

# 3

## Provincial

This chapter presents the best practices in health, social welfare and education. Some best practices covered directly cater to children aged six and below, while others indirectly address their concerns by providing services to current and future parents and other child care providers.

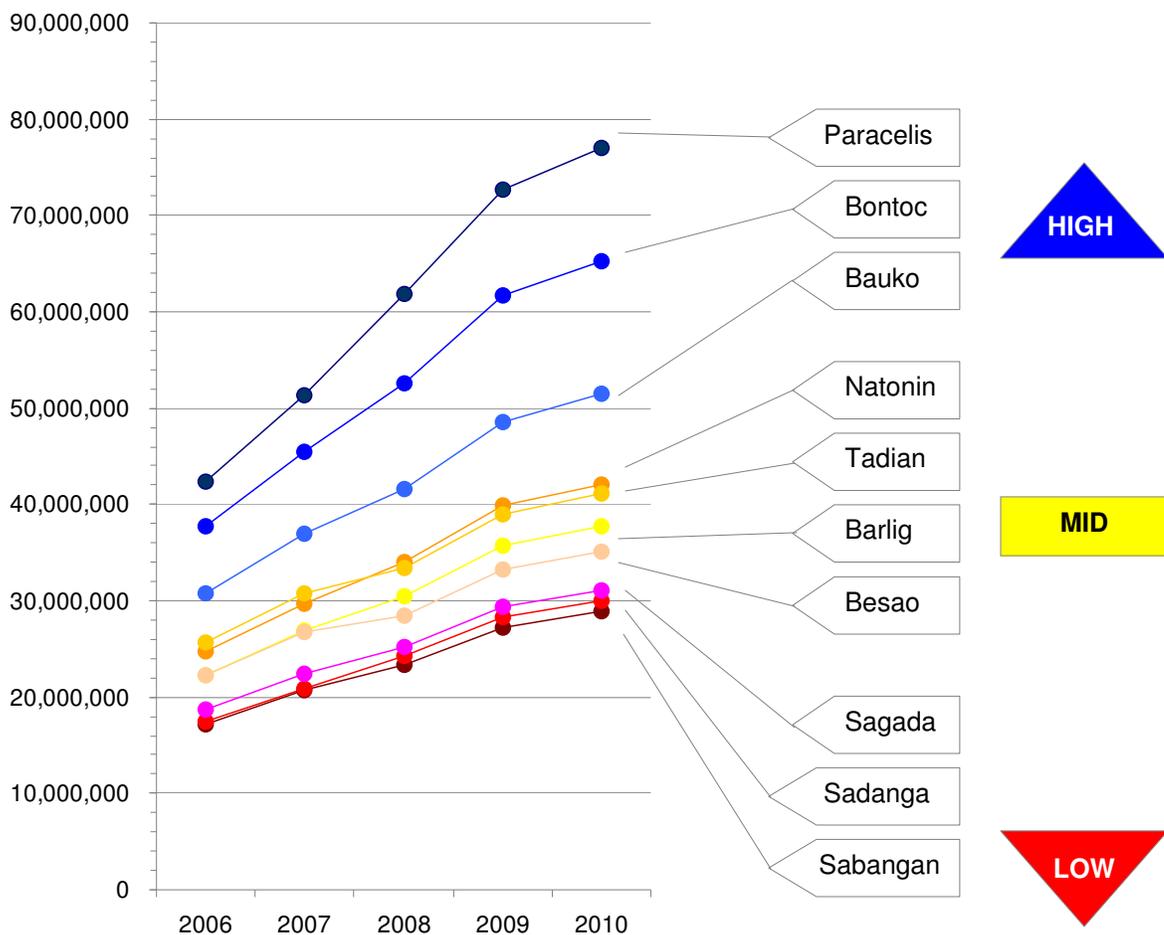
To provide context in governance, the allocation of internal revenue is shown in the next pages. As one main source of funds for the municipalities, the internal revenue allotment limits and provides opportunities in terms of what decision makers and practitioners can and can't do. While political will is another major factor, no numerical conversions were done in this study to measure its effects on rendering social services. Hence, coordination and governance is presented here only in the narrow context of funding and allocation.

## Internal Revenue Allotment

The ability to deliver local public services rest mainly on the share that provinces, towns and barangays get from taxes collected the previous year. Since internal revenue allotment depends in part on population, land area and pre-existing national functions (like district hospitals) before the devolution, municipalities do not get the same amount. Higher population means more constituents to serve. Bigger land area means wider space to cover and ownership of more resources (that when utilized, generates income from taxes). The differences in budget allocated for human services starts from having different annual allocations in the first place.

The figure below shows that internal revenue allotment increases through the years. Furthermore, even after the upward change, municipalities that get the highest allotment stay on top while those that get the lowest allotment stay at the bottom. Municipalities that are ranked close to each other may switch places each time a new census is released, as in the case of Natonin and Tadian, and Barlig and Besao.

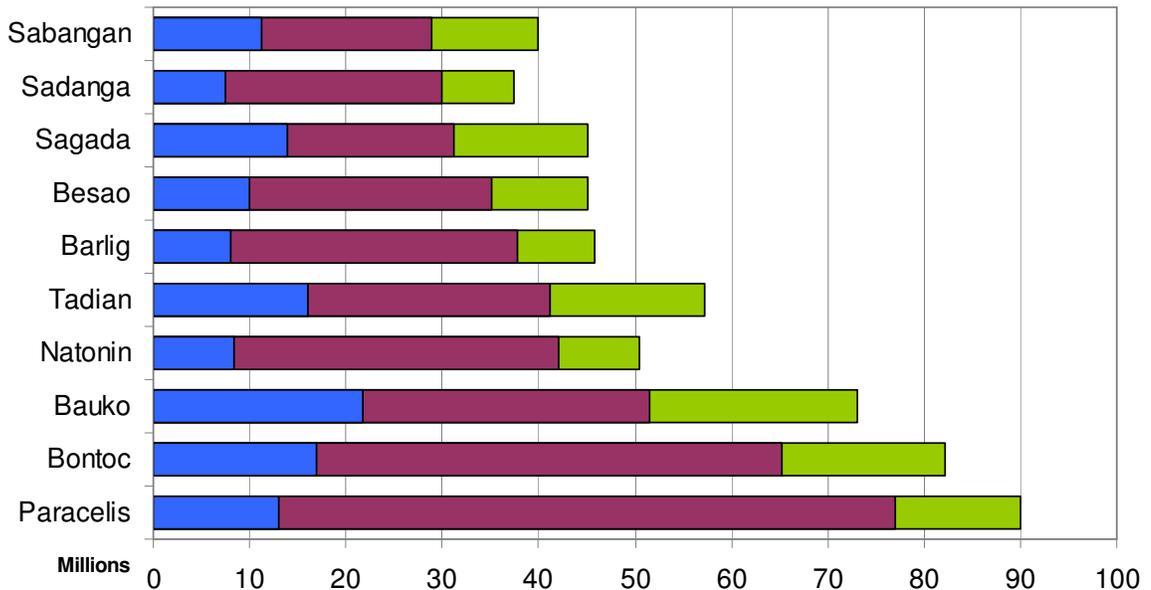
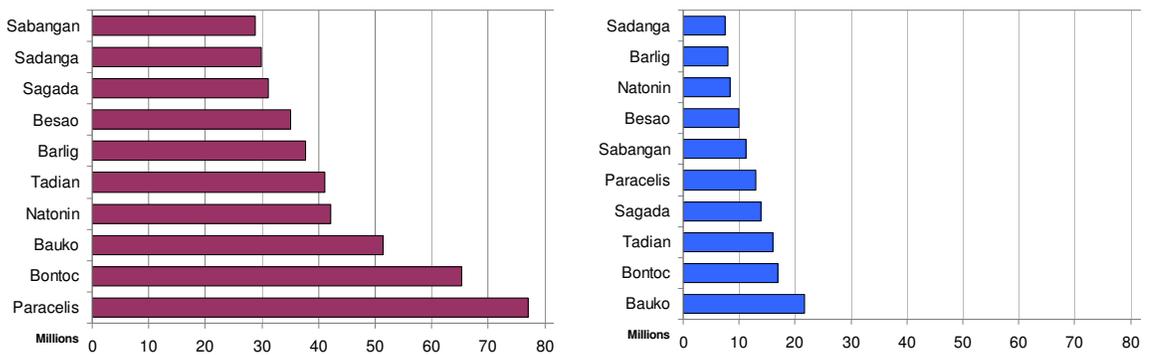
Municipal Internal Revenue Allotment, CY 2006-2010



Source of raw Data: Department of Budget and Management

Paracelis, Bontoc and Bauko get the highest allocations, while Sabangan, Sadanga and Sagada get the lowest. Sabangan, which gets the smallest IRA, would find it harder to serve its population compared to Barlig and Besao – municipalities that have a smaller population, but have a much bigger land area. Sagada, which is the fifth biggest municipality in terms of population, finds itself at the bottom three because of its small land area.

### Combined Municipal and Barangay Internal Revenue Allotment by Municipality, CY 2010



Source of raw data: Department of Budget and Management

Legend: purple: municipal IRA; blue: barangay IRA; green: combined

Aside from the municipal share, there is also the amount given to the barangays. The total barangay IRA for each municipality does not reach one half of the municipal share. Even then, the higher number of barangays in the municipalities of

Bauko, Tadian, Sagada and Sabangan helped them raise their combined municipal and total barangay IRA. The figure above shows that while allocating revenue based on population and land area may be rational, there is a possibility that for Sadanga and Sabangan, serving their constituencies may be a little more difficult to accomplish compared to the rest.

It is also important to note that the total municipal IRA for the province is higher than the provincial share. For 2010, the total municipal IRA is P439,868,959 while the provincial share is only P371,913,184. This means that the 10 municipalities working together have a stronger impact than the provincial government going its own way. This also underlines the coordinative function of the provincial line agencies.

### **Budgeting for Health, Social Service and Education**

Having a small IRA is by no means a hindrance to elective officials who see the importance of spending on health, social service and education. Similarly, a municipality with a large IRA would not necessarily mean that its elected and promoted officers are supportive of allocating more for health, social service and education. Nevertheless, the amount that each municipality gets affects how much it can give to its people.

The barangay IRA, even though small compared to the municipal IRA, is the primary source of honoraria for day care workers, midwives, barangay health workers and sometimes volunteer pre-school teachers. Barangay elective and appointive officials sometimes find it hard to allocate for the day care worker an amount that is higher than what they get. This, even when day care workers work at least three hours a day, five days a week plus additional hours for other tasks assigned to them. The health workers don't spend and much time to render services assigned to them, but they are more in number, so the total allocation for barangay health personnel may be higher than for social welfare personnel. Thus, the issue of augmentation may be seen as allocating funds for the day care and health workers at the expense of the elective and appointive officials. The spending is also usually seen as spending for one or a few individuals only instead of spending for a few individuals who serve the whole community.

Public school teachers are employed under DepEd, which is a national line agency, but during the formative years of any public school in the Philippines, the involvement of the parents association and the barangay and municipal governments is crucial. National agency financial support oftentimes comes after local governments have helped stabilize the operations of schools.

Aside from spending on personal services, local governments may also have to spend on buildings or building repairs. Doing site inspection, which is a part of the activities of community health teams, makes the decision makers aware of the small problems that they could solve with a little allocation in the budget.