



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
**COMMISSION ON POPULATION**  
Welfareville Compound  
City of Mandaluyong

## **PRESS STATEMENT ON THE RESULT OF THE 2007 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND THE POPULATION POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT**

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### **Philippine PGR on track by 2010**

The government is concerned, among other issues, with how population growth can be managed to achieve sustained growth of national income and bring about a fair distribution of the fruits of progress.

The country's population growth rate (PGR) of 2.04, as indicated in the 2007 population census released by the National Statistics Office, is a good indicator that the Philippines' target growth rate would further slow down to 1.95 percent in 2010. This means that the total population, through the doubling equation used by demographers, would double in 35 years, rather than in 29 years, (using the 2.36 PGR, and the year 2000 as a basis for medium projection).

The decline in population growth rate will free resources which otherwise would have been devoted to an increasing number of people. The government can use these resources to accelerate its programs for economic

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growth, improve the quality of education, health, and other basic social services which are included in the 10-point agenda of the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) and the United Nation's Millennium Development Goal (MDG), particularly focused on improving the accessibility and affordability to essential services which include clean water, health care, and basic education, among others.

The macro view of population and development includes attending to the needs of the basic unit of society—the family, their need for family planning services, reproductive health, maternal and child nutrition, are some of the concerns which must be looked into. The government is doing its share in attending to these needs through the promotion of Natural Family Planning which involves several strategies such as the conduct of Responsible Parenting Movement (RPM) classes nationwide, while the local government units (LGUs) are tasked to look into the needs for the delivery of FP services in their localities.

The costs of not meeting the needs for family planning must be taken seriously as this could lead to unplanned pregnancies, closely spaced births, and larger families. However, the decision to plan their families must come from shared decision between husbands and wives. #