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DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

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IT & Business Process Association
PHILIPPINES

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Unlocking Opportunities
in the Countryside

digital
cities
2025



LOCATION PRIMER



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Phase 2 Interventions

Institutional Development
Talent Development
Infrastructure Development
Marketing and Promotion

About the Digital Cities 2025 Program

The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), together with the IT and Business Process Association of the Philippines (IBPAP) and Leechiu Property Consultants (LPC), has been advocating for inclusive growth and development around the Philippines through the Next Wave Cities™ program since its inception in 2009.

In 2018, with the help of the National ICT Confederation of the Philippines (NICP), DICT and IBPAP rebranded Next Wave Cities™ into Digital Cities as a response to the findings of research firm Tholons when it comes to innovation, the startup ecosystem, and digital transformation.

The digitalcitiesPH Portal was also launched that year with the goal of providing current and prospective locators with a comprehensive overview of the investment landscape and offer them strategic insights on cities and municipalities across the country.

This 2020, DICT, IBPAP, and LPC launched Digital Cities 2025 to further highlight the value of countryside development and the capability of key locations outside Metro Manila to become thriving business districts and viable investment hubs for IT-BPM services. These Digital Cities will hopefully motivate existing players to expand beyond the National Capital Region and encourage new ones to set up shop in the Philippines.



About the Digital Cities 2025 Scorecard

The Digital Cities scorecard is a four-point evaluation system that assesses possible IT-BPM locations against factors that make a city attractive to investors and locators. These four factors are: talent availability, infrastructure, cost-effectiveness, and business environment.

The criteria used to measure talent availability include: number of graduates of higher education, senior high, and technical vocational courses within a 25-kilometer radius of the location's center; presence of educational institutions deemed as Centers of Excellence (COEs) or Centers of Development (CODs); and the location's share in the region's pool of professionals—an indicator of talent density.

Considerations for infrastructure were: expanse of commercial real estate; accessibility by air, land, and sea; capacity of the power and telecommunications grid; number of hotels and other accommodations; presence of major shopping malls; sufficient health facilities; and quality of road networks.

For cost-effectiveness, the scores were based on: wage, power, and rental rates.

Lastly, the following were taken into account for business environment: availability of PEZA IT Ecozones; existence of a local ICT Council; scope of the IT-BPM industry's footprint; vulnerability to natural disturbances; as well as security issues like travel advisories and crime rates.

The "ideal" Digital City, one that would score 100 percent, would require to meet the following parameters (by importance per metric):



Talent

- Over 12,000 higher education graduates a year
- Over 14,000 higher education enrollees a year
- Over 90% regional employment rate
- More than 4 Centers of Excellence or Centers of Development
- Over 12,000 senior high graduates a year
- Over 8,000 technical vocational course graduates a year



Infrastructure

- Availability of commercial real estate
- Distance of 0-5 km of air, land, and sea terminals from the city hall
- Digital Fiber Optic Network
- Grade AAA Power Infrastructure
- Availability of DOT-accredited hotels and other accommodations



Cost

- Competitive rates relative to existing minimum wage guidance for the location
- Less than PHP 300 per sqm/month of commercial real estate rental
- Less than PHP 5.00 per kwh of commercial power rates
- Less than PHP 10.00 per cu.m of commercial water rates



Business Environment

- Presence of PEZA IT Ecozones
- Presence of ICT Councils
- Presence of IT-BPM company or workforce
- Very low vulnerability to natural disturbances
- Zero travel advisories issued against the city

By category, the talent-related metrics make up 40% of the weighted scores, infrastructure-related metrics 30%, cost-related metrics 10%, and business environment 20%. The scores for each Digital City reflect how close or far it is from the ideal scenario based on predetermined points and weights for each metric. As much as possible, only the latest data from single, credible sources are used to determine the score for each metric for all Digital Cities.

There are, as always, limitations to scorecard such as this one. This report, therefore, attempts to provide a broader discussion of not just the scores and the data but also of deeper findings from knowledgeable resources on the 25 best locations for IT-BPM in the Philippines.

Testimonials from Next Wave Cities

“The IT-BPM industry has been in the City of Naga’s investment priorities list since 2007. After being chosen as one of IBPAP and DICT’s Next Wave Cities in 2009, Naga has emerged as the Bicol region’s IT-BPM hub—with five PEZA-registered IT parks and numerous global investors and local digital start-ups. The Next Wave Cities Scorecard, along with the private sector, has helped us focus our efforts on enhancing city competitiveness for the IT-BPM industry. The various exposure provided by the Next Wave initiative has also put Naga on the radar of the investing community. With the new Digital Cities program of DICT, we hope to keep growing the digital landscape in the countryside.”

**– Naga City Investment Board,
City Government of Naga**

“The Next Wave Cities project has helped showcase Cagayan de Oro's capabilities of hosting BPO companies, thereby helping us grow significantly the number of full-time employees in the BPO Industry. This has allowed us to welcome in larger BPOs in the city and encourage more homegrown IT companies to start and thrive in the city. It has also helped spur the economy and the real estate industry as there are now more BPO buildings for companies to move into.”

**- Stephanie Caragos, Chairperson
Cagayan de Oro ICT Business Council**



LOCATION PROFILES



Balanga City

Province of Bataan, Luzon – Region III

Population: 96,061

Balanga City is the capital of Bataan and is one of the richest municipalities in the province. It is a center for trade and services with many business enterprises doing wholesale and retail, servicing, construction, insurance, finance, and manufacturing.

A World-Class University Town

One of the City Government's major thrusts is to improve its educational standards in order to be distinguished as a World-Class University Town by 2020. Several programs were launched to support this, including the passage of City Ordinance No. 21, S. 2008, declaring 80.42 hectares of its central district as a University Town.

The City Education Excellence and Development Office (CEEDO) and the establishment of the University Town of the Peninsula Foundation (UTPF) are all important support mechanisms that will assist the City Government in achieving this.

Further, Balanga City's leaders continuously emphasize the opportunities in the IT-BPM industry as seen in programs such as the ICT-enhanced education in public schools, Barangay Learning Hub, and the Rural Impact Sourcing.

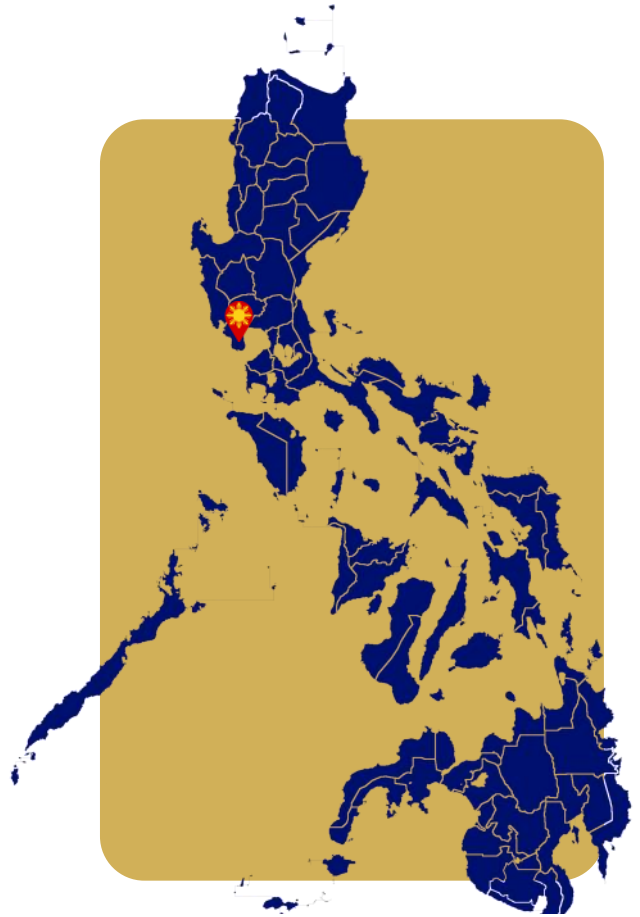
In 2018, Balanga City recorded close to 3,000 higher education graduates, with an additional 1,695 more graduates from neighboring cities. Its local government contributes to the scholarship program “Iskolar ng Bataan” to increase their number of college graduates. To date, more than 12,000 students have benefited from this scholarship program.



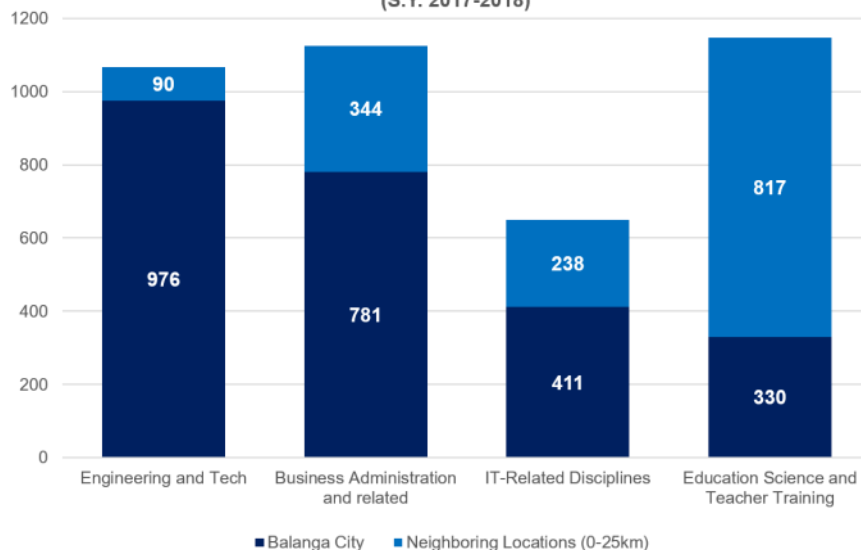
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**Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Balanga City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)**



ICT Council

City Department Investment & Development Office (CEIDO)

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Balanga ICT Development Council

Mr. Bryan Joseph Benzon

Ms. Roneth Santos

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Balanga City



Total Number of Graduates:

4,695

Some of Balanga City's Tertiary Schools

- ACLC College of Balanga
- Asia Pacific College of Advanced Studies
- Bataan Heroes Memorial College
- Bataan Peninsula State University
- Bataan Peninsula State University-Balanga
- Eastwoods Professional College of Science And Technology
- Tomas Del Rosario College

It also takes pride in its senior high education and technical vocational courses, which produced 2,881 and 1,061 graduates, respectively.

Balanga City is set to host the Arellano Law School, further enhancing the City's talent profile.

A Business-Friendly LGU

Heralded by the Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) as one of the most business friendly LGUs in the Philippines, the City offers a Business One Stop Shop to businesses to process business licenses, permits and taxes.

Balanga City and the Province of Bataan strives to improve business development and job creation in Balanga. It enacted City Ordinance No. 5 Series 2016 ("Balanga City Investments and Incentives Code of 2016"), with the intention to encourage new investments or expansion/diversified in services especially in information technology, business process outsourcing, software development and knowledge-based business, among others.

All kinds of business enterprises are present in the City such as banks, hotels and other accommodations, resorts, and hospitals among others. The Province of Bataan also houses GN Power, one of the country's leading providers of electrical services, thus resulting in lower power rates as compared to neighboring provinces and Metro Manila. It has recently partnered with Grab Philippines for the launch of Grab Trike to have an efficient alternative public transportation system.

Balanga City boasts of a fully secure environment through its state-of-the-art, province-wide command center dubbed as "1Bataan".

To date, the city has one PEZA-accredited zone—the Vista Mall—which also the houses the city's first major IT-BPM company.



Batangas City

Province of Batangas, Luzon – Region IV-A
Population: 329,874

Batangas City, the capital of the Province of Batangas, is classified as a Regional Growth Center in the CALABARZON Region and is identified as a Regional Agro-Industrial Center and Special Economic Zone.

The Industrial Port City of CALABARZON currently ranks 9th out of 112 component cities in the 2019 Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI), ranking high in economic dynamism and resiliency. The City serves as an alternate commercial hub for Southern Luzon and Metro Manila.

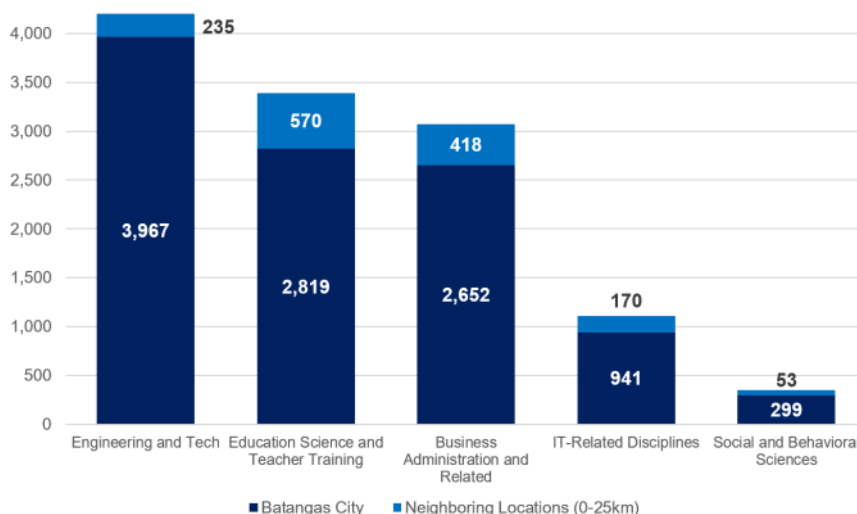
With continuous improvement in accessibility and the growing neighboring locations, Batangas City carries with it the promise of a flourishing IT-BPM industry.

Top Notch Educational Institutions

Batangas City is home to 10 tertiary institutions, 3 of which are rated by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as Centers of Excellence or Centers of Development in Information Technology, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Teacher Education, and Medical Technology.

In 2018, Batangas City alone garnered a total number of 12,115 higher education graduates and over 13,000, including its neighboring locations.

Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Batangas City (S.Y. 2017-2018)



ICT Council

Batangas City ICT Business Council

Ms. Fely Ramos

www.batangascity.gov.ph

Batangas City



Total Number of Graduates:

13,205

Some of Batangas City's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College
- Batangas State University
- Colegio Ng Lungsod Ng Batangas
- Golden Gate Colleges
- Lyceum of The Philippines University
- St. Bridget College
- STI College
- University of Batangas
- Westmead International School

Batangas City and its neighboring cities recorded 6,149 Senior High graduates and 4,475 Technical Vocational finishers.

A Dynamic Business Environment

Batangas offers plentiful opportunities for investment and expansion, supported by its local government's 10-year comprehensive plan that encompasses infrastructure, biodiversity, tourism, and real estate.

The available commercial real estate space and accessibility from the Southern Tagalog Arterial Road and the South Luzon Expressway create a good connection between Batangas City and established location hubs. The City is also equipped with outstanding fiber network, power infrastructure, and hotels and other accommodations.

Recently, the Batangas State University Knowledge, Innovation, Science & Technology (KIST) Park was proclaimed as a special economic zone. Strategically located near other technology parks, business hubs and transport systems in the CALABARZON Region, the Batangas State U KIST Park clearly serves as a top location for technology transfer and commercialization in the Philippines. It allows academic institutions to lease to business locators and to create a space for tech start-ups. Two other economic zones are currently being developed, namely Tigerland Agro-Industrial Economic Zone and the RLC Special Economic Zone, which targets industries such as manufacturing, BPO or IT and financial locators.

Batangas City houses 5 BPO firms, employing ~600 Full Time Employees.



Cabanatuan City

Province of Nueva Ecija, Luzon – Region III
Population: 302,231



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The City of Cabanatuan is the largest city in Nueva Ecija. Dubbed as the Tricycle Capital of the Philippines for its over 100,000 tricycles providing transport in the City and nearby towns, Cabanatuan's strategic location has made the City an economic, educational, medical, and transportation center in the province, earning its current title, "Gateway of the North."

Supportive Business Environment

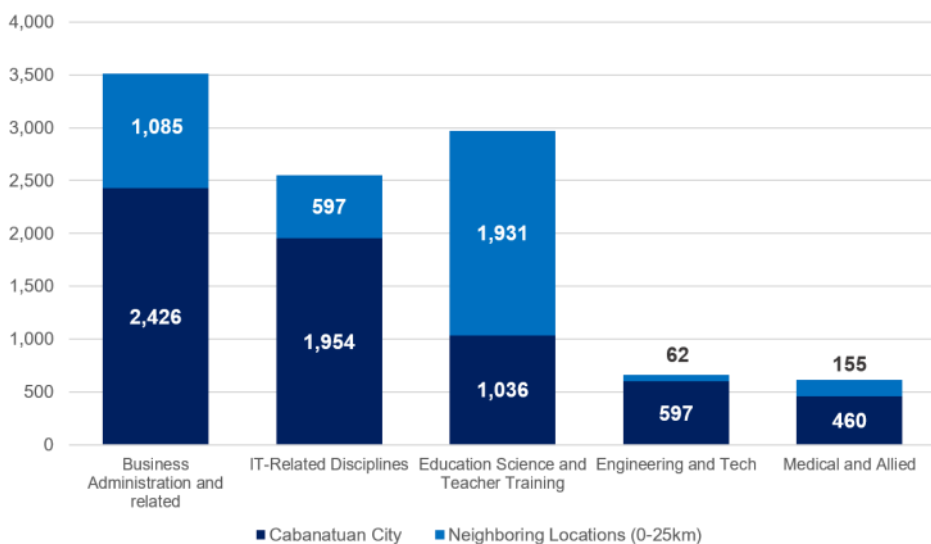
The City of Cabanatuan is on its way to becoming a relevant investment hub in Region III. Investors from various industries such as banking, real estate, retail, and other business and industrial enterprises are drawn to the City because of its infrastructure and local government support and services.

Large-scale residential developments such as Lakewood City and Avida Santa Arcadia Estates are present in the city. More and more land and mall developers are entering the city.

It is also a major hub of transportation services in Central Luzon, with a large number of bus companies, and tricycle and jeepney serving routes within and outside the province. The recently opened Central Luzon Link Expressway Phase 1, which will be linked to Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway and Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway, makes the city more accessible.



Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Cabanatuan City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Cabanatuan City



Total Number of Graduates:

9,836

Some of Cabanatuan City's Tertiary Schools

- ABE International College of Business and Economics
- AMA Computer College
- Araullo University
- College for Research and Technology
- College of The Immaculate Conception
- Dr. Gloria D. Lacson Foundation Colleges
- La Fortuna College
- Manuel V. Gallego Foundation Colleges
- Maria Assumpta Seminary
- Midway Colleges, Inc.
- Nueva Ecija Doctors' Colleges
- Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology
- The Good Samaritan Colleges
- Wesleyan University-Philippines

Cabanatuan City is also known for the innovative Unified Command Center, a facility which employs Smart Traffic Management where centrally controlled traffic signals and sensors regulate the flow of traffic through the city.

More importantly, the City shows low vulnerability to natural disasters.

Robust Local Talent Pool

The City of Cabanatuan is considered as one of the region's educational hub as 3 of the "Four Knowledge Eagle Universities of Nueva Ecija" are in Cabanatuan, namely the Wesleyan University-Philippines, Nueva Ecija of Science and Technology, and Phinma Araullo University.

The City records an average of 8,000 higher education graduates per year, and close to 10,000 if neighboring locations are taken into account.

Potential Hub for IT-BPM

The reliability of power and connection sets a good foundation for a budding IT-BPM ecosystem. The presence of hotels, accommodations, and major shopping malls also make it an attractive location for investors.

While there are still relatively few IT-BPM players in the City, the presence of a newly established PEZA-registered IT Ecozone and the availability of commercial real estate show a promising future for Cabanatuan in the years to come.



Dagupan City

Province of Pangasinan, Luzon – Region I
Population: 171,271

Dagupan City is the premier Economic Center of the Ilocos Region. While it is primarily known for being the World's Bangus Capital, Dagupan City is also recognized as the center of commercial, educational, and health activities in the Province of Pangasinan.

This year, it positions itself as one of the next havens for investors and business enterprises for the IT-BPM industry with its thriving economy stimulated by its distinguished talent pool.

Talent Hub of Pangasinan

Dagupan City yields a steady supply of skilled human capital from institutions such as the Colegio de Dagupan, an institution classified as a Center of Development for its course on Information Technology. On average, there are close to 7,000 higher education graduates from the City per year and around 13,000, including neighboring locations.

It is also evident how the City strives to develop more opportunities for its talent pool by its promotion of senior high education and technical vocational courses. In the year 2018, including neighboring cities in Pangasinan, the City produced 25,378 senior high graduates and 5,826 technical vocational graduates.



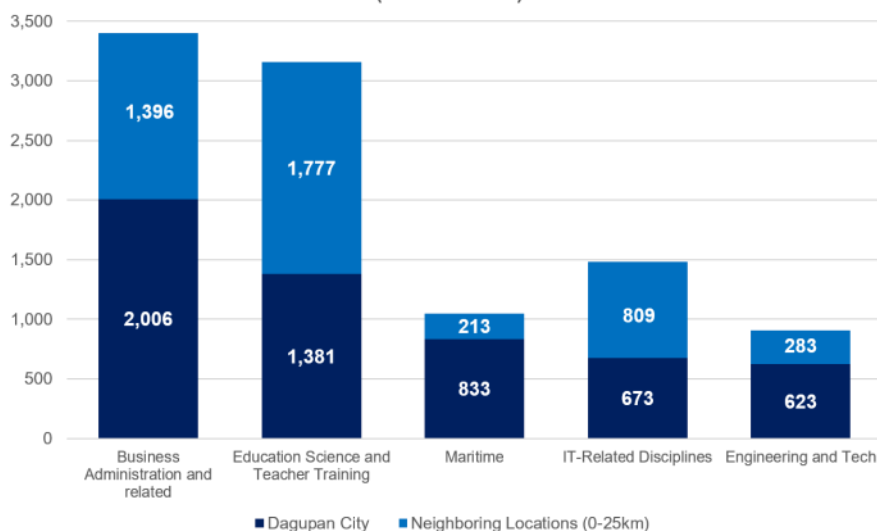
ICT Council

United Pangasinan ICT Council

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Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Dagupan City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Dagupan City



Total Number of Graduates:

13,046

Some of Dagupan City's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College
- Asiacaer College Foundation
- Colegio De Dagupan
- Dagupan Colleges Foundation
- Kingfisher School of Business & Finance
- Lyceum Northwestern University
- Mary Help of Christians College Seminary
- Pangasinan Merchant Marine Academy
- PIMSAT Colleges
- STI Education Services Group
- University of Luzon
- University of Pangasinan

Investments in Infrastructure

Via Dagupan Bus Terminal, the City's numerous establishments and attractions become easily accessible: famous educational institutions such as University of Pangasinan, University of Luzon, and Lyceum-Northwestern University; financial institutions; and trading and commercial centers.

Dagupan City provides its residents plenty of value-add with the availability of commercial real estate, fiber connection, outstanding power infrastructure, hotels and other accommodations, and major shopping malls.

Filinvest is set to construct residential condominiums in the City, followed by mixed-use residential, commercial and office spaces in Barangay Lucao. Other investors in the City include SM Supermall, the City Mall, Sta. Lucia Land Development for Almeria Verde, and ACE Hospital.

Dagupan City has already attracted numerous BPO firms. These IT-BPM players continue to thrive up to this day, which has sustained the City's growth as an investment destination. A PEZA IT Park in the city is already in development, further making the City an attractive location for IT-BPM firms. Currently, there are 7 BPO firms, employing ~ 600 Full Time employees.



General Santos City



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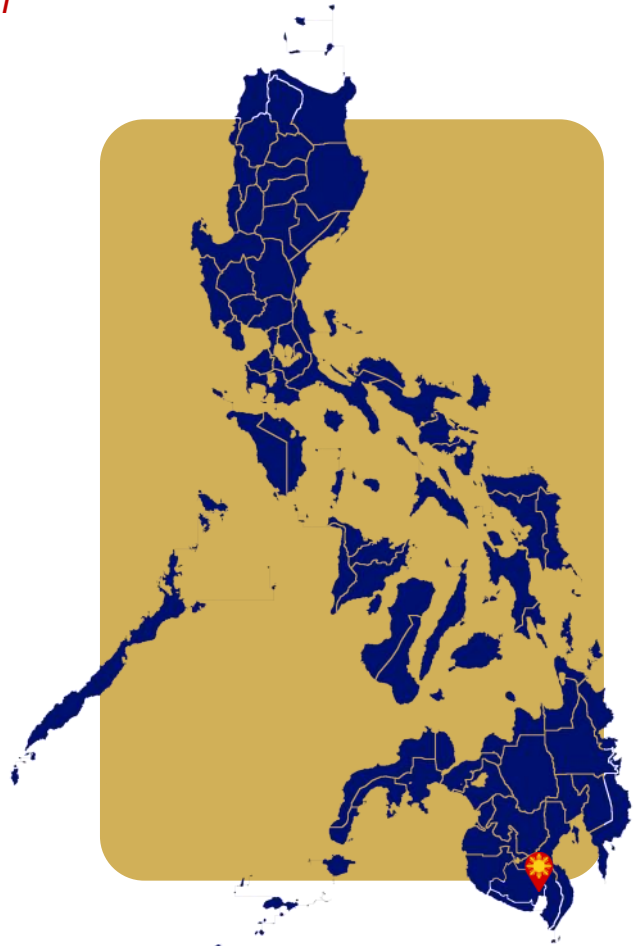
Province of South Cotabato, Mindanao – Region XII
Population: 594,446

General Santos City is a first-class highly urbanized city in the SOCCSKSARGEN region. It is recognized as the region's commercial and entertainment center. The City holds strong and resilient amid natural disturbances, as evidenced by its growing manufacturing industry, booming real estate, and thriving micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The Educational Center of Region XII

General Santos City is the cultural and educational center of the region. It is home to 21 tertiary institutions, churning out close to 7,500 higher education graduates every year. Notre Dame of Dadiangas University (NDDU) and Mindanao Polytechnic College produce top-notchers in nursing and marine engineering board examinations while the Mindanao State University is among the top schools in the country in mechanical, electrical and agricultural engineering.

The University of Santo Tomas has also begun development of its 8-hectare campus in the City, which will offer programs in health and sciences, business and accountancy, arts and humanities, engineering and technology, tourism and hospitality management, pharmacy, and pharmaceutical science.



ICT Council

ICT Solutions Association of Region 12

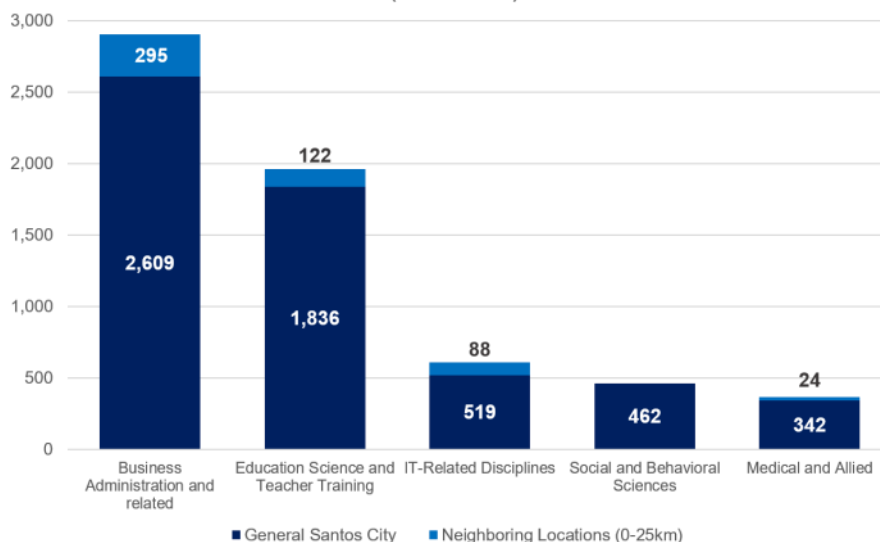
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Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in General Santos City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



General Santos City



Total Number of Graduates:

8,058

Some of General Santos City's Tertiary Schools

- ACLC College
- AMA Computer College
- Brokenshire College Socskargen
- Filipino Canadian Community College Foundation
- Gensan College of Technology
- Holy Trinity College of General Santos City
- Joji Ilagan International School of Hotel & Tourism Management
- Mindanao Polytechnic College
- Mindanao State University
- MMG College of General Santos City
- New Era University
- Notre Dame of Dadiangas University
- Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Colleges
- Southpoint College of Arts and Technology
- STI College
- Stratford International School
- Villamor College of Business and Arts

General Santos City recorded around 10,000 senior high and 9,000 technical vocational graduates.

The City also boasts of its high literacy rate of 89%.

Expanding Infrastructure

The General Santos Alternative International Airport offers daily flights from the City to Manila and Cebu. It is also accessible by boat from Manila, Cebu, and Iloilo via the Port of Makar, 6 kilometers from City proper.

General Santos City has vigorously enhanced its infrastructure in the past couple of years. Just recently, the City and three other municipalities in South Cotabato became recipients of PHP2 Billion to open and expand their road networks, rehabilitate and construct drainage and flood control structures and bridges, among others. Some of the priority projects of the local government include: redevelopment programs to increase business investment in the area such as in the Silway River System Corridor and the Urban Coastal Zone; construction of public transport passenger waiting areas; and the ICT infrastructure development including internet access, cloud-based data center, security system, and command center for online government services.

General Santos City has hotels with complete amenities and convention facilities, as well as major shopping malls.

Apart from the availability of commercial real estate, there is also a PEZA-registered Mabuhay IT Park and other ecozones located in General Santos City. The LGU offers its one-stop-shop Investment Center building to help fast track business applications.

Iligan City



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Province of Lanao del Norte, Mindanao – Region X
Population: 342,618

Iligan City of Lanao del Norte is one of the growing cities in Mindanao with tremendous economic potential. It is promoted as the “Battery of Mindanao” as it generates power to 65% of the island’s economy.

Developing IT-BPM Workforce

Iligan City boasts of its average literacy rate of 98.3%.

Iligan City hosts 13 tertiary institutions with graduates of around 4,600 per year. The City boasts of the Mindanao State University’s Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT), which has 15 programs that are recognized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as Centers of Excellence or Centers of Development, including in Engineering, Information Technology, Statistics, and Mathematics among many others. MSU-IIT is also recognized in the Top Google Scholar Profiles and is known as One of the Top Universities in Asia by Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings.

The City produces around 5,400 senior high and 2,200 technical vocational graduates annually.



ICT Council

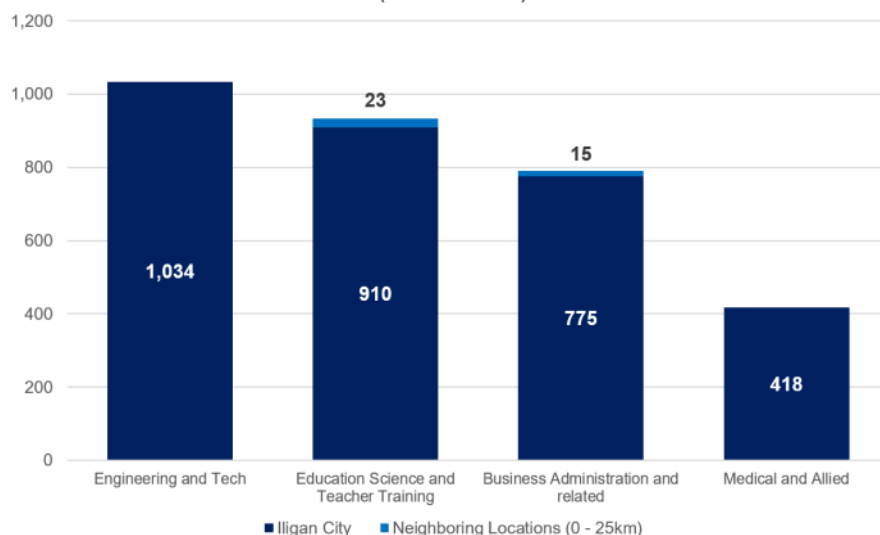
ICT of City of Iligan

Mr. Michael Lagcao

Mr. Roland S. Alivio

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Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Iligan City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Iligan City



Total Number of Graduates:

4,718

Some of Iligan City's Tertiary Schools

- Adventist Medical Center College
- Bukidnon State University-Iligan Esc
- Iligan Capitol College
- Iligan Medical Center College
- Lyceum of Iligan Foundation
- Masters Technological Institute of Mindanao
- Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology
- Picardal Institute of Science and Technology
- Santa Monica Institute of Technology
- St. Mary's Maternity and Children's Hospital School
- St. Michael's College
- St. Peter's College
- STI College-Iligan

Creating a Conducive Business Environment

Iligan City is approximately 30 minutes away from the Laguindingan Airport, making travel by air from major cities more convenient and accessible. The City is also reachable via land and sea, via the Iligan City Integrated Bus Terminal and Port of Iligan.

Current and potential investors have access to a fiber optic network, good power infrastructure, hotels and other accommodations, and major shopping malls.

The City Government actively encourages investors to expand to Iligan by offering generous incentive packages of up to 9 years tax holiday for preferred industries—one of which is the IT-BPM sector. As such, it initiated Social Innovation thru Impact Outsourcing (SITIO), which enables ICT-enabled jobs and investments.

With 20 BPO firms, the City employs ~ 550 Full Time Employees.



Iriga City

Province of Camarines Sur, Luzon – Region V
Population: 111,757

Iriga City, dubbed as the City of Crystal Clear Springs, is located at the heart of the Bicol Economic Growth Corridor and is considered as an eco-tourism, agro-economic, and educational hub. Being strategically located between two well-established cities, i.e. Naga and Legazpi, Iriga City shows great promise as a center of trade and commerce in the Bicol Region.

Nurturing Talent for the IT-BPM Industry

Iriga City is home to 7 tertiary institutions, producing around 1,200 graduates annually. While this is relatively lower than other Digital Cities, its neighboring locations offer about 9,000 more graduates that can also become part of the workforce.

ICT Council

Iriga-Rinconada ICT Council

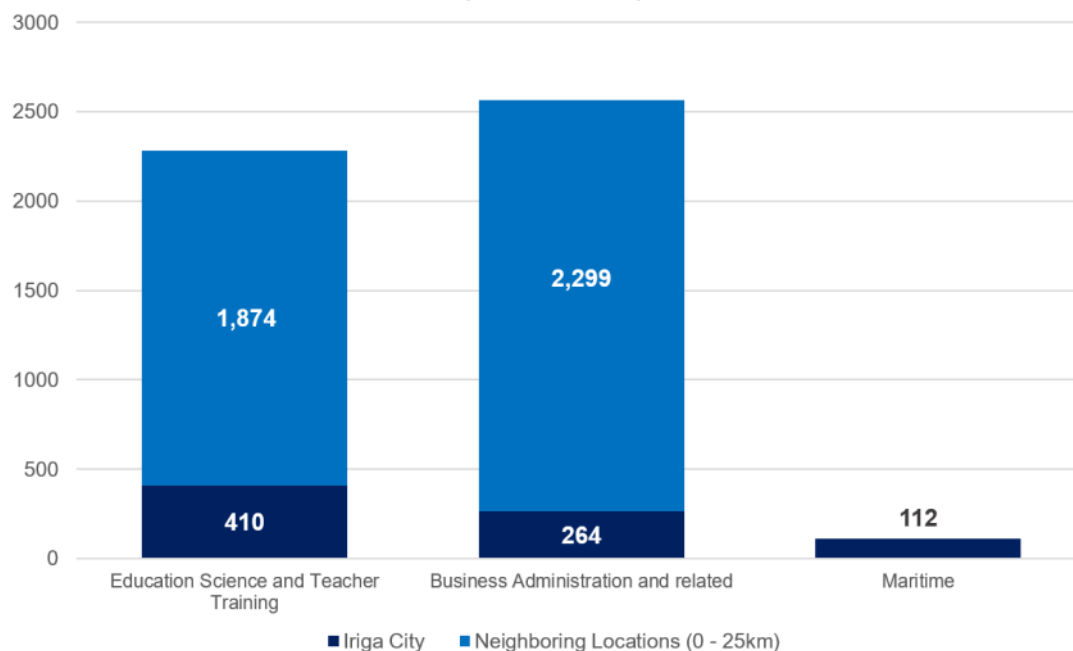
Hon. Ronald Felix Alfelor

Mr. Juvy Aben Abion

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Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Iriga City (S.Y. 2017-2018)



Iriga City



Total Number of Graduates:

9,706

Some of Iriga City's Tertiary Schools

- ACLC College of Iriga City
- Ceguera Technological Colleges
- La Consolacion College-Iriga City
- Regina Mondri College
- University of Northeastern Philippines
- University of Saint Anthony
- Worldtech Resources Foundation-Iriga City

Business Conduciveness

Iriga City houses the Iriga ICT-BPO Techno Hub, which was certified by PEZA in 2019. The local government has also prioritized investment opportunities for the IT-BPM industry in its central business district, providing incentives and entitlements for future investors and developers. To complement this is the identification of ecozone areas for other industries in the City.

Together with the support and initiatives of the local government, the City is on the right track towards becoming a center for IT-BPM services.

It currently hosts 1 BPO company, employing around 50-100 people.



Laguna Cluster

(Calamba City, Los Baños, San Pablo City)

Luzon – Region IV-A

Population: 832,562

The Province of Laguna is situated southeast of Metro Manila and is the third largest province in the CALABARZON Region. It is home to one of the proclaimed Next Wave Cities, Santa Rosa City.

This year, Calamba City, Los Baños, and San Pablo City (Laguna Cluster) are recognized as high-potential areas for transformation into bustling IT-BPM hubs by 2025.

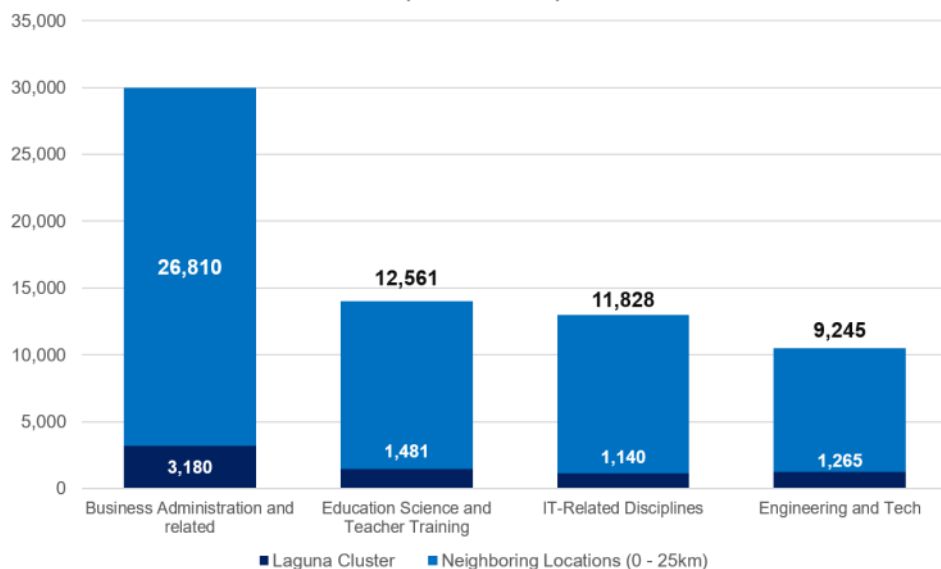
Access to abundant talent pool

The Laguna Cluster is equipped with skilled human capital as evidenced by 8 Centers of Excellence and 2 Centers of Development offered by the prestigious University of the Philippines Los Baños and Laguna State Polytechnic University of San Pablo City. These institutions are heralded for their programs in Engineering, Information Technology, and Education and Statistics among others.

It has the largest talent pool among the 25 Digital Cities, with over 90,000 higher education graduates, including those from neighboring locations. In this cluster alone, there are about 10,000 higher education graduates per year. The graduates for senior high education and technical vocational courses, including neighboring locations, are also outstanding at 90,525 and 10,368, respectively.



Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Laguna Cluster (S.Y. 2017-2018)



Laguna Cluster

(Calamba City, Los Baños, San Pablo City)



Total Number of Graduates:

90,934

Some of Laguna Cluster's Tertiary Schools

Calamba City

- AMA Computer College
- City College of Calamba
- Colegio De San Juan De Letran
- Don Bosco College
- IKON College-Calamba
- Laguna College of Business and Arts
- Lyceum of The Philippines
- Philippine Women's University
- Rizal College of Laguna
- STI Education Services Group
- University of Perpetual Help

Los Baños

- Colegio De Los Baños
- Laguna State Polytechnic University
- Trace College
- University of The Philippines
- University of The Philippines

San Pablo City

- ACLC College of San Pablo
- Canossa College
- Dalubhasaan Ng Lungsod Ng San Pablo
- Laguna College
- Laguna State Polytechnic University
- San Pablo Colleges
- St. Peter's College Seminary
- STI Education Services Group Group

In the middle of the Laguna Cluster, a training and learning facility was recently established through the partnership of TESDA and the Laguna Lake Development Authority. In addition, the Province of Laguna offers a Computer and Internet Literacy Course that aims to provide opportunities in the field of Information and Communications Technology.

Supportive Business Environment

The Laguna Cluster is on the path for a diverse industrial economic growth, with Calamba already hosting 2 PEZA-recognized IT Parks (Allegis IT Park and NYK-TDG IT Park) and 8 other industrial estates. It is also reportedly housing over 200 multi-national industrial firms. There is also a newly established PEZA-accredited special ecozone in Los Baños namely the UPLB Agro-Industrial and IT Park.

Hotels and other accommodations and major shopping malls are also present in Laguna, well known as the "Resort Capital of the Philippines."

Local government support and transparency is also worth noting. The Province of Laguna has received the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) from the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) four times already. It is the highest recognition given by the DILG to any LGU, which has exhibited outstanding performance in various areas of governance and in the delivery of excellent public service. Other advantages include outstanding power infrastructure, digital fiber optic network, and its proximity and accessibility to Metro Manila.

Laguna Cluster houses six (6) BPO firms, employing ~ 650 Full Time Employees.



Laoag City

Province of Ilocos Norte, Luzon – Region I
Population: 111,125

The “Sunshine City” of the Philippines, Laoag City is known for being the growth center in the North and the business and trading center of the Province of Ilocos Norte.

Strategically located at the Northwestern Luzon Growth Quadrangle, Laoag City is set to see more growth for the IT-BPM industry and prove itself as an ecotourism center. In fact, government officials are now proposing the establishment of an Ilocos Norte Special Economic Zone and Freeport covering Laoag City, Paoay, and Currimao.

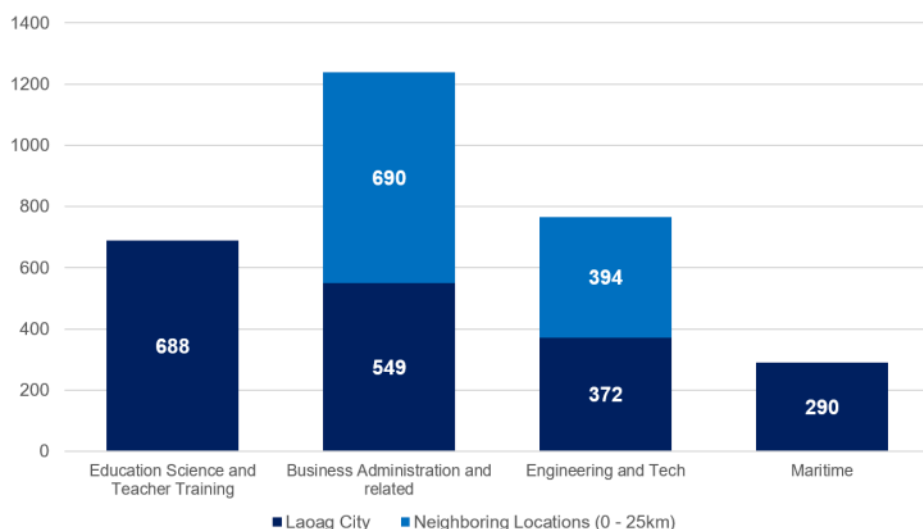
Growing Talent Pool

A major contributor to the growing talent pool in the City is the Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), which was awarded as a Center of Excellence for its course on Teacher Education. MMSU is the pioneering host of the Special Economic Zone Institute in Region 1, which will empower it as a collaborator or coordinator in addressing the demands of potential investors such as the provision of technical data pertaining to research and development.

The City alone has 2,590 higher education graduates. Considering other educational institutions within a 25-kilometer radius, the total number of graduates of higher education is close to 4,800. Total of senior high graduates is at 3,000 and technical vocational course graduates is at 4,000.



Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Laoag City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Laoag City



DICT
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AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

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Total Number of Graduates:

4,767

Some of Laoag City's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College-Laoag City
- Data Center College of The Philippines of Laoag City
- Divine Word College of Laoag
- Mariano Marcos State University-College of Industrial Technology-Laoag City
- Mariano Marcos State University-College of Teacher Education-Laoag City
- Northern Christian College
- Northwestern University

The local government of Laoag City provides support to amplify its workforce through employment assistance to job seekers or applicants through referrals. The LGU also offers career guidance and counseling. In Laoag City, the Re-designed Technical Vocational High School Program is also being offered.

Regional Growth Center in Luzon

The City of Laoag is identified as an Ecozone under the Special Economic Zone Act of 1995 or the Republic Act. No. 7916. As such, the City has been identified as a regional growth center because of its remarkable infrastructure, skilled labor force, and great potential for profitability. Laoag City is home to one of the first wind-driven powerplants in Southeast Asia, which was established by Danish investors.

The City has a lot of potential for economic expansion. Its tourism has become its major economic driver and with it is the development of infrastructure and facilities, which led to the growth other industries as well.

Accessibility in the Ilocos Region is provided by the Laoag International Airport and the Laoag Bus Terminal. Another means is by sea through the Seaport of Currimao.

There are 6 IT-BPM players in Laoag City, with an estimated total headcount of ~1,700.



Legazpi City

Province of Albay, Luzon – Region V

Population: 196,639

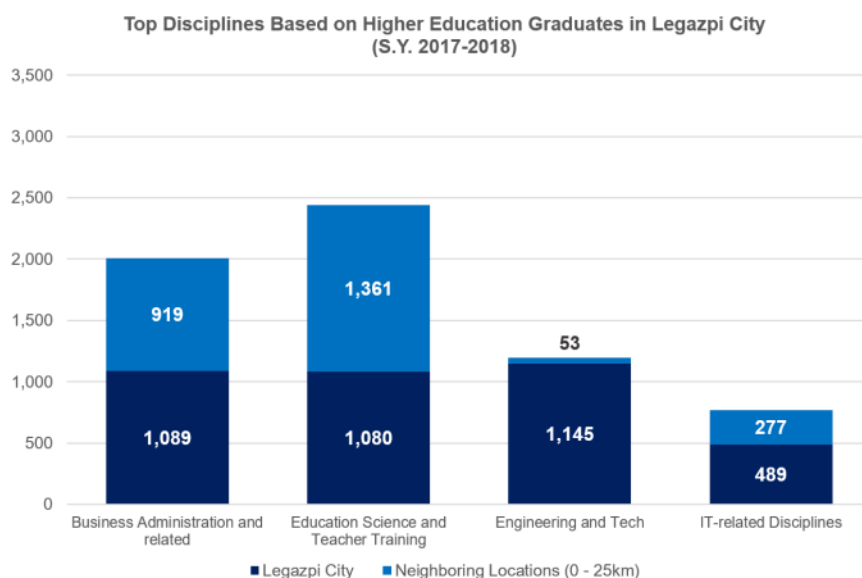
Legazpi City is the capital of the Province of Albay and is home to the world-famous, majestic Mayon Volcano, and other notable tourist attractions. The City is Bicol Region's hub for trade and industry, commerce, and social services.

Known as the City of Fun and Adventure, it promotes itself as one of the best destinations for business and leisure because of its complete facilities and its natural wonders.

Creating partnerships to strengthen talent quality

The local government has created a sustainable partnership with the private sector and the academe to develop courses that would enhance critical skill sets and to introduce university students to opportunities in the BPO industry.

The City has access to 5,600 higher education graduates every year, and an additional 4,000 from neighboring locations. The total number of graduates of senior high education is also outstanding, at around 10,000. More importantly, Legazpi City houses Bicol University, which was awarded as a Center of Excellence for its course on Teacher Education.



ICT Council

**Albay ICT Association, Inc. –
Legazpi City ICT Council
(AICTA-LCICTC)**

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Legazpi City



Total Number of Graduates:

9,964

Some of Legazpi City's Tertiary Schools

- Ago Medical and Educational Center
- AMA Computer College-Legazpi City
- Bicol University-Main
- Computer Arts and Technological College
- Computer Communication Development Institute-Legazpi City
- Computer Systems Institute
- De Vera Institute of Technology
- Divine Word College of Legazpi
- Forbes College
- Mariners' Polytechnic Colleges Foundation of Legazpi City
- Southern Luzon Technological College Foundation-Legazpi
- STI College-Legazpi
- Tanchuling College
- University of Santo Tomas-Legazpi



Further, it is home to a number of well-known training and teaching health institutions including: Ago General Hospital, Albay Doctors Hospital, Albay Polyclinic, Aquinas University Hospital, Bicol Eye Center, Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital, Dr. Esteban V. Ante Hospital, Estevez Memorial Hospital, Legazpi Eye Center, Suncore Multispecialty and Diagnostic Clinic, Tanchuling Hospital.

Offers a Business-friendly Climate

Legazpi City's government is accorded as one of the most business-friendly and most competitive component cities by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) and the National Competitiveness Council (NCC). It is also a Seal of Good Local Governance Hall of Fame Awardee from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

The City Government has also been recognized by the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC) as a model locality in implementing risk-reduction management practices.

These demonstrate the City's efforts in implementing good governance practices and reforms to promote trade and investments, employment, transparency, accountability, and efficiency in delivering business services. In fact, the City has received PHP30 Billion worth of investments from various industries including: BPO, retail, property, and tourism in the past 10 years.

As Bicolandia's transport hub, Legazpi City entered into a joint venture agreement with the LKY Group's Grand Terminal Management Services, Inc. for the development and operation of an integrated terminal for public utility vehicles.

Accessibility by air will soon be enjoyed by residents and current and potential locators with the new Bicol International Airport, which will be completed by the year 2020.

The PEZA-accredited Embarcadero IT Park and Gernarine Information Technology Center support the industry players with benefits and incentives.

The City currently hosts 10 IT-BPM companies, employing around ~5,000 Full Time Employees (FTEs).



Malolos City

Province of Bulacan, Luzon – Region III

Population: 252,074

With its proximity to Metro Manila and Metro Clark, the seat of government of the Province of Bulacan has become commercialized and economically established. Malolos also serves as the Banking Capital of Bulacan, having the highest number of banking institutions in the province.

Center of Education in Central Luzon

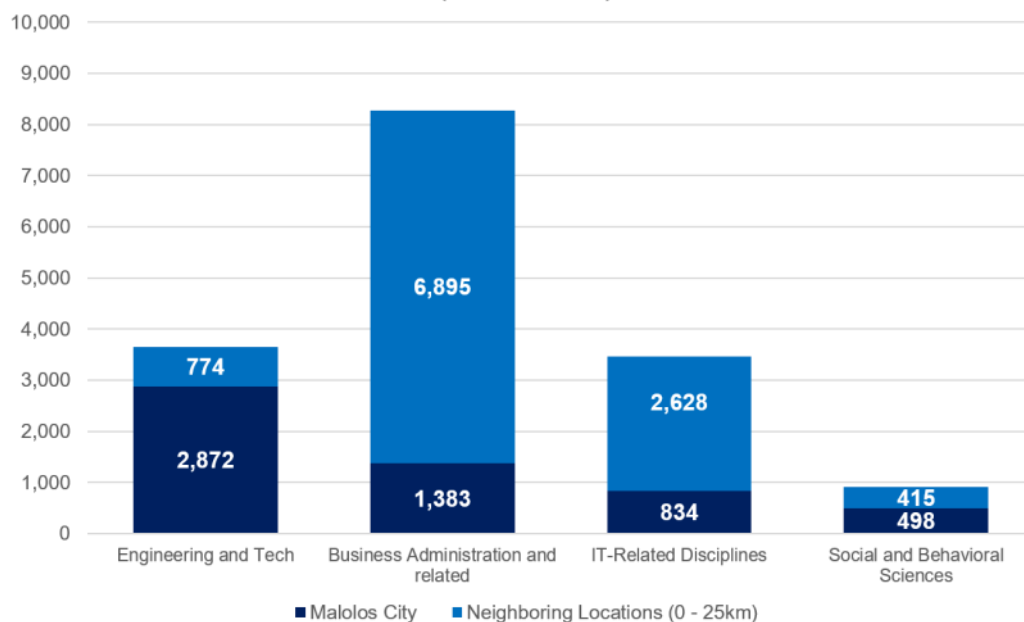
The City holds the title of Center of Education in the Central Luzon Region. It has several universities, mostly technical schools and computer colleges: La Consolacion University Philippines, STI Malolos, Bulacan State University, and the Bulacan Polytechnic University.

On average, Malolos City produces around 8,000 higher education graduates every year and an additional 22,000 graduates from neighboring locations.

In 2018, the City recorded 27,000 senior high and 8,300 technical vocational graduates.



**Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Malolos City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)**



Malolos City



Total Number of Graduates:

30,496

Some of Malolos City's Tertiary Schools

- ABE International College of Business and Accountancy
- AMA Computer College-Malolos
- Bulacan Polytechnic College
- Bulacan State University-Main
- Centro Escolar University-Malolos City
- La Consolacion University Philippines
- STI College-Malolos

A Thriving Business Ecosystem

In terms of accessibility, the best way to travel to the City is via land. A railway project is underway which is expected to reduce the travel time between Metro Manila and Malolos from over 1 hour to just 30 minutes.

Aside from the BPO industry, Malolos City is home to various industries, including: Banking, Courier Service, Education, Food Service, Hospitals, Hotels, Resorts and Restaurants, Information and Communications Technology, Insurance, Manpower, Real Estate Property Development, Trade, Transport Services, and Travel and Tours among other.

Malolos City offers fiber connectivity, outstanding power infrastructure, and major shopping malls. The first ever sustainable themed park in the Philippines will also be constructed in the City.

Industrial estates can also be found in Malolos City such as First Bulacan Industrial City. It is also planning to establish a PEZA ecozone called Bulacan Techno Hub in the near future.

Lastly, it is looking to invest in a 50-billion peso “mega city” spanning 400-hectares. The project, which is expected to create 100,000 jobs for local residents, is envisioned to be a techno hub that will host outlet stores, a shopping mall, factory outlets, manufacturing firms, a warehouse, and BPO centers.

The City currently hosts 5 BPO companies, with an estimated headcount of 1,100.

Metro Cavite

(Bacoor City, Imus City, General Trias)

Luzon – Region IV-A

Population: 1,318,697

Metro Cavite, composed of Bacoor City, Imus City, and General Trias, is one of the most industrialized and fastest growing provinces in the country. In terms of human capital and business environment, it is one of the 25 cities that scored high. Being in close proximity to one of the recognized Next Wave Cities, Dasmariñas City, and the bigger economic hubs such as Metro Manila, Metro Cavite is well on its way to economic growth.

Strategic Access to Robust Talent

Owing to its neighboring economic giants, Metro Cavite enjoys easy access to known educational institutions even outside its borders. It is home to 19 tertiary institutions, which collectively produce close to 5,000 graduates every year. Including its neighboring cities, Metro Cavite has access to over 150,000 higher education graduates.

The location and its surrounding cities churn out close to 200,000 senior high and 17,000 technical vocational graduates annually.



ICT Council

Cavite ICT Council

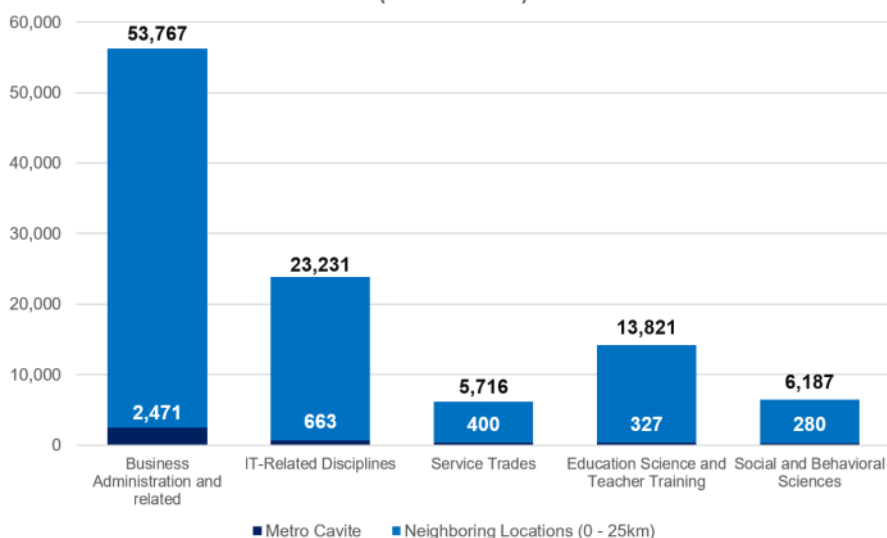
Mrs. Teresita Leabres

Ms. Camille Lauren Del Rosario

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clvdelrosario@cavite.gov.ph

Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Metro Cavite (S.Y. 2017-2018)



Total Number of Graduates:

158,421

Some of Metro Cavite's Tertiary Schools

Bacoor City

- Cavite State University
- ISHRM School System
- PIMSAT Colleges
- Saint Francis of Assisi College
- St. Dominic College of Asia
- STI College
- The Bearer of Light and Wisdom Colleges
- University of Perpetual Help System Dalta

Imus City

- Cavite State University
- Colegio De Porta Vaga
- Imus Institute of Science and Technology
- Montessori Professional Colleges of Asia
- Southdale International School of Science, Arts and Technology
- Southern Philippines Institute of Science and Technology
- Unida Christian Colleges

General Trias

- Cavite State University
- Ebenezer International Colleges
- Lyceum of The Philippines
- Young Ji College
- University of Perpetual Help System Dalta

The local government of the cities also initiate different projects to support education. For example, Bacoor City promotes DICT's digital inclusion initiative called Tech4Ed project where a shared facility is established to provide access to eGovernment, ICT-enabled services, and other relevant content. In Imus City, the LGU initiated the e-Learning Contract Center, which is a project aimed for technological advancements for education.

Supportive Industrialized Location

The Province of Cavite is deemed as one of the most industrialized provinces in the country, driven by the readily available commercial real estate and the presence of a PEZA-registered Suntech iPark and Cavite BPO Project in Imus City, and Cavite-Eco Industrial Estate and Ara Vista IT Park in General Trias.

Cavite is more conveniently accessible to Metro Manila and the rest of Luzon, thanks to infrastructure projects that include the Muntinlupa-Cavite Expressway (MCx), which connects South Super Highway to Daang Hari; the Light Rail Transit (LRT) 1 Cavite extension; the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAx), bridging CAVITEx and SLEx; and the North Luzon Expressway (NLEx) and South Luzon Expressway (SLEx) connector road. Cavite is also about 19 kilometers away from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

The local government of Cavite identifies the IT-BPM/BPO industry as one of its key investment priority areas, offering incentives to locators and business establishments.

Currently, Metro Cavite has 16 BPO firms which employs ~1,200 Full Time Employees.

Metro Rizal

(Antipolo City, Cainta, and Taytay)

Luzon – Region IV-A

Population: 1,417,618

The Province of Rizal is a Hall of Famer of the Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) and is acclaimed as having one of the most competitive Local Government Units (LGU) in the Philippines. This recognizes the province's exemplary performance in areas of economic dynamism, government efficiency, infrastructure development, and resiliency.

Metro Rizal, composed of Antipolo City, Cainta, and Taytay, is touted as the next IT-BPM hotspot owing to its local government's concerted efforts to strengthen their business environment and talent pool.

Proactive in Developing Talent

The Province of Rizal is not only recognized locally, but also by international organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

It is top-ranked in terms of the Human Development Index by the UNDP and the Human Development Network (HDN) for life expectancy, functional literacy and educational attainment, poverty alleviation, environmental regeneration, women empowerment, jobs creation, and real income per capita.

For several years now, the province's literacy rate remains at 100% due to the government's full support in achieving a higher educational performance rate.

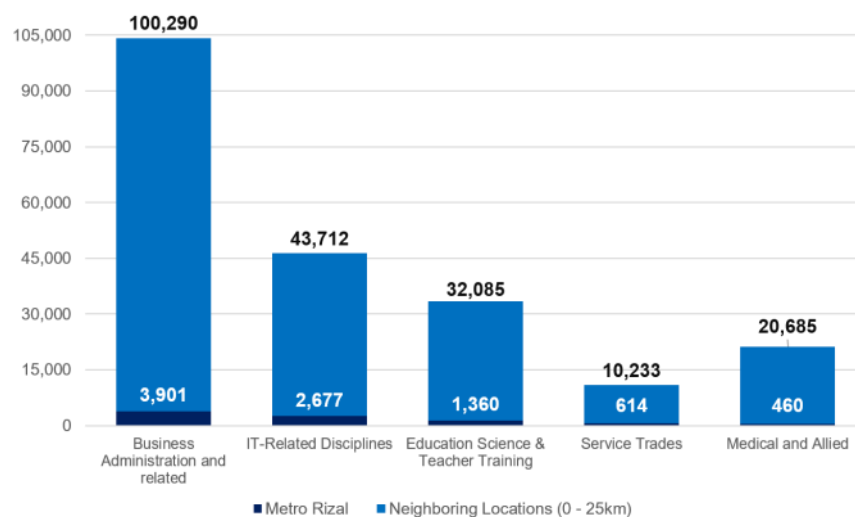


ICT Council

Taytay Rizal ICT Council

Ms. Lucette dela Rosa
empoweredlady@yahoo.com

Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Metro Rizal (S.Y. 2017-2018)



Total Number of Graduates:

317,354

Some of Metro Rizal's Tertiary Schools

Antipolo City

- All Nations College
- La Salle College Antipolo Foundation
- Our Lady of Fatima University-Antipolo
- Sumulong College of Arts and Sciences
- University of Rizal – Antipolo

Cainta

- ABE International Business College-Cainta
- Cainta Catholic College
- ICCT Colleges Foundation
- STI Education Services Group-Cainta
- University of Rizal – Cainta

Taytay

- ACLC College of Taytay
- National College of Business and Arts-Taytay
- Siena College of Taytay
- University of Rizal – Taytay

Steps have been taken to expand capabilities of higher education institutions in Rizal, including partnerships with the Institute of Creative Computer Technology (ICCT) and Technical Educational and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) to strengthen ICT and technical skills of their local residents.

Metro Rizal is characterized by a growing talent pool. It has a total of 10,675 higher education graduates, majority of which are from business administration, IT-related, and education or teacher training disciplines. Including neighboring locations, the total higher education graduates exceed 315,000.

Metro Rizal and its neighboring locations also produce high numbers for graduates of senior high education and technical vocation—360,432 and 40,722, respectively.

Infrastructure Building is Key Priority

The Province of Rizal is about 16 kilometers east of Manila. Its close proximity to the National Capital Region makes it more accessible to investors, residents, and tourists. Accessibility is set to improve in the coming years with several infrastructure projects already underway.

Rizal is one of the beneficiaries of the Government's Build, Build, Build initiative through the LRT Line 2 project, which will connect East Metro Manila to the Metro Manila subway. This PHP9.5 billion-project is expected to be completed by the end of 2020.

Metro Rizal

(Antipolo City, Cainta, and Taytay)



The Municipality of Cainta will also receive a new floodgate through the Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement Project (Phase 4), a joint partnership with DPWH and Japan International Cooperation Agency. Another ongoing project is the construction of the East-west Bank Bridge 2 in Cainta, which the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is funding.

The province has seen immense transformation through the years, with the establishment of various businesses and buildings. Metro Rizal currently has 5,000 square meters of available commercial space. Property developer Megaworld Corporation and subsidiary Empire East Land Holdings Inc. are investing PHP20 billion over the next 10 years to transform a 24-hectare property in Cainta, Rizal into a township, including residential condominiums, mixed-use towers, and a shopping mall.

In terms of tourism, Metro Rizal is considered as the Garments Capital of the Philippines and houses a number of hotels, resorts, and major shopping malls.

It is also worth noting that power infrastructure is reportedly top-of-the-line in Metro Rizal, being a power-generating province and the site of the Malaya Thermal Power Plant of the NAPOCOR, one of the main sources of energy for the Luzon grid.

Metro Rizal hosts 3 PEZA-registered IT Centers and Parks, namely: Robinsons Big R Super Center, SMMS IT Center and SMTT IT Park.

There are 7 BPO companies currently present in the Metro Rizal, employing ~1,000 Full Time Employees (FTEs).



Olongapo City

Province of Zambales, Luzon – Region III

Population: 233,040

The first-class highly urbanized Olongapo City, together with the Municipality of Subic, forms Metro Olongapo. It is one of the cities located in the Subic Special Economic and Freeport Zone, a center of service and the manufacturing industry for the provinces of Zambales and Bataan.

Equipped with adequate infrastructure, Olongapo City is set to bring in the IT-BPM industry and its growth in the Province.

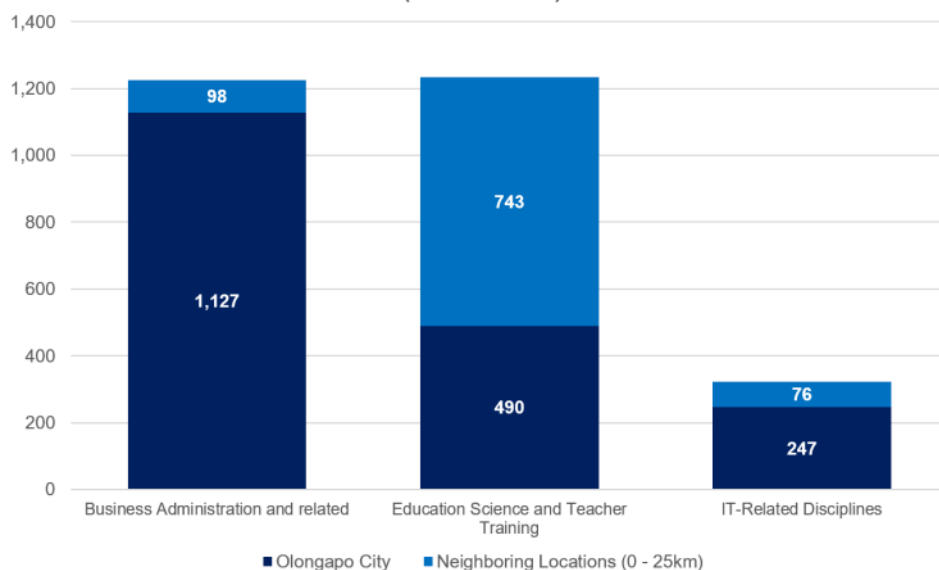
Talent Availability

The UP Diliman Extension Program was institutionalized in Olongapo to further support higher education in Zambales and Bataan. It offers a Master of Management program, which aims to train qualified students for a career in the management of business companies and the like.

In 2018, the City of Olongapo was able to produce a total of 2,630 higher education graduates. Including neighboring locations, the City receives an additional 3,200 graduates for higher education and 4,000 graduates of senior high.



**Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Olongapo City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)**



Olongapo City



Total Number of Graduates:

5,864

Some of Olongapo City's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College-Olongapo City
- Central Luzon College of Science and Technology-Olongapo City
- Columban College-Olongapo City
- Comteq Computer and Business College
- Gordon College
- Kolehiyo Ng Subic
- Lyceum of Subic Bay
- Metro Subic Colleges
- Mondriaan Aura College
- St. Benilde Center for Global Competence
- St. Joseph College-Olongapo
- Subic Bay Colleges
- The Manila Times College of Subic

Developing Infrastructure to Support the IT-BPM Industry

With a good foundational infrastructure, internet connection, and power infrastructure, the City is ready to cater to more investors and locators. The City is accessible via air (Subic International Airport), sea (Subic Bay Port), and land (Olongapo Balanga Bus Terminal). The City is also equipped with hotels, other accommodations, and major shopping malls.

To further improve the mobility and transport in the City, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority has started a project to relink the business areas of Subic and Olongapo. The PHP 442.7 million will replace and reopen the bridge connecting the Subic Bay Freeport and Olongapo City which was initially closed.

Currently, Olongapo City holds 12 BPO players in the IT-BPM industry, with ~300 Full Time Employees.

Puerto Princesa City

Province of Palawan, Luzon – Region IV-B
Population: 255,116

Puerto Princesa is a first-class highly urbanized city located in the western Province of Palawan. The island has been voted for the fourth time as the “Best Island in the World” by renowned travel magazine Travel + Leisure.

Talent Availability

Some famous educational institutions in the City are Palawan State University, Holy Trinity University, STI College, and Palawan Technological College.

The City, on its own, produces around 3,600 higher education graduates every year.

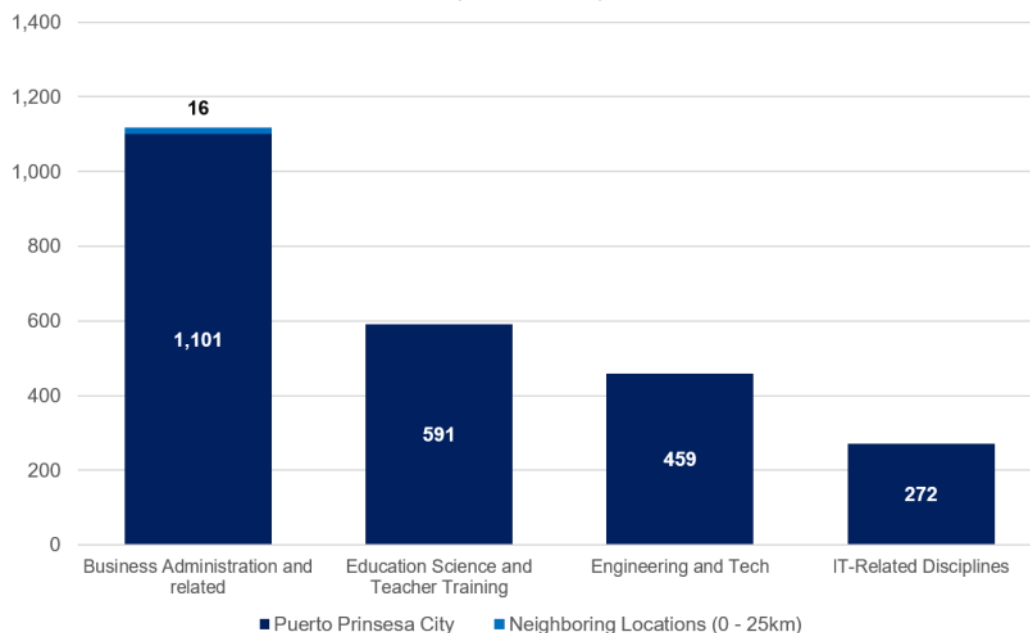
ICT Council

**Palaweno ICT Association
(PICTA)**

Ms. Joy Abueg
joyabueg@gmail.com



**Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Puerto Princesa City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)**



Puerto Princesa City



Total Number of Graduates:

3,714

Some of Puerto Prinsesa's Tertiary Schools

- Fullbright College
- Holy Trinity University
- Palawan Polytechnic College
- Palawan State University
- Palawan State University-San Rafael, Puerto Princesa City
- Palawan Technological College
- Seminario De San Jose
- STI College-Puerto Princesa
- Western Philippines University-Puerto Princesa

Business-enabling environment

Puerto Princesa City is the main gateway to the Island of Palawan. The Puerto Princesa International Airport offers direct flights to and from major cities of the Philippines, such as Manila, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, and Clark. It is also accessible by sea via the Puerto Princesa Port.

There is also an ongoing multimillion road project that will not only connect 2 barangays in the City, but more importantly, to the roll-on/roll-off port of the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).

The City also announced last year a PHP27.5 Billion worth of investments from different private companies such as Astoria Hotels and Resorts Group, Vista Land, SM Prime Holdings, Inc., and many more. These near- and mid-term projects are mostly related to the tourism, food, agriculture, fishery, education, and BPO industries.

Its power infrastructure will also be amplified by the recently built hybrid power plant in the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park. The hybrid power plant generates an average of 50% clean energy and promotes sustainable development in the City.

Although Puerto Princesa is geographically isolated, it is not true for its economy. Currently, its IT-BPM sector is supported by an estimated total of 1,800 full-time BPO employees from a large industry player.



Roxas City

Province of Capiz, Visayas – Region VI
Population: 61,773

Promoted as the Cleanest and Greenest Component City, Roxas City of the Province of Capiz is the “Seafood Capital of the Philippines” because of the abundant marine life in nearby bodies of water.

Developing Talent for the IT-BPM Industry

Roxas City produces around 3,300 higher education graduates annually, coming from institutions such as Capiz State University and Colegio dela Purisma Concepcion.

Leading Innovation

Roxas City has actively pursued investments to improve its infrastructure, thereby creating more business opportunities for the City.

The Roxas City Airport is located only 2 kilometers away from the City Hall and is easily accessible to major business districts. It has 4 daily flights to Manila. For land transportation, the City is investing in a multimillion project to ease traffic congestion. The City is also accessible by sea via the Culasi Port.



ICT Council

Capiz ICT Council, Inc.

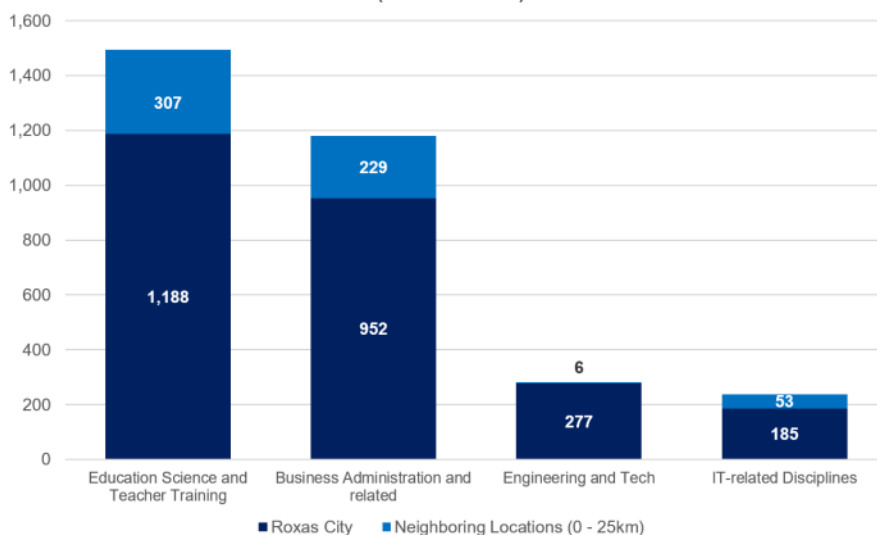
Ms. Thea B. Obamos

Ms. Mei Ann Garcia

capizictcouncil@outlook.com

thea.obamos@pueblodepanay.com

Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Roxas City (S.Y. 2017-2018)



Roxas City



Total Number of Graduates:

4,173

Some of Roxas City's Tertiary Schools

- Capiz State University-Burias Campus
- Capiz State University-Dayao
- Capiz State University-Main
- Colegio De La Purisima Concepcion
- College of St. John-Roxas
- Filamer Christian University
- Hercor College
- St. Anthony College of Roxas City

Pueblo de Panay TechnoPark is a 7.4-hectare PEZA-accredited IT Park located in Pueblo de Panay Township, Roxas City. It brings the needed incentives and support for IT-BPM industry players. It is laid with fiber-optic technology from the country's two leading telcos.

Currently, there are around 1,000 full-time IT-BPM employees in the City of Roxas, mostly servicing a top international online financial services company. In the last few years, the City has also proven its ability to host other IT-BPM verticals after proving the talents' potential in software development and the creative services.

In 2019, the Province of Capiz received a PHP10.4 Million funding for Capiz Innovation Center under the Shared-Service Facility program of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). The Innovation Center aims to support MSMEs in the field of robotics and engineering in Roxas City and Capiz as a whole.



San Fernando, La Union



DICT
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

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Province of La Union, Luzon – Region I
Population: 121,812

San Fernando City is considered a commercial center strategically located in the heart of the Province of La Union. A gateway to trade and commerce up North, it is now a Digital City bound for more growth and development in the IT-BPM industry.

Developing Talent

The local government of San Fernando City endeavors to improve the quality of education through partnerships with private companies and government agencies (e.g. Security Bank Foundation and the Philippine Gaming Corporation) to expand and improve educational institutions.

Currently, it is home to 11 tertiary institutions which produce an average of 4,300 higher education graduates. Including its neighboring cities, the City has access to close to 5,000 higher education graduates. It recorded 4,000 senior high and 4,500 technical vocational graduates in 2019.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has also recognized the Information Technology program of Don Mariano Marcos Mem. State University-MLUC as a Center of Development.



ICT Council

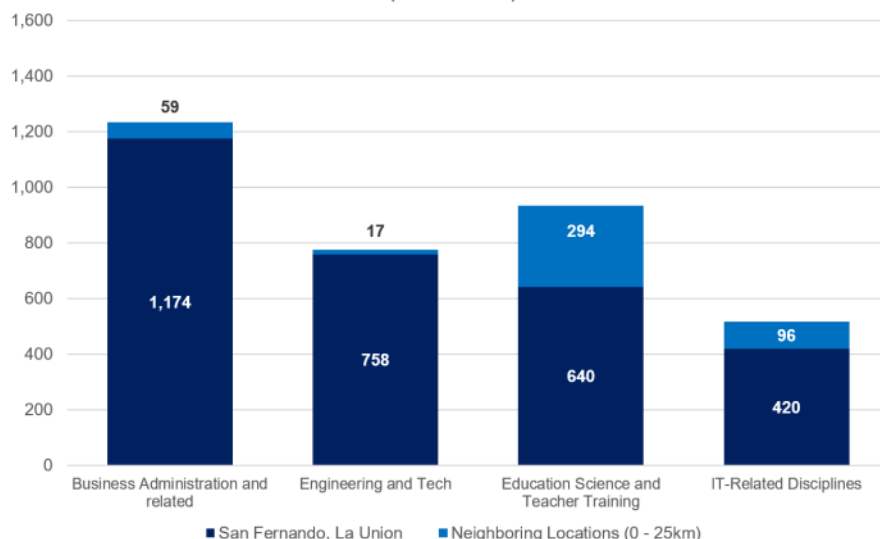
City of San Fernando (La Union)

ICT Council

Mr. Edgee Zarsadias

Mr. Allan Lao

Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in San Fernando, La Union
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Total Number of Graduates:

4,956

Some of San Fernando's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College-La Union
- CICOSAT Colleges
- Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University-Mid La Union
- Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University-Open University
- La Finn's Scholastica
- Lorma Colleges
- Northern Philippines College for Maritime, Science and Technology
- Saint John Bosco College of Northern Luzon
- Saint Louis College-City of San Fernando
- Sea and Sky College
- Union Christian College

Additionally, the City is known for being the heart of public health and medical care in the Ilocos Region, due in part to educational and medical institutions such as the Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center.

Working with Local Government to Encourage Investments

The City Government of San Fernando works with the San Fernando ICT Council to actively promote and make San Fernando a viable ICT hub. The City leverages on technology to upgrade its service delivery for faster and easier transactions such as using digitized systems and improving infrastructure.

For instance, the first of its kind Luzon Bypass Infrastructure project, in conjunction with the National Broadband Plan, will be building and operating a submarine cable landing station in San Fernando.

Accessibility to the City has also improved via the Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway (TPLEX).

Telecommunications has shown improvement in recent years due to increased investment of private telecommunication firms.

The Poro Point Special Economic and Freeport Zone is one of the City's spaces for economic growth. It is fully-equipped with a seaport and tourism-oriented facilities.

San Fernando City in La Union currently hosts 34 BPO companies, with a total headcount of close to 2,000 employees.



San Fernando, Pampanga



DICT
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

IBPAP®
IT & Business Process Association
PHILIPPINES

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Province of Pampanga, Luzon – Region III

Population: 306,659

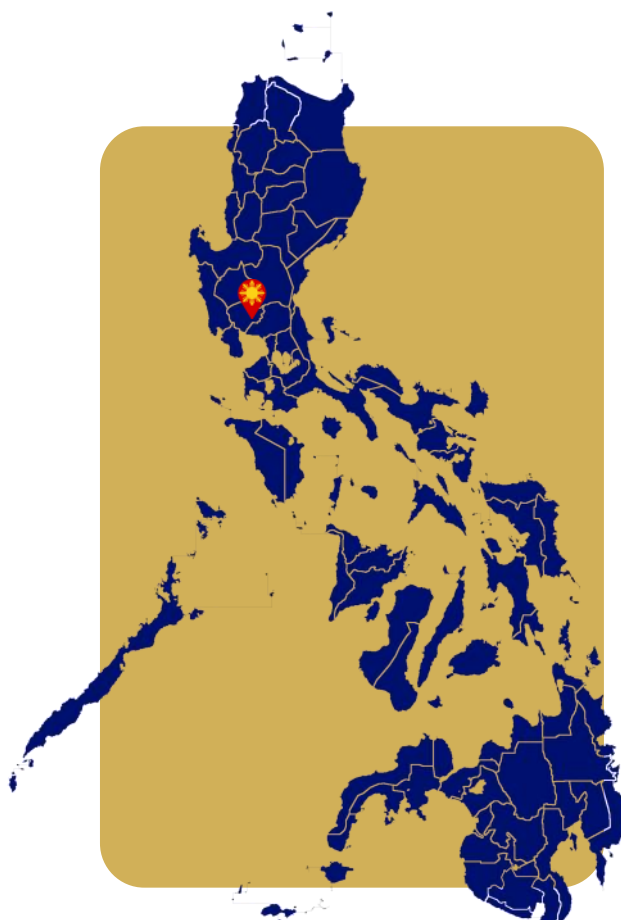
San Fernando City, a first-class city in the Province of Pampanga, functions as the province's hub for culture and heritage, tourism, and agro-industrial-commercial activities. Strategically located in the heart of Central Luzon (67 kilometers North of Metro Manila and 16 kilometers South of Clark Freeport Zone and Clark International Airport), the City has become a significant part of the Manila Clark-Subic Economic Triangle.

Characterized with a Strong Labor Force

San Fernando City produces close to 2,000 higher education graduates every year, and an additional 27,000 from neighboring cities.

In 2018, the City produced 11,000 senior high and close to 5,000 technical vocational graduates.

Some of the well-known educational institutions in the City include: Central Luzon College of Science and Technology, AMA Computer University, STI College, and University of Assumption.



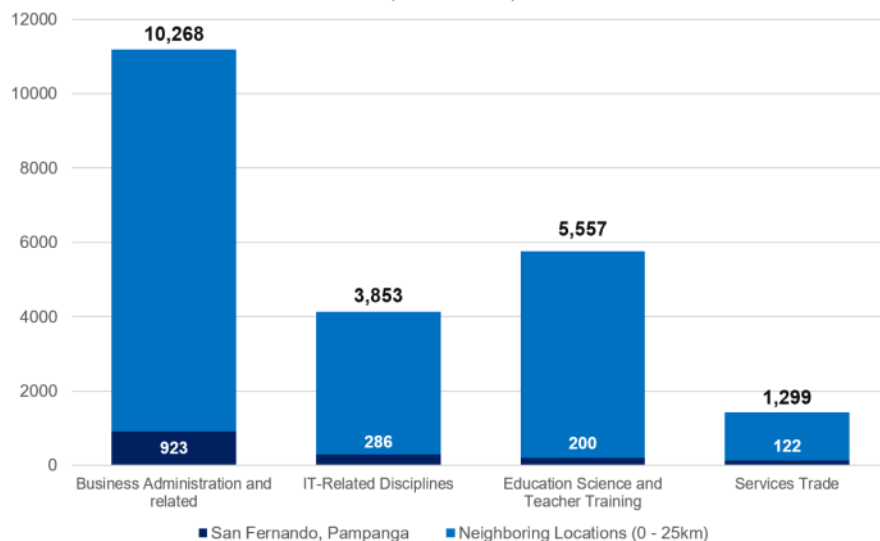
ICT Council

**City Investment
and Promotion Office**

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citymayor@cityofsanfernando.gov.ph

Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in San Fernando, Pampanga
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



**digital
cities
2025**

Total Number of Graduates:

29,166

Some of San Fernando's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College-San Fernando, Pampanga
- Central Luzon College of Science and Technology-City of San Fernando (Pampanga)
- City College of San Fernando
- Colegio De Sebastian-Pampanga
- College of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (Pampanga)
- Mother of Good Counsel Seminary
- RCC Colegio de San Rafael
- St. Nicolas College of Business and Technology
- STI College-City of San Fernando
- University of the Assumption

Business-friendly LGU

The City of San Fernando, Pampanga has been consistently named by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) as having one of the most business-friendly local government units in the country throughout the years.

It has actively undertaken efforts to provide more efficient and streamlined processing of business services to its constituents, resulting to the City's Business One Stop Shop (BOSS) system in 2017.

The presence of major corporations and enterprises in the City contributes to its overall economic growth. Currently, it accommodates 5 shopping malls, 82 banking institutions, 4 bottling companies, and several manufacturing companies among others.

This is a result of significant enhancements in the provision of privileges and opportunities for investors in terms of tax flexibility and land use regulations that entice them to start up their businesses in the city.

The City has also attracted investments from real estate developers. For one, Megaworld Corporation is investing close to PHP30 Billion for the development of Capital Town, a township to host mega locators and BPO developers in the City.

Clark International Airport is the major airport system providing air access to the City. In terms of telco infrastructure, Globe, Smart, PLDT, and Converge have strong mobile and internet signals in the City.

San Fernando City shares a PEZA-accredited IT Center with the Municipality of Mexico—SM City.

Currently, there are 6 BPO companies in the City, with a total headcount of 500 employees.



San Jose Del Monte

Province of Bulacan, Luzon – Region III

Population: 574,089

The City of San Jose Del Monte is on the northeastern side of Metro Manila and south of Regions 1, 2 and 3, making it very accessible. Called the “Rising City of Bulacan,” its distinct blend of an urban environment and growing metropolis has made it one of the more favored locations by investors.

Large talent pool from neighboring locations

San Jose Del Monte City harnesses a talent pool of almost 60,000 higher education graduates from neighboring locations. The city also has access to over 80,000 senior high and 13,000 technical vocational graduates.

It has recently added the City College of San Jose del Monte to its roster of educational institutions offering the K-to-12 program. It is also slated to welcome STI in the city to accommodate senior high and college students.



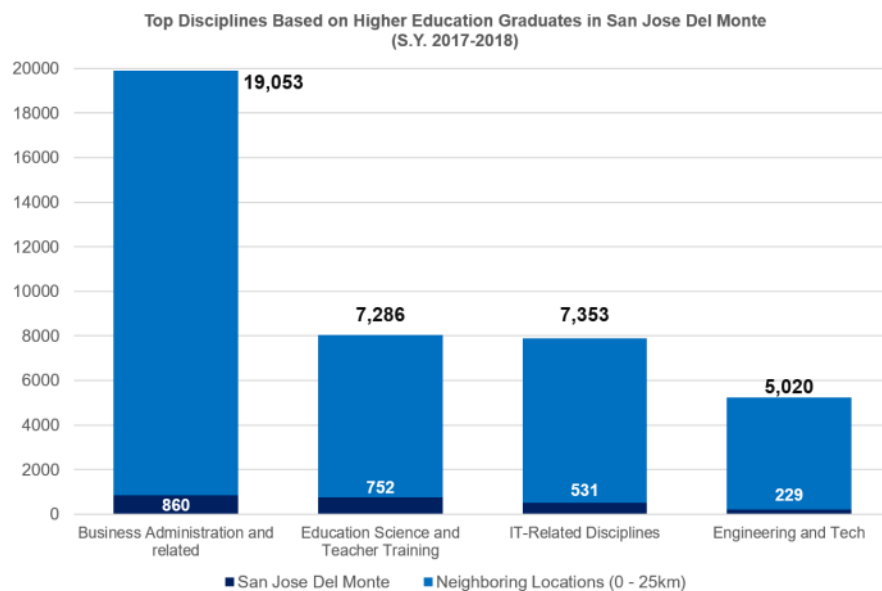
ICT Council

Bulacan ICT Council

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San Jose Del Monte



Total Number of Graduates:

59,588

Some of San Jose Del Monte's Tertiary Schools

- Academia De San Lorenzo Dema Ala
- Bestlink College of The Philippines-Bulacan
- Bulacan State University-San Jose Del Monte
- Colegio De San Gabriel Arcangel
- First City Providential College
- Golden Valley Colleges
- La Concepcion College
- Sienna College of San Jose
- SJDM Cornerstone College
- Sto. Rosario Sapang Palay College

Next Growth Center Northeast of Manila

The Province of Bulacan is believed to be a viable business destination for investors in the coming years with the expected completion of 3 major infrastructure projects: (1) Metro Manila Skyway (MMS) or the Skyway 3 Project, a 14.82-kilometer elevated toll road connecting the South Luzon Expressway in Alabang to Balintawak in Quezon City leading to the North Luzon Expressway, a major road leading to Bulacan; (2) MRT-7, a 22.8-kilometer rapid transit line beginning at San Jose del Monte up to North Avenue, Quezon City; and (3) Bulacan Bulkwater Project to meet the water demands of Bulacan residents and benefit business establishments.

The City is gifted with vast land that can be developed for residential, commercial and industrial purposes. Both Ayala Land and Vista Land already have mixed-use real estate properties in the City.

The City of San Jose Del Monte has a fiber optic network to support residents and businesses. Grab, the multi-national ride-hailing company, has also some presence in the City and have launched its GrabTrike, GrabFood, and GrabExpress services.

Currently, the City employs around 50 to 100 people from 7 BPO companies.

Tacloban City

Province of Leyte, Visayas – Region VIII
Population: 242,089

Tacloban City is a first-class highly urbanized city located in the regional center of Eastern Visayas. The so-called “start-up” city is the economic center of Eastern Visayas because of its resilient economy that’s focused on education, commerce, tourism, and trade.

Talent Availability

Tacloban is home to the 3 largest state universities in Region VIII: the Leyte Normal University, the Eastern Visayas State University, and the University of the Philippines Visayas Tacloban Campus.

The Asian Development Foundation College has been recognized as a Center of Development for its course on Information Technology, while Leyte Normal University is considered as a Center of Development for its Teacher Education course.

Tacloban’s ever increasing crop of fresh graduates hailing from all over the Region makes for a rich pool of skilled technical and professional workers from a variety of industries.



ICT Council

Northern Samar ICT Council

Dr. Raul Gacusan

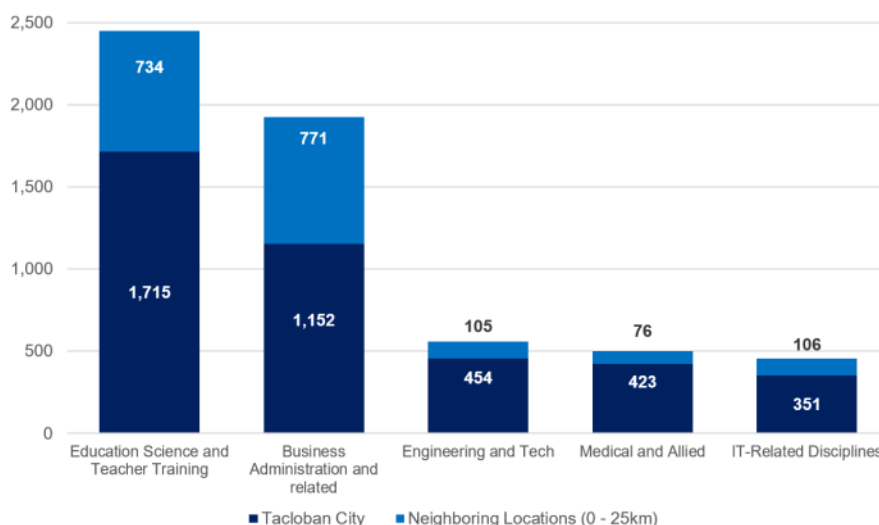
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Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Tacloban City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Tacloban City



Total Number of Graduates:

8,031

Some of Tacloban City's Tertiary Schools

- ABE International College of Business and Economics-Tacloban City
- ACLC College-Tacloban City
- Asian Development Foundation College
- Colegio De La Salle Fondation De Tacloban
- Doña Remedios Trinidad-Romualdez Medical Foundation
- Dr. V. Orestes Romualdez Educational Foundation
- Eastern Visayas State University
- Holy Infant College
- Holy Spirit College Foundation of Leyte
- Holy Virgin of Salvacion Foundation College

In 2018, the City alone, produced a total of 5,600 graduates for higher education. Tacloban has access to an additional 2,400 graduates for higher education from neighboring locations. There is also a total of 3,000 graduates for senior high and 1,500 graduates for technical vocational courses, after considering surrounding cities.

Toward a Resilient and Vibrant Economy

In the Department of Trade and Industry's Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) for 2019, Tacloban City ranked 1st in terms of Presence of Investment Promotion Unit, Early Warning System, and Local Risk Assessments; 2nd in terms of Local Economy Growth; and 4th in Cost of Doing Business and Disaster Risk Reduction Plan.

The economy of Tacloban City is well-supported by the national government and by private institutions. For instance, the Board of Investments (BOI) approved a PHP500 Million five-star hotel facility in Tacloban.

The Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center has also opened its PHP497 Million building, which significantly improved the City's health services. There is also a new township, Tacloban North, getting developed in the northern part of the City with the lowest risk to natural hazards. The property is to host world-class hotels, convention centers, and commercial and recreational developments in this new hub.

Tacloban City is also the regional healthcare hub, with its 6 major hospitals.

Tacloban City is accessible via air (Daniel Romualdez Airport), sea (Port of Tacloban), and land (VS Grand Tours Tacloban City Terminal). Fiber optic network and outstanding power infrastructure is also present in Tacloban.

Tagbilaran City

Province of Bohol, Visayas – Region VII

Population: 105,051

Tagbilaran City is the capital of the Province of Bohol. It is considered as the main hub of commerce, education, transportation and tourism of the province.

Diverse Supply of Skilled Talent

With the prestigious educational institutions in the area, Tagbilaran City has access to a diverse and skilled talent pool. Also located in the City are University of Bohol, Bohol Island State University, STI College Bohol, BIT International College, and the Holy Name University, which is recognized as a Center of Development for its course on Teacher Education,

Tagbilaran alone, produced around 5,400 higher education graduates in 2018, and an additional 2,000 from neighboring locations.



ICT Council

Bohol ICT Council (BICTC)

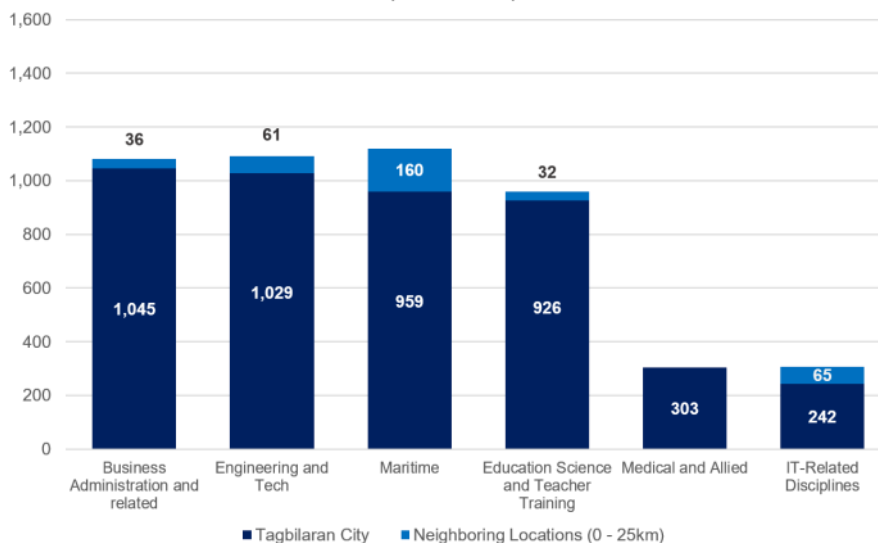
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Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Tagbilaran City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Tagbilaran City



Total Number of Graduates:

5,799

Some of Tagbilaran City's Tertiary Schools

- ACLC-Tagbilaran
- BIT International College-Tagbilaran
- Bohol Island State University - Tagbilaran
- Bohol Wisdom School
- Cristal E-College-Tagbilaran
- Holy Name University
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary
- PMI Colleges-Bohol
- STI College-Bohol
- University of Bohol JE Mondejar Computer College
- Leyte Colleges
- Leyte Normal University

Business Environment

Tagbilaran City is accessible via the Bohol-Panglao International Airport, Tagbilaran Port, and the Tagbilaran Bus Terminal. It is also embarking on a PHP4.4 Billion project with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to ease traffic congestion along the roads to the Bohol-Panglao Airport.

Supported by an outstanding power infrastructure, digital fiber optic network, and 8 BPO firms with full-time employees of around 2,600, Tagbilaran City and its booming business economy is highly conducive for IT-BPM players and operators.

Tarlac City

Province of Tarlac, Luzon – Region III
Population: 342,493

Tarlac City is the capital of the Province of Tarlac. Considered a first-class city, it is located about 63 kilometers from the regional center that is San Fernando, Pampanga, and 125 kilometers from Manila. Its strategic location makes Tarlac City a melting pot of different peoples and cultures.

With 3 express ways passing through the City, Tarlac is provided a gateway to the North – the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEx) connects with the Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway (TPLEx), serving as an alternate route for motorists going to other parts of Northern Luzon such as Pangasinan, La Union, and Baguio; and both SCTEx and TPLEx connects with the proposed Central Luzon Link Expressway (CLLEx), serving as an alternate route from Tarlac to Nueva Ecija and Cagayan Valley region.

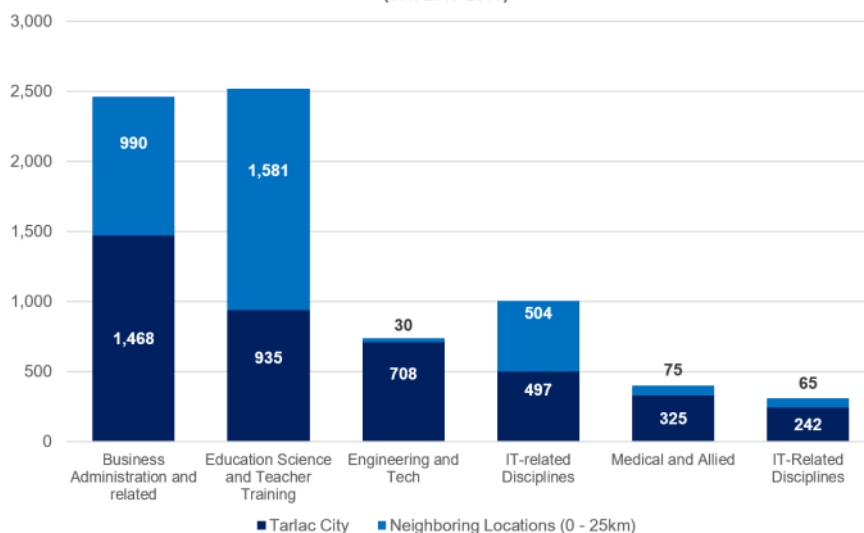
This level of accessibility opens the City to various opportunities for investment and development.

Fostering Talent

Tarlac City is home to 13 tertiary schools, including Tarlac State University, which was chosen by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) to pioneer the BSIT-specialized in Technical Service Management (BSIT-TSM) and BSIS-specialized in Business Analytics (BSIS-BA). The University's program on Teacher Education is also awarded by CHED as a Center of Excellence for its course on Teacher Education.



Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Tarlac City
 (S.Y. 2017-2018)



Total Number of Graduates:

38,932

Some of Tarlac City's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College-Tarlac City
- Central Luzon Doctors' Hospital Educational Institution
- College of the Holy Spirit of Tarlac
- Ecumenical Christian College
- Fundamental Baptist College for Asians
- Interworld College of Technology Foundation-Tarlac
- Osias Colleges
- Our Lady of Peace College Seminary
- Philippine Women's University Career Development and Continuing Education Center - Tarlac
- STI College-City of Tarlac

The City has a steady supply of talent from four different district groups: Pampangueños, Ilocanos, Pangasinenses, and Tagalogs. It produced a total of 5,000 graduates for higher education in 2018. Including its neighboring locations, the City has access close to 39,000 graduates for higher education, 63,000 for senior high, and 6,800 for technical vocational courses.

Vast Land Available for Development

The abundance of land in Tarlac City offers great potential for its development. The Luisita Industrial Park is an area zoned and planned within the City for the purpose of industrial development. It is directly situated along the access road towards the SCTEx Luisita Toll Gate.

Currently, the industrial park accommodates various businesses and manufacturing companies such as Abenson, Inc., International Wiring Systems Corp., Otto General Merchandise, Security Bank Corporation, Phelps Dodge Philippines Energy Products Corp., Luisita Central Park Hotel, Sanyo Capacitor (Philippines) Corp., and Conergy AG Solar Facility.

Ayala Land, Inc. is also set to establish Crescendo in the area, a mix of residential communities, retail spaces, an industrial park, and a plaza. Strategically located, it is 15 kilometers away from New Clark City and about 3 kilometers from the SCTEx.

The Don Bosco Technical Institute is also said to be opening a senior high school within the property, which will be followed by a Technical Vocational Education and Training Center. With this new development, the City is poised to enter a new era of growth and progress.

Several shopping malls and hotels or accommodations are also well-established within the City. There are 2 IT cites in Tarlac City that are accredited by PEZA—the Tarlac Provincial IT Park II and Robinsons Luisita.

Tarlac City is prime real estate when it comes to safety from natural hazards; it is not prone to tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides, or volcanic hazards. It is situated in an area with only a few or low-level hazards.

The natural hazards experienced by the City is limited to floods and liquefaction, which can be mitigated through various engineering interventions and proper drainage and sewerage plans.

There are currently 5 IT-BPM companies in the City, employing close to 2,000.

Tuguegarao City

Province of Cagayan, Luzon – Region II
Population: 153,502



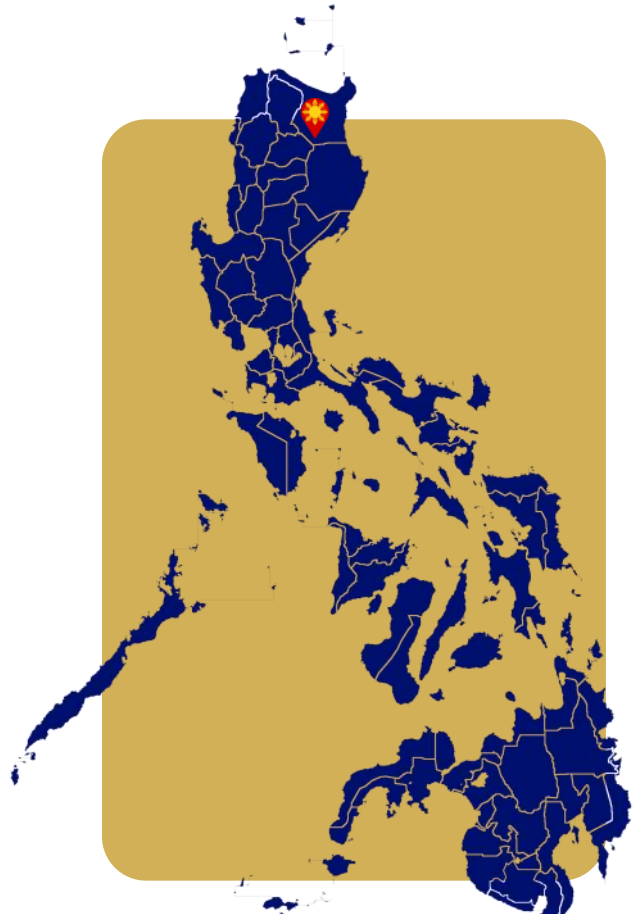
Tuguegarao City is considered as the primordial business center of the Cagayan Valley as it offers opportunities in the areas of commerce, trade, livelihood, and education. It is identified as the Grand Central or the major docking area of businesses and industries in North Luzon.

With support from its City Government and from private institutions such as the Development Bank of the Philippines, Tuguegarao City is set to yield even more investment and economic opportunities.

Topnotch Talent

The City holds two universities recognized as a Center of Excellence and Center of Development for courses on Teacher Education and Information Technology, respectively. These are the St. Paul University Philippines and the University of St. Louis-Tuguegarao.

In 2018, the educational institutions in the City alone generated a total of 6,609 for higher education graduates. If including the neighboring locations, the number of total graduates reach up to 10,800 for higher education, 4,800 for senior high, and 4,900 for technical vocational courses.



ICT Council

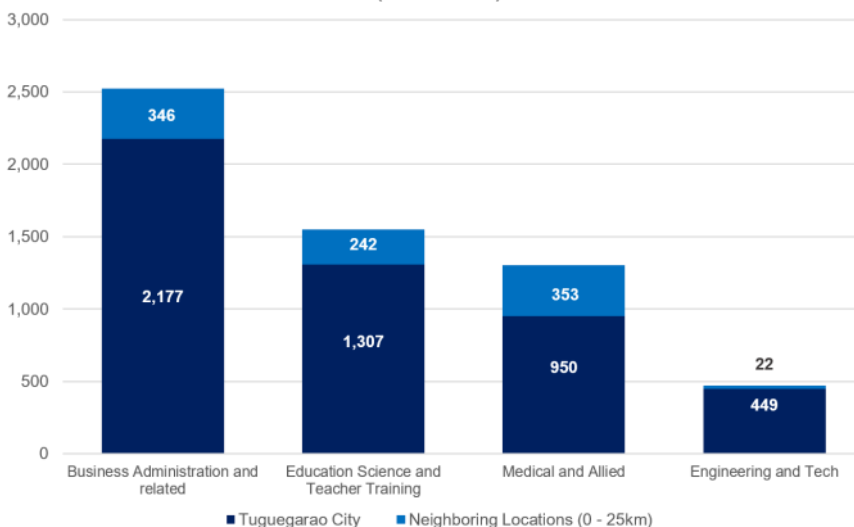
Tuguegarao City ICT Council

Hon. Jefferson P. Soriano

Mr. Charles Irvin Tagarino

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Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Tuguegarao City
 (S.Y. 2017-2018)



Tuguegarao City



Total Number of Graduates:

10,825

Some of Tuguegarao City's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College-Tuguegarao City
- Cagayan State University-Andrews
- Cagayan State University-Tuguegarao (Carig)
- FL Vargas College-Tuguegarao
- John Wesley College
- Maila Rosario Colleges
- Philippine Law Enforcement College
- Saint Paul University Philippines
- STI College-Tuguegarao
- University of Cagayan Valley
- University of Saint Louis-Tuguegarao

The local government of Tuguegarao recently launched its Tech4Ed where a shared facility will provide its citizens access to eGovernment, ICT-enabled services, and other relevant content.

The City also takes pride in having consistent board and bar passers and top-notchers.

Improvements in Business Environment

As it is growing to be a Tiger City in the North, Tuguegarao City has been improving and developing its infrastructure and business environment. Serving as the gateway to the Cordilleras, the City has amplified its transportation and road infrastructure. The City is highly accessible via air (Tuguegarao Airport) and via land (Dalin Bus Terminal).

Internet connectivity has also been upgraded to fiber connection and the power infrastructure has been rated as outstanding. Tourism is well supported in the City because of the presence of hotels, other accommodations, and major shopping malls.

The Development Bank of the Philippines has provided the City financial support for infrastructure projects that aim to stimulate economic activity in Tuguegarao. The local government is also targeting a public market, which will house a wet and dry section, commercial spaces, and parking lots.

These infrastructure projects are seen as prerequisite for further growth of business enterprise essential for the IT-BPM industry.



Urdaneta City

Province of Pangasinan, Luzon – Region I
Population: 132,940

Urdaneta City is the commercial and education center of eastern Pangasinan and serves as a gateway to Northern Philippines. The City's strategic location makes it the trade center and playing field for economic activities in the province.

Established Educational Hub in Pangasinan

Urdaneta City is host to 10 tertiary and 3 vocational schools that offer quality education. It is home to Urdaneta City University, also known as the “leading academic institution in Eastern Pangasinan.”

The City produces an average of 3,700 higher education graduates every year, and an additional 14,000 graduates from neighboring cities.

Focus on Growing BPO Presence

Urdaneta City is accessible via the Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway (TPLEX), McArthur Highway, and Diversion Road. With the newly-opened Urdaneta Bypass Road, accessibility by land has become even faster and more efficient.



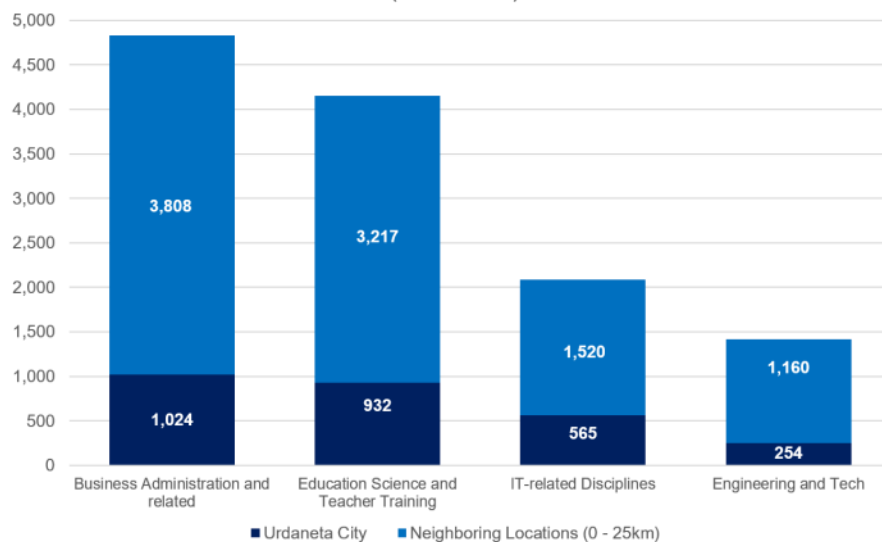
ICT Council

United Pangasinan ICT Council

Mr. Ed Casulla

ecasulla@gmail.com

Top Disciplines Based on Higher Education Graduates in Urdaneta City
(S.Y. 2017-2018)



Urdaneta City



Total Number of Graduates:

17,557

Some of Urdaneta City's Tertiary Schools

- ABE International College of Business and Accountancy-Urdaneta City
- Divine Word College of Urdaneta
- International College for Excellence
- Luzon College of Science and Technology (Urdaneta)
- Lyceum Northern Luzon
- Lyceum Northwestern University -Urdaneta Campus
- Pangasinan State University-Urdaneta City
- Panpacific University
- Urdaneta City University

The City is hailed as the cleanest, greenest, and safest city in Pangasinan by the Provincial Government. It has close to 5,000 square meters of available commercial real estate and two PEZA-accredited IT Centers namely, CB Mall IT Center and Sanctuary IT Building.

Further, around US\$390 million dollars has been committed by a consortium of large foreign companies from China, Singapore, and Taiwan for the creation of a mega-economic zone in Pangasinan. This will include the creation of an international seaport, airport, tourism zone, IT parks; and will benefit 10 municipalities in Pangasinan including Urdaneta and Dagupan.

Urdaneta City is also a strategic location for the IT-BPM industry, having 34 cellular sites owned by telecommunication companies for ICT purposes.

The City has identified the IT-BPM industry as one of its investment priority areas. Currently, there are 2 IT-BPM companies in Urdaneta City, with a total headcount of 50 to 100 employees.

Zamboanga City



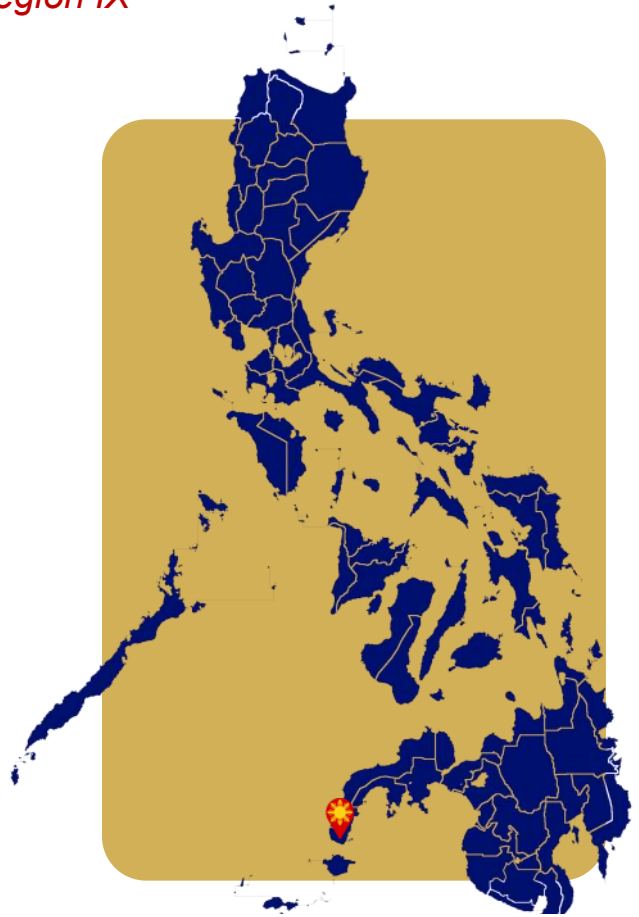
Province of Zamboanga del Sur, Mindanao – Region IX
Population: 861,799

Zamboanga City, dubbed as the Latin City of the Philippines, is a first-class highly urbanized city. It is the commercial and industrial center of the Zamboanga Peninsula Region.

Home to Prominent Educational Institutions

Zamboanga City has the most universities, colleges, and schools in the Zamboanga Peninsula. The City houses a number of prominent and award-winning educational institutions: Ateneo de Zamboanga University, as a Center of Development for Information Technology, and as a Center of Excellence for Teacher Education; Western Mindanao State University, as a Center of Development for Forestry and Teacher Education; and lastly, Zamboanga State College of Marine Science and Technology, as a Center of Excellence for Fisheries.

The City consistently ranks in the Top spot in board exams. Ateneo de Zamboanga University, one of the Top Universities in the country, offers a BSIT Major in Animation and produces a good number of animators every year.



ICT Council

Zamboanga ICT Council

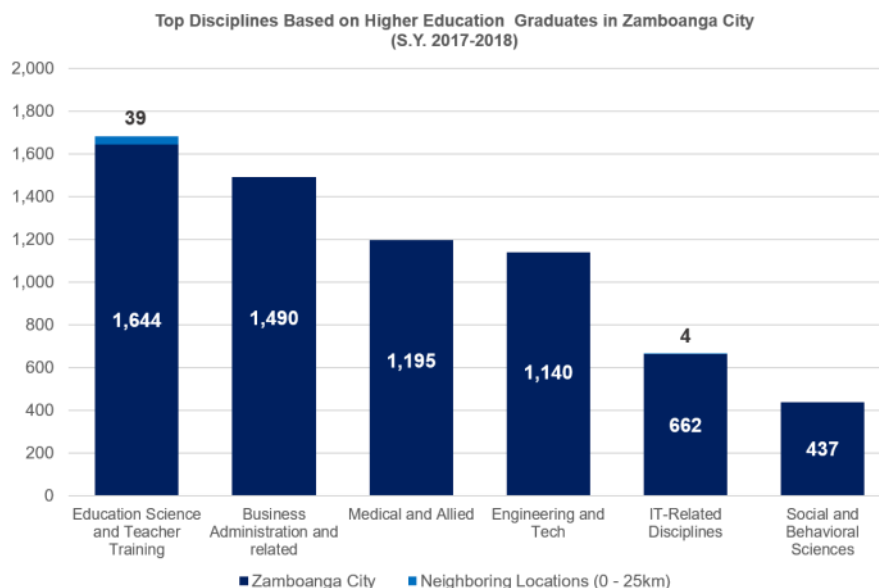
Mr. Michael Lim Tiu

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Zamboanga City



Total Number of Graduates:

8,750

Some of Zamboanga City's Tertiary Schools

- AMA Computer College- Zamboanga City
- Ateneo De Zamboanga University
- Brent Hospital and Colleges
- Computer Technologies Institute of Zamboanga City
- Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary
- HMIJ Foundation Philippine Islamic College
- Immaculate Conception Archdiocesan School
- Nuevo Zamboanga College
- Pilar College of Zamboanga City
- Southern City Colleges
- Southern City Colleges-West Campus
- STI College-Zamboanga
- Universidad De Zamboanga
- Western Mindanao Foundation College
- Western Mindanao State University
- Western Mindanao State University-Curuan
- Zamboanga City State Polytechnic College
- Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology



Zamboanga City is accessible to graduates from neighboring provinces such as, Zamboanga Sibugay, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, which can contribute to the talent pool of the City. In Zamboanga alone, the total number of graduates for higher education reached 8,700 in 2018. The City also produced 9,400 graduates of senior high and 800 graduates of technical vocational courses in the same year.

Investments to Improve Infrastructure and Business Environment

With the existence of the Zamboanga City International Airport, Port of Zamboanga Seaport, and Integrated Bus Terminal, it is now easier to access the economic activities in Zamboanga City. The Department of Transportation is set to further enhance the City's air connectivity through development projects for the Zamboanga Airport.

In addition, there is a PHP1.16 Billion worth of road projects that will create a 36-km bypass road that will be finished by 2022. The Department of Public Works and Highways has also proposed the Curuan-Sibuco Road in Zamboanga City for the improvement of the Growth Corridors in Mindanao.

The City Government has also proposed the San Ramon Newport Project, aimed to create a world-class facility that will link resources, markets, and other logistical activities of Zamboanga City and the rest of Mindanao.

The Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone Authority and Freeport (ZamboEcoZone), also known as Zamboanga Freeport Authority (ZFA), is located about 23 kilometers from the city proper. It is one of the three current Economic Freeport Zones outside Luzon. It has 4 BPO designed buildings, 2 of which will be ready by year-end 2020 and the other 2 by year 2021.

The City Government of Zamboanga gives tax exemption, privileges and incentives under the ZC Investment Incentive Code of 2004. Ordinance No. 437 on the other hand, identified 15 Investment Priority Areas, including BPOs and Creative Industries.

There are currently 5 growing BPO firms in the City, employing around 50-100 people.



Phase 2 Interventions

Aside from the identification of the 25 Digital Cities for 2025, DICT, in collaboration with IBPAP, also aims to provide the necessary support in 4 areas: institutional development, talent attraction and development, infrastructure development, and marketing and promotion.

With the objective of elevating these locations to their full potential as a thriving IT-BPM hub, the Phase 2 Interventions aim for alignment among government agencies in their pursuit for countryside development and inclusive growth.

Institutional Development



A prerequisite for the other initiatives, institutional development implies the engagement of relevant stakeholders, identification of areas for improvement, and equipping them with the proper skills for the IT-BPM industry.

Through a series of collaboration via workshops and webinars, institutional development initiatives aim to support stakeholders in their contribution to inclusive growth and job creation. Some of these initiatives include:

- Obtaining Support from Relevant Government Agencies
- Creation & Strengthening of ICT Councils
- IT-BPM Workshops for ICT Councils
- Best Practice Sharing Webinars
- Creation of Local Roadmap

Talent Development

Talent development and attraction activities aim to promote careers in the industry, establish comprehensive capability development programs for the workforce and academe, and implement upskilling and reskilling initiatives for existing workforce and potential joiners.

The objective of this initiative is to empower the supply of talent with the skills required by the growing industry and to make each city sellable in the IT-BPM market. Some talent development initiatives are:

- IT-BPM Local Ambassadors
- Local Awareness Fair
- Industry-Academe Linkages
- Local Digital Workforce Program





Infrastructure Development

Complementing the institutional and talent development initiatives, infrastructure development aims to provide stakeholders with the tools and instruments fundamental to optimizing the city's potential for IT-BPM growth. To obtain DICT's vision of a safer, protected, and reliable ICT, the following initiatives are proposed:

- Internet Projects with Telecommunication Companies
- Government Infrastructure Projects
- TNVS Introduction to the Cities

Marketing and Promotions

To promote the IT-BPM industry here and abroad, a comprehensive marketing and communication strategy, together with advocacy programs, for the countryside are necessary. These include :

- Marketing and Promotion Workshops
- Local Trade Missions / Roadshows
- Digital Marketing Initiatives

