

usinessVorlo





PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 (PSEi snapshot on S1/4; article on S2/2)

BDO	P159.500	SECB	P78.200	URC	P90.700	ALI	P35.950	GTCAP	P705.000	AREIT	P35.450	SM	P920.000	SMPH	P30.550	BPI	P125.000	ICT	P402.000
Value	P865,720,310	Value	P476,083,742	Value	P448,178,814	Value	P401,637,380	Value	P380,851,255	Value	P349,365,175	Value	P296,355,785	Value	P265,109,665	Value	P247,506,912	Value	P242,591,234
P2.500	▲ 1.592 %	P6.400	▲ 8.914 %	P0.650	▲ 0.722%	P0.700	1.986 %	P25.000	3.676 %	-P0.500	▼ -1.391%	P11.500	▲ 1.266 %	P0.450	1.495 %	-P1.000	▼ -0.794%	P2.000	▲ 0.500%

CEO optimism remains high—survey

Banks' NPL ratio rises to over two-year high

PHILIPPINE BANKS' asset quality worsened in July as the industry's gross nonperforming loan (NPL) ratio rose to its highest in over two years.

Preliminary data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) showed the banking industry's gross NPL ratio went up to 3.58% in July from 3.51% in June and 3.43% a year ago.

This was the highest bad loan ratio in 25 months or since 3.6% in June 2022.

Data from the BSP showed that soured loans increased by 1.13% to P508.11 billion as of end-July from P502.42 billion a month earlier. Year on year, bad loans jumped by 15.46% from P440.07 billion.

Loans are considered nonperforming once they remain unpaid for at least 90 days after the due date. These are deemed as risk assets since borrowers are unlikely to pay.

The loan portfolio of Philippine banks slid by 0.78% to P14.21 trillion as of end-July from P14.32 trillion at end-June. However, it increased by 10.79% from P12.82 trillion a year ago.

Past due loans rose by 1.88% to P625.71 billion in July from P614.17 billion a month earlier. Year on year, it increased by 18.37% from P528.62 billion.

This brought the past due ratio to 4.4% in July, higher than 4.29% in June and 4.12% a year ago.

On the other hand, restructured loans stood at P291.08 billion in July, down by 0.86% from P293.62 billion in June. Year on year, it fell by 4.47% from P304.71 billion a year ago.

Restructured loans accounted for 2.05% of the industry's total loan portfolio, steady from a month ago but lower than 2.38% in July 2023.

Banks' loan loss reserves inched down by 0.05% to P479.24 billion in July from P479.46 billion in June but rose by 6.44% from P450.24 billion a year ago.

This brought the loan loss reserve ratio to 3.37%, slightly higher than 3.35% last month but lower than 3.51% a year ago.

NPL, S1/5

Philippines is still most disaster-prone country for 16th straight year

THE PHILIPPINES remained the most disaster-prone country for the 16th straight year, as it continues to face extreme natural events like typhoons, earthquakes and droughts.

In the latest World Risk Index, the Philippines' risk score inched up to 46.91 this year from 46.86 last year.

A country's score is measured based on its exposure to disasters as well as vulnerability to its effects. A score of 100 means a country has a "very high risk" while zero suggests otherwise.

The World Risk Report, published by Germany-based Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft and the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict at Ruhr University Bochum (IFHV), assesses the disaster risk for 193 countries using 100 indicators.

The Philippines, which faces an average of 20 typhoons every year, has topped the World Risk Index since 2009.

"In 2024, the risk hotspots remain in the Americas and Asia,

hosting eight of the 10 countries with the highest risk scores. Over the long term, however, these hotspots will shift to countries with climate-sensitive exposure and high vulnerability," the report said.

Indonesia ranked second in the index with a score of 41.13, followed by India (40.96), Colombia (37.81) and Mexico (35.93). The rest of the top 10 included Myanmar (35.85), Mozambique (34.44), Russia (28.12), Bangladesh (27.73), and Pakistan (27.02).

Global disaster risks are also closely linked to poverty and inequality, the report said.

"This persistence often results from robust interactions between increasing vulnerability and damage caused by extreme events. Countries with climate-sensitive exposure and high to very high vulnerability are particularly at risk. These countries can expect more frequent and more intense extreme natural events and damage in the future," it said.

Disaster-prone, S1/5

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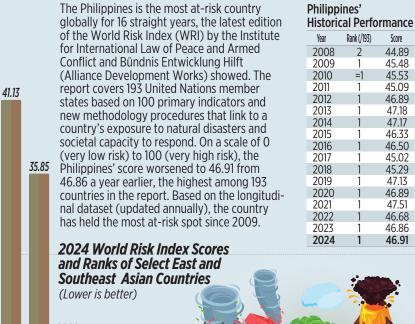
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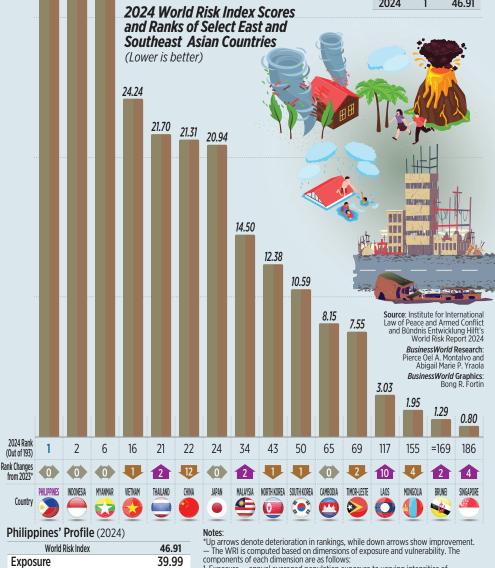
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World Risk Index 2024 PHILIPPINES STILL THE MOST AT-RISK COUNTRY FOR 16TH STRAIGHT YEAR





1. Exposure — annual averaged population exposure to varying intensities of earthquakes, tsunamis, coastal floodings, riverine floodings, cyclones, droughts, and Vulnerability Susceptibility 51.16 Sea level rise.

2. Vulnerability — includes susceptibility, lack of coping capacities, and lack of adaptive capacities as measured using dimensions of diversity influencing human vulnerability to natural disasters: social background, religion and worldview, ethnic background and nationality, sexual orientation, gender, physical and mental abilities, and age. Lack of Coping Capacities Lack of Adaptive Capacities 2024 Ran

High' Risk Countries			'Very Low' Risk Countries						
nk 93) Country	Rank Changes from 2023*	2024 Score (Out of 100)		1 Rank of 193)	Country	Rank Changes from 2023*	2024 Score (Out of 100)		
Philippines	₩0	46.91	19	93	Monaco	1	0.18		
Indonesia	₩0	41.13	1:	92	Andorra	1	0.28		
India	₩0	40.96	19	91	San Marino	₩0	0.35		
Colombia	1	37.81	1:	90	Luxembourg	1	0.61		
Mexico	1	<i>35.93</i>	1	89	São Tomé and Príncipe	1	0.67		

By Justine Irish D. Tabile Reporter

MAJORITY of chief executive officers (CEOs) in the Philippines are confident that their organizations will see revenue growth in the next 12 months, despite geopolitical uncertainties, a survey showed.

Results of the survey conducted by PwC Philippines in partnership with the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) showed that 85% of 168 CEOs are optimistic that their companies will post revenue growth in the next

The results of the survey, which ran from July 8 to Aug. 9, showed improved optimism compared with the 79% of 157 CEOs who said they were confident of topline growth last year.

Meanwhile, 86% of CEOs are confident of revenue growth in the next three years, slipping from 87% in the previous

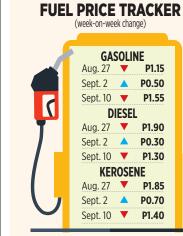
The survey also showed that 86% of the CEOs are confident about industry prospects for the next 12 months, higher than the 83% seen in the previous survey. This is the highest level of optimism since the pandemic. "What helped drive optimism among

our CEOs here in the Philippines is mainly our country's economic growth," said Karen Patricia A. Rogacion, deals and corporate partner at PwC, at a press briefing on Monday. She noted the Philippines recorded

faster economic growth despite geopolitical uncertainties, which have affected economies in the United States and Eu-"When the year started, at the global

feeling the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war as well as the impact of China's real estate crisis," she said.

CEO, S1/10



Sept. 10. 12:01 a.m. — Caltex Philippines

• Sept. 10, 6 a.m. — Petron Corp.; Phoenix Petroleum; Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp.; PTT Philippines Corp.; Seaoil Philippines, Inc.

• Sept. 10, 8:01 a.m. — Cleanfuel (Shaw Autogas, Inc.)

Celebrating our shared success

ROBINSONS Land Corp. (RLC) secured the title of Best Developer for the third consecutive year and garnering a total of 16 prestigious awards at the PropertyGuru Philippines Property Awards 2024. The accolades span design, development, and sustainability categories, including the Best Developer (Luzon) award and multiple honors for RLC Residences and Robinsons Offices. In photo with the RLC team are Jericho P. Go, senior vice-president (SVP) and general manager of Robinsons Offices, and John Richard B. Sotelo, SVP and general manager of RLC Residences and chief marketing officer of RLC.

Senate approves CREATE MORE bill on third and final reading

THE SENATE on Monday approved on third and final reading the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises to Maximize Opportunities for Reinvigorating the Economy (CREATE MORE) bill, which seeks to lower taxes on domestic and foreign companies to 20% from 25%.

Senators also approved on final reading a measure that raises the allocation for the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) to P30 billion from the current P10 billion up to 2031.

Twenty-three senators voted in favor of Senate Bill No. 2762 or the CREATE MORE bill.

Under the bill, large, registered business enterprises (RBEs) with a capital stock of over P20 billion will be granted value-added tax (VAT) zero-rating on local purchases made and VAT exemption on imports and duty exemptions on imports of capital equipment, raw materials, spare parts and accessories.

Export-oriented RBEs are also entitled to VAT zero-rating on essential services such as janitorial, security, financial consultancy, marketing and human resources, based on a copy of the bill.

The Senate's version of CRE-ATE MORE transfers the responsibility of processing VAT refund claims to the Department of Finance from the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) to cut delays.

"CREATE MORE offers enhance and targeted incentives to further drive investment and economic recovery in the country... To achieve this, the measure focuses on enhancing the tax incentives