



# DLSU MONTHLY UPDATE OF THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY

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The Philippine High Frequency Model of De La Salle University (DLSU) produces monthly and quarterly forecasts of the Quarterly National Accounts reported by the Philippine Statistics Authority. The model uses seasonally adjusted national accounts (SANA) and over 50 monthly indicators from various government agencies. The process involves pooling the indicators into factors to be used for predicting both the National Accounts and the indicators themselves. The predicted values of the national accounts undergo disaggregation and benchmarking to obtain the forecasts. This report presents the actual and forecasted quarter-on-quarter percentage changes of the quarterly SANA, and year-on-year growth rates of the indicators, based on the latest available information, until April 2025.

## Government Securities

The 91-day T-bill rate rose to 5.91 in August from 5.67 in June and 5.73 in July. The model forecasts that the rates for September 2024 to April 2025 will be relatively lower than the rate reported in July 2024.

In contrast to the previous month forecasts, the 10-Yr Gov't. bond shows an overall incline – with a slight decline in December.

## Tourism

As of October 1, the country recorded 4.08 million foreign tourists, and a y-o-y growth rate of 5.81% in September 2024, significantly lower than 71.9% in 2023 of the same month. With only two months remaining, tourist arrivals are expected to fall short of the Government's target of 7.7 million for 2024.

## Trade

Total exports (in gross kilograms) saw a year-on-year increase of 16.73% in July, compared to -0.15% in June 2024 and -4.89% in July 2023. Similarly, total imports (in gross kilograms) grew by 12.45% annually, notably higher than the -3.96% recorded in June 2024 and 0.95% in July 2023. The model maintains its forecast of an annual increase in import volume and a general decline in export volume.

## Labor

The actual unemployment rate rose to 4.74% in July 2024, following a drop to 3.12% in June. This increase led to higher forecasted monthly rates than in the previous month's projections. However, the July 2024 rate remains lower than the 4.9% recorded in July 2023. The unemployment rate is expected to be slightly below the national target range of 4.4% to 4.7%.

## Inflation

Overall inflation eased further down in September to 1.94 percent, the lowest rate since May 2020, when it was at 1.57 percent. This decline, following a 3.34 percent inflation rate in August 2024, leads to lower monthly year-on-year forecast values and brings the average for 2024 to 3.34 percent - within the range of Government's target range of 2-4%.

The actual year-on-year growth rate of employment in the AFF sector rose to 10.41%, a sharp improvement from the negative values recorded in previous months. This rate is also significantly higher than the -17.65% observed in July 2023. However, in terms of actual employment levels, employment in agriculture decreased from June to July 2024. The forecast continues to indicate a decline in employment in the AFF sector.

Meanwhile, despite the industry sector's y-o-y employment growth rate declining to -0.13% in July, the forecast remains positive for the succeeding months.

### Quarter-on-Quarter Percentage Change, Q1 '24 to Q1 '25.

	2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3 <sup>F</sup>	2024 Q4 <sup>F</sup>	2025 Q1 <sup>F</sup>
<b>Gross Domestic Product</b>	<b>1.10</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>2.31↑</b>	<b>2.49↓</b>	<b>0.42↓</b>
Private Consumption	(0.20)	(0.10)	3.77↓	1.60↓	1.65↑
Government Expenditure	2.80	2.60	8.38↑	(3.51)↓	1.97↓
Gross Capital Formation	5.00	0.60	1.40↑	4.74↓	2.29↓
Exports of Goods and Services	(0.10)	(1.30)	5.11↑	(1.86)↓	1.18↑
Imports Goods and Services	6.90	(1.70)	7.61↓	(4.05)↓	8.75↑
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	(0.60)	(1.60)	0.20↓	(0.03)↑	(0.06)↑
Industry	2.50	1.50	4.47↑	0.66↑	1.40↓
Services	0.70	0.30	1.57↓	3.70↓	0.01↑

Note: Arrows indicate a rise or fall from the previous month's forecast

### Estimated Month-on-Month Percentage Change of National Accounts

	2024 May	2024 Jun	2024 Jul <sup>F</sup>	2024 Aug <sup>F</sup>	2024 Sep <sup>F</sup>	2024 Oct <sup>F</sup>	2024 Nov <sup>F</sup>	2024 Dec <sup>F</sup>	2024 Jan <sup>F</sup>	2025 Feb <sup>F</sup>	2025 Mar <sup>F</sup>	2025 Apr <sup>F</sup>
<b>Gross Domestic Product</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>1.19</b>	<b>1.15↑</b>	<b>0.80↓</b>	<b>1.23↓</b>	<b>0.51↓</b>	<b>(0.03)↓</b>	<b>(0.64)↑</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>1.59</b>	<b>(0.29)↓</b>
Private Consumption	(0.13)	1.01	1.94	1.52↓	0.98↓	0.14	0.30	0.29↓	1.50↑	(0.02)	(0.38)	(0.64)↓
Government Expenditure	4.92	2.13	5.56	(1.42)↑	(1.17)↓	(2.33)↑	(0.27)↓	0.69↓	0.49↓	(0.08)	3.45	(4.16)↓
Gross Capital Formation	(6.11)	(4.55)	3.33	2.96↓	2.77	0.87↓	1.28↑	0.43↑	(1.86)↓	2.95	4.43	2.62↑
Exports of Goods and Services	(3.53)	(0.15)	5.80	2.12	(0.22)↓	(1.05)↓	(1.05)↓	(2.02)↓	1.93↑	0.32	2.30	(0.53)↓
Imports Goods and Services	(5.78)	(0.78)	8.81	2.06↓	0.29↓	(4.50)↓	(0.70)↓	0.18↓	8.06↑	0.82	0.60	(0.76)↓
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	3.59	0.46	(0.80)	0.25↑	(1.12)↓	0.71↑	(0.23)	0.26↓	(2.04)↑	1.25↓	3.24	(3.72)↓
Industry	(0.63)	(0.01)	2.73	1.90↑	0.51↑	(0.22)↑	(0.15)	0.07↓	(0.15)↓	1.33	2.01	(1.08)↓
Services	0.01	0.03	0.72	0.91	1.19↓	2.00↓	0.91↓	(0.11)↓	(0.70)↑	0.14	1.18	0.51↑

Note: Based on Seasonally Adjusted Data published by PSA.; <sup>F</sup> – forecast values  
Negative values are shown in parentheses ( ).

Data Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, and other Philippine Government websites.

## Actual and Forecasted Year-on-Year Percent Change of the Philippine Monthly Indicators

	2024 May	2024 Jun	2024 Jul	2024 Aug <sup>F</sup>	2024 Sep <sup>F</sup>	2024 Oct <sup>F</sup>	2024 Nov <sup>F</sup>	2024 Dec <sup>F</sup>	2024 Jan <sup>F</sup>	2025 Feb <sup>F</sup>	2025 Mar <sup>F</sup>	2025 Apr <sup>F</sup>
<b>1. Monetary and Financial Landscape</b>												
M3 (Money Supply) ↓	6.48	6.58	7.21	7.30	7.34	7.06	7.23	6.00	6.92	7.31	7.20	7.65
91-day Tbill Rate(%)*	5.74	5.67	5.73	5.91 <sup>A</sup>	4.46 <sup>↑</sup>	5.03	5.17	5.07	5.14	5.09	5.62 <sup>↓</sup>	5.56
10 Yr Govt Bond(%)*	6.83	6.75	6.21	6.29 <sup>↑</sup>	6.36 <sup>↑</sup>	6.72 <sup>↑</sup>	7.10 <sup>↑</sup>	6.56 <sup>↓</sup>	6.20 <sup>↑</sup>	6.22 <sup>↓</sup>	6.51 <sup>↓</sup>	6.76
Peso-Dollar Exchange Rate, Php* ↓	58.62	58.87	58.65	57.48 <sup>↑</sup>	58.85	58.29	56.80	57.15	57.30	57.62	57.41	57.62
<b>2. Government and Public Finance**</b>												
National Government Cash Operations: Tax Revenue ↑	3.35	3.37	15.46	9.77 <sup>A</sup>	10.66	(2.50)	10.15	8.44	(0.45)	5.15	15.72	0.62
NGCO: Non-Tax Revenue ↑	98.07	81.36	(13.09)	251.85 <sup>A</sup>	30.09	(1.15)	(53.53)	7.31	1.06	35.14	(15.91)	(5.81)
NGCO: Expenditures	22.24	2.62	5.81	(0.68) <sup>A</sup>	8.58 <sup>↓</sup>	11.04	15.01	13.89 <sup>↓</sup>	10.79	9.50	15.11	0.78
NGCO: External Financing	1,104.90	(47.81)	(68.59)	(327.41) <sup>A</sup>	(270.20)	(29.84) <sup>↓</sup>	(265.04) <sup>↑</sup>	(17.98) <sup>↓</sup>	(168.82) <sup>↑</sup>	377.86 <sup>↓</sup>	83.45 <sup>↓</sup>	(16.39)
NGCO: Domestic Financing ↓	(0.01)	(7.95)	63.55	42.56 <sup>A</sup>	62.44	20.73	(31.10)	499.93 <sup>↑</sup>	87.56	(39.30)	108.34	(6.38)
<b>3. Labor Market</b>												
Unemployment Rate(%)* ↑	4.13	3.12	4.74	3.81	4.11	3.74	3.61	3.52	4.13	3.94 <sup>↓</sup>	4.07 <sup>↓</sup>	4.54
Employment Volume: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	(13.31)	(8.58)	10.41	(12.56) <sup>↓</sup>	(6.05) <sup>↓</sup>	(6.37) <sup>↑</sup>	(15.65) <sup>↓</sup>	(13.60) <sup>↓</sup>	(4.97) <sup>↑</sup>	(6.79) <sup>↑</sup>	(3.18) <sup>↓</sup>	(2.81)
Employment Volume: Industry	14.59	14.94	(0.13)	2.83 <sup>↓</sup>	6.80 <sup>↓</sup>	6.09 <sup>↓</sup>	12.54 <sup>↓</sup>	0.80 <sup>↑</sup>	3.64 <sup>↑</sup>	0.73 <sup>↑</sup>	3.90 <sup>↑</sup>	1.40
Employment Volume: Service ↓	3.44	3.93	8.21	8.13	4.16	4.06	7.04	6.32	8.53	5.49	3.68	5.03
Employment Volume: Public Administration ↑	9.66	(11.29)	14.65	6.03	4.95	3.05	11.26	4.90	8.27	13.16	1.37	9.04
Employment Volume: Education ↑	14.15	(4.51)	5.00	(3.92)	0.18	1.59	0.80	(2.47)	2.26	(0.20)	(3.82)	1.16
Employment Volume: Health ↑	(4.26)	(4.77)	(3.80)	(12.95)	1.12	5.17	11.48	17.30	0.50	0.38	3.58	2.53
<b>4. Consumer and Household Sector</b>												
Loans Outstanding for Household Consumption <sup>↑</sup>	23.61	23.29	22.57	21.15	20.57	20.23	20.07	19.79	18.64	18.37	18.16	17.53
Personal Remittances <sup>↑</sup>	3.68	2.55	3.22	1.83 <sup>↓</sup>	0.42 <sup>↓</sup>	0.99 <sup>↓</sup>	1.59	(0.20)	(0.06)	1.32	2.82	2.44
Cash Remittances ↓	3.60	2.46	3.11	1.44	1.02	1.17	0.43	0.27	0.86	1.15	1.67	0.87
Consumer Price Index ↓	3.89	3.72	4.37	3.35 <sup>A</sup>	1.94 <sup>A</sup>	2.80	2.99	2.96	3.21	2.86	2.97	3.10
<b>5. Manufacturing and Industry</b>												
Volume Price Index: Manufacturing <sup>↑</sup>	3.75	3.56	5.25	9.66	8.44	13.50	10.75	11.61	12.43	10.50	12.22	6.34
VoPI: Manufacture of Transport Equipment <sup>↑</sup>	(3.85)	(8.13)	0.41	4.06	3.77	5.58	1.30	12.57	10.57	11.94	15.71	(5.62)
VoPI: Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment <sup>↑</sup>	24.98	17.06	28.17	14.41	7.25	7.69	9.61	18.83	17.98	2.11	1.63	(6.81)
Net Sales Volume Index (VoNSI) (2018 = 100) ↑	1.21	2.53	4.79	(0.83)	(2.87)	(2.33)	2.12	0.98	1.26	0.76	3.08	(0.93)
VoNSI_FOOD (2018 = 100)	(1.69)	3.67	4.97	3.34	(0.29)	0.65	3.34	3.66	2.84	2.07	10.48	(1.75)
VoNSI_BEV (2018 = 100)	14.01	5.44	12.67	7.77	3.77	8.54	5.89	10.70	5.95	12.24	8.81	(3.73)
Average Capacity Utilization Rate <sup>↑</sup>	2.86	2.70	2.73	1.50	1.01 <sup>↓</sup>	1.89	2.06	2.22	3.11	3.18	2.99	0.55
<b>6. Trade Volume</b>												
Total Exports of Goods (Trade Volume) ↑	17.81	(0.15)	16.73	7.61	(5.29)	(7.30)	(16.69)	16.08	0.59	(11.65)	17.87	(12.81)
Exp: Electrical machinery and equipment	(0.81)	(12.73)	13.12	19.88	3.08	19.12	3.27	8.71	5.46	6.33	19.32	(2.27)
Exp: Nuclear reactors, boilers and machinery	43.33	4.45	12.48	2.27	2.07	(22.40)	7.05	42.92	9.73	11.06	12.08	(5.12)
Exp: Mineral Products	17.91	1.97	16.44	(3.81)	(7.81)	(27.59)	(31.17)	21.17	21.96	(17.21)	18.51	(15.51)
Total Imports of Goods (Trade Volume) ↑	24.91	(3.96)	12.45	7.99	19.58	0.69 <sup>↓</sup>	3.05	14.06	16.06	6.56	23.64	2.17
Imp: Food and Beverages	62.77	6.46	13.14	7.25	22.16	15.86	5.30	(2.04)	2.22	6.22	1.55	(13.38)
Imp: Nuclear reactors, boilers, and machinery	0.29	0.95	23.33	19.29	19.52	10.74	14.62	23.52	16.22	6.43	31.37	(2.57)
Imp: Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof	43.57	44.21	44.39	16.99	13.41	4.73	4.95	18.84	2.72	(0.43)	22.32	(14.91)
Imp: Transport Equipment	(36.34)	(29.84)	(8.02)	(4.47)	(3.85)	(24.04)	(3.24)	(0.87)	(6.69)	(11.33)	11.61	10.53
Imp: Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation	26.40	(1.80)	(0.07)	(0.15)	14.40	(8.77)	(7.93)	10.27	15.44	6.70	7.43	1.97
<b>7. Tourism and Transportation</b>												
Tourist Visitor Arrivals <sup>↓</sup>	13.95	0.35	0.02	6.07 <sup>A</sup>	5.81 <sup>A</sup>	23.50	21.62	11.97	6.27	4.22	9.16	(0.09)
Domestic Cargo: Outgoing ↑	13.25	1.64	12.52	112.75 <sup>A</sup>	9.83	3.11	3.38 <sup>↓</sup>	10.20 <sup>↓</sup>	10.18	(0.09)	12.06	1.02
Domestic Cargo: Incoming <sup>↓</sup>	(2.92)	(3.85)	50.58	28.51 <sup>A</sup>	(21.16)	(31.34)	(21.20)	(5.36)	16.51	5.76	7.97	2.51
International Cargo: Outgoing <sup>↑</sup>	(3.69)	3.65	23.33	(100.00) <sup>A</sup>	(1.73) <sup>↓</sup>	8.03 <sup>↓</sup>	11.47	6.78	3.80	(1.31)	(0.61)	(0.19)
International Cargo: Incoming <sup>↑</sup>	48.31	21.48	35.39	44.84 <sup>A</sup>	2.98	13.01	6.49	(0.35)	1.38	5.68	(5.22)	(1.78)
Domestic Aircraft Traffic <sup>↓</sup>	9.61	10.65	3.82	7.41 <sup>A</sup>	(1.50) <sup>↑</sup>	(3.33)	9.30	13.84	16.02	28.33	37.60	(2.09)
International Aircraft Traffic <sup>↓</sup>	12.29	16.11	12.08	10.06 <sup>A</sup>	(1.32)	(0.33)	4.69	8.38	6.90	5.41	8.20	(1.37)
<b>8. Loans (By Sector)</b>												
Loans Outstanding for AFF Sector <sup>↓</sup>	16.78	14.48	8.32	10.91	6.86 <sup>↑</sup>	4.02 <sup>↑</sup>	(0.23)	(1.75)	(4.11)	(5.80)	(6.26)	(3.47)
Loans Outstanding for Industry Sector <sup>↑</sup>	10.68	9.08	7.18	8.97	9.44	8.06	7.04	7.46	8.21	6.75	6.26	7.40
Loans Outstanding for Wholesale Trade <sup>↑</sup>	11.03	9.55	6.54	8.73	9.59	9.40	10.67	11.35	12.39	12.15	11.54	10.68
Loans Outstanding for Real Estate <sup>↑</sup>	13.05	12.12	11.83	12.21	13.07	12.17	10.91	11.63	12.04	12.25	12.38	12.46
Loans Outstanding for Service Sector <sup>↑</sup>	7.53	8.14	9.90	8.90	8.24	7.46	8.56	8.14	8.20	7.91	6.86	6.20
<b>9. Others</b>												
System Peak Demand per Grid	12.01	9.71	4.87 <sup>F</sup>	4.91	6.04 <sup>↑</sup>	6.49 <sup>↑</sup>	4.96 <sup>↑</sup>	4.73 <sup>↓</sup>	1.32 <sup>↓</sup>	4.19 <sup>↓</sup>	7.73 <sup>↓</sup>	(2.29)
Building Permit	(6.41)	(7.35)	(2.36)	18.36	19.14 <sup>↓</sup>	16.58 <sup>↓</sup>	28.71 <sup>↓</sup>	23.98 <sup>↓</sup>	20.29 <sup>↑</sup>	10.48 <sup>↑</sup>	24.87 <sup>↑</sup>	4.17
Foreign Direct Investment Flow: Equity	(31.67)	(33.18)	(22.66)	31.84	30.45 <sup>↑</sup>	56.99 <sup>↑</sup>	190.55 <sup>↑</sup>	286.42 <sup>↑</sup>	(873.18) <sup>↓</sup>	(63.93) <sup>↓</sup>	(8.42) <sup>↓</sup>	88.24
Rice Stock <sup>↑</sup>	10.29	19.00	20.71	14.41 <sup>A</sup>	(0.05)	(4.62)	10.44	13.78	(4.61)	4.42	8.11	3.62
Corn Stock <sup>↓</sup>	6.28	(15.31)	(18.62)	(17.38) <sup>A</sup>	(4.13)	9.36 <sup>↑</sup>	13.77 <sup>↑</sup>	1.96	8.52	22.42	21.43	43.07
Farmgate Prices (Palay) ↓	29.62	19.03	21.99	5.42 <sup>A</sup>	6.19	4.63	3.90	2.29	(6.50)	(5.61)	(2.94)	0.73
Farmgate Prices (Corn) <sup>↑</sup>	(8.06)	2.59	(0.10) <sup>F</sup>	(3.76)	4.20 <sup>↓</sup>	5.98	10.24	19.49	6.66	10.25	6.27	(5.07)

Note: Most indicators are in % change with respect to previous year; \* – end of year actual value; <sup>F</sup> – forecast values, <sup>A</sup> – actual value (if listed under a month with <sup>F</sup>)  
 Negative values are shown in parentheses ( ).  
 Arrows indicate a rise or fall from the previous month's forecast

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