

TABLE 3. Crime Volume, By Police Office, Region 9
First Quarter 2014

Region IX	Crime Volume		Total Crime Volume	% Share to Total Crime Volume
	Index Crime	Non-Index Crime		
Zamboanga del Sur	1,109	1,426	2,535	17.46
Zamboanga Sibugay	673	481	1,154	7.94
Zamboanga del Norte	1,632	2,427	4,059	27.96
Zamboanga City	2,465	4,295	6,760	46.56

Source of Basic Data: Police Regional Office 9

Index crimes accounted for 40.5 percent and non-index crimes accounted for 59.4 percent of the total crime volume during the quarter in review. These are up by 23.8 percent or 1,132 and 37.3 percent or 2,346, respectively, compared to the last quarter of 2013. Zamboanga City, which is composed of 98 barangays, and is a highly urbanized city, registered a 46.56 percent share of the total crime volume in the region.

TABLE 4. Crime Volume, By Type of Crime,
Region IX First Quarter 2014

CRIME TYPE	Q1 2014
TOTAL CRIME VOLUME	14,508
Total Crimes Solved	3,363
Total Crimes Cleared	4,891
INDEX CRIMES	5,879
<i>Crimes Against Persons</i>	3,511
1. Murder	160
2. Homicide	63
3. Physical Injury	3,187
4. Rape	101
<i>Crimes Against Property</i>	2,368
1. Robbery	458
2. Theft	1,741
3. Carnapping	137
4. Cattle Rustling	32
NON-INDEX CRIMES	8,629

Source: Police Regional Office 9

Physical injury cases comprised the biggest percentage share at 54 percent or 3,192 cases among index crimes during the quarter. This is followed by theft and robbery with 29 percent and 7 percent, respectively.

The alarming increase in crime rate in Zamboanga City during the period could be seen as after-effects of the Zamboanga siege in September last year.

Index crimes, as defined by the Philippine National Police (PNP), involve crimes against persons such as murder, homicide, physical injury and rape, and crimes against property such as robbery, theft, carnapping/carjacking and cattle rustling. Non-index crimes, on the other hand, are violations of special laws such as illegal logging or violations against local ordinances.

Tax Collection

The national tax collection goal for 2014, which is P1.46 trillion, is 16.16% higher than the 2013 collection goal of P1.25 trillion. Of the total goal, Revenue Region No. 15, which covers the entire Zamboanga Peninsula, is tasked to collect P5.4 billion or 22.8% increase in collection over the 2013 actual collection of P4.4 billion.

In Zamboanga City, the Revenue District 93A of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) has exceeded its target collection for the month of January this year. A total of P213, 117,314.60 in revenues was collected which was higher by P3.7 million compared to the target collection goal of P209, 417,000.

The successful revenue collection during the first two months of the first quarter of 2014 in Zamboanga City would indicate a positive outlook in revenue collection in the entire region of Zamboanga Peninsula.

Development Prospects

The lifting of the closed fishing ban on 1 March 2014 is perceived to have positive effects on the catch of sardines in the next harvest season. According to the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), the seasonal fishing ban is on its last year, but the fishing and sardines canning industry in Zamboanga Peninsula has recommended that the ban, which is meant to allow sardines and herring to spawn, be extended in succeeding years. The industry has experienced better harvests since the fishing ban was first implemented.

An anticipated increase in demand for goods and services during the secondary harvest season and enrolment periods is foreseen. This may result to increases in consumption expenditures among households and increase in income by the business sector.

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A Glance at ZamPen's 1st Quarter Performance

Zampen's economy was off to a challenging start in 2014 as unemployment rate has been on the uptrend since the last quarter of 2013. Agricultural production however was more upbeat with an increase of 15.1 percent in palay production compared to the same quarter in 2013. Prices on the other hand increased, bringing the region's average inflation rate to 6.1 percent during the quarter.

Meanwhile, crime registered a steep increase of 31.53 percent in the combined incidence of index and non-index crimes.

Labor and Employment

TABLE 1: Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment Rates, Region 9 First Quarter and Fourth Quarters 2013 and First Quarter 2014

PERIOD	Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate	Underemployment Rate	
2013	January	96.9	3.4	27.2
	October	97.0	3.0	20.3
2014	January	95.8	4.2	19.0

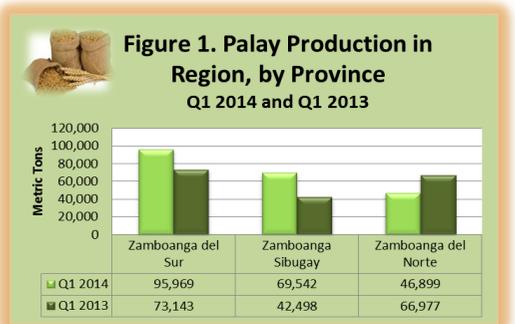
Source: National Statistics Office 9

Region IX registered higher unemployment (4.2%) in January 2014 compared to the same period in 2013 (3.4%). Correspondingly, employment decreased by 0.8 percentage point in the same period this year (95.8 percent) compared to the same period last year (96.9 percent). Underemployment rate however, dropped from 27.2 percent in 2013 to 19.0 percent in 2014, registering an 8.2 percent point reduction (Table 1).

The increase in the unemployment rate is attributed to the slowdown in business activities as a result of moderation of consumer demand after Christmas. Also contributing to the rise in unemployment rate was the seasonal fishing ban off the coastal waters of Zamboanga's East Sulu Sea, Basilan Strait and Sibuguey Bay.

Agriculture

Palay production during the quarter increased to 219,542 MT, which is higher by 15.1 percent compared to last year's production of 190,697 MT. The increase was due to adequate irrigation



Source: Bureau of Agricultural Statistics 9

for rice farms, made possible by the National Irrigation Administration (NIA). Contributing the bigger share was Zamboanga del Sur with 95,969 MT, Zamboanga Sibugay with 69,542 MT and Zamboanga del Norte with 46,849 MT, which were up by 31.2%, 10.3% and 3.8%, respectively, from last quarter's output. The high palay production could also be attributed to the shift of some farmers in the region to planting hybrid rice varieties against inbred rice varieties.

Corn production decreased by 31.3% from 46,859 MT in the 1st quarter of 2013 to 35,685 MT during the same period this year. Yield was low, owing to inadequate farm inputs, including fertilizer.

TABLE 2: Agriculture Production, Region 9 First Quarter 2013 and 2014

CROPS	Q1 2014 (Metric Tons)	Q1 2013 (Metric Tons)
Palay	219,542	190,697
Corn	35,682	46,859

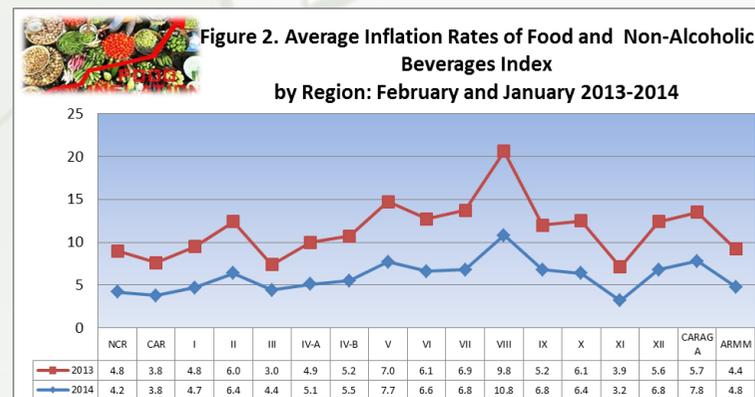
Source: Bureau of Agricultural Statistics 9

Note: First quarter volume of production report for other crops is not yet available

Prices

Region IX's average inflation rate accelerated to 6.0% from 3.8% during the same period last year. The high inflation rate in the region was evident in the successive rounds of price hikes of prime commodities before the end of last year.

Prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages increased to 6.8 percent during the first two months of 2014, making Zamboanga Peninsula rank 4th among the 17 regions nationwide with the highest inflation rate. Stability of food supplies and decreases in crop production as a result of unfavourable weather condition partly contributed to the rising prices in food and agriculture commodities.

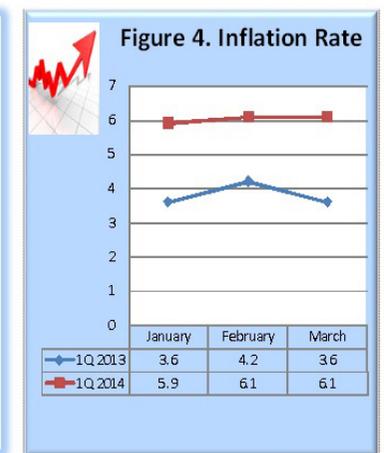


Source: National Statistics Office 9

The high inflation rate eroded the value of the peso. In Region 9, a continuous loss in peso value was felt as the Consumer Price Index continued to rise. A peso in 2006 now has a purchasing power of equivalent to only .68 centavos. A weaker peso at high demand conditions is expected to stimulate inflationary pressures.



Source: National Statistics Office 9



Public Order and Safety

Crime Clearance Efficiency declined by 16.38 percent during the quarter in review from 46.57 percent to 30.19% compared with the same period in 2013. Crime Solution Efficiency rate also declined from 35.95 percent in the first quarter of last year to 20.43 percent during the same period this year. One of the reasons for the decrease is the increase in the dismissal of cases filed in courts. Based on Office of Court Administrator of the Supreme Court (OCASC), at least 90 percent of criminal cases have either been dismissed or resulted in the acquittal of the accused due to technicalities or negligence committed by police investigators regionwide (Source: Police Regional Office 9).

Crime solution efficiency is the percentage of solved cases out of the total number of crime incidents handled by law enforcement agencies for a given period of time. Crime clearance efficiency is the percentage of cleared cases out of the total number of crime incidents handled by law enforcement agencies for a given period of time. A case is considered cleared when the law enforcement agencies have filed the case in court. However in solved cases, the suspect/s of the crime has already been captured.