprising of many ethnic groups such as the Maranaos and the Tausugs, and the collective group of tribes known as the Lumad

**Class Division:**

**Languages:**  
English and Filipino

**Religion:**  
Christian: 13,024,691; Muslim: 3,601,266; Indigenous: 1,478,380

**Literacy:**  
90% (2004)

**Education System:**  
Total Primary Schools (2001-2002):11,350; Total Secondary Schools: 1,713;

<b>Total Pre-schools:( )</b>	
<b>Total Primary Schools</b>	
<b>First Level:</b>	
<b>Second Level:</b>	
<b>Third Level:</b>	
<b>Total Secondary Schools:</b>	
<b>Total Professional Schools</b>	
<b>Universities:</b>	

<b>Number of Schools per Island:</b>										
	<b>Pre-school</b>		<b>Elementary</b>			<b>High-school</b>		<b>Prof.</b>	<b>University</b>	
	<b>Pub</b>	<b>Priv</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Pub</b>	<b>Priv</b>		<b>Pub</b>	<b>Priv</b>

<b>Students Enrolled:</b>					
<b>Year:</b>	<b>Pre-School</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>High-school</b>	<b>Prof.</b>	<b>University</b>

<b>Teachers</b>							
<b>Year</b>	<b>Pre-School</b>	<b>Elementary</b>			<b>High-School</b>	<b>Prof.</b>	<b>University</b>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>			

**Medical Services:**  
(2003) Total Hospitals (all levels and descriptions): 4784.

**HISTORY AND CULTURE**

**History:**  
Unless you venture into isolated pockets of the island where there are active insurgent (primarily Muslim) groups, for the most part Mindanao is a peaceful place. Marxist guerrillas have recently made warnings of possible assaults on American troops in the Philippines and threatening to escalate attacks against President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's government. The Communist Party of the Philippines, in a statement on its 37th anniversary, criticized the US military for increasing intervention in the Philippines and urged militants to take steps to deter the US from "further plundering" the country.

**Referenda:**

## Recent Significant Events:

### Music, Dance, Handicraft and Patrimony:

The artistry and diversity of ethnic tribes lend a richness to local color. The Maranao have their okir, a curvilinear carving tradition that sets off their houses, musical instruments, personal ornaments and household implements in brilliant colorful motifs. The handicrafts of the T'boli weave famous t'nalak patterns. Arts and crafts demonstration tours, tribal, festivals, and visits to ethnic villages provide insight into the everyday lives of the cultural minorities. The music of the Binukid speaking minority groups involve the use of the Philippine boat lute, commonly known by its generic name, kutiyapi. At least 13 different types are used by at least 21 ethnic groups. Muslim dance: There are numerous dances by various tribes. A pangalay native to the Badjao, sometimes known as the "Sea Gypsies." Pangalay is a dance that emphasizes the agility of the upper body. The rhythmic bounce of the shoulder with simultaneous alternating waving of arms are the basic movement of this dance. The pangalay is commonly performed at weddings and other social gatherings.

### Sources:

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