

The Next Metro Manila: Cebu or Davao?

I. Problem Description and Discussion of the Background

Metro Manila, Metro Cebu, and Metro Davao are the only three defined metropolitan areas in the Philippines. Metro Manila is the country's national capital region and the center of government, economy, education, and culture. It is composed of 16 cities and 1 municipality with a total land area of 620 square kilometers. As of 2015 census, the region has a population of almost 13 million coming from the different parts of the country. Metro Cebu is the primary urban center in the Visayas regions. It comprises 7 cities and 6 municipalities. For an area of 1,063 square kilometer, it has a population of around 3 million people. On the other hand, Metro Davao is the business center in the island of Mindanao. Although it only comprises 1 city and 6 municipalities, it is considered as the largest metropolis in terms of land area with a total of 3,965 square kilometers. The combined population size of the metro is about 2.5 million.

The main goal of this study is to compare the neighborhoods of the metropolitans of Cebu and Davao and to determine which area is like Metro Manila.

This study will benefit businessmen, investors, and perhaps the government in identifying which of the metropolitan area is more like Metro Manila. This study is timely because there have been proposals from various organizations to decongest the capital as it is suffering from overpopulation and severe traffic congestion. This will help businessmen and investors decide where to put-up or expand businesses. At the same time help the government in identifying which regional center is a better alternative to Metro Manila.

II. Data Description

The data that will be used in the study will include zip code of the cities and municipalities comprising the metropolitans of Manila, Cebu, and Davao. The data will be extracted from this source https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ZIP_codes_in_the_Philippines. The corresponding coordinates of each city/municipality will be identified as well using Geocoder package in Python. Then, using the previous information, Foursquare API will be utilized to explore the neighborhoods and get the most common venues in each metro. Likewise, city/municipal-level data of population, income, and other demographic profiles will be gathered. All this information will be used in the comparison.

References

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro_Manila

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro_Cebu

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro_Davao