Philippines - Survey on Overseas Filipinos 2007

National Statistics Office

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Overview

Identification

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Version

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

Data gathered in the survey include the demographic and economic characteristics of OFWs and the remittances they send to their families here in the Philippines. Related information such as the place of destination, length of stay abroad, type of work abroad, date of departure and return were also included.

The reporting unit was the household hence the statistics emanating from this survey refer to OFWs who are members of private households. Institutional population is not within the scope of the survey.

Two forms were used in this survey, namely: (1) SOF Form 1 which gathers the socio-economic characteristics of overseas Filipinos and, (2) SOF Form 2 which is a control form.

KIND OF DATA
Sample survey data [ssd]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS
The reporting unit was the household hence the statistics emanating from this survey refer to OFWs who are members of private households.

Scope

NOTES
The Survey of Overseas Filipinos (SOF) is a nationwide survey invollving a probability sample of about 51,000 households. The households to be interviewed are considered representative samples of private households in all provinces of the country.

The survey aims to collect data on overseas Filipinos and their socio-economic characteristics.

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI

Overseas Filipino Workers		
Overseas Contract Workers		

KEYWORDS
Overseas Filipino Workers, Overseas Contract Workers

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE
National Coverage

UNIVERSE
The Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) covered in this report were those working abroad during the period April 1 to September 30 of the reference year and whose families still reside in the country as of time of visit.

The workers who were at home on vacation from their jobs abroad, or those who left earlier than April 1 of the reference year were also included in this report as long as they worked during the specified reference period.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
National Statistics Office	NSO	

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
National Statistics Office	NSO		

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION
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Sampling

Sampling Procedure

Sampling Design

The Survey of Overseas Filipino (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.

1. Domain

The 2003 MS considers the country's 17 administrative regions as defined in Executive Orders (EO) 36 and 131 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 goes along with it. Below are the 17 administrative regions of the country:

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

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 data on the proportion of occupied housing units with roofs and outer walls made of strong materials (PSTRONG), proportion of households engaged in agriculture (AGRI), and a measure of per capita income (PERCAPITA). PSTRONG was calculated using the data from the 2000 CPH. A roof is considered made of strong material if it is made of either galvanized iron, aluminum, concrete or 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 are 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 refers to year 2000 and was 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 the municipality belongs was determined.

5. Sample Selection

To have some control over the subsample 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 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 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.

Weighting

Computed based on the Census 2000-based population projections

Questionnaires

Overview

SOF Form 1 is a two-page questionnaire designed to gather data on the number and socio-economic characteristics of overseas Filipinos and their remittance.

Copy of the questionnaire is provided as External Resources.

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start   **End**   **Cycle**
2007-10-08   2006-10-31   N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

Data Collection Notes

The data collection for the 2007 Survey on Overseas Filipino (SOF) requires considerble manpower to accomplish the task on time. As such, Statistical Researchers (SRs) will be hired as enumerators. SRs to be hired are preferably those with experience in previous Labor Force Survey (LFS/SOF) and other household surveys.

In preparation for the actual SOF enumeration, a one-day was allotted for both regional and provincial briefings.

a. Regional briefing was conducted on October 3, 2007 at the Regional Offices. It was participated by
Regional Directors(RDs), Provincial Statistics Officers (PSOs), Regional and Provincial Statisticians. The Regional Statisticians acted as Trainors.

b. Provincial briefing was conducted on October 5, 2007 at the Provincial Offices. The District Statistical Officers (DSOs), Statisticial Coordinating Officers (SCOs) and hired Statistical Researchers (SRs) attended the briefing.
The Provincial Statistics Officers (PSOs) and Provincial Statisticians acted as Trainors.

The PSOs and Statisticians of Sulu and Tawi-Tawi will attend the training in Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Regional Office in Cotabato City.

The briefings were conducted to ensure the operational concepts and definitions will be carried out for the survey. The importance of probing, consistency of information provided by the Respondents and the filling out of the questionnaires were also given emphasis in the briefing.

Questionnaires

SOF Form 1 is a two-page questionnaire designed to gather data on the number and socio-economic characteristics of overseas Filipinos and their remittance.

Copy of the questionnaire is provided as External Resources.

Data Collectors

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	NSO	Statistics Office

Supervision

The Regional Directors (RDs), Regional Statisticians, the Provincial Statistics Officer (PSOs) and their Provincial Statisticians was provided with 5 mandays each for supervision. The mandays for supervision of District Statistical Officers (DSOs) was allocated by the respective PSOs depending on the number of sample households and sample enumeration areas of the DSOs. As such, DSOs with more workload was given more mandays of supervision while DSOs with lesser workload was given lesser mandays. The PSO may likewise assign enumeration load to DSOs, if he deemed it necessary for the prompt

delivery of results.

Data Processing

Data Editing

The Statistical Researchers (SRs) are expected to have verified the completeness of the questionnaires, correctness of the entries and consistency of the entries in the different related items. Also, the SRs should have checked the correctness of the codes that were entered in the questionnaires before the questionnaires are submitted to the District Statistical Officer (DSO).

After the accomplished questionnaires are folioed and binded by barangays/enumeration areas at the provincial office, the questionnaires are now ready for Manual editing, coding and verification. This process is the manual processing.

Manual Processing

The manual processing includes the foloing of the qestionnaires, completeness and consistency checking of the responses, editing and coding.

DSOs upon receipt of the questionnaires reviewed the questionnaires and code the responses. A general review of the questionnaires was done. A prescribed ballpen color was used during the editing like black ballpen for the provincial staff and red ballpen for the central office supervisors.

Other Processing

Machine Processing

Machine processing involved the editing and checking for correctness and consistency of responses, skipping patterns and data entry.

Machine processing involved all operations that were done with the use of a computer and/or its accessories, that is, from data encoding to tabulation. Coded data were usually in diskettes or CDs.

After the data entry, further verification and processing of questionnaires was done at the provincial offices.

Data Appraisal

Estimates of Sampling Error

Not included in the final report.

Other forms of Data Appraisal

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