

Aquilino Pimentel III et al. v. House of Representatives et al.; Bayan Muna et al. v. Marcos; ISAMBAYAN et al. v. House of Representatives

Secretary Ralph G. Recto

Secretary of Finance

April 2025

We are still recovering from the pandemic that gave us the hardest economic blow since post-World War II.



During the pandemic, the government had to borrow more money to address both health and economic needs. Borrowings soared by the end of 2022, the highest among all past administrations combined.



Source: Bureau of the Treasury

Against this backdrop, geopolitical tensions two hot wars, a trade war, and a looming cold war, as well as supply disruptions from the pandemic interrupt our recovery efforts.

Innovation in the funding source for the priority projects and programs of the President in the Unprogrammed Appropriations under the 2024 General Appropriations Act:

Excess Fund Balances of GOCCs

The Department of Finance was mandated to issue the guidelines to implement <u>Section XLIII Special</u> <u>Provision 1(d) of the 2024 GAA.</u>

TO FUND THE PHP 15.8 BILLION AVERAGE DAILY SPENDING IN 2024, THE DOF NEEDED TO:

COLLECT PHP 11.71 billion a day

BORROW

PHP 4.10 billion a day

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

and

Our Medium-Term Fiscal Program ensures that we mobilize and utilize our resources efficiently to gain the maximum benefit and high multiplier effects for the economy and the Filipinos.



Reduce debt-to-GDP ratio and deficit-to-GDP ratio gradually in a realistic manner

(Debt: from 60.1% in 2023 to 56.3% in 2028)

(Deficit: from 6.2% in 2023 to 3.7% in 2028) Create more and better jobs

Increase people's income



Reduce poverty rate to single-digit or 9% by 2028

Computation of PhilHealth's excess funds

"Fund balance of the GOCC from any remainder resulting from the review and reduction of their reserve funds to reasonable levels taking into account the disbursement from prior years."

The prescribed level of reserve funds is as follows:



PHP 463.7 Bn	Accumulated Net Income as of end-2023
PHP 280.6 Bn	Reserve requirement determined by the Average 2-Year Expenditure Levels
PHP 183.1 Bn	Fund Balance eligible for sweeping
PHP 89.9 Bn	Unutilized government subsidy, to be returned to the national government

No member contributions have been taken. Not a single centavo meant for their coverage was touched. PhilHealth's daily operations and benefit packages remain intact.

In fact, the transfer of PhilHealth's excess funds actually spurred its recent expansion of health benefits. Even as we took PHP 60 billion out of the PHP 89.9 billion excess government subsidies, PhilHealth is still left with PHP 498 billion of cash in its war chest as of last year.

This is more than enough to continue increasing its inpatient, outpatient, and special benefit packages over the next two years.

PhilHealth is NOT bankrupt. The Commission on Audit had never declared PhilHealth as bankrupt.

PhilHealth's accumulated net income has grown more than four times since 2019

PHILHEALTH Financial Performance 2016-2024 Amounts in PHP Millions

Particulars	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY2023 vs.	YoY
	(Actual)	(As of Q3)	Q3 20 24	Change							
Key Income Statement Data											
Total Income	109,661.19	113,299.11	140,831.26	154,566.76	158,107.99	195,889.36	231,782.27	258,689.80	187,086.05	-71,603.75	-27.68%
Premium Contributions	103,825.80	107,447.04	134,088.83	146,435.03	148,994.62	186,218.04	219,539.37	237,173.44	167,393.58	-69,779.86	-29.42%
Member's Contribution	52,928.02	57,478.07	74,339.26	77,069.86	85,569.19	105,979.25	139,474.92	158,367.82	139,558.35	-18,809.47	-11.88%
Gov't Subsidy	50,897.78	49,968.97	59,749.57	69,365.17	63,425.44	80,238.79	80,064.45	78,805.62	27,835.23*	-50,970.39	-64.68%
Investments	5,743.51	5,686.84	6,655.24	7,937.34	8,801.15	9,530.24	11,544.40	20,701.01	19,489.36	-1,211.65	-5.85%
Others	91.88	165.23	87.19	194.39	312.23	141.08	698.49	815.35	203.11	-612.24	-75.09%
Total Expenses	109,912.72	113,061.95	119,806.60	149,908.60	128,048.27	147,983.30	152,743.72	85,233.89	140,655.14	55,421.25	65.02%
Benefit Claims Expense	102,130.70	106,416.65	112,956.46	136,959.85	120,903.16	140,161.03	143,560.40	75,767.23	134,699.73	58,932.50	77.78%
of which Direct Benefit Claims	70,736.45	54,742.18	54,943.42	66,431.38	53,075.85	82,614.50	86,970.16	35,321.22	66,579.96	31,258.74	88.50%
Expense											
of which Indirect Benefit Claims	31,394.25	51,674.47	58,013.04	70,528.47	64,105.14	53,116.10	56,092.42	40,016.43	66,361.83	26,345.40	65.84%
Expense											
Personnel Services	5,583.26	4,528.48	4,356.56	4,548.87	4,807.80	4,277.37	4,972.58	5,348.57	3,435.46	-1,913.11	-35.77%
Other Operating Expenses	2,198.76	2,116.82	2,493.58	8,399.88	2,337.31	3,544.89	4,210.74	4,118.09	2,519.95	-1,598.14	-38.81%
Net Income Before Income Tax	-251.53	237.17	21,024.67	4,658.17	30,059.73	47,906.07	79,038.54	173,455.91	46,430.91	-127 ,025.00	-73.23%
Member's Equity (w/o ICL)	90,683.03	85,233.49	105,299.86	109,958.02	162,537.17	213,160.62	292,916.33	485,341.14	446,326.90	-39,014.24	-8.04%

Notes: *As of September 2024, no subsidy releases. These are accrued revenues. Kung hindi natin nasilip ang mga sobra-sobrang pondo ng PhilHealth, malamang hanggang ngayon ay nanatili itong natutulog.

Ang hakbang na ito ay nagtulak sa PhilHealth na mas palawakin at pagandahin ang kanilang serbisyo sa mamamayang Pilipino. This is the long term effect of this decisive policy.

As of December 19, 2024, the BTr has collected PHP 60 Billion of the PhilHealth Fund Balance

Uses of the Fund Balance are as follows:

PHP 27.45 Bn

Public Health Emergency Benefits and Allowances for Health Care and Non-Healthcare Workers during COVID-19

PHP 10.00 Bn

Medical Assistance to Indigent and Financially Incapacitated Patients

PHP 4.10 Bn

Procurement of various medical equipment for DOH hospitals, LGU hospitals, and Primary Care Facilities

PHP 3.37 Bn

Three (3) DOH health facilities

PHP 13.00 Bn

Government counterpart financing for foreign-assisted projects

PHP 1.69 Bn

Health Facilities Enhancement Program When we talk about the right to health, it is not solely about PhilHealth.

It is also about building more hospitals and healthcare facilities; enhancing their operations; and providing more medical assistance to indigent and financially incapacitated patients, which are the Department of Health's priority programs.

Favorable legal opinions were obtained from the following on the implementation of the Unprogrammed Appropriations provision:



We reaffirm the government's position that the DOF-issued Circular 003-2024 is in fulfillment of its mandated duty to responsibly manage public finances in support of our nation's development goals.

It was a decisive move to establish and implement a strategic fiscal policy that propels economic growth. PhilHealth's remittance, along with the DOF's efforts to boost both tax and non-tax revenues, allowed the government to raise more resources to meet the needs of Filipinos without the need to impose new taxes on our people, increase the deficit, and add more borrowings that the next generation will inherit.



All-time high gross national income (GNI) per capita of

USD 4,335 (2023)



Unemployment rate in 2024 of

3.8%

the lowest full-year level on record; Surpasses the target of 4%-5% by 2028

Reduced poverty incidence among Filipino individuals to



15.5% (2023)

or lifted 2.5 million more Filipinos out of poverty; On track to achieve singledigit poverty rate of 9% by 2028

The government is working non-stop to achieve its ultimate goals

Poverty Incidence



We assure the Filipino public that there is no advocate more committed to higher health spending than the DOF.



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