

NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MIMAROPA Region Calapan City

REGIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATIONER
FIRST QUARTER 2022

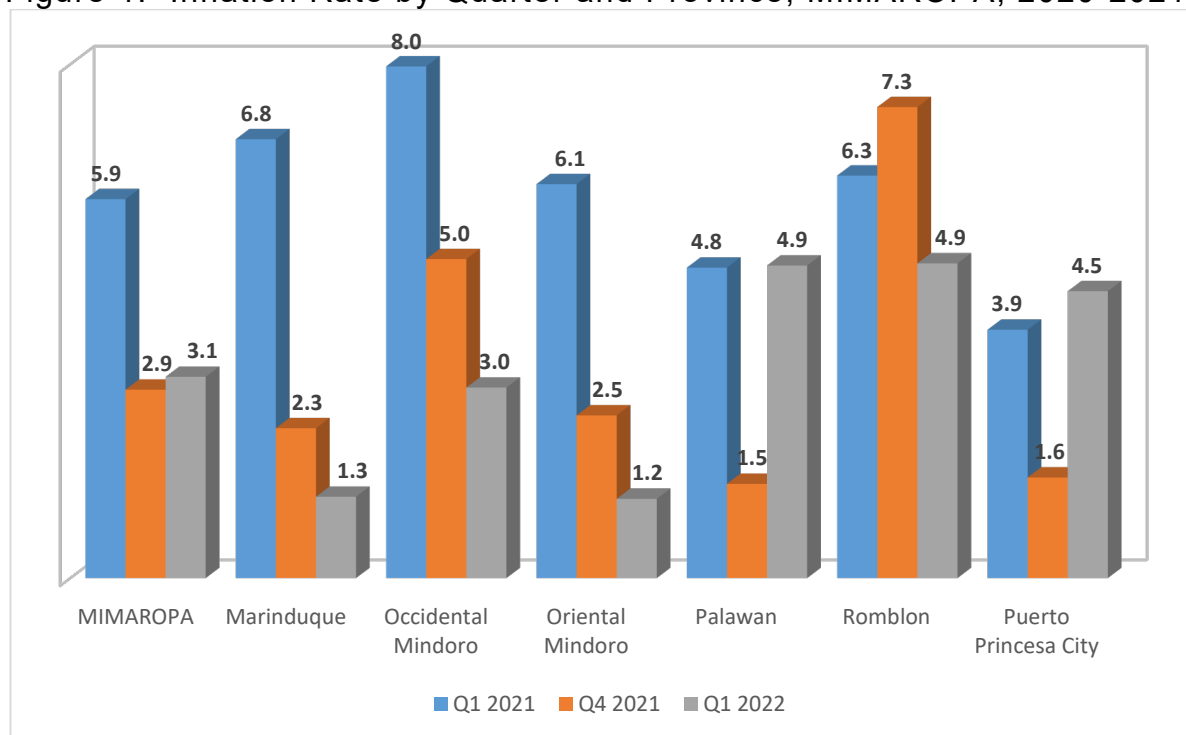
I. Macroeconomy

A. Prices, CPI, and Inflation Rate

MIMAROPA's average inflation eased to 3.1 percent in January to March 2022 from previous year's 5.9 percent. This was, however, higher than previous quarter's 2.9 percent. All MIMAROPA provinces registered lower inflation rates except for Palawan, which had 4.8 percent in January to March 2021 and 4.9 percent this year (refer to Figure 1). Palawan and Romblon registered the highest inflation rate at 4.9 percent. This was followed by Occidental Mindoro, Marinduque, and Oriental Mindoro with 3.0 percent, 1.3 percent, and 1.2 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, Puerto Princesa City recorded higher inflation rate from 3.9 percent in January to March 2021 and 1.6 percent in October to December 2021 to 4.5 percent in January to March this year.

Higher inflation rates in Palawan and Puerto Princesa City were mainly attributed to the increase in fuel prices, which led to higher local transportation fees and logistics cost of commodity items imported from adjacent provinces. The higher cost of financial services in Palawan and Puerto Princesa City also contributed to the higher inflation rates.

Figure 1. Inflation Rate by Quarter and Province, MIMAROPA, 2020-2021



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

For three consecutive months, increasing inflation rates were recorded: 2.8 percent in January; 3.2 percent in February; and 3.4 percent in March. This may be attributed to increased transport prices due to higher cost of fuel and price increase of non-food items such as financial services and clothing and footwear. This quarter's rates were, however, lower than the inflation rates registered in 2021 at 5.8 percent in January; 5.6 percent in February; and 6.3 percent in March.

All commodity groups registered upward price movements compared to previous year's index levels, which contributed to the region's 3.1 percent average inflation rate in January to March 2022 (refer to Table 1). Meanwhile, financial services' 45.0 percent in January to March 2022 increased compared to same period last year. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco recorded the highest CPI of 179.3. On the other hand, information and communication registered the lowest CPI of 102.7.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index, Inflation Rate, and Purchasing Power of Peso, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Item	Period			Percent Change (2022/2021)
	2021		2022	
	Q1	Q4	Q1	
Average Consumer Price Index (All Items)	112.7	113.6	116.2	3.1
Food	108.1	106.9	110.9	2.6
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	108.3	107.3	111.1	2.6
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	174.1	177.4	179.3	3.0
Non- Food	114.2	116.8	118.3	3.6
Clothing and Footwear	112.8	116.1	117.5	4.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels	115.0	116.2	117.2	1.9
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	112.3	113.9	114.9	2.3
Health	121.9	124.2	124.7	2.3
Transport	115.6	122.0	126.1	9.1
Information and Communication	102.5	102.7	102.7	0.2
Recreation, Sport and Culture	115.3	115.5	115.7	0.4
Education Services	106.7	106.8	106.8	0.1
Restaurant and Accommodation Services	116.8	119.5	120.9	3.5
Financial Services	100.0	145.0	145.0	45.0
Personal Care, and	110.9	113.2	114.9	3.6

Miscellaneous Goods and Services				
Average Purchasing Power of Peso	0.89	0.88	0.86	(0.03)
Average Inflation Rate (in percent)	5.9	2.9	3.1	(2.8)

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

In terms of selected food items, oils and fats recorded the highest increase in index at 8.5 percent in January to March 2022. This was followed by meat and other slaughtered land animals at 7.0 percent, sugar, confectionery and desserts at 6.2 percent, and corn at 5.8 percent. The uptick in prices of oils and fats was led by strong gains in vegetable oils, meat and dairy sub-indices, which may be attributed to increased agriculture input costs such as fuel.

The purchasing power of peso in the region decreased from last quarter's 0.88 to 0.86.

B. Labor and Employment

Table 2. Labor and Employment Statistics, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

ITEM	January 2021	October 2021	January 2022	Percent Change/ Difference (2022/ 2021)
Population 15 years old & above (in '000)	2,069	2,075	2,100	1.5
LF Participation Rate (in percent)	60.7	62.8	62.8	2.1
Employment Rate (in percent)	90.7	90.0	93.5	2.9
Unemployment Rate (in percent)	9.3	10.0	6.5	-2.9
Underemployment Rate (in percent)	25.4	26.6	25.0	-0.4

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The region's working age population increased by 1.5 percent from 2,069,000 in January 2021 to 2,100,000 in January 2022 (refer to Table 2). The labor force participation rate also increased by 2.1 percentage points from 60.7 percent in January 2021 to 62.8 percent in January 2022.

Employment rate increased by 2.9 percent from 90.7 percent in January 2021 to 93.5 percent in January 2022. This was, however, lower by 0.1 percentage point compared to the national average employment rate of 93.6 percent.

The region's unemployment rate decreased by 2.9 percentage points compared to January 2021's 9.3 percent. This may be attributed to the relaxed COVID-19 restrictions that allowed some businesses and

industries to operate at full capacity. This was, however, higher by 0.1 percentage point compared to the national average of 6.4 percent.

Underemployment rate decreased by 0.4 percentage point from 25.4 percent in January 2021 to 25.0 percent in January 2022. This was, however, significantly higher by 10.2 percent compared to the national average underemployment rate of 14.9 percent.

II. Agriculture and Fisheries

The total agriculture production slightly decreased by 1.37 percent from 525,169.82 metric tons (MT) outputs during the first quarter of 2021 to 517,953.30 MT in the same quarter of 2022. On the other hand, MIMAROPA recorded an increase in the production of corn, calamansi, coconut, onion, cassava, and poultry during the period.

The crops subsector registered a 0.90 percent increase in outputs during the quarter. It remains the biggest contributor to the agriculture sector sharing 87.83 percent to the region's total agriculture production.

The livestock and poultry subsectors recorded a 10.84 percent decreased outputs during the first quarter of 2022. They contributed 5.18 percent to the region's total agricultural outputs during the quarter. Notable increases were recorded in the production of carabao, chicken, chicken eggs, duck, and duck eggs.

The fisheries production also decreased by 18.04 percent. The subsector contributed 7.00 percent to the total agricultural production during the quarter. Significant increases in output were noted in the provinces of Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, and Romblon for the period.

A. Cereals

Palay production in MIMAROPA in January to March 2022 slightly decreased by 1.56 percent from previous year's 276,280 MT to 271,980.48 MT. Further, all MIMAROPA provinces recorded a decrease in palay production, except for Oriental Mindoro and Romblon, which registered an increase of 5.37 percent and 2.84 percent, respectively. Marinduque recorded the highest decrease in palay production with 19.61 percent from 8,031 MT produced in the first quarter of 2021 to 6,456 MT produced during the same period in 2022. This was followed by Palawan with a decrease of 6.08 percent and Occidental Mindoro with 0.83 percent. Despite recording a decrease in palay production, Palawan, was the highest contributor to the region's palay production with a share of 40.00 percent.

Table 3. Palay production in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Province	1Q 2021 (MT)	1Q 2022 (MT)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Marinduque	8,031.00	6,456.00	-19.61
Occidental Mindoro	50,945.00	50,524.22	-0.83

Oriental Mindoro	83,908.00	88,416.26	5.37
Palawan	116,098.00	108,794.00	-6.29
Romblon	17,298.00	17,790.00	2.84
Total	276,280.00	271,980.48	-1.56

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

Corn production increased by 3.39 percent from 46,955.78 MT produced in the first quarter of 2021 to 48,545.94 MT produced during same period in 2022. All the provinces of MIMAROPA recorded an increase in corn production, except for the province of Palawan, which registered a decrease of 7.28 percent. Occidental Mindoro was the highest contributor to the region's corn production with a share of 87.02 percent.

Table 4. Corn production in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Province	1Q 2021 (MT)	1Q 2022 (MT)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Marinduque	158.00	218.00	37.97
Occidental Mindoro	40,820.45	42,243.00	3.48
Oriental Mindoro	245.78	355.94	44.82
Palawan	5,617.00	5,208.00	-7.28
Romblon	115.00	521.00	353.04
Total	46,956.23	48,545.94	3.39

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

B. Major Crops

Banana production decreased by a significant 23.70 percent from 17,496.35 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 13,348.96 MT produced during the same period in 2022.

Calamansi production increased by 4.87 percent from 593.61 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 622.51 MT produced during the same period in 2022. Moreover, coconut production also increased by 10.47 percent from 101,589.86 MT in 2021 to 112,226.22 MT in 2022.

Onion production also increased by 12.14 percent from 2,797.18 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 3,136.83 MT produced during the same period in 2022. Garlic production, on the other hand, decreased by 18.80 percent in the first quarter of 2022.

Production of both garlic and cashew decreased by 18.80 percent and 11.75 percent, respectively.

The region's cacao production decreased by 11.34 percent from 19.67 MT produced in the first quarter of 2021 to 17.44 MT produced during the same period in 2022. Cassava production also decreased by 1.78 percent from 3,524.58 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 3,461.84 MT produced during same period in 2022.

Mango production, on the other hand, increased by 10.47 percent from 471.08 MT during the first quarter of 2021 to 520.39 MT produced

during same period in 2022.

Table 5. Major crops production in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Province	1Q 2021 (MT)	1Q 2022 (MT)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Banana	17,496.35	13,348.96	-23.70
Calamansi	593.61	622.51	4.87
Coconut	101,589.86	112,226.22	10.47
Onion (mature bulb)	2,797.18	3,136.83	12.14
Garlic (dried bulb)	236.44	191.99	-18.80
Cashew	19.66	17.35	-11.75
Arrowroot	931.20	856.72	-8.00
Cacao	19.67	17.44	-11.34
Cassava	3,524.58	3,461.84	-1.78
Mango	471.08	520.39	10.47

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

C. Livestock

Livestock production decreased by 16.80 percent during the first quarter of 2022. Cattle production decreased by 9.83 percent from 2,574.93 MT to 2,321.76 MT. Also, hog production decreased by 19.53 percent from 21,627.87 MT to 17,402.96 MT in the first quarter of 2022. Goat production also suffered a decrease of 22.71 percent from 551 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 425.87 MT produced during the same period in 2022. Among livestock commodities, only carabao production registered an increase of 23.79 percent during the first quarter of 2022.

Table 6. Livestock production in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Livestock	1Q 2021 (MT)	1Q 2022 (MT)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Carabao (live wt.)	1,098.00	1,359.16	23.79
Cattle (live wt.)	2,574.93	2,321.76	-9.83
Hog (live wt.)	21,627.87	17,402.96	-19.53
Goat (live wt.)	551.00	425.87	-22.71
Total	25,851.80	21,509.75	-16.80

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

D. Poultry

Poultry production increased by 25.36 percent from 4,256.73 MT produced in the first quarter of 2021 to 5,336.35 MT produced during the same period in 2022. Chicken production increased by 30.07 percent. Chicken eggs also increased by 20.76 percent from 1,593.50 MT produced in 2021 to 1,924.24 MT produced in the first quarter of 2022.

Further, duck production also increased by 4.78 percent from 126.41 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 132.45 MT produced during the same period in 2022. Duck egg production also

increased by 15.14 percent from 134.25 MT produced in 2021 to 154.57 MT produced during the first quarter of 2022.

Table 7. Poultry production in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Poultry	1Q 2021 (MT)	1Q 2022 (MT)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Chicken (live wt.)	2,402.57	3,125.09	30.07
Chicken Eggs	1,593.50	1,924.24	20.76
Duck (live wt.)	126.41	132.45	4.78
Duck Eggs	134.25	154.57	15.14
Total	4,256.73	5,336.35	25.36

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

E. Commercial Fishery

Commercial fisheries decreased by 11.96 percent from 6,208.44 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 5,465.76 MT produced during the same period in 2022. All provinces recorded decreases in commercial fisheries production except Occidental Mindoro that registered a 32.23 percent increase and Romblon that registered a significant increase of 263.82 percent. Marinduque recorded the highest decrease of 47.20 percent in commercial fisheries production. Despite the decrease in its commercial fisheries production, the province of Palawan was still the top producer of commercial fisheries contributing 56.87 percent share to the total commercial fisheries production in MIMAROPA.

Table 8. Commercial fisheries in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Province	1Q 2021 (MT)	1Q 2022 (MT)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Marinduque	107.67	56.85	-47.20
Occidental Mindoro	1,388.72	1,836.25	32.23
Oriental Mindoro	198.00	191.22	-3.42
Palawan	4,438.95	3,108.21	-29.98
Romblon	75.10	273.23	263.82
Total	6,208.44	5,465.76	-11.96

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

F. Municipal Marine/Inland Fishery

Municipal marine fisheries recorded a significant decrease of 20.52 percent from 26,795.56 MT produced during the first quarter of 2021 to 21,298.43 MT produced during the same period in 2022. Palawan was still the highest contributor of municipal marine fisheries during the reference period contributing 69.15 percent share to the total municipal marine fisheries production.

Further, production of municipal inland fisheries also registered a remarkable decrease of 32.76 percent. All the provinces in the region recorded a decrease in municipal inland fisheries production, except Marinduque that recorded an increase of 86.81 percent. Occidental

Mindoro was still the highest contributor of municipal inland fisheries during the reference period contributing a 48.59 percent share to the total production in MIMAROPA.

Table 9. Municipal fishery production in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Province	1Q 2021 (MT)		1Q 2022 (MT)		Percent Change (2022/2021)	
	Marine	Inland	Marine	Inland	Marine	Inland
Marinduque	1,967.46	8.57	1,740.37	16.01	-11.54	86.81
Occidental Mindoro	2,052.40	367.54	2,477.51	224.91	20.71	-38.81
Oriental Mindoro	965.85	222.17	903.36	197.15	-6.47	-11.26
Palawan	19,945.12	87.90	14,726.85	24.22	-26.16	-72.45
Romblon	1,864.73	2.23	1,450.34	0.62	-22.22	-72.20
Total	26,795.56	688.41	21,298.43	462.91	-20.52	-32.76

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

G. Aquaculture

Aquaculture fisheries produced in the first quarter of 2022 was 8,953.43 MT. This was 14.35 percent lower than the production during the same period in 2021. All MIMAROPA provinces recorded an increase in aquaculture fisheries production except Palawan that registered a decrease in production by 20.82 percent. Despite the decrease, Palawan remained the top producer contributing 90.97 percent to the total aquaculture fisheries production in the region.

Table 10. Aquaculture fishery production in MIMAROPA by province, 2021-2022

Province	1Q 2021 (MT)	1Q 2022 (MT)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Marinduque	38.41	89.04	131.81
Occidental Mindoro	26.75	470.02	1,657.08
Oriental Mindoro	94.52	102.64	8.59
Palawan	10,287.10	8,145.35	-20.82
Romblon	6.24	146.38	2245.83
Total	10,453.02	8,953.43	-14.35

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA

III. Investments and Industry

A. Investments

Business Names Registration

A total of 7,587 business names (either new or renewal) were registered during the first quarter of 2022. This was 28.77 percent lower compared to the 10,652 business names registered during the same quarter in 2021. All provinces in the region recorded decreases in the number of

business names registered. The decrease may be attributed to MSMEs that are not due for renewal of their business name.

The province of Palawan still recorded the highest number of business names registered with 3,241, comprising 42.72 percent of the region's total business name registration during the quarter. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro with 1,329 business names registered, and Marinduque with 1,294.

Table 11. Business Name Registration, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/Province	1st Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
MIMAROPA	10,652	7,587	(28.77)
Marinduque	1,379	1,294	(6.16)
Occidental Mindoro	1,091	412	(62.24)
Oriental Mindoro	2,183	1,329	(39.12)
Palawan	4,678	3,241	(30.72)
Romblon	1,321	375	(0.76)

Source: Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA as of May 17, 2022

Amount of Investments

The total amount of investments recorded during the first quarter of 2022 reached ₱1.35 billion, this was 139.42 percent higher than the amount of investments recorded during the same quarter of 2021. The investments include the loans facilitated through Small Business Corp. (SB Corp) under the COVID-19 Assistance to Restart Enterprises (CARES) program, and investments from the Shared Service Facilities project of DTI, among others.

The province of Palawan recorded the highest amount of investments with ₱1.20 billion, accounting for 88.37 percent of the region's total investments. This was followed by Romblon with ₱156 million, Marinduque with ₱1.07 million, and Oriental Mindoro with ₱500,000. Meanwhile, there were no recorded investments in the province of Occidental Mindoro during the quarter.

Table 12. Amount of Investments, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/Province	1st Quarter 2021 (in million ₱)	1st Quarter 2022 (in million ₱)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
MIMAROPA	565.79	1,354.64	139.42
Marinduque	3.49	1.07	(69.34)
Occidental Mindoro	2.24	-	N/A
Oriental Mindoro	-	.50	N/A
Palawan	426.58	1,197.11	180.63
Romblon	133.48	155.97	16.85

Source: Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA as of May 17, 2022

Employment Generated

The total number of employment generated in the region from January to March 2022 declined by 13.13 percent from 8,294 to 7,205 employment generated during the same period in 2021. This may be attributed to the

decreased in number of registered business names in DTI during the quarter.

Palawan recorded the highest number with 4,085 employments generated. This was followed by Romblon and Oriental Mindoro with 1,929 and 850 employments generated, respectively.

Among the MIMAROPA provinces, only Oriental Mindoro posted a percentage increase in the number of employment generated during the quarter.

Table 13. Employment Generated, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/Province	1st Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
MIMAROPA	8,294	7,205	(13.13)
Marinduque	247	243	(1.62)
Occidental Mindoro	120	98	(18.33)
Oriental Mindoro	632	850	34.49
Palawan	5,199	4,085	(21.43)
Romblon	2,096	1,929	(7.97)

Source: Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA as of May 17, 2022

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

The total number of MSMEs assisted in the region declined by 18.43 percent from 7,516 MSMEs in the first quarter of 2021 to 6,131 MSMEs assisted in the same quarter of 2022.

Palawan registered the highest number of MSMEs assisted with 1,677. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro and Marinduque with 1,671 and 1,047 MSMEs assisted, respectively.

Table 14. MSMEs Assisted in MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/ Province	1st Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
MIMAROPA	7,516	6,131	(18.43)
Marinduque	1,499	1,047	(30.15)
Occidental Mindoro	1,469	718	(51.12)
Oriental Mindoro	2,054	1,671	(18.65)
Palawan	1,292	1,677	29.80
Romblon	1,202	1,018	15.31

Source: Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA as of May 17, 2022

Among the assistance provided were consultancy/business counselling, distribution of livelihood kits, enforcement of Fair Trade Laws (FTLs), trainings/seminars, financing for clients loan servicing, product development, marketing, and assistance to e-Commerce.

Sales Generated by MSMEs

The total sales generated in the region increased by 37.28 percent, from ₱36.00 million sales recorded in the first quarter of 2021 to ₱49.42

million in the same quarter of 2022. The increase may be attributed to the gradual re-opening of business operations in the region, especially in the tourism industry.

The province of Occidental Mindoro posted the highest sales generated with ₱15.69 million or 31.75 percent of the total sales generated for the first quarter of 2022. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro and Marinduque with ₱12.73 million and ₱10.11 million sales generated, respectively.

Among the MIMAROPA provinces, only Romblon posted a percentage decrease in the sales generated during the quarter.

Table 15. Sales Generated by MSMEs in MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/ Province	1st Quarter 2021 (in million ₱)	1st Quarter 2022 (in million ₱)	Percent Change (2022/2021)
MIMAROPA	36.00	49.42	37.28
Marinduque	9.40	10.11	7.55
Occidental Mindoro	11.11	15.69	41.22
Oriental Mindoro	8.40	12.73	51.55
Palawan	2.79	7.02	151.61
Romblon	4.30	3.87	(10.00)

Source: Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA as of May 17, 2022

B. Mining and Quarrying

The total value of metallic minerals production reached ₱6.09 billion during the first quarter of 2022, a seven percent increase from its recorded value during the same period of 2021. On the other hand, the total value of non-metallic minerals decreased by 28 percent from ₱244.35 million during the first quarter of 2021 to ₱175.61 million during the first quarter of 2022.

Table 16. Volume and Value of Mineral Production in MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Mineral Commodity	1st Quarter 2021		1st Quarter 2022		Percent Change (2022/2021)	
	Volume	Value (₱)	Volume	Value (₱)	Volume	Value
Metallic Minerals						
Nickel Direct Shipping Ore (DMT)	929,740.40	2,411,566,812.84	643,600.40	1,500,186,120.32	(31)	(38)
Mixed Sulfide (DMT)	8,695.00	2,758,594,000.00	8,413.00	3,923,508,000.00	(3)	42
Limonite Ore (DMT)	667,454.00	517,270,000.00	659,777.00	662,990,000.00	(1)	28
Total		5,687,430,812.84		6,086,684,120.32		7
Non-Metallic Minerals						
Sand and Gravel (CUM)	6,894.00	2,130,910.00	5,815.00	1,651,100.00	(16)	(23)

Crushed Aggregates (CUM)	53,628.76	23,133,633.22	38,851.68	6,765,566.70	(28)	(71)
Limestone (MT)	59,665.00	51,460,884.00	0.00	0.00	(100)	(100)
Milk of Lime (MT)	31,076.05	165,659,007.88	28,596.77	162,188,210.79	(8)	(2)
Quicklime (MT)	5,118.06	1,969,975.80	9,194.05	5,002,755.06	80	154
Total		244,354,410.90		175,607,632.55		(28)

Source: Mines and Geosciences Bureau MIMAROPA Region

Metallic Minerals

The volume and value of production of nickel direct shipping ore decreased by 31 percent and 38 percent, respectively. The significant decreases were brought by the depleting nickel ore reserve in the approved contracted mining site area. Further, no production was recorded from Berong Nickel Corporation since it had already declared its contracted area as a mined-out areas since December 31, 2021.

The volume of production of mixed sulfide which contains nickel and cobalt minerals slightly decreased by three percent. The decrease can be attributed to lower ore tonnage processed in the region, lower ore grade with high moisture content, and defective equipment. Meanwhile, the recorded value of produced mixed sulfide increased by 42 percent, which can be associated to the consistent higher price of nickel and cobalt in the global market triggered by the world's geopolitical and economic development concerns. The price climb of both the nickel and cobalt was driven by the disruption of these mineral supplies caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine as well as the increased buying from electric vehicle battery manufacturers on cobalt minerals. The Coral Bay Nickel Corporation (CBNC) is the sole company producing mixed sulfide in MIMAROPA.

The volume of production of limonite ore decreased by one percent, while the value increased by ₱145.72 million or 28 percent, which were respectively brought about low inherent mineral resources during the period and the prevailing global market prices of metal. The limonite ore is mined by Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation (RTNMC) in the region and is the raw material of the mixed sulfide being processed by CBNC.

Non-metallic Minerals

The recorded volume and value of sand and gravel production decreased during the quarter. However, no conclusion can be derived for sand and gravel performance due to the insufficient production reports from the permit holders and operators in the provinces of Oriental Mindoro and Romblon and the incomplete data provided by the operators from Palawan and Occidental Mindoro. On the other hand, there were no recorded permit holders in Marinduque as of the 1st quarter of 2022.

The volume and value of crushed aggregates in the region decreased during the quarter. Similar to the sand and gravel production, no conclusion can be derived due to incomplete data from five out of the seven crushing plants in the region.

There were no recorded production of limestone during the first quarter of 2022 pending the approval of the request for expanded Environmental Compliance Certificate by the Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation. Moreover, the volume and value of milk of lime produced by the processing plants in the region slightly decreased by eight percent and two percent, respectively. The volume and value of hydrated lime or quicklime both increased by 80 percent and 154 percent, respectively. Both the milk of lime and quicklime are used by the CBNC in their plant operations.

IV. Services

A. Transportation

1. Land Transportation

The number of motor vehicles registered in MIMAROPA decreased by 2 percent from 69,594 motor vehicles in January to March 2021 to 68,191 motor vehicles in January to March 2022 (refer to Table 16). This was 57 percent higher than the 43,385 motor vehicles registered in October to December 2021.

Of the 68,191 registered motor vehicles, 24.72 percent or 16,857 motor vehicles are newly registered, while the remaining 51,344 motor vehicles are registered for renewals.

Table 17. Motor Vehicles Registration, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/Province	2021		2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
	Q1	Q4	Q1	
MIMAROPA	69,594	43,385	68,191	(2.02)
New Registration	16,461	13,704	16,857	2.41
Marinduque	6,149	3,179	4,202	(31.66)
Occidental Mindoro	7,256	5,328	6,972	(3.91)
Oriental Mindoro	21,633	12,956	21,488	(0.67)
Palawan	15,123	6,978	15,486	2.40
Romblon	2,972	1,240	3,186	(2.02)

Source: Land Transportation Office (LTO) MIMAROPA

Among the MIMAROPA provinces, Oriental Mindoro recorded the

highest number of registered motor vehicles with 21,488 motor vehicles. This was followed by Palawan with 15,486 registered motor vehicles, Occidental Mindoro with 6,972 registered motor vehicles, and Marinduque with 4,202 registered motor vehicles. Romblon recorded the lowest number of registered motor vehicles with 3,186 motor vehicles.

The decrease in the registration of vehicles for the 1st quarter 2022 is attributed to the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is evident in the increasing number of vehicles being repossessed by dealerships.

The number of licenses issued in MIMAROPA increased by 133.42 percent from 13,158 licenses in January to March 2021 to 30,174 licenses in January to March 2022. This was 53 percent higher than the 20,014 licenses in October to December 2021.

Table 18. Driver Permits/Licenses Issued, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/Province	2021		2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
	Q1	Q4	Q1	
MIMAROPA	13,158	20,014	30,714	133.42
Marinduque	460	1,042	1,496	225.22
Occidental Mindoro	2,697	4,202	6,972	158.51
Oriental Mindoro	3,207	7,373	9,767	204.55
Palawan	6,022	6,346	11,962	98.64
Romblon	772	1,051	1,671	116.45

Source: Land Transportation Office (LTO) MIMAROPA

The increase in number of licenses issued can be attributed to the relaxation of imposed community quarantine and health protocols/guidelines.

2. Water Transportation

Shipcalls increased by 12.17 percent from 7,814 in the first quarter of 2021 to 8,765 vessels in the first quarter of 2022. The number of domestic shipcalls increased by 12.65 percent, and foreign shipcalls decreased by 33.33 percent.

Total container port traffic decreased by 10.15 percent, from 22,140 twenty-foot equivalent units (teu) in the first quarter of 2021 to 19,892.50 teu in the first quarter of 2022.

Total cargo volume discharged and loaded at the ports in the region decreased by 33.53 percent from 3.158 million metric tons (mmt) in the first quarter of 2021 to 2.099 (mmt) in the first quarter of 2022. Total cargo volume for the first quarter of 2022 is comprised of 41.29 percent (0.867mmt) domestic cargoes and 58.71 percent (1.232 mmt) foreign cargoes.

Total passenger traffic increased by 103.65 percent from 486,778 passengers in the first quarter of 2021 to 991,303 passengers in the first quarter of 2022. Meanwhile, RORO traffic increased by 12.89 percent from 240,595 vehicles in the first quarter of 2021 to 271,601 vehicles in first quarter of 2022.

The water transportation operations have yet to fully recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, especially the container port traffic and cargo throughput.

Table 19. Water transport statistics, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Particulars	2021	2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Shipcalls	7,814	8,765	12.17
Domestic	7,733	8,711	12.65
Foreign	81	54	(33.33)
Container Port Traffic (TEU's)	22,140	19,892.5	(10.15)
Domestic	22,140	19,892.5	(10.15)
Foreign	0	0	
Cargo Throughput (mt)	3,158,853.66	2,099,752.38	(33.53)
Domestic	978,306.94	867,051.83	(11.37)
Foreign	739,430.57	1,232,700.55	66.71
Passenger Traffic	486,778	991,303	103.65
Disembarked	252,150	494,839	96.25
Embarked	234,628	496,464	111.60
Cruise Ships	0	0	
RORO Traffic	240,595	271,613	12.89
Inbound	123,967	132,789	7.12
Outbound	116,628	138,824	19.03

Source: Philippine Ports Authority

3. Air Transportation

Based on the data submitted by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), the recorded aircraft movement, passenger traffic, and cargoes increased in the first quarter of 2022 compared to the same period last year.

Table 20. Airport statistics, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

	1st Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Aircraft	1,673	2,510	50.03
Passenger Traffic	43,739	162,886	272.40
Air Cargoes	3,362,497	3,958,152	17.71

Source: Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines

Aircraft movement during the first quarter of CY 2022 was recorded at 2,510. This was 50.03 percent higher than the recorded 1,673 aircraft movement for the same period of 2021.

Passenger traffic during the first quarter of 2022 was recorded at 162,886. This was 272.40 percent higher than the recorded 43,739 passenger traffic in the first quarter of 2021.

Air cargoes data for the first quarter period of 2022 was recorded at 3,958,152. This was 17.7 percent higher than the same period of the previous year record of 3,362,497.

The Marinduque airport and Romblon airport registered no flight during the first quarter of CY 2022.

The San Vicente airport in Palawan recorded 22 on aircraft movement, 374 on passenger traffic, and 4,688 kilograms on air cargoes for the first quarter of 2022.

The San Jose airport in Occidental Mindoro recorded 158 on aircraft movement, 6,622 on passenger traffic, and 989 kilograms on air cargoes for the first quarter of 2022.

Busuanga airport recorded 922 on aircraft movement, 40,919 on passenger traffic, and 511,921 kilograms on air cargoes for the first quarter of 2022.

Puerto Princesa international airport recorded 1,380 on aircraft movement, 114,803 on passenger traffic, and 3,440,554 kilograms on air cargoes for domestic flight only for the first quarter of 2022, which is 40.10 percent (985), 321.14 percent (27,260), and 15.39 percent (2,981,577) higher compared to the same period on 2021, respectively. Two flights were recorded in the first quarter of 2022 for international flight.

The quarterly increase in air transportation statistics indicated that the region is bouncing back despite the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. The reopening of the economy, while strictly adhering to public health protocols contributed to the increase in transport statistics. This is a clear indication that managing risks, instead of shutting down large segments of the economy, stands a far better chance of improving both economic and health outcomes.

B. Tourism

Tourist arrivals in the region increased by 144.76 percent, from 42,256 tourists during the first quarter of 2021 to 103,427 tourists in the same period of 2022 which generated about ₱1.09 billion income for the region's tourism industry, a remarkable increase from the recorded tourist receipts of about ₱443.69 million during the same period last year. The increase in visitor arrivals was attributed to the ease in travel restrictions and reopening of several major tourist destinations in the provinces of Palawan, Oriental Mindoro, and Occidental Mindoro.

Table 21 Tourist Arrivals, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Region/Province	1st Quarter	1st Quarter	Percent Change
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	2021	2022	(2022/2021)
Tourist Arrivals	42,256	103,427	59.14
Domestic	38,860	96,814	59.86
Foreign	3,396	6,613	48.65

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA, 2022 data is still partial as of May 18, 2022

Table 22. Tourist Receipts (in million pesos), MIMAROPA, by Province, 2021-2022

Region/Province	1st Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
MIMAROPA	443.69	1,085.99	59.14
Marinduque	2.58	19.88	87.02
Oriental Mindoro	131.93	197.78	33.29
Occidental Mindoro	162.34	321.57	49.52
Palawan	140.40	545.37	74.26
Romblon	6.44	1.39	(78.42)

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA, 2022 data is still partial as of May 18, 2022

The highest number of tourist arrivals during the first quarter was recorded in Palawan with 51,940 visitors (46,385 domestic and 5,555 foreign) or 50.22 percent of the total tourist arrivals in the region. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro with 30,626 visitors (29,698 domestic and 928 foreign) or 29.61 percent of the region; and Occidental Mindoro with 18,836 visitors (18,719 domestic and 117 foreign) or 18.21 percent of the total tourist arrivals in MIMAROPA region.

Table 23. Tourist Arrivals, MIMAROPA, by Province, 2021-2022

Region/Province	1st Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2022	Percent Change (2022/2021)
Marinduque	246	1,893	87.00
Oriental Mindoro	12,565	18,836	33.29
Occidental Mindoro	15,461	30,626	49.52
Palawan	13,371	51,940	74.26
Romblon	613	132	(78.47)

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA, 2022 data is still partial as of May 18, 2022

The foreign tourists recorded in the region during the quarter reached 6,613, which is 94.73 percent higher than the 3,396 foreign tourists recorded during the same period last year. No foreign visitor was recorded in the province of Romblon. However, Marinduque has recorded 13 foreign tourists during the quarter.

C. Foreign Trade

1. Exports

In January to February 2022, the region's total export revenues amounted to USD74.08 million, this was 9.41 percent higher than the USD67.71 million total export revenue recorded during the same period in 2021.

The aggregate volume of the exported goods slightly increased from 1.00 million MT in January to February 2021 to 1.01 million MT during the same period of 2022. The increase may be attributed to the increase in the export of nickel ores and concentrates.

Table 24. Export Earnings in MIMAROPA, January to February, 2021-2022

Month	Value of Export (in million USD)		Volume of Export (in '000 MT)	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
January	26.65	42.99	440.36	562.72
February	41.06	31.09	561.89	442.37
Total	67.71	74.08	1,002.25	1,005.09

Source: Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA as of May 18, 2022 (based on preliminary data)

China registered the highest export value amounting to USD26.53 million or 35.81 percent of the total export revenues in the region. Other major export trading partners were Brunei with export value of USD22.20 million or 29.97 percent, and Korea with USD14.40 million or 19.44 percent share of the region's total export revenue.

Nickel ores and concentrates were the region's primary export commodity during the period, comprising 48.90 percent or USD36.23 million of the total exported goods. This was followed by condensates contributing 29.97 percent or USD22.20 million. Other export commodities include crude petroleum oils and fruit juices.

2. Imports

The total value of imports in the region from January to February 2022 amounted to USD16.37 million, representing a decrease of 8.70 percent from the import value of USD17.93 million during the same period in 2021. Such performance can be attributed to the decrease in the import of mineral fuels and lubricants such as sulphuric acid, oleum, and coal.

The volume of imported goods in the region also decreased by 19.96 percent from almost 162,000 MT imported from January to February 2021 to barely over 129,000 MT during the same period in 2022.

Table 25. Value and volume of imports, MIMAROPA, January to February, 2021-2022

Month	Value of Import (in million USD)		Volume of Import (in '000 MT)	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
January	7.07	7.34	71.98	63.99
February	10.85	9.03	89.81	65.51
Total	17.93	16.37	161.78	129.49

Source: Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA as of May 18, 2022 (based on preliminary data)

By major trading partners, imports from Japan comprised the highest import value amounting to US\$7.40 million or a share of 45.19 percent to the total import value from January to February 2022. This was followed by Indonesia with US\$ 3.24 million or 19.80 percent share. Other major import trading partners were Korea, Vietnam, and Malaysia.

Among the region's imported goods, sulphuric acid accounted for the largest share amounting to US\$ 5.90 million or 36.06 percent share. This was followed by coal with US\$ 2.42 million or 14.78 percent share to the region's total imported goods.

Trade Balance. The region posted a foreign trade surplus of US\$ 57.71 million for the months of January to February 2022. There were no available data on exports and imports for the month of March, as of May 18, 2022.

V. Peace and Order

The total crime volume in MIMAROPA decreased by 8.42 percent in January to March 2022 from previous year's 1,283 incidents to 1,175 incidents.

Table 26. Crime Statistics, MIMAROPA, 2021-2022

Indicators	2021		2022	Percent Change/ Difference (2021/2022)
	Q1	Q4	Q1	
Crime Volume	1,283	1,117	1,175	(8.42)
Crime Cleared	1,281	1,097	1,151	(10.15)
Crime Solved	1,029	771	830	(19.34)
Average Monthly Crime Rate	13.03	11.34	11.93	(1.10)

Source: Philippine National Police MIMAROPA

Cleared and solved crimes decreased by 10.15 percent and 19.34 percent, respectively, in January to March 2022. These were, however, higher than the recorded cleared and solved crimes in October to December 2021 by 4.92 percent and 7.65 percent, respectively.

The region's average monthly crime rate in January to March 2022 decreased by 1.10 percentage points from last year's 13.03 percent to 11.93 percent.

VI. Natural Disasters and other Calamities

Typhoon

The NEDA MIMAROPA, as the Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) Vice Chair for Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery, prepared the Palawan Rehabilitation and Recovery Program (RRP) for Areas Affected by Typhoon Odette and macroeconomic impact analysis for the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) Report.

The assessment reports and proposed rehabilitation and recovery projects for Typhoon Odette submitted by different agencies and local government units (LGUs) were validated through a series of dialogues and consultations with regional line agencies (RLAs) and agency central offices (ACOs).

The RDRRMC, during the Presentation of the Final Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) Report and Palawan RRP for Areas Affected by Typhoon Odette on February 16, 2022, passed resolutions endorsing to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) the results of PDNA conducted in Palawan and adopting and approving the Palawan RRP for Areas Affected by Typhoon Odette with a total funding requirement of ₱8.2 billion concurred and vetted by concerned RLAs and ACOs.

Weather condition

In January, the provinces of Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, and Romblon experienced below normal amount of rainfall. While the province of Palawan experienced below normal to above normal amount of rainfall.

In February, the provinces of Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, and Romblon and City of Puerto Princesa experienced above normal amount of rainfall. While the north and south portions of Palawan experienced below normal to near normal amount of rainfall.

In March, the provinces of Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, northern portion of Palawan, and Romblon experienced below normal to near normal amount of rainfall. The rest of Palawan experienced below normal amount of rainfall.

The region will likely experience a near normal rainfall condition in April, May, and June.