

STOCK MARKET	ASIAN MARKETS	WORLD MARKETS	PESO-DOLLAR RATES	ASIAN MONIES-US\$ RATE	WORLD CURRENCIES	DUBAI CRUDE OIL
<b>PSEi</b> OPEN: 6,424.19 HIGH: 6,466.85 LOW: 6,421.05 CLOSE: 6,466.85 VOL: 0.735 B VAL(P): 5.248 B ▲ 1.06% 30 DAYS TO JULY 12, 2023	<b>JULY 12, 2023</b> JAPAN (NIKKEI 225) 31,943.93 ▼ -259.64 -0.81 HONG KONG (HANG SENG) 18,860.95 ▲ 201.12 1.08 TAIWAN (WEIGHTED) 16,962.03 ▲ 63.12 0.37 THAILAND (SET INDEX) 1,490.01 ▼ -6.95 -0.46 S.KOREA (KSE COMPOSITE) 2,574.72 ▲ 12.23 0.48 SINGAPORE (STRAITS TIMES) 3,178.46 ▲ 14.62 0.46 SYDNEY (ALL ORDINARIES) 7,135.70 ▲ 26.80 0.38 MALAYSIA (KLSE COMPOSITE) 1,398.06 ▲ 6.60 0.47	<b>JULY 11, 2023</b> Dow Jones 34,261.420 ▲ 317.020 NASDAQ 13,760.699 ▲ 75.218 S&P 500 4,439.260 ▲ 29.730 FTSE 100 7,282.520 ▲ 8.730 Euro Stoxx50 3,882.150 ▲ 16.860	<b>FX</b> OPEN P55.180 HIGH P54.930 LOW P55.180 CLOSE P54.930 W.AVE. P55.045 VOL. \$1,362.60 M SOURCE: BAP ▲ 32.00 CTVS 30 DAYS TO JULY 12, 2023	<b>JULY 12, 2023 LATEST BID (0900GMT)</b> JAPAN (YEN) 139.610 ▲ 140.430 HONG KONG (HK DOLLAR) 7.829 ▼ 7.828 TAIWAN (NT DOLLAR) 31.264 ▲ 31.291 THAILAND (BAHT) 34.910 ▼ 34.820 S. KOREA (WON) 1,289.400 ▲ 1,293.570 SINGAPORE (DOLLAR) 1.338 ▲ 1.342 INDONESIA (RUPIAH) 15,075 ▲ 15,135 MALAYSIA (RINGGIT) 4.648 ▲ 4.658	<b>JULY 12, 2023</b> US\$/UK POUND 1.2930 ▲ 1.2894 US\$/EURO 1.1024 ▲ 1.0998 US\$/AUST DOLLAR 0.6691 ▲ 0.6665 CANADA DOLLAR/US\$ 1.3207 ▼ 1.3274 SWISS FRANC/US\$ 0.8779 ▼ 0.8822	<b>FUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MONTH OF DELIVERY</b> \$78.80/BBL ▲ \$0.55 30 DAYS TO JULY 11, 2023

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • JULY 12, 2023 (PSEi snapshot on S1/8; article on S2/2)

BDO P142.000 Value P625,028,967 P6.000 ▲ 4.412%	SMPH P32.750 Value P441,003,455 P0.400 ▲ 1.236%	BPI P110.900 Value P268,940,244 P1.900 ▲ 1.743%	EMI P21.050 Value P255,790,925 P0.000 — 0.000%	ICT P202.400 Value P222,751,872 P2.200 ▲ 1.099%	ALI P24.750 Value P199,701,270 P0.050 ▲ 0.202%	MPI P4.890 Value P168,131,020 -P0.020 ▼ -0.407%	JFC P243.600 Value P131,154,284 P7.600 ▲ 3.220%	AC P613.500 Value P121,083,335 P10.000 ▲ 1.657%	URC P132.900 Value P115,527,816 -P1.100 ▼ -0.821%
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## Household consumption seen slowing

By Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson Reporter

THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY may not meet the government's 6-7% growth target this year, as household consumption is likely to further weaken despite slower inflation, analysts said.

Pantheon Macroeconomics Chief Emerging Asia Economist Miguel Chanco gave a Philippine gross domestic product (GDP)

growth forecast of 5.5% for this year, as he expects "much weaker" prints in the second half.

"We're not at all optimistic about the consumption picture, despite the continued easing in inflation. While this should help at the margins, household spending will face stronger and more fundamental pressures," he said in an e-mail.

Ateneo de Manila University economics professor Leonardo A. Lanza said consumer spending likely further slowed in the sec-

ond quarter as pent-up demand continues to fade.

"I expect growth to further decline in the second quarter and even in the second half of the year. As the base of the GDP has already increased, the effect on the country of the lower restrictions from the pandemic will start to wane," he said in an e-mail.

In the first quarter, Philippine GDP expanded by 6.4%, slower than the revised 7.1% in the previous quarter, and the 8% in the first quarter of 2022, as elevated

inflation and rising interest rates dampened consumer spending.

On a seasonally adjusted quarter-on-quarter basis, GDP growth slowed to 1.1% from the 2% growth in the previous quarter.

Household final consumption, which contributes around three-fourths to GDP, grew by 6.3% in the January-to-March period. This was slower than the 7% growth in the previous quarter, and 10% a year earlier.

Inflation has been on a downward trend since the peak of 8.7%

in January. In June, inflation slowed to 5.4%, bringing the six-month average to 7.2%.

ING Bank N.V. Manila Senior Economist Nicholas Antonio T. Mapa said first-quarter growth could have been the peak for the year, as households are now shifting to a "more normal consumption and savings behavior."

In the previous quarters, he noted growth was driven by "revenge spending."

"Although there are some hopes for further acceleration

in consumption due to slowing inflation, households are likely already facing fatigue from the frenetic pace of spending post lockdowns," Mr. Mapa said in an e-mail.

"The economic growth story cannot be driven by consumption alone and unless we see growth broaden to other sectors such as capital formation, we will likely see growth slip below our pre-COVID," he added.

Consumption, S1/5

## 7 out of 10 Filipinos worry over rising grocery prices — Kantar

ALMOST SEVEN out of 10 Filipinos are more worried about rising grocery prices than the possibility of another pandemic, a report by marketing data and analytics company Kantar showed.

"When we asked our respondents what concerns them most, top of the list and on top of their minds would be rising grocery prices... They're even more scared of the rising grocery prices over another pandemic crisis from happening again," Laurice Padlan-Obana, Kantar Philippines Worldpanel Division Consumer and Shopper Insight director, said during a virtual briefing on Wednesday.

Kantar's Shopperscope 2023 report showed that 67% or seven out of 10 Filipinos are more con-

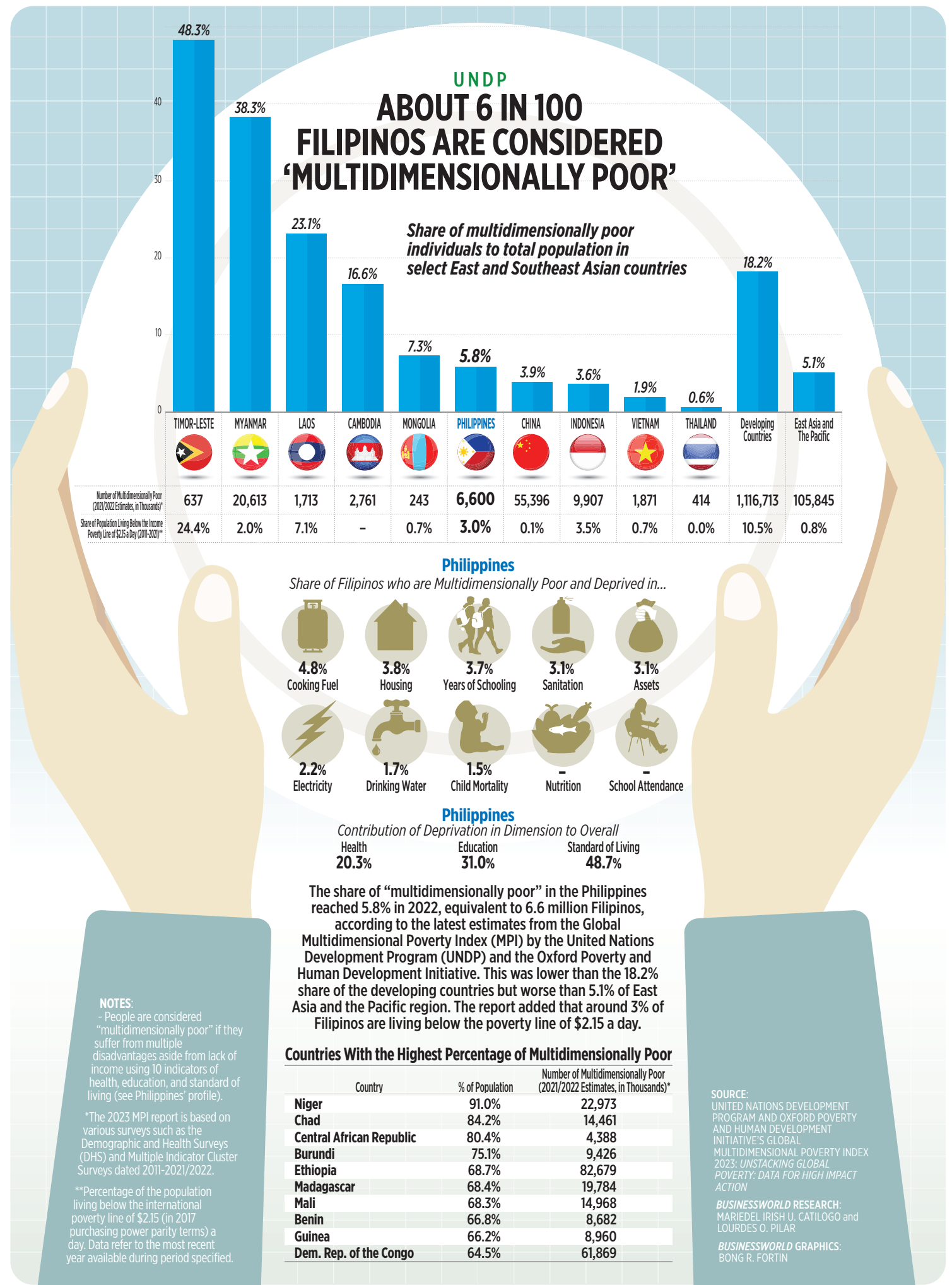
cerned with rising grocery prices, while 50% were worried about another pandemic and 44% were concerned over higher fuel costs.

The survey used for the Kantar report was conducted from February to April and covered 2,000 households across the Philippines.

Inflation peaked at 8.7% in January, as prices of food and fuel continued to surge. Since then, the consumer price index slowed to 8.6% in February, 7.6% in March and 6.6% in April.

Kantar said Filipino consumers were also concerned over the impact of climate change (39%), possible fuel shortages (34%), physical and mental health of self and others (30%), future financial security

Grocery, S1/5



## \$88-M investments from Marcos' trips to materialize this year

AROUND \$88 million (around P4.83 billion) in investment pledges secured during President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.'s foreign trips are expected to materialize this year, according to Trade Secretary Alfredo E. Pascual.

"The number that we expect to materialize in 2023 will total around \$88 million — that is still small. That is only up to June this year and we expect some more to ripen and eventually add to the inflow of investments," Mr. Pascual said at a Palace briefing, noting

that six projects were already registered with the investment promotion agencies.

The government earlier said the president's foreign trips had generated \$66.93 billion or P3.48 trillion worth of investment pledges.

Mr. Pascual assured that the Department of Trade and Industry has mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the progress of investment leads during Mr. Marcos' 13 foreign trips in his first year in office.

Investments, S1/9

## BSP eyes rules to prepare banks for 'disruptive' events

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is proposing new guidelines to strengthen the operational resilience of financial institutions in case of disruptive events such as natural disasters and cyberattacks.

In a draft circular posted on its website, the BSP said the new rules would boost financial institutions' ability to manage and mitigate the impact of shocks or disruptions, particularly on their critical operations.

The circular would require all BSP-supervised financial institutions (BSFIs) to prepare an operational resilience framework on a solo and group-wide basis.

Foreign bank branches may adopt the relevant policies of

their head offices' operational resilience framework.

"The critical role of BSFIs in the smooth functioning of the real economy, amidst the increasing digitalization and evolving operational disruptions or hazards that could disrupt the normal operations of the financial system underscore the growing importance of operational resilience," the BSP said.

"Cognizant that these disruptive events, such as pandemic, natural disasters and/or cyberattacks will happen, the BSFI's ability to respond to and recover from these disruptions will lessen the impact on its viability and delivery of critical operations and related services."

BSP, S1/9

## PHL wholesale price growth picks up in May

GROWTH in wholesale prices of general goods hit a three-month high in May due to a faster uptick in food, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) said on Wednesday.

Preliminary PSA data indicated the general wholesale price index (GWPI) rose by 5% year on

year in May, quicker than 4.3% in April and the fastest since 6.8% in February 2023.

However, the latest print was slower than the 7.9% growth in May 2022.

Year to date the national GWPI averaged 5.5%, slower

than the 6.8% average growth a year ago.

The PSA attributed the uptick in May to faster price growth in the heavily weighted food (10.4% from 9.8% in April), and beverages and tobacco (7.3% from 5.7%) indices.

Other commodity groups that increased during the month were manufactured goods classified chiefly by materials (5.8% from 5.2%); machinery and transport equipment (1.5% from 1%); and miscellaneous manufactured articles (5.1% from 3.3%).

Price, S1/9