

Interesting Facts About The Philippines

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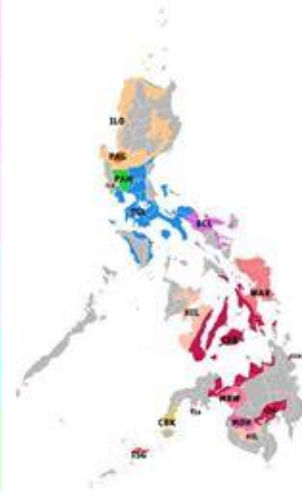
Interesting Facts About The Philippines

- **Official name:** Republic of the Philippines
- **Population:** 110,818,325
- **Area:** 300,000 sq km
- **Capital city:** Manila
- **Major languages:** Filipino (Tagalog), English
- **Major religions:** Roman Catholic 80.6%, Protestant 8.2%
- **Time zone:** UTC+8 (Philippine Standard Time)
 - Source: CIA World Fact Book

The residents of the Philippines speak multiple languages

- Within the border of the Philippines, more than 170 languages are spoken.
- The languages present within the Philippines vary greatly in the number of speakers with four languages having no known individual who can speak them.
- Due to the large number of languages being spoken within the country, the government selected Filipino and English as the official languages as most people could communicate in either.
- The Philippines has one of the highest numbers of English speakers in the world which eases the interaction between locals and tourists.

English	Waray
Iloko	Hiligaynon
Pangasinan	Cebuano
Kapampangan	Maranao
Tagalog	Chavacano
Bicol	Tausug



Sports are a major part of Filipino culture

- Residents of the Philippines are passionate about sports with boxing and basketball having a great number of supporters.
- Playing basketball is one of the most common leisure activities that Filipinos engage in and the nation has a vibrant basketball league.
- Apart from supporting their national basketball leagues, the American National Basketball



Photo Facebook Page: @International Little League Association Of Manila -ILLAM

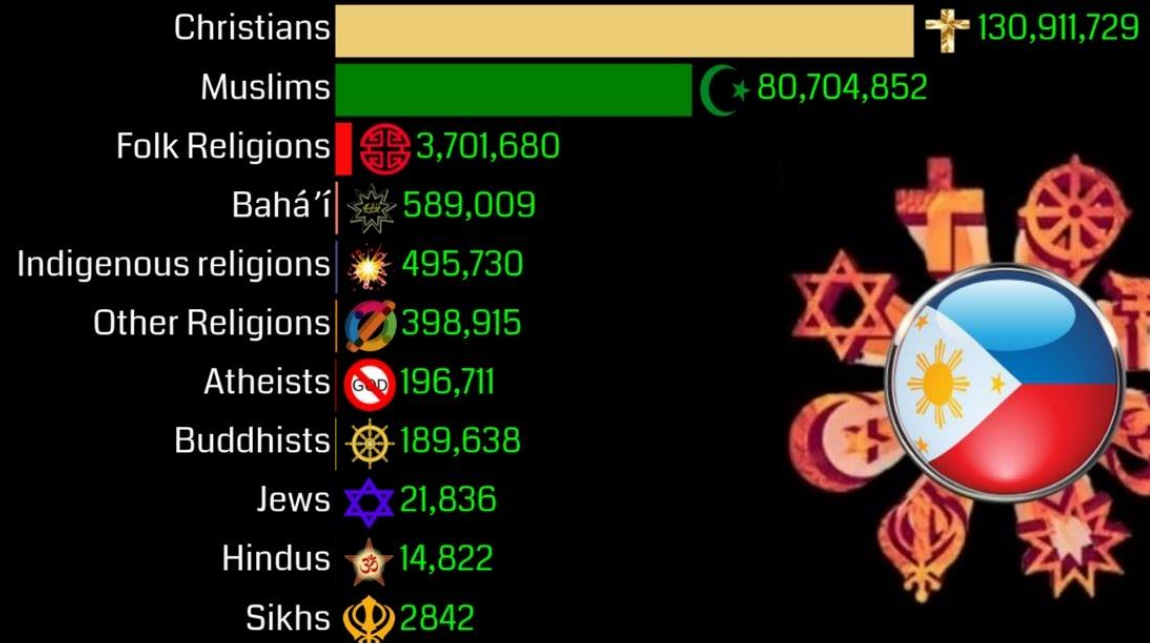
Association (NBA) is also popular in the country.

- The country's national men's basketball team is one of the most successful basketball teams in the world.
- Another major sport within the Philippines is boxing with one of the nation's major stars being Manny Pacquiao.

Christianity is the nation's major religion

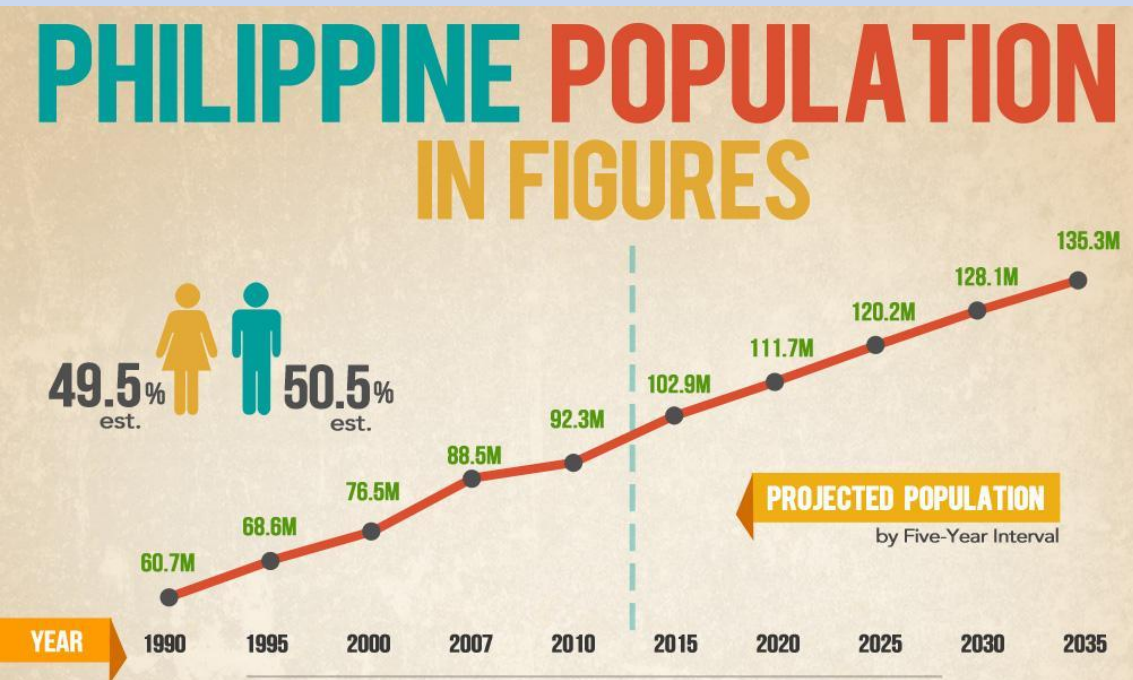
- The leading religion within most Southeast Asian nations is either Islam or Buddhism which makes the Philippines one of the unique countries in the region due to having a predominantly Christian population. The most dominant Christian denomination within the Philippines is Roman Catholic as it accounts for close to 80% of the country's population.
- The Roman Catholic Church undertakes a large number of social projects within the country such as setting up schools with some of the most prominent examples being the Dominican University of Santo Tomas.

Top Religion in Philippines



The Philippine's population exceeds 100,000,000

- In 2014, the Philippines became one of the few nations in the world with a population greater than 100,000,000. According to the most recent estimates carried out in 2018, the Philippines was home to around 106,192,000 which at the time was the seventh highest population globally.



- The population of the Philippines grows at a staggering rate of nearly 2% per year which is one of the highest growth rates in the world.
- There are more men than women in the country.

Public transport is reliant on Jeepneys

- One of the most frequently utilized means of transport within the Philippines is the Jeepney. The Jeepneys are some of the most easily recognizable vehicles within the Philippines mainly due to their creative designs which normally include drawings of basketball players as well as popular cartoon characters.
- The origin of the Jeepneys dates back to the end of the Second World War when the US military left large numbers of Jeeps within the nation.
- They do not have a set route allowing passengers to
- move from one area to another easily.
- There is a movement to modernize the Jeepneys throughout the country.



The Philippines is home to one of the world's unique geographical features

- The Taal Volcano is one of the most unique volcanoes in the world. The volcano is situated on Luzon Island, and due to the significant number of eruptions, it has earned the ranking of the second most violent volcano in the Philippines.



- Taal volcano is unique due to its continuous chain of islands within lakes beginning with Luzon Island which is home to the Taal Lake and ending with Volcano Island which is situated within a crater lake on Taal Volcano's main crater.

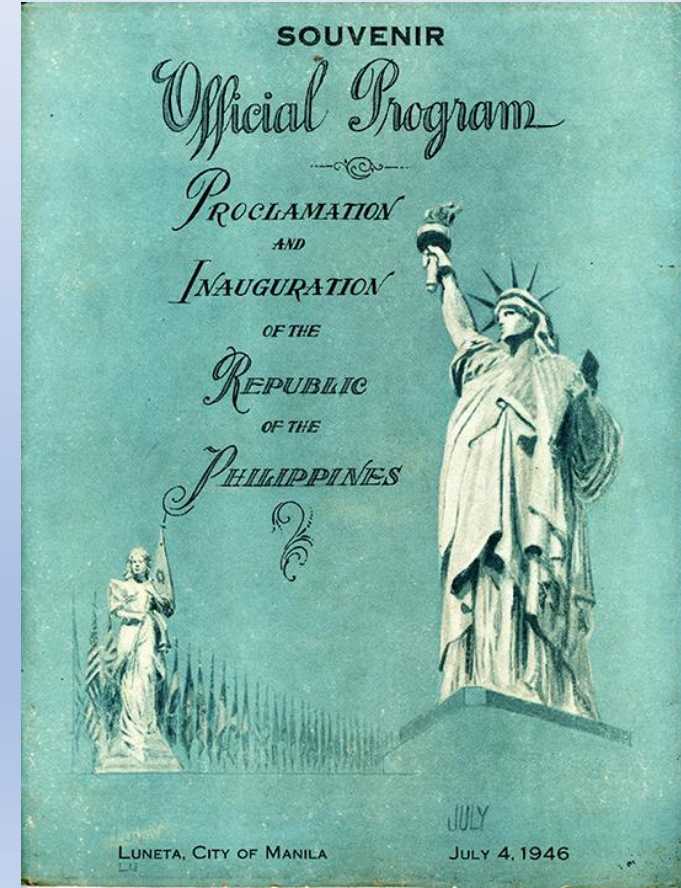
The Philippines was a Spanish colony

- The Philippines was a Spanish colony for more than three centuries from 1542. In 1898, they were ceded from Spain to the US following the Spanish-American War.
- Spanish rule brought most of what is now the Philippines into a unified administration.
- From 1565 to 1821, the Philippines was governed as part of the Mexico-based Viceroyalty of New Spain, later administered from Madrid following the Mexican War of Independence.
- The administration of the Philippine islands was considered a drain on the economy of New Spain, and there were debates about abandoning it or trading it for some other territory.



The Philippines Gained Independence from the United States

- The Philippines was the first Southeast Asia country to gain independence after World War II. On July 4, 1946, the U.S. granted the Philippines formal independence. And was renamed The Republic of the Philippines.
- Manuel Roxas became president. The independence movement had been going on for some time.
- Roxas undertook the immense task of rebuilding a war-torn nation that had most of the country's infrastructure destroyed.
- Over a million Filipinos were killed during the war, out of a population of 18 million. Manila and most of the major cities were left in ruins. As a result of the Japanese occupation, farms were fallow and farm animals had died.



The Philippines Archipelago

- The Philippines is the world's second-largest archipelagic state by population after Indonesia, and the third-largest by area after Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.
- For decades, it was believed there were only 7,107 islands, but in 2016, the national mapping authority reported that over 500 new islands had been discovered, although not all have been verified.
- An archipelago is a group of islands, interconnecting waters, and other natural features that are closely interrelated and form an intrinsic geographical, economic, and political entity.



Largest Shopping Mall

Of the top 10 largest shopping malls in the world, three are found in the Philippines: SM Megamall, SM North Edsa, and SM Mall of Asia.



The Yo-Yo

- The modern yo-yo was invented in the Philippines.
- There are examples of yo-yos existing in ancient cultures including in China (circa 1000 BC) and Greece (circa 500 BC).
- The first yo-yos manufactured in America in the early 20th century were made by Pedro Flores (1896-1964), a Filipino immigrant who eventually sold the trademark to the Duncan Yo-Yo Company.
 - Source: The Atlantic



First Filipino Made Supercar

- The Aurelio has two engine choices, and although they may not compete with the engine performance of traditional supercars made abroad, the Honda B16A V-TEC engine (found in the old Honda Civic Si) and the 2.0 liter Mitsubishi 4G63T turbocharged engine can still pack a punch.



- The Mitsubishi engine delivers up to 457 horsepower for the Aurelio, capable of propelling the car to a top speed of nearly 180mph, and can run a quarter of a mile in under 10 seconds.

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Aurelio First Filipino Made Supercar

The car is made of both carbon fiber and fiberglass and is equipped with 18-inch Rota wheels and uses a VR4 front and rear suspension.



Interesting Facts About The Philippines

I hope you found these facts about the Philippines interesting and informative.

Hopefully, you all get the opportunity to visit the beautiful and historic country for yourselves.