

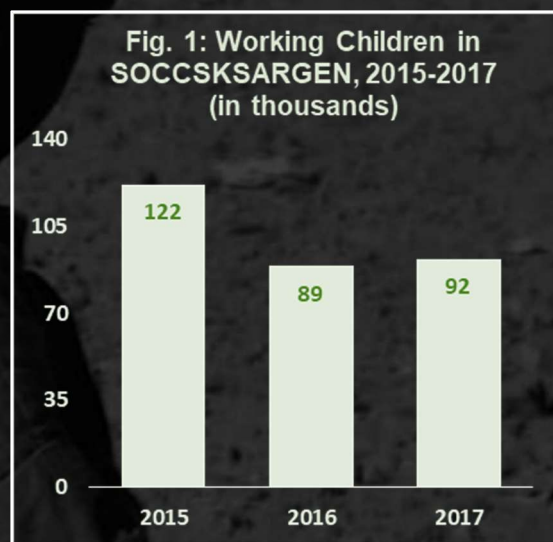
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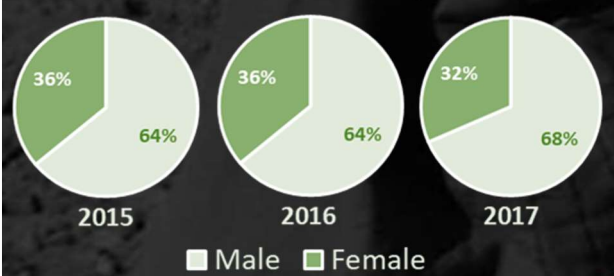
Working Children Statistics in SOCCSKSARGEN Region

The number of working children in SOCCSKSARGEN in 2017 reached 92 thousand, about 6.8% of the country's total number of working children. This is higher compared to its 2016 figure with 89,000. In 2015, this number is also higher and registered at 122 thousand (*Figure 1*). A child is considered working or economically active if at any time during the reference period he engaged in any economic activity for at least one hour. He may be studying, looking for work and/or housekeeping at the same time.



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

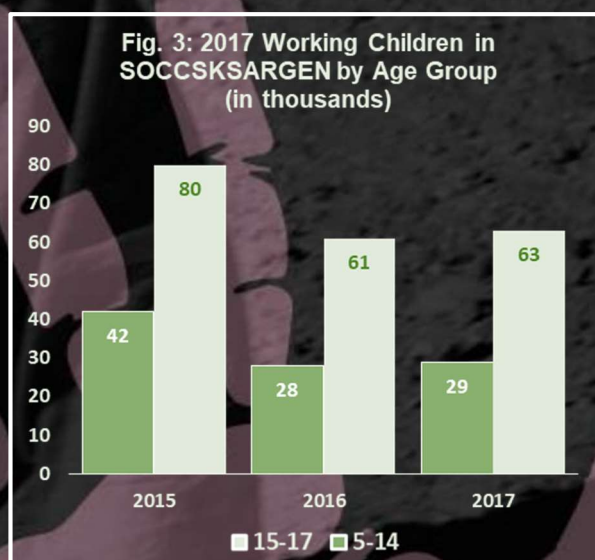
Fig. 2: Working Children Percentage Distribution in SOCCSKSARGEN by Sex, 2015-2017



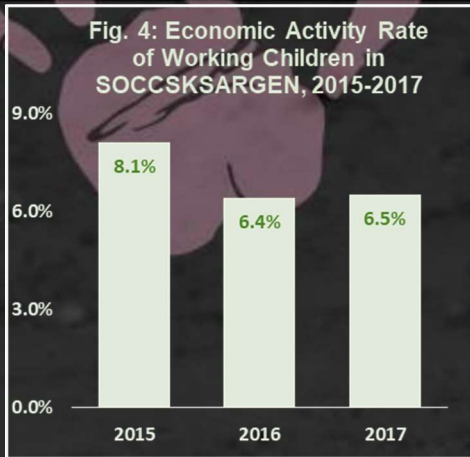
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

In terms of age group, 63 thousand belonged to the 15-17 age group while the remaining 29 thousand belonged to the 5-14 in 2017. This was slightly lower in 2016 which has 61 thousand in the 15-17 age group and 28 thousand in the 5-14 age group. We can see high figures of this in 2015 which has 80 thousand and 42 thousand in the 15-17 and 5-14 age group respectively (*Figure 3*). Statistical inquiries on working children focus on those aged 5-17 years old based on the definition of a child as an individual below 18 years old.

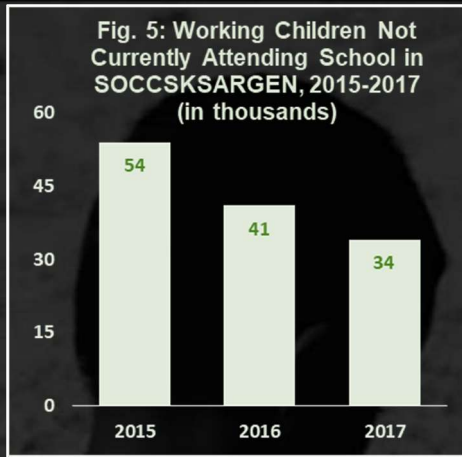
In 2017, 68% of the total working children in SOCCSKSARGEN are male and 32% are female. Male is also higher in 2016 in terms of percentage distribution at 64% while female stood at 36%. Although higher in number, the 2015 has the same figure with that of the 2016 in terms of percentage cut (*Figure 2*).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



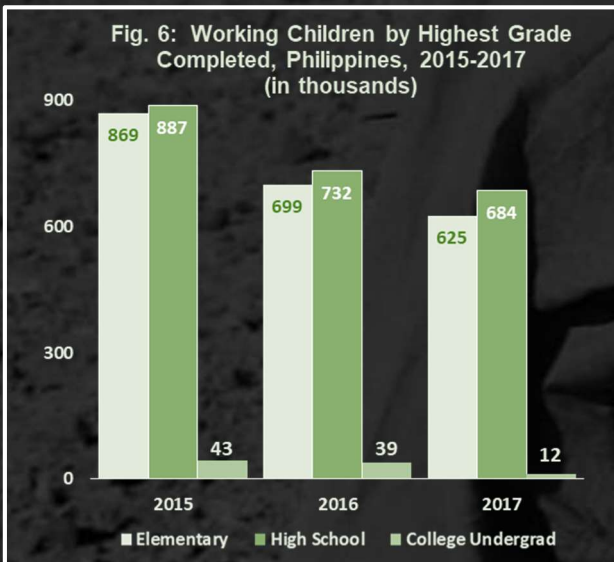
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

In 2017, the economic activity rate of working children in SOCCSKSARGEN was 6.5%. This means that there are 92 thousand working children out of the 1,415 thousand total household population of children 5-17 years of age. The rate is slightly lower in 2016 which is 6.4% and higher in 2015 with 8.1% economic activity rate (Figure 4). Economic activity

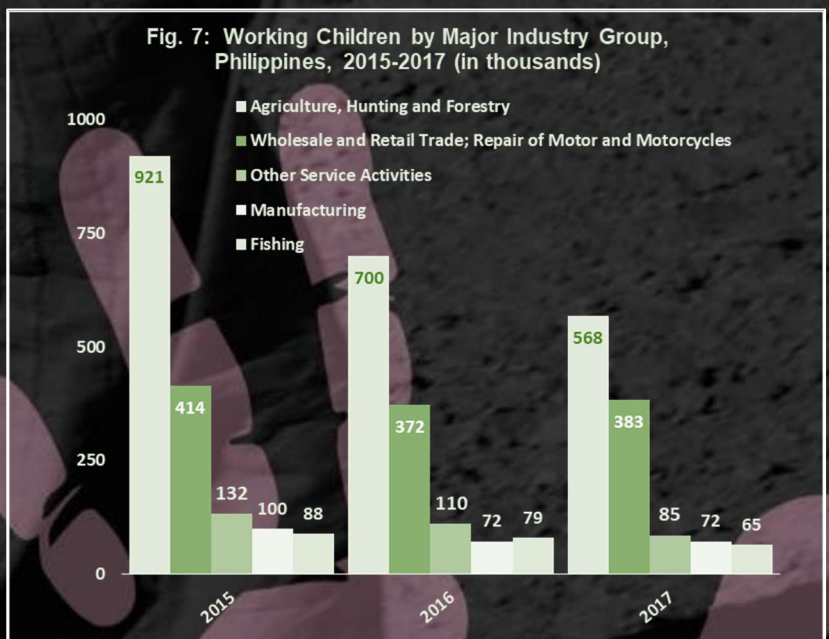
rate is the ratio of total working children to the total household population of children multiplied by 100. The number of working children that is not currently attending school declines from 2015 to 2017. In 2015, it recorded 54 thousand. This dropped to 41 thousand in 2016 and continued to drop in 2017 at 34 thousand (Figure 5).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

By major industry group, working children mostly belonged to Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry in the Philippines with a total number of 921 thousand in 2015, 700 thousand in 2016, and 568 thousand in 2017, a declining trend. It was followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor and Motorcycles with 414 thousand in 2015, 372 thousand in 2016 and 383 thousand in 2017. Shown in Figure 7 are the top 5 major industry group in terms of number where working children belonged to. It includes Other Service Activities, Manufacturing, and Fishing.

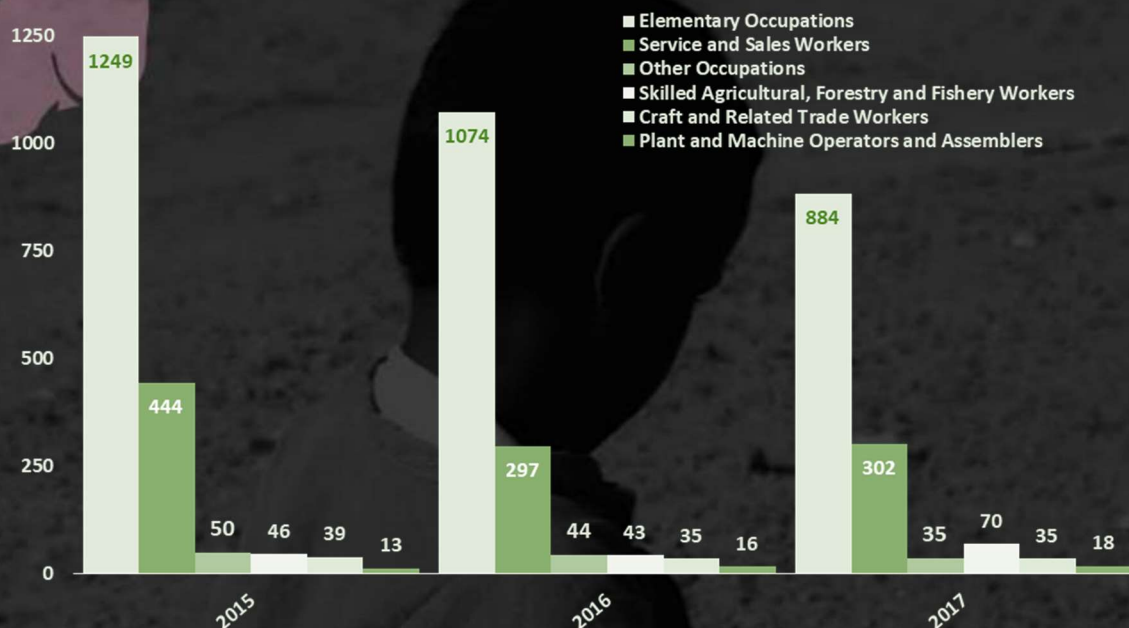
In the Philippines, there were 684 thousand working children who had been to high school (both graduate and undergrad) and 625 thousand in elementary (both graduate and undergrad) in 2017. There were also a few 12 thousand in college (undergrad). These were the declined figures. Going back in 2015, those in high school recorded a high 887 thousand and elementary with 869 thousand. College undergrad also recorded 43 thousand. In 2016, these records declined with those in high school recording 732 thousand, elementary at 699 thousand, and college undergrad at 39 thousand (Figure 6).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



Fig. 8: Working Children by Selected Occupation Group, Philippines, 2015-2017 (in thousands)



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

In terms of selected occupation group, bulk of the working children are in the Elementary Occupations. In 2015 the recorded figure was 1,249 thousand. It declined to 1,074 thousand in 2016 and 884 thousand in 2017. This was followed by Service and Sales Workers occupation group with 444 thousand in 2015, 297 thousand in 2016, and 302 thousand in 2017. Other occupation groups did not went up to a 100 thousand mark (*Figure 8*).

Approved for Release:



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