

Philippines Facts & Figures

Official name: Republic of the Philippines

Capital city: Manila

Internet country code: .ph

Flag description: Two equal horizontal bands of blue (top; representing peace and justice) and red (representing courage); a white equilateral triangle based on the hoist side represents equality; the center of the triangle displays a yellow sun with eight primary rays, each representing one of the first eight provinces that sought independence from Spain; each corner of the triangle contains a small yellow five-pointed star representing the three major geographical divisions of the country: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao; the design of the flag dates to 1897

National anthem: "Lupang Hinirang," music from "Marcha Nacional Filipina" (Philippine National March) by Julian Felipe; lyrics from poem "Filipinas" by Jose Palma

National motto: "Maka-Diyos, Maka-Tao, Makakalikasan At Makabansa." (For God, People, Nature and Country.)

Geographical description: Southeastern Asia, archipelago of around 7,100 islands between the Philippine Sea and the South China Sea, east of Vietnam

Total area: 117,187 sq. mi. (300,000 sq. km.)

Climate: Tropical marine; northeast monsoon (November to April); southwest monsoon (May to October)

Nationality: *noun:* Filipino(s); *adjective:* Philippine

Population: 100,981,437 (2015 census)

Ethnic groups: 33.7% Visayan, 24.4% Tagalog, 8.4% Ilocano, 6.8% Bicolano, 26.2% others (2015)

Languages spoken: Filipino (official; based on Tagalog) and English (official); eight major dialects - Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon or Ilonggo, Bicol, Waray, Pampango, and Pangasinan

Religions: Roman Catholic 80.9%, Muslim 5%, Evangelical 2.8%, Iglesia ni Kristo 2.3%, Aglipayan 2%, other Christian 4.5%, other (including Buddhist) 1.8%, unspecified 0.6%, none 0.1%