

# Philippines - Survey on Overseas Filipinos 2003

**National Statistics Office**

Report generated on: February 16, 2023

Visit our data catalog at: <https://psada.psa.gov.ph/>

## Overview

### Identification

---

ID NUMBER  
PHL-NSO-SOF-2003-v2.0

### Version

---

VERSION DESCRIPTION  
v2.1: edited, anonymized (Public Use File)

PRODUCTION DATE  
2009-03-23

### Overview

---

#### ABSTRACT

The SOF aims to provide data on overseas Filipinos particularly the overseas contract workers and their contribution to the economy. Specifically, the survey has the following objectives:

- a. to obtain national estimates on the number of overseas Filipinos including overseas workers and their socio-economic characteristics
- b. to provide estimates on the amount of cash and in kind transfers received by the families and the modes of remittances.

KIND OF DATA  
Sample survey data [ssd]

#### UNITS OF ANALYSIS

The 2003 SOF is a nationwide survey involving a probability sample of about 51,000 households (HHs). The HHs to be interviewed are considered representative samples of HHs in all regions of the country.

### Scope

---

#### NOTES

The Survey on Overseas Filipinos (SOF) is a nationwide survey that seeks to gather information on Filipino citizens, including overseas workers, who left abroad during the last five years. Data on their remittances however, are gathered using the past six months. Hence, all statistics presented in this report pertain only to those Filipinos who worked or have worked abroad during the last six months preceding the survey period, that is, from April to September of the survey year.

#### TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Overseas Filipino Workers		
Overseas Contract Workers		

### Coverage

---

#### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The 2003 Master Sample considers the country's 17 administrative regions as its sampling domain. A domain is referred to

as a subdivision of the country in which estimates with adequate level of precision is generated. It must be noted that while there is demand for data at the

provincial level (and to some extent municipal and barangay levels), these were not treated as domain because of its large number (more than 80) and the large resource requirement it would entail.

#### GEOGRAPHIC UNIT

Region

#### UNIVERSE

The Survey on Overseas Filipinos is a nationwide survey involving a probability sample of about 51,000 households. The households to be interviewed are considered representative samples of private households in all regions of the country. The survey aims to collect data on overseas Filipinos and their socio-economic characteristics.

## Producers and Sponsors

#### PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	NEDA

#### FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Government of the Philippines	GOP	

## Metadata Production

#### METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Solficar P. Pescuela	SPP	NSO IESD	Archivist
Vincent Morris D. Olaivar	VMDO	NSO DISD	Reviewer

#### DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2009-07-27

#### DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 1.0

#### DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI-PHL-NSO-SOF-2003-V1.0

# Sampling

## Sampling Procedure

---

The SOF, as a rider to the Labor Force Survey (LFS), used the sampling design of the 2003 Master Sample (MS) for Household Surveys starting July 2003. The design of the Master Sample is described below:

### 1. Domain

The 2003 MS considers the country's 17 administrative regions as its sampling domain. A domain is referred to as a subdivision of the country in which estimates with adequate level of precision is generated. It must be noted that while there is demand for data at the provincial level (and to some extent municipal and barangay levels), these were not treated as domain because of its large number (more than 80) and the large resource requirement that it entails. Below are the 17 administrative regions of the country:

National Capital Region  
 Cordillera Administrative Region  
 Region I - Ilocos  
 Region II - Cagayan Valley  
 Region III - Central Luzon  
 Region IVA - CALABARZON  
 Region IVB - MIMAROPA  
 Region V - Bicol  
 Region VI - Western Visayas  
 Region VII - Central Visayas  
 Region VIII - Eastern Visayas  
 Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula  
 Region X - Northern Mindanao  
 Region XI - Davao  
 Region XII - SOCCSKSARGEN  
 Region XIII - Caraga  
 Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao

### 2. Sampling Frame

As in most household surveys, the 2003 MS made use of an area sample design. For this purpose, the Enumeration Area Reference File (EARF) of the 2000 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) was utilized as sampling frame. The EARF contains the number of households by enumeration area (EA) in each barangay.

This frame was used to form the primary sampling units (PSUs). With consideration of the period for which the 2003 MS will be in use, the PSUs were formed/defined as a barangay or a combination of barangays with at least 500 households.

### 3. Sample Size

The 2003 MS consists of a sample of 2,835 PSUs of which 330 were certainty PSUs and 2,505 were non-certainty PSUs. The entire MS was divided into four sub-samples or independent replicates, such as a quarter sample contains one fourth of the PSUs found in one replicate; a half sample contains one-half of the PSUs in two replicates. The SOF as a rider to the LFS utilizes the full sample.

### 4. Stratification

The 2003 MS considers the 17 regions of the country as the primary strata. Within each region, further stratification was performed using geographic groupings such as provinces, highly urbanized cities (HUCs), and independent component cities (ICCs). Within each of these substrata formed within regions, the PSUs were further stratified, to the extent possible, using the proportion of strong houses (PSTRONG), indicator of engagement in agriculture of the area (AGRI), and a measure of per capita income as stratification factors (PERCAPITA).

PSTRONG is defined to be the percentage of occupied housing units that are classified as made of strong materials in terms of both the roof and outer walls, based on the data from the 2000 CPH. A roof is considered made of strong material if it is made of either galvanized iron, aluminum, concrete/clay tile, half galvanized-half concrete, or asbestos. The outer wall is considered made of strong material if it is made of concrete, brick, stone, wood, half concrete-half wood, galvanized iron, asbestos or glass.

AGRI was determined in the following way: initially, an indicator variable was computed at the barangay level. That variable has the value 1 if more than 50 percent of the households in the barangay were engaged in agriculture or fisheries and 0 otherwise, based on the 2000 CPH Barangay Schedule. To obtain a measure at the PSU level, a weighted average of the barangay indicator variable was computed for all the barangays within the PSU, weighted by the total number of households in the barangay. Thus, the value of AGRI at the PSU level lies between 0 and 1.

PERCAPITA is defined as the total income of the municipality divided by the total population in that municipality. Note that the PERCAPITA value of the PSUs is the same if the PSUs are in the same municipality. The data on municipal income refer to year 2000 and were taken from the Department of Finance. However, if the 2000 municipal income was not reported to the Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF), 2001 income was used. If no 2000 or 2001 municipal income was reported, the income classification from the BLGF for this municipality was obtained. Using the data on income, which are presented in income intervals, the average of the lower and the upper values of the income interval for the municipal class to which this municipality belongs were determined.

## 5. Sample Selection

The 2003 MS consists of a sample of 2,835 PSUs. The entire MS was divided into four sub-samples or independent replicates, such as a quarter sample contains one fourth of the total PSUs; a half sample contains one-half of the four subsamples or equivalent to all PSUs in two replicates.

The final number of sample PSUs for each domain was determined by first classifying PSUs as either self-representing (SR) or non-self-representing (NSR). In addition, to facilitate the selection of subsamples, the total number of NSR PSUs in each region was adjusted to make it a multiple of 4.

SR PSUs refers to a very large PSU in the region/domain with a selection probability of approximately 1 or higher and is outright included in the MS; it is properly treated as a stratum; also known as certainty PSU. NSR PSUs refers to a regular too small sized PSU in a region/domain; also known as non certainty PSU. The 2003 MS consists of 330 certainty PSUs and 2,505 non-certainty PSUs.

To have some control over the sub-sample size, the PSUs were selected with probability proportional to some estimated measure of size. The size measure refers to the total number of households from the 2000 CPH. Because of the wide variation in PSU sizes, PSUs with selection probabilities greater than 1 were identified and were included in the sample as certainty selections.

At the second stage, enumeration areas (EAs) were selected within sampled PSUs, and at the third stage, housing units were selected within sampled EAs. Generally, all households in sampled housing units were enumerated, except for few cases when the number of households in a housing unit exceeds three. In which case, a sample of three households in a sampled housing unit was selected at random with equal probability.

An EA is defined as an area with discernable boundaries within barangays consisting of about 150 contiguous households. These EAs were identified during the 2000 CPH. A housing unit, on the other hand, is a structurally separate and independent place of abode which, by the way it has been constructed, converted, or arranged, is intended for habitation by a household.

## Response Rate

---

Refer to Labor Force Survey (LFS) household response rates

## Weighting

---

Computed using population projection based on 1995 Census of Population. (describe weighting similar to LFS; separate base weight, non-response adjustment and population adjustment)

# Questionnaires

## **Overview**

---

Refer to the attached pdf file of 2008 Survey on Overseas Filipinos questionnaire.

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2008-10-08	2004-10-30	N/A

### Time Periods

Start	End	Cycle
2008-10-08	2008-10-30	N/A

### Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

### Data Collection Notes

Describe various levels of training conducted and when [www.census.gov.ph](http://www.census.gov.ph)

Average length of interview

Narrative report of FOs on the conduct of SOF

No questionnaire translation in local dialect

### Questionnaires

Refer to the attached pdf file of 2008 Survey on Overseas Filipinos questionnaire.

### Data Collectors

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	NSO	NEDA

### Supervision

The Regional Directors (RDs), Provincial statistical Officers (PSOs) , Provincial Statisticians and selected District Statistics Officers (DSOs)/ Statistical Coordination Officers (SCOs) were provided funds for supervision. It is expected that there should always be strict supervision on the conduct of the survey.

Prior to start of field supervision, all field personnel who are authorized to supervise the survey operation were required to prepare an itinerary of travel to insure effective and close supervision of the enumerators. A copy of the itinerary of travel were required to be available in the field office so that in case some problems or other matters require the attention of a supervisor, then he can be located easily.

It is the responsibility of the supervisors to give prompt action to problems in the field. The RDs, PSOs and their assistants should visit enumerators (ENs) within their jurisdiction to find out for themselves if instructions are being followed.

## Data Processing

### **Data Editing**

---

Manual and machine processing were done at the Central Office.

### **Other Processing**

---

For data entry, CSPro Version 2.6 was used

## Data Appraisal

### **Other forms of Data Appraisal**

Please visit the NSO Website for the press release of this survey, (<http://www.census.gov.ph>)