



SPECIAL RELEASE

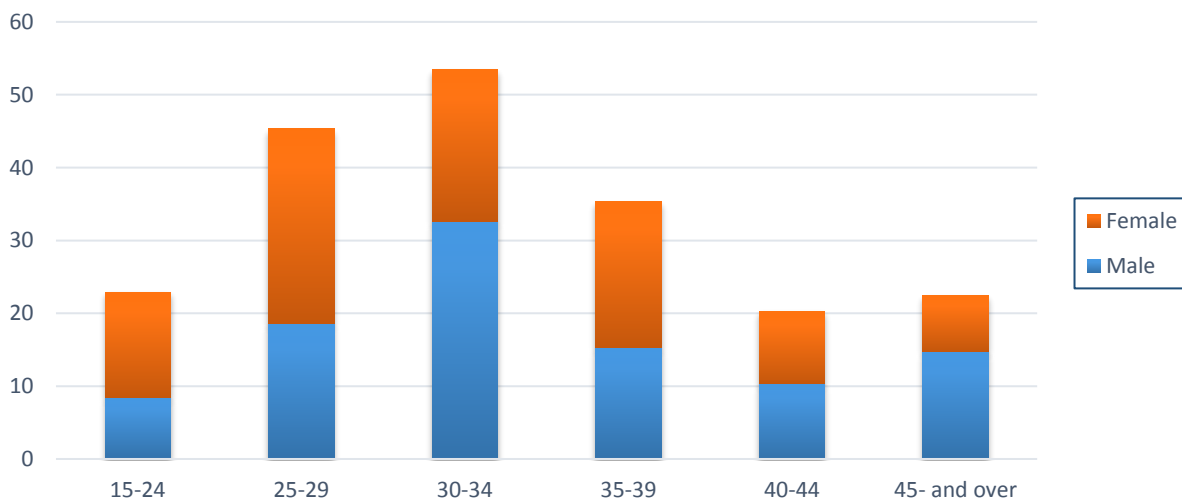
SOCCKSARGEN's Overseas Filipino Workers in 2016 Drops 10.5%

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In 2016, the total overseas Filipino workers who worked abroad at any time during the period April to September 2016 reached 2.2 million, 10.5 percent lower compared to the previous year. Males constituted 2.4 percent and 6.0 percent were females. Among the 17 regions in the country, SOCCSKSARGEN Region ranked 7th with the highest number of overseas workers at 4.3 percent.

Figure 1. Distribution of Overseas Filipino Workers by Age Group and Sex, Mindanao: 2016

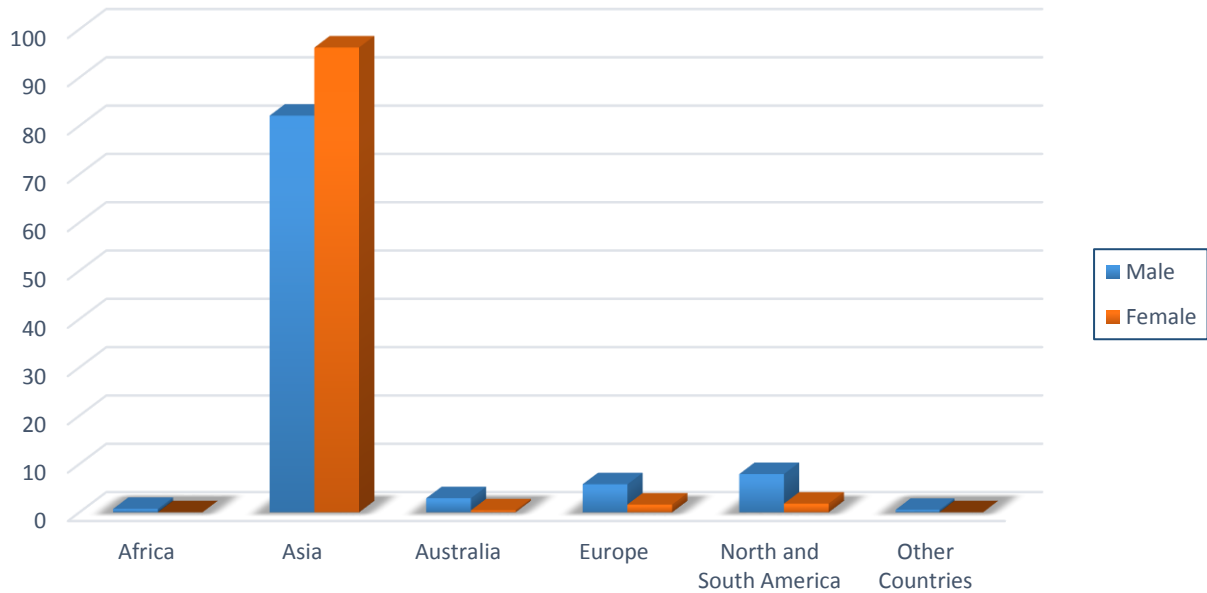


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2016 Survey on Overseas Filipinos

The total overseas Filipino workers in Mindanao was estimated at 360,000 where 65.8 percent were females and 34.2 percent were males. Almost a fourth of them (24.9%) belonged to the age group 30-34 years old. They were followed by 25-29 year old (23.9%), 35-39 years old (18.5%), 15-24 year old (12.4%), 40-44 years old (10.1%), and 45- and over (10.1%).



Figure 2. Distribution of Overseas Filipino Workers by Place of Work and Sex, Mindanao: 2016



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2016 Survey on Overseas Filipinos



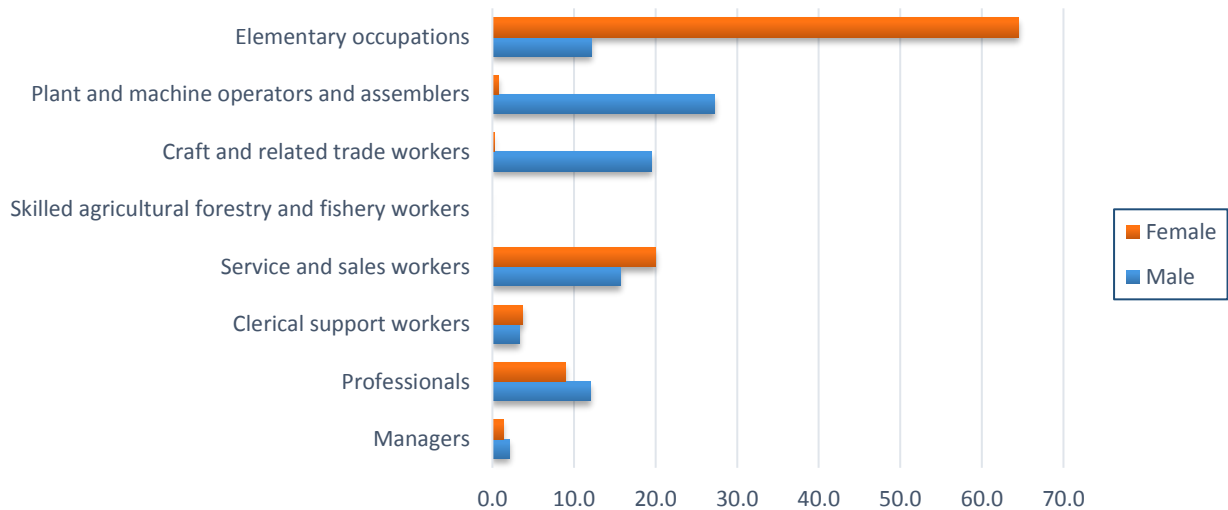
Of the 360,000 OFWs in Mindanao in 2016, 91.4 percent of them worked in Asia followed by North and South America (3.9%), Europe (3.1%), Australia (1.2%), Africa (0.2%), and 0.2%, other countries.



Overall, the Philippines recorded 2.2 million OFWs in 2016. About 56.9 percent of those OFWs in the country worked in Western Asia (Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar, and other countries such as Bahrain, Israel, Lebanon, and Jordan) followed by 17.9 percent in East Asia (Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, China, and South Korea); Southeast and South Central Asia (Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Cambodia, and Indonesia), 10.2 percent; Europe, 6.6 percent; North and South America, 5.6 percent; Australia, 1.4 percent; and other countries, at less than 0.1 percent.



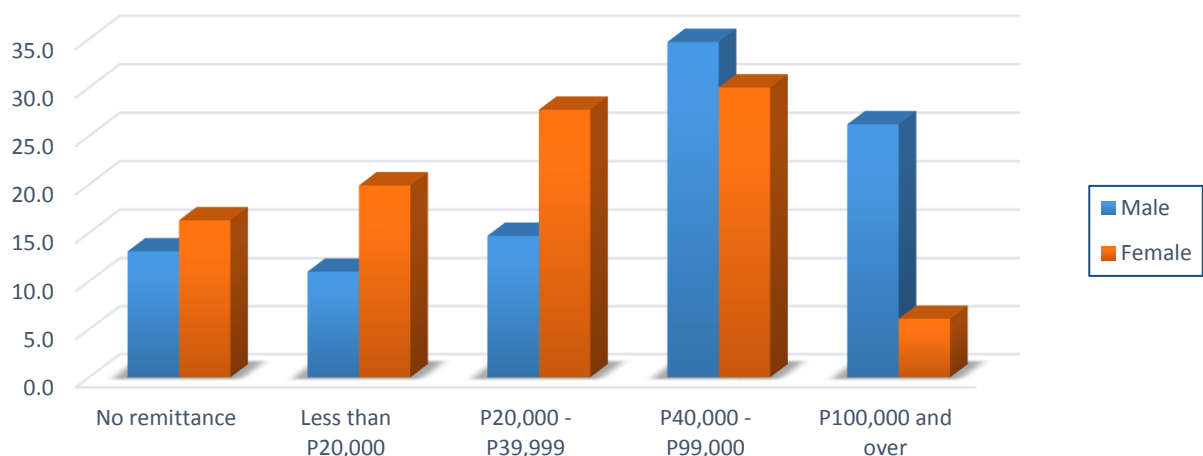
Figure 3. Distribution of Overseas Filipino Workers by Major Occupation Group and Sex, Mindanao: 2016



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2016 Survey on Overseas Filipinos

Majority (46.6%) of the OFWs from Mindanao have elementary occupations. Elementary occupations involve the performance of simple and routine tasks which may require the use of handled tools and considerable physical effort. More than half (64.5%) of the female OFWs from the island were in elementary occupations. The largest distribution of male OFWs worked as plant and machine operators and assemblers (27.2%).

Figure 4. Distribution of Overseas Filipino Workers by Cash Remittance and Sex, Mindanao: 2016





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About 3 for every 10 OFWs had an average total cash remittance ranging from P40, 000 - P99, 999 during the past 6 months prior to the survey. Male OFWs shared about 34.7 percent of the cash remittance in the said range and 30.0 percent were from female OFWs.

About 13.0 percent of them had a cash remittance of between P100, 000 and over. About 23.2 percent had a remittance ranging from P20, 000 – P39, 999 while 16.9 percent had less than P20, 000 cash remittance. On the other hand, about 15.2 percent had no remittance at all.

Technical Notes:

Who are the Overseas Filipinos?

For purposes of this survey, the following are considered as overseas Filipinos as long as their departure occurred within the given five-year period:

1. Filipino OCWs who are presently and temporarily out of the country to fulfill an overseas work contract for a specific length of time, or who are presently at home on vacation but still has an existing contract to work abroad. They may either be landbased or seabased.
 - a) *Landbased workers* – these are OCWs who are hired either by direct hiring of an employer abroad, or through the assistance of Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), or through a private and licensed recruitment agency. They may have returned to the Philippines for a vacation (annual or emergency leave), or have transferred to other employers, or were rehired by their former employer.
 - b) *Seabased workers* – these are OCWs who worked or are working in any kind of international fishing/passenger/cargo vessels. Included also are OCWs who worked or are working for a shipping company abroad.
2. Other Filipino workers abroad with a valid working visa or work permit. Included also are crew members of airplanes such as pilots, stewards, stewardesses and other whose employers are foreign nationals.
3. Filipino workers other than those who work on contractual basis. These include Filipinos who went out of the country through backdoor means and worked there during the reference period.
4. Filipino whose place of assignment is outside the Philippines but whose employer is the Philippine government.



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5. Filipinos who are sent abroad by the Philippine government or by private institutions for training, scholarship or any other similar purpose, even if they are known to be working abroad.
6. Filipinos working in other countries who are hired as consultants/advisors of international organizations such as the United Nations, International Monetary Fund and others.
7. Filipino immigrants and residents in other countries.
8. Filipinos abroad who are holders of other types of non-immigrant visa such as visa for tourist/visitor, student, medical treatment and others.

Limitations of the survey

1. The OFWs covered in this report were those working abroad during the period April 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016. The workers who were at home on vacation from their jobs abroad 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.
2. The SOF did not ask for the total salary received by the OFWs. Hence, the remittances presented in the results may just be a part of the total salary received by the OFWs.

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