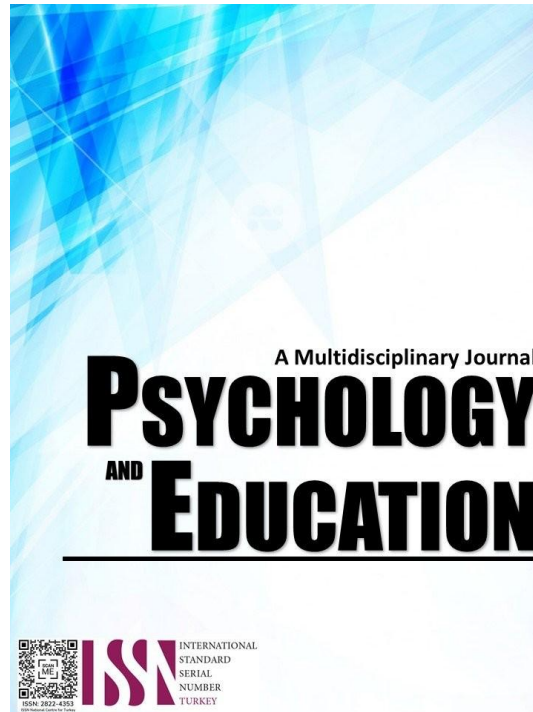


ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES OF NATURAL AND MAN-MADE TOURISM ASSETS IN GUMACA, QUEZON



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Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-Made Tourism Assets in Gumaca, Quezon

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Abstract

This study aimed to determine the economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon. It determined the profile of the respondents in terms of age, sex and employment status. It also revealed the economic opportunities of natural man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon in terms of development of local businesses, infrastructure and employment opportunities. The researcher used descriptive method of research. This study employed simple sampling design. Under this procedure, the researcher considered using one hundred (100) respondents in the selected barangay in Gumaca, Quezon to get the 100% of the respondents. Majority of the respondents are 36-49 years old. Male and Female got the equal frequency number when it comes to sex. It revealed that in terms of the employment status of the respondents, students, unemployed, employment as part time and full time and retired got the equal percentages of 20% or 20 individuals. This study identified that the average mean of 4.18 interpreted as Agree indicated most of the respondents agreed on the economic opportunities of natural man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon in terms of employment opportunities. However, the average mean of 4.17 interpreted as Agree, indicated that most of the respondents agreed on the economic opportunities of natural man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon in terms of infrastructure. The average mean of 3.80 interpreted as Agree, indicated that most of respondents agreed on the economic opportunities of natural man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon in terms of development of local businesses. According on the results of Kruskal Wallis H-test the null hypothesis of age, sex and employment status are all accepted, which means that there is no significant difference on the perceived economic opportunities of natural man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon when respondents are grouped according to age, sex and employment status. From the result of this study, the following were recommended; To the LGU – they may put an effort to enhance the local businesses through infrastructure, training and meeting. To the Community they may help to support all the businesses and promote the man-made assets of the municipality. To the Residents they may help to develop different businesses by encouraging others to visit and try different products in the municipality. To the Future Researchers this study may provide a basis for future studies, learning in research fosters personal and professional growth, empowering researchers to expand their economic base and develop their expertise.

Keywords: *development of local businesses, economic opportunities, employment opportunities, infrastructure, natural man-made tourism assets*

Introduction

The economic opportunities presented by both natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon, are significant. Natural assets like its coastline, beaches, and lush landscapes offer opportunities for eco-tourism, adventure tourism, and beach tourism, attracting visitors seeking relaxation and outdoor activities.

Natural tourism assets refer to the natural resources and outlook that attract tourists due to their beauty, biodiversity, and recreational opportunities. These assets often form the basis of ecotourism and maintainable tourism initiatives. Some examples include.

Man-made tourism assets are human-made attractions or infrastructure that sketch visitors due to their cultural, historical, architectural, or recreational value. These assets are designed or built by people, often with the purpose of providing entertainment, education, or leisure for tourists. Some examples include.

Man-made assets such as historical landmarks, cultural sites, and local crafts provide many venues to maintain the cultural tourism, heritage tourism, and community-based tourism. These man-made assets can cause income through entrance fees, guided tours, souvenir sales, and local accommodations and dining. Additionally, investing in infrastructure and facilities to support tourism, such as transportation, accommodations, and hospitality services, can further boost the local economy and create job opportunities for residents. By capitalizing on both natural and man-made assets in Gumaca, Quezon and can diversify its tourism offerings and maximize its economic potential.

According to Sarath S. (2024), water falls can develop a model of venture to give some finance contracting and use it to evaluate an developing set of judicial precedents in corporate law, which we label the Trados doctrine. In our model, founders hold common stock, while venture capital investors hold able to be changed and preferred stock.

The growth of tourism in Gumaca Quezon can stimulate local entrepreneurship and small business development. Local residents can establish businesses such as tour agencies, transportation services, and souvenir shops catering to visitors. This entrepreneurial activity can create economic diversification and generate income for the local community without the need for residential development near

the falls.

The local community can actively participate in community-based tourism initiatives to attract more visitors and promote different places in Gumaca, Quezon. This can include organizing guided tours, cultural events, and nature-based activities that showcase the unique features and attractions that Gumaca have. By actively engaging in tourism initiatives, the local community can benefit economically through increased visitor spending and the preservation of their cultural heritage.

To support the growth of tourism to Alfresco, infrastructure development and improvement are essential. This can include improving access roads, parking facilities, and visitor amenities near the fall. And development in some places we're the natural man-made located. Enhancing infrastructure will facilitate visitor access and ensure a positive tourism experience, leading to increased visitor numbers and economic benefits for the local community.

Efforts should be made to market and promote natural man-made asset of Gumaca, Quezon as a tourist destination to attract more visitors. This can be done through online platforms, tourism fairs, collaboration with travel agencies, and partnerships with local and regional tourism organizations. Effective marketing strategies may increase awareness and interest in visiting different natural man-made destinations, resulting in economic benefits for the local community.

Promoting natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon, offers economic opportunities without the need for residential development in the area. By focusing on job creation, local entrepreneurship, community-based tourism initiatives, infrastructure development, and effective marketing, the local community can benefit from increased visitor numbers and economic growth. It is important to ensure that tourism activities are conducted in a sustainable and responsible manner, preserving the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Inaclagan Falls for future generations.

With this, the researcher looked into the economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in the municipality of Gumaca, Quezon.

Research Questions

This study aimed to determine the economic opportunities of natural man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon. Specifically, this study sought to answer the following:

1. What is the profile of the respondents in terms of:
 - 1.1. age;
 - 1.2. sex; and
 - 1.3. employment status?
2. What are the economic opportunities to tourism industry of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon with respect to:
 - 2.1. development of local businesses;
 - 2.2. infrastructure; and
 - 2.3. employment opportunities?
3. Is there any significant difference on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon when respondents are grouped according to profile?

Methodology

Research Design

This study used descriptive survey method to collect data to determine the economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon. The researcher used survey questionnaire as an instrument. Based on the survey's result the researcher was able to determine the details of the study.

According to McCombes (2019), The goal of descriptive research is to precisely and methodically characterize a population, circumstance, or phenomena. It can respond to inquiries about what, where, when, and how, but not why. Numerous research techniques can be applied in a descriptive research design to examine one or more variables. In contrast to experimental research, here the variables are merely observed and measured; no controls or manipulations are made.

Respondents

The researcher selected one hundred residents in the Municipality of Gumaca, Quezon through simple random sampling. The respondents are composed of 100 residents in the selected barangays in Gumaca.

There is a lengthy history of development for simple sampling, and opinions on its complexity and simplicity are as varied as those regarding its simplicity. simple sampling is used to better match the sample to the goals and objectives of the study, enhancing the study's rigor and the reliability of its data and findings. This idea has four facets that have already been discussed: confirmability, credibility, transferability, and dependability. As determined by the four dimensions of trustworthiness, better methodological rigor

results from making clear the participant sampling strategy. For inexperienced researchers, the cases offer a roadmap for how rigor might be approached in qualitative research. J Res Nurs (2020)

Instrument

The researcher used a researcher-made questionnaire which were validated by two experts. Part I is composed of demographic profile of the respondents and Part II includes the benefits of economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon. This questionnaire is a Likert scale of; 5 – Very Much Agree (VMA), 4 – Agree (A), 3 – Moderately Agree (MA), 2 – Disagree (DA) and 1 – Strongly Disagree (SDA). For understanding about the economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon.

To test the internal consistency of the question, adviser using the Cronbach's Alpha, a pilot testing will be conducted in the selected barangay which is not the target of the study to 12 respondents. If the result is 0.70 which is interpreted as acceptable. This means that there is an internal consistency in the prepared research instrument.

The pilot testing was conducted at barangay Cmuhaguin Gumaca, Quezon. The researcher selected 12 respondents and based on their answer the Cronbach's Alpha result in development of local businesses was 1.15 interpreted as excellent, in terms of infrastructure the result was 1.14 interpreted as excellent and employment opportunities was 1.09 interpreted as excellent.

Procedure

Prior to the conduct of the study, the researcher sent a letter to the barangay captain. Upon approval, the researcher administered the instrument to the target respondents.

Target populations were the residents of selected Brgy, in Gumaca, Quezon. Data were collected through survey with the selected residents in the barangay. In administering the questionnaire, the researcher used the time allotted for vacant time to avoid distraction of other activities. The respondent's response was given enough time to undergo interview. After data gathering, the researcher was collected them for tallying the scores and to applied the statistical treatment used in the study.

Data Analysis

The following statistical procedures were used to interpret the data gathered from the respondents of the study: Simple percentage was utilized to analyze the demographic profile variables of the respondents, while the weighted mean was employed to compute the weight of the responses in the questionnaire as assigned by the respondents during the actual data gathering procedure. To test the significant difference among three or more means, the Kruskal-Wallis test, a non-parametric statistical method, was used.

Results and Discussion

This section deals with the presentation, analysis and interpretation of the data. All the data gathered were presented here in tabulated form with corresponding interpretation. The first part described the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of age, sex, employment status, development of local businesses, infrastructure, and employment opportunity. The second part are the Economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon.

Table 1. *Frequency and Percentage Distribution of the Respondents According to Age*

Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Rank
25-35 y/old	21	21	3
36-49 y/old	52	52	1
50-59 y/old	22	22	2
60 y/old & above	5	5	4
Total	100	100	

The data presented in Table 1 displays the distribution of the selected respondents based on their age, including the frequency and percentage of each age group. The results indicate that the age range with the highest frequency is between 36-49 years old, accounting for 52 or 52% of the total population, the second highest group are 50-59 years old accounting for 22 or 22%, the third highest group are 23-35 years old accounting for 21 or 21%, while the 60 years old and above has frequency of 5 or 5%. This indicates that most of the respondents belonged to the 36-49 age range.

Angelica M. (2021) investigated the demographic profiles of tourists visiting resorts in Batangas Province. This study found that most tourists belonged to the 30-49 age group, indicating a similar trend in terms of age demographics, where middle-aged individuals are the dominant population in tourism-related activities.

Table 2. *Frequency and Percentage Distribution of the Respondents According to Sex*

Sex	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Rank
Male	50	50	1.5
Female	50	50	1.5
Total	100	100	

Table 2 displays the distribution of respondents based on their sex. The data reveals that 50% of the respondents are female with the frequency of 50, while the other 50% are male with a frequency of 50. It indicates an even distribution on both sexes.

Nash, M., & Welsh, S. (2019) examined gender parity in survey responses in community-based research. The study stressed that achieving a balanced representation between males and females is critical for producing more accurate and generalized findings. An even gender distribution ensures that the analysis considers the perspectives of both genders equally, leading to more comprehensive conclusions. This is particularly important in fields such as tourism, health, or social behavior, where gender differences might influence perceptions or behaviors.

Table 3. Frequency and Percentage Distribution of the Respondents According to Employment Status

<i>Employment status</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage (%)</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Students	20	20	3
Unemployed	20	20	3
Employed part-time	20	20	3
Employed full-time	20	20	3
Retired	20	20	3
Total	100	100	

Table 3 shows the frequency and percentage distribution of the respondents according to employment status. Data reveals that among the respondents, 20 or 20% of them are students, 20 or 20% are unemployed, 20 or 20% are employed part-time, 20 or 20% are employed full-time and 20 or 20% are retired. The table indicates an even distribution among the respondents in terms of their employment status.

Buttler, D. (2022) investigates the relationship between employment and well-being among young people. The study stresses that employment status, including full-time, part-time, unemployment, and retirement, plays a critical role in shaping individuals' subjective well-being. It emphasizes that economies offering quality occupations for young people tend to exhibit a stronger link between employment and overall well-being. Furthermore, it supports the even distribution of employment types, as it illustrates that all employment categories, including students and retirees, significantly influence well-being and economic stability within a community.

Table 4. Respondents Assessment on the Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-made Tourism Assets in Gumaca Quezon in terms of Development of Local Businesses

<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Verbal Interpretation</i>	<i>Rank</i>
1. Allow businesses to identify new opportunities.	4.34	Strongly Agree	1
2. Developing new products or services.	3.78	Agree	3
3. Improve customer service.	3.58	Agree	4
4. Increasing profitability.	3.50	Agree	5
5. Expanding into a new market.	3.81	Agree	2
Average Mean	3.80	Agree	

Legend; Strongly Disagree (1.0-1.80), Disagree (1.81-2.60), Moderately Agree (2.61-3.40), Agree (3.41-4.20), Very Much Agree (4.21-5.0)

Table 4 shows the respondents assessment on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon in terms of development of local businesses. The highest mean is indicator 1, Allow businesses to identify new opportunities with a mean 4.34 and interpreted as “strongly agree”. The lowest mean is indicator 4 Increasing profitability with a mean 3.50 and interpreted as “agree”. It also revealed that the average mean is 3.80 and interpreted as “agree”.

The findings show that respondents perceive that tourism in Gumaca, both natural and man-made, provides many opportunities for local businesses to grow and offer new products or services. This could encourage local businesses to innovate and invest, boosting the local economy.

However, while natural and man-made tourism assets is seen as helping businesses become more profitable, these gains may not be as large as expected. This could be due to challenges like infrastructure, competition, or limited tourist spending. Overall, respondents agree that natural and man-made tourism assets help local businesses, but more support is needed to maximize profits.

Aguilar M. (2023) supports the findings of the study showing that natural and man-made tourism assets give local businesses opportunities to grow by offering new products and services. Furthermore, Aguilar’s research stresses how creating tourism products based on what people want can help the local economy.

Additionally, the study also points out challenges, like limited infrastructure or profits, that make it hard for businesses to fully benefit from tourism. Likewise, Aguilar stresses the need for a skilled workforce and sustainable tourism products to overcome these issues, which aligns with the need for more support in Gumaca to maximize profits and grow the local economy through tourism.

Table 5 displays the respondents’ assessment on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon in terms of development of infrastructure. The highest mean is indicator 4, Removed productivity constraints, with a mean 4.29 and interpreted as “strongly agree”. The lowest mean is indicator 2, Reduce the cost of delivered good, with a mean 3.97 and interpreted as “agree”. It also revealed that the average mean is 4.17 and interpreted as “agree”.

Table 5. Respondents Assessment on the Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-made Tourism Assets in Gumaca Quezon in terms of Infrastructure

Indicators	Mean	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. Make destination and services increasingly attractive.	4.19	Agree	3
2. Reduce the cost of delivered good.	3.97	Agree	5
3. Facilitate the physical mobility of people and products.	4.15	Agree	4
4. Removed productivity constrains	4.29	Strongly Agree	1
5. Increase competitiveness	4.27	Strongly Agree	2
Average Mean	4.17	Agree	

Legend; Strongly Disagree (1.0-1.80), Disagree (1.81-2.60), Moderately Agree (2.61-3.40), Agree (3.41-4.20), Very Much Agree (4.21-5.0)

The data implies that respondents believe that natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon has helped improve local infrastructure. The respondents strongly agree that tourism has removed obstacles to productivity, likely through improvements in roads, utilities, or communication systems that support both tourism and local businesses. However, the respondents also perceive that natural and man-made tourism asset in Gumaca hasn't greatly reduced the cost of delivering goods, possibly due to ongoing transportation or supply chain issues. Overall, respondents agree that natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca improved infrastructure but needed to work on reducing the cost of delivery and increase productivity further.

Sonja J. (2016) stresses how important infrastructure, like transportation and utilities for boosting tourism and the economy. The study demonstrates that better infrastructure, such as improved roads, enhances productivity and makes a destination more attractive for tourism. However, the study also suggests that more investment is needed to modernize infrastructure further and reduce costs, especially for delivering goods. It implies that improving infrastructure is key for tourism growth and economic benefits, but challenges still exist that need attention.

Table 6. Respondents Assessment on the Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-made Tourism Assets in Gumaca Quezon in terms of Employment Opportunities

Indicators	Mean	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. Provide jobs and opportunities across various skill levels.	4.11	Agree	4
2. It often encourages the development of local businesses, such as accommodations, restaurants, tour operations, and handicraft producer.	4.29	Strongly Agree	2
3. Improved standards of living	4.18	Agree	3
4. Opportunity provides the foundation of achieving success in various aspects of life, including personal growth, career advancement, and reaching one goals and aspirations.	3.93	Agree	5
5. Greater labor demand.	4.42	Strongly Agree	1
Average Mean	4.18	Agree	

Legend; Strongly Disagree (1.0-1.80), Disagree (1.81-2.60), Moderately Agree (2.61-3.40), Agree (3.41-4.20), Very Much Agree (4.21-5.0)

Table 6 displays the respondents' assessment on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon in terms of employment opportunities. The highest mean is indicator 5, Greater labour demand, with a mean 4.42 and interpreted as "strongly agree". The lowest mean is indicator 4, Opportunity provides the foundation of achieving success in various aspects of life, including personal growth, career advancement, and reaching one goals and aspirations, with a mean 3.93 and interpreted as "agree". It also revealed that the average mean is 4.18 and interpreted as "agree".

The data illustrate that respondents believe that natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon creates many job opportunities. The highest mean among the indicators suggests that tourism has increased the need for workers. However, the lowest mean suggests that while there are more jobs, these opportunities might not lead to personal growth or long-term career advancement. Overall, respondents agree that natural and man-made tourism assets positively impact employment in Gumaca, but more support is needed, such as training or career development, to ensure these jobs lead to lasting success for workers.

Liu A. (2021) supports the findings suggesting that while tourism creates jobs, it often overlooks the need for developing local skills and human resources. Liu points out that tourism plans tend to focus on international companies' job needs, especially in hospitality, rather than local job opportunities. This is similar to the situation in Gumaca, where tourism increases labor demand, but respondents feel these jobs don't fully support long-term growth or career advancement. Liu's study calls for better planning in developing local workers' skills so they can benefit more from tourism jobs. This reflects the need in Gumaca for more training and career development to ensure that tourism jobs will lead to lasting success for the community.

Table 7 displays the respondents' assessment on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon. The mean for development of local businesses was 3.80, interpreted as "agree", while the mean for infrastructure was 4.17, interpreted as "agree", and the mean of employment opportunity was 4.18 interpreted as "agree". The data suggests that natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon has greatest impact on employment opportunity but least impact on development of local businesses.

Table 7. *Summary Table on Respondents Assessment on the Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-made Tourism Assets in Gumaca Quezon*

<i>Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-Made Tourism Assets</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Verbal Interpretation</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Development of local businesses	3.80	Agree	3
Infrastructure	4.17	Agree	2
Employment opportunity	4.18	Agree	1
Average Mean	4.05	Agree	

Legend; Strongly Disagree (1.0-1.80), Disagree (1.81-2.60), Moderately Agree (2.61-3.40), Agree (3.41-4.20), Very Much Agree (4.21-5.0)

The findings show that natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, Quezon creates the more jobs but has less impact on local businesses. While tourism is helping to reduce unemployment and improve incomes, it has not fully supported the growth of local businesses. Therefore, more efforts should be made to enhance local businesses through better infrastructure, training, and incentives.

Liu A. (2021) discusses that while tourism generates many job opportunities, it often overlooks local human resource development, focusing instead on larger international businesses. This supports the findings of the study, where natural and man-made tourism assets do create jobs but hasn't fully supported local business growth.

Table 8. *Significant Difference in the Perceived Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-made Tourism Assets in Gumaca Quezon when Respondents are Grouped According to Age*

<i>Age</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Median</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>H value</i>	<i>Critical Value</i>	<i>P - value</i>	<i>Significant Level</i>	<i>Decision</i>
25-35 y/old	21	4.07	3	1.593	7.815	0.810	0.05	Accept Ho
36-49 y/old	52	4.07						
50-59 y/old	22	4.13						
60 y/old & above	5	4.13						

Table 8 exhibits the significant differences on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon when respondents are grouped according to age. Since the H value of 1.593 is lower than the critical value of 7.815 and the p-value of 0.810 is greater than 0.05 level of significance, it failed to reject the null hypothesis. This suggests that there is no significant difference in the responses of different age groups toward the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon.

The data indicates that age does not appear to be a factor in how people perceive the economic opportunities from tourism assets in Gumaca. This means that tourism policies and development strategies can be implemented without the need to differentiate based on age, thus can simplify planning and marketing strategies. Additionally, both natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon appeal to people of all age groups. Since perceptions are similar across age groups, policymakers can focus on one plan for developing tourism without worrying about age-specific needs.

Alipio (2024) discusses the tourism of Cordillera Eco-Cultural Trails project, which aims to provide sustainable livelihoods through eco-tourism. This suggests that both natural and man-made tourism assets can appeal to broad audiences and generate economic benefits for different communities. This support the findings of the study that age is not a significant factor in how people perceive these benefits.

Table 9. *Significant Difference in the Perceived Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-made Tourism Assets in Gumaca Quezon when Respondents are Grouped According to Sex*

<i>Groups</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Median</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>H value</i>	<i>Critical Value</i>	<i>P - value</i>	<i>Significant Level</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Male	50	4.13	1	0.262	3.841	0.609	0.05	Accept Ho
Female	50	4.07						

Table 9 shows the significant differences on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon when respondents are grouped according to sex. Since the H value of 0.262 is lower than the critical value of 3.841 and the p-value of 0.609 is greater than 0.05 level of significance, it failed to reject the null hypothesis. This suggests that there is no significant difference in the responses of male and female respondents toward the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon.

The similar perceptions between men and women suggest that both sexes view the economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon in the same way. Tourism planning and promotion can therefore be developed without the need to create gender-specific strategies. Additionally, marketing campaigns and tourism policies can be designed to appeal to both male and female audiences without requiring different approaches.

Serfino C. (2022) explored the impacts of tourism, both positive and negative, on communities. This study found that residents, regardless of gender, generally recognized the economic benefits of tourism. This complements the findings of the study that both men

and women perceive tourism assets in Gumaca in similar ways, especially in terms of economic opportunities.

Table 10. *Significant Difference in the Perceived Economic Opportunities of Natural and Man-made Tourism Assets in Gumaca Quezon when Respondents are Grouped According to Employment Status*

Groups	N	Median	df	H value	Critical Value	P - value	Significant Level	Decision
Students	20	4.03						
Unemployed	20	4.10						
Employed part-time	20	4.07	4	2.514	9.488	0.642	0.05	Accept Ho
Employed full-time	20	4.13						
Retired	20	4.17						

Table 10 shows the significant differences on the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon when respondents are grouped according to their employment status. Since the H value of 2.514 is lower than the critical value of 9.488 and the p-value of 0.642 is greater than 0.05 level of significance, it failed to reject the null hypothesis. This suggests that there is no significant difference in the responses of the respondents with different employment status toward the perceived economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca Quezon.

Since individuals with different employment status have similar views on tourism's economic opportunities of natural and man-made tourism assets in Gumaca, tourism plans and policies don't need to be adjusted for specific employment groups. It makes it easier to create one strategy for everyone. Natural and man-made tourism assets are seen as beneficial for all, so policymakers can focus on making tourism benefits accessible to everyone. Marketing can also focus on the entire population, making it more efficient and cost-effective.

Serfino C. (2022) also explored tourism's perceived impacts on various community groups and found that residents, regardless of their employment status, generally shared positive perceptions of tourism's economic benefits. The study also suggested that tourism development could benefit the entire community without requiring group-specific interventions.

Conclusions

Based on the findings discussed in this research, the following conclusions were drawn: Most of the respondents were between thirty-six to forty-nine years old, with an equal number of male and female participants. Regarding employment status, students, unemployed individuals, part-time and full-time employees, and retirees each represented 20% of the sample. Residents of selected barangays in Gumaca, Quezon agreed that the economic opportunities provided by natural and man-made tourism assets have the most significant impact on employment. Furthermore, the respondents' perceptions of the economic opportunities of these tourism assets did not vary when grouped according to age, sex, or employment status.

Based on these findings, the following recommendations are offered: (1) The Local Government Unit (LGU) may enhance local businesses through infrastructure improvements, training, and regular meetings; (2) The community may support local businesses and promote the municipality's man-made assets; (3) Residents may contribute to business development by encouraging visitors and promoting local products; (4) Future researchers may use this study as a foundation for further exploration, recognizing that learning through research fosters personal and professional growth, expands economic understanding, and develops expertise; and (5) Additional tourist attractions may be created or constructed to increase the number of visitors by 4%, helping local businesses grow and increase their profitability.

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