Survey Highlights

Background

The Occupational Wages Survey (OWS) is a nationwide establishment survey of the BLES since 1989. Through the years, the survey has undergone revisions in its periodicity, scope and coverage and survey design to meet the needs of users for statistics in aid of wage and salary administration and wage determination in collective bargaining negotiations.

The OWS is one of the designated statistical activities in E.O. 352 (s. 1996) that will generate critical data for decision making of the government and the private sector. The data category *average monthly occupational wage rates in selected occupations* is among those listed by the Philippine government under the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund. The SDDS serves as reference to member countries in the dissemination of economic and financial data to the public.

The 2008 OWS covered non-agricultural establishments employing at least 20 persons in 65 industry groups. In particular, data on wage rates of time-rate workers on full-time basis were collected for 180 occupations across 46 specific industries.

Wage Rate Defined

For purposes of the survey, **wage rate** is defined as including basic pay and regular/guaranteed cash allowances. The OWS monitors rates actually paid by employers per time unit of full-time work. It does not monitor wage rates on output basis neither allowances in kind because of the inherent difficulties in determining a standard conversion factor for work done on output basis and the valuation or pricing of payments in kind. Full-time work is considered as it relates to normal or regular periods of work in establishments.

Highlights

1. The monthly wage rates of the covered occupations averaged to ₱12,525. The highest rate at ₱79,187 was paid to aircraft pilots, navigators and flight engineers.

2. The average wage rates of some occupations identified as highly in-demand during the 2007 National Human Resource Conference are as follows:

Professionals

Professional nurses	9,867
Medical doctors	20,135
Architects	14,178
Systems analysts and designers	22,667
Computer programmers	11,583 – 28,599*
Engineers	12,432 – 31,618*
Teaching professionals	12,211 – 35,728
Accountants and auditors	16,091 – 31,368*

Technicians and Associate Professionals

Ships' deck officers and pilots	23,956
Aircraft pilots, navigators and flight engineers	79,187

Clerks

Customer service representatives/associates (in call centers)	9,443 – 18,295*
Medical transcriptionists	10,669

Service and Sales Workers

Travel guides (travel agencies)	14,450
Service crew (restaurants/fastfoods)	8,567
Cooks	9,646

Craft and Related Trades Workers

Welders and flame cutters	8,891 - 9,055*
Heavy equipment mechanics (construction)	8,918

Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers

Ships deck crews and related workers	9,987
Electronic equipment assemblers	9,144

Refer to the range of averages as the occupation may be found in more than one industry.

The complete report on the survey findings will be released in a series of LABSTAT Updates beginning next month.