

STOCK MARKET	ASIAN MARKETS	WORLD MARKETS	PESO-DOLLAR RATES	ASIAN MONIES-US\$ RATE	WORLD CURRENCIES	DUBAI CRUDE OIL
PSEi OPEN: 6,351.70 HIGH: 6,351.70 LOW: 6,265.95 CLOSE: 6,315.93 VOL.: 0.566 B VAL(P): 18,047 B 63.33 PTS. 0.99% 30 DAYS TO JULY 29, 2022	JULY 29, 2022 JAPAN (NIKKEI 225) 27,801.64 ▼ -13.84 -0.05 HONG KONG (HANG SENG) 20,156.51 ▼ -466.17 -2.26 TAIWAN (WEIGHTED) 15,000.07 ▲ 108.17 0.73 THAILAND (SET INDEX)* 1,576.41 ▲ 23.23 1.50 S.KOREA (KSE COMPOSITE) 2,451.50 ▲ 16.23 0.67 SINGAPORE (STRAITS TIMES) 3,211.56 ▼ -9.09 -0.28 SYDNEY (ALL ORDINARIES) 6,945.20 ▲ 55.50 0.81 MALAYSIA (KLSE COMPOSITE) 1,492.23 ▲ 1.03 0.07 <small>* CLOSING PRICE AS OF JULY 27, 2022</small>	JULY 29, 2022 Dow Jones 32,845.130 ▲ 315.500 NASDAQ 12,390.688 ▲ 228.095 S&P 500 4,130.290 ▲ 57.860 FTSE 100 7,423.430 ▲ 78.180 Euro Stoxx50 3,662.500 ▲ 25.530	FX OPEN P55.750 HIGH P55.050 LOW P55.750 CLOSE P55.130 W.AVE. P55.322 VOL. 1,576.24 M SOURCE: BAP 69.00 CYS 30 DAYS TO JULY 29, 2022	JULY 29, 2022 LATEST BID (0900GMT) PREVIOUS JAPAN (YEN) 133.190 135.310 HONG KONG (HK DOLLAR) 7.850 7.850 TAIWAN (NT DOLLAR) 29.998 29.936 THAILAND (BAHT) 36.290 36.570 S. KOREA (WON) 1,302.970 1,301.390 SINGAPORE (DOLLAR) 1.380 1.381 INDONESIA (RUPIAH) 14,830 14,930 MALAYSIA (RINGGIT) 4.448 4.449	JULY 29, 2022 US\$/UK POUND 1.2166 ▲ 1.2172 US\$/EURO 1.0218 ▲ 1.0201 \$/AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR 0.6985 ▼ 0.6998 CANADA DOLLAR/US\$ 1.2793 ▼ 1.2798 SWISS FRANC/US\$ 0.9514 ▼ 0.9567	FUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MONTH OF DELIVERY \$107.24/BBL 114.80 107.00 100.40 93.20 86.00 \$2.24 30 DAYS TO JULY 29, 2022

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • JULY 29, 2022 (PSEi snapshot on S1/2; article on S2/2)

ALI	P25.250	MER	P340.000	SM	P36.600	SM	P775.500	CNVRG	P19.000	GLO	P2,062.000	BDO	P119.500	BPI	P93.000	ICT	P194.200	URC	P111.000
Value	P577,314,655	Value	P539,370,776	Value	P520,880,350	Value	P502,325,955	Value	P309,110,560	Value	P235,101,420	Value	P223,403,641	Value	P191,394,548	Value	P188,521,840	Value	P170,868,492
P0.250	▲ 1.000%	-P26.000	▼ -7.104%	-P0.100	▼ -0.272%	-P24.500	▼ -3.063%	-P0.700	▼ -3.553%	-P8.000	▼ -0.386%	P0.100	▲ 0.084%	P1.200	▲ 1.307%	P4.500	▲ 2.372%	P0.200	▲ 0.181%

Inflation likely quickened in July

By Keisha B. Ta-asan

INFLATION likely accelerated in July due to higher food prices and transport fares, but a cut in electricity rates and rollback in pump prices may have tempered the price pressures, according to analysts.

A *BusinessWorld* poll of 14 analysts yielded a median estimate of 6.2% for July inflation, well within the 5.6-6.4% forecast of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

This would also be faster than the 6.1% print seen in June and the 3.7% in July 2021, as well as exceed the BSP's 2-4% target band for the fourth straight month.

If realized, the July print would be the highest in 45 months or nearly 4 years since 6.9% in October 2018.

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) will release the July consumer price index (CPI) data on Friday.

"Inflation for the month was driven by the continued increase in food prices,

further transport fare hikes, and peso depreciation," the BSP said in a press release on Friday evening.

Prices of food have gone up in recent weeks, reflecting the impact of higher oil prices and the weaker peso against the US dollar.

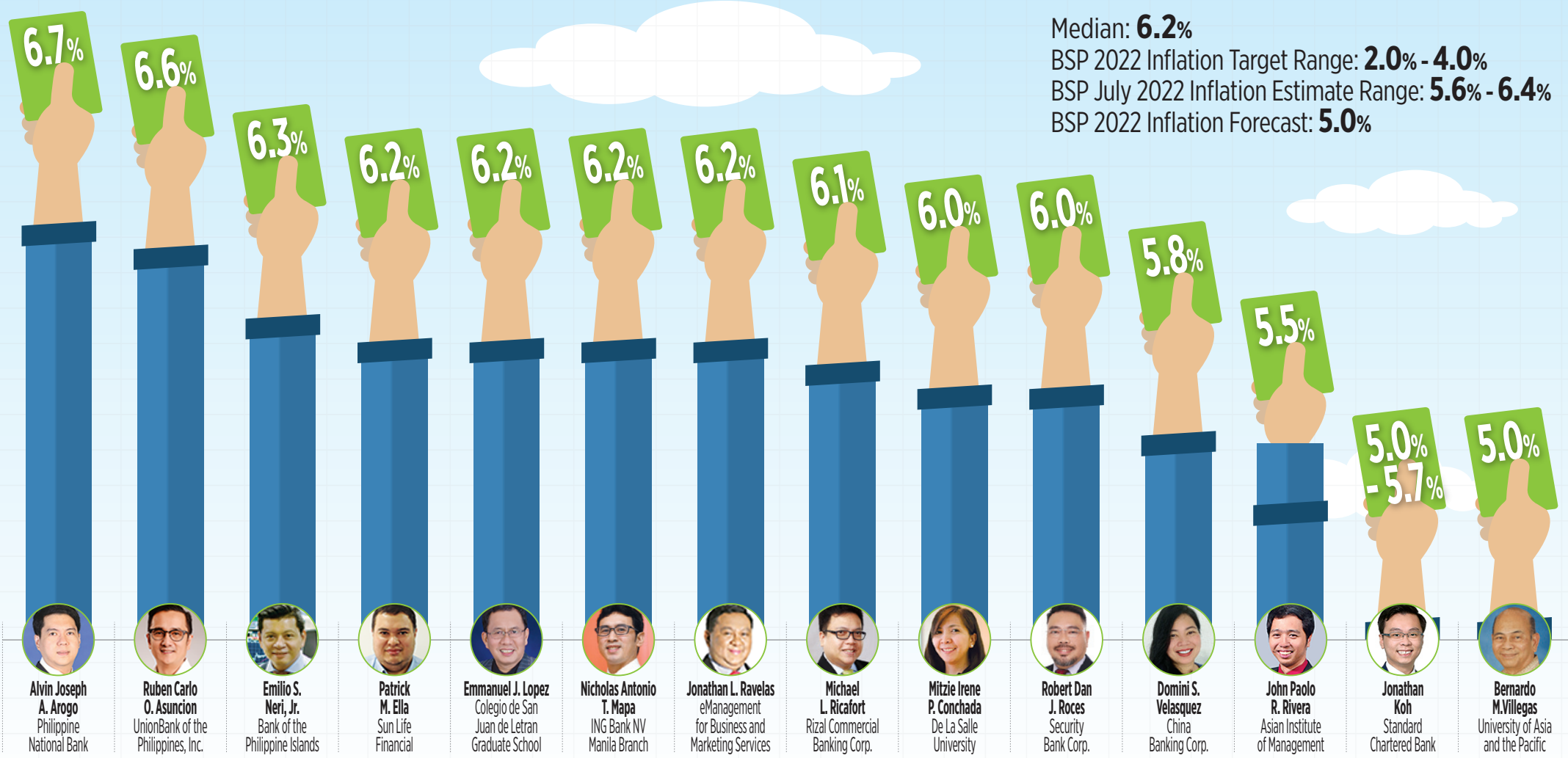
"Meanwhile, lower oil prices, reduction in electricity rates in Meralco-ser-

vised areas, and lower pork prices are likely to temper in part said price pressures," the BSP said.

Customers of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) saw lower electricity bills in July after the overall rate went down by P0.7067 to P9.7545 per kilowatt-hour (kWh).

Inflation, S1/8

ANALYSTS' JULY 2022 INFLATION RATE ESTIMATES



Renewable energy
 Michael G. Tan (L), president and chief operating officer of Asia Brewery, Inc. (ABI) and Bernd Krukenberg (R), president and chief operating officer of Shell Energy Philippines, Inc. signed a contract for the supply of 15 megawatts of renewable energy for ABI's plants in Luzon on July 26. The renewable energy will be generated from solar, geothermal and hydro sources.

Medalla says economy may have expanded by as much as 9% in Q2

THE Philippine economy likely grew by as much as 9% in the second quarter, according to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Governor Felipe M. Medalla.

However, Mr. Medalla told reporters on Friday that he expects gross domestic product (GDP) growth to be "slower" in the second half of 2022.

Asked if GDP may have expanded by double digits in the April to June period, he said: "I don't think so, maybe around 9%, 8%."

Mr. Medalla said his personal GDP growth projection this year is 7%, the midpoint

of the government's 6.5% to 7.5% target.

Economic activity picked up in the second quarter, as most parts of the country were under the most lenient alert level.

Mr. Medalla said consumption growth and capital formation have been expanding rapidly this year.

In the first quarter, household consumption grew by 10.1% year on year, higher than the 7.5% in the previous quarter and a reversal of the 4.8% decline in the first three months of 2021. This accounted for about three-fourths of the country's economic output and added 7.5 percentage points

to the 8.3% GDP growth in the first quarter.

Capital formation, the investment component of the economy, jumped by 20% in the first three months of 2022, reversing the 13.9% decline last year.

However, the Philippine outlook for 2023 may be clouded by the expected slowdown in the global economy.

"*Ang mahirap* (It's difficult to see) what happens next year because if markets are all growing more slowly *saan mang-gagaling 'yung* growth (where will growth come from)," Mr. Medalla said.

Medalla, S1/8

Ex-president Ramos passes away at 94

FORMER Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos, who helped topple the late dictator Ferdinand E. Marcos' regime as one of his military generals, has died. He was 94.

The death of Mr. Ramos, who was president from 1992 to 1998, was confirmed by Press Secretary Rose Beatrix Cruz-Angeles.

"It is with great sorrow that we learn of the passing of former President Fidel V. Ramos. He leaves behind a colorful legacy and a secure place in history for his participation in the great changes of our country, both as military officer and chief executive," she said in a statement.

Read full story on S1/8.



BSP may still cut banks' reserve requirement ratio before yearend

THE Philippine central bank may still lower the banks' reserve requirement ratio (RRR) before the end of the year.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Governor Felipe M. Medalla on Friday said they are still deciding if the RRR will be cut right before the rule that allowed bank lending to small businesses to be considered as

compliance to the requirement expires in December.

"We are still deciding if right before or simultaneous. We don't necessarily want to tighten. On the other hand, one solution is to extend the reserve eligibility and do nothing," he told reporters.

The BSP earlier committed to bringing down the RRR of big banks to single digits by 2023.

During the pandemic, the BSP allowed lenders to count their lending to micro, small, and medium enterprises and pandemic-hit large enterprises as part of banks' alternative compliance with the RR against deposit liabilities and deposit substitutes until the end of 2022.

The BSP also reduced the RRR for banks in March 2020 to cushion

the impact of the pandemic on the economy.

The RRR for big banks is currently at 12%, one of the highest in the region. Reserve requirements for thrift and rural lenders are at 3% and 2%, respectively

"We will have a cut of RR that offsets the (cessation) of the reserve eligibility. So people should not read the RR cut as a monetary

policy, it's just a compensation for getting rid of a relief," Mr. Medalla said.

A cut in RRR is a move intended to be an operational adjustment to facilitate the BSP's shift to market-based instruments for managing liquidity in the financial system, particularly the term deposit facility and the BSP securities.

Ratio, S1/8



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