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# OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES and SURPLUSES: 2015-2016 ...STATISTICS ON JOB VACANCIES 

(Third of a series)
This LABSTAT Updates is the third in a series of reports that presents the highlights of the results of the 2015/2016 Integrated Survey on Labor and Employment (ISLE) module entitled Occupational Shortages and Surpluses. Conducted every two years, the ISLE is a nationwide sample survey covering agricultural and non-agricultural establishments with 20 or more workers. The latest survey, 2015/2016 ISLE, covered 12,926 establishments.

The indicator for employment by occupation comprises statistics on job vacancies classified according to major groups as defined in the 2012 Philippine Standard Occupational Classification (PSOC). This version of the PSOC distinguishes 10 major groups: (1) Managers; (2) Professionals; (3) Technicians and associate professionals; (4) Clerical support workers; (5) Service and sales workers; (6) Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers; (7) Craft and related trade workers; (8) Plant and machine operators and assemblers; (9) Elementary occupations; and (10) Armed forces occupations. This issue presents statistics on job openings or vacancies that were made available for placements by establishments during the 18-month period covering January 2015 to June 2016 specifically for professional positions.

| Job Vacancies | and |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Applicants | for | the |
| Professional | Group of |  |
| Occupations |  |  |

- From January 2015 to June 2016, a total of 91,175 of job vacancies for professional positions were recorded in all major industries. This was around 13 percent of the 698,683 total vacancies in all occupations during the period.
- Job vacancies during the period were mostly recorded in the services sector at 86.27 percent. Industry sector had 13.55 percent while agriculture shared the remaining 0.18 percent of job openings. (Figure 1)

- By industry, education (25.82\% or 23,540 ) posted the largest number of vacancies, followed by administrative support services activities with a share of 17.28 percent or 15,751 vacancies. Thirty percent (30\%) were the shares of information and communication (11.13\% or $10,144)$; human health and social work activities ( $9.85 \%$ or 8,984 ), and manufacturing ( $9.06 \%$ or 8,259). (Table 1)
- Meanwhile, a total of 559,636 applicants were posted in all vacant positions for professionals, around 15 percent of the $3,824,983$ job seekers during the period.
- Eighty one percent (81\%) of the total number of applicants for the group of professionals applied in the services sector. The rest applied in the industry and agriculture sectors with 18.22 percent and 0.11 percent shares, respectively. (Figure 2)

- Across industries, most of the applicants vied for job openings in information and communication (16.29 percent or 91,148 ), and in administrative and support service activities (6.12 percent or 90,248).
- Other industries with substantial share of aspirants for professional positions were: professional, scientific and technical activities (14.7\% or 82,499); manufacturing (13.2\% or 73,651 ); education (13.0\% or 72,877 ) and wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (10.0\% or 56,200). (Table 1)

Noticeable surplus of mining engineers, metallurgists and related professionals

- Occupational surplus occurs when there is abundance of applicants in a vacant position, assumed if there are excess or more than ten (10) applicants per vacancy.
- Mining and quarrying recorded occupational surplus for any professional positions with an average of 36 applicants per vacancy.
- The abundance of applicants was also evident in the professional, scientific and technical activities with a ratio of 12 applicants per vacancy (Table 1).
- By occupation, there were 71 applicants vied for every vacant position as mining engineers, metallurgist and related professionals (Table 3). Other occupations with considerable surplus of applicants were: paramedical practitioners, policy administration professionals, financial and investment advisers and financial analysts with more than 20 applicants per vacancy (Table 3 and Figure 3)



## Shortage of applicants for human health and social work activities

- Occupational shortages occur when there are insufficient applicants to fill up job vacancies.
- At the industry level, the scarcity of applicants was observed in human health and social work activities; water supply, sewerage, wage management and remediation activities;
- Insufficiency of applicants was also identified in the following group of professionals: physiotherapists, nursing professionals; economists, dentists, pharmacists, social work and counseling professionals;
education; agriculture, forestry and fishing; and art entertainment and recreation with applicants ranging from 2 to 4 per vacancy (Table 1).
- The specific occupations placed at the bottom in terms of applicant/vacancy ratio were: special medical practitioners, generalist medical practitioners, landscape architects, archivists and curators, vocational education teachers, and midwifery professionals.
teachers; announcers on radio, television and other media; veterinarians; journalists; and civil, electronic, electrical and mechanical engineers. These occupation titles reportedly had less than five (5) applicants per vacant position (Table 3).



## Rest of the industries

- The remaining industries with a record of 5 to 9 applicants per vacancy were: construction; administrative and support service activities; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; transportation and storage; financial and insurance activities; wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; manufacturing; accommodation and food service activities; information and communication; and real estate activities. (Table 1)
- Among the professional group of occupations with registered sufficient (neither surpluses nor shortages) applicants per vacancy ratio were: chemical engineers; mathematicians, actuaries and statisticians; product and garment designers; lawyers; information and communications technology sales professionals; web and multimedia developers; town and traffic planners; accountants; dieticians and nutritionists; telecommunication engineers; building architects; application programmers; and systems analysts. (Table 3)


## Definition of Terms

Professionals are workers who increase their existing stock of knowledge, apply scientific or artistic concepts and theories, teach about the foregoing in a systematic manner, or engage in any combination of these activities. Tasks performed by professionals usually include: conducting analysis and research, and developing concepts, theories and operational methods, and advising on or applying existing knowledge related to physical sciences, life sciences, social sciences and humanities; teaching at different educational levels; providing various business, legal and social services; creating and performing works of art; providing spiritual guidance; preparing scientific papers and reports. Supervision of other workers may be included.
(Source: 2012 Philippine Standard Occupational Classification)

## For Inquiries

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TABLE 1 - Number of Vacancies and Applicants for Professional Positions by Major Industry Group Philippines: January 2015 to June 2016

| Major Industry Group | Vacancies | Applicants | Applicants per vacancy |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 91,175 | 559,636 |  |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 167 | 636 | 3.8 |
| Mining and quarrying | 314 | 11,450 | 36.5 |
| Manufacturing | 8,259 | 73,651 | 8.9 |
| Electricity, gas steam and air conditioning supply | 362 | 2,300 | 6.3 |
| Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities | 347 | 1,023 | 3.0 |
| Construction | 3,073 | 16,035 | 5.2 |
| Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 7,220 | 56,200 | 7.8 |
| Transportation and storage | 775 | 4,971 | 6.4 |
| Accommodation and food service activities | 603 | 5,135 | 8.5 |
| Information and communication | 10,144 | 91,148 | 9.0 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 2,976 | 20,565 | 6.9 |
| Real estate activities | 1,115 | 10,341 | 9.3 |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities | 6,632 | 82,499 | 12.4 |
| Administrative and support service activities | 15,751 | 90,248 | 5.7 |
| Education | 23,540 | 72,877 | 3.1 |
| Human health and social work activities | 8,984 | 17,445 | 1.9 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | 669 | 2,662 | 4.0 |
| Other service activities | 243 | 450 | 1.9 |

Note: Details may not add up to total due to rounding.
Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authoritv, 2015/2016 ISLE.

TABLE 2 - Number of Vacancies and Applicants for Professionals in Establishments with 20 or More Workers by Occupation Philippines: January 2015 to June 2016

| OCCUPATION TITLE | Vacancies |  | Applicants |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percent to Total | Number | Percent to Total |
| Total | 91,175 |  | 559,636 |  |
| Nursing Professionals | 10,552 | 11.57 | 23,521 | 4.20 |
| Advertising and Marketing Professionals | 8,512 | 9.34 | 63,519 | 11.35 |
| Secondary Education Teachers | 8,188 | 8.98 | 30,121 | 5.38 |
| University and Higher Education Teachers | 7,582 | 8.32 | 19,379 | 3.46 |
| Software Developers | 4,388 | 4.81 | 44,745 | 8.00 |
| Technical and Medical Sales Professionals (excluding ICT) | 4,020 | 4.41 | 39,638 | 7.08 |
| Civil Engineers | 3,573 | 3.92 | 13,557 | 2.42 |
| Accountants | 3,319 | 3.64 | 25,219 | 4.51 |
| Database Designers and Administrators | 3,039 | 3.33 | 10,024 | 1.79 |
| Primary School Teachers | 3,003 | 3.29 | 8,765 | 1.57 |
| Industrial and Production Engineers | 2,945 | 3.23 | 24,486 | 4.38 |
| Computer Network Professionals | 2,405 | 2.64 | 34,080 | 6.09 |
| Mechanical Engineers | 1,929 | 2.12 | 9,215 | 1.65 |
| Personnel and Careers Professionals | 1,740 | 1.91 | 19,838 | 3.54 |
| Financial Analysts | 1,640 | 1.80 | 36,991 | 6.61 |
| Electronics Engineers | 1,631 | 1.79 | 6,459 | 1.15 |
| Electrical Engineers | 1,506 | 1.65 | 6,372 | 1.14 |
| Training and Staff Development Professionals | 1,427 | 1.57 | 6,949 | 1.24 |
| Systems Analysts | 1,424 | 1.56 | 13,761 | 2.46 |
| Applications Programmers | 1,249 | 1.37 | 11,139 | 1.99 |
| Information and Communications Technology Sales Professionals | 1,092 | 1.20 | 7,726 | 1.38 |
| Graphic and Multimedia Designers | 1,003 | 1.10 | 7,573 | 1.35 |
| Systems Administrators | 1,001 | 1.10 | 18,000 | 3.23 |

[^0]Table 3. Number of Applicants per Vacancy for Professional Positions by Occupation, Philippines: January 2015 to June 2016

| OCCUPATION TITLE | Applicants/ Vacancy |
| :---: | :---: |
| Mining Engineers, Metallurgists and Related Professionals | 70.9 |
| Paramedical Practitioners | 28.5 |
| Policy Administration Professionals | 23.2 |
| Financial and Investment Advisers | 22.7 |
| Financial Analysts | 22.6 |
| Environmental Engineers | 18.8 |
| Systems Administrators | 18.1 |
| Biologists, Botanists, Zoologists and Related Professionals | 17.4 |
| Computer Network Professionals | 14.2 |
| Personnel and Careers Professionals | 11.4 |
| Software Developers | 10.2 |
| Technical and Medical Sales Professionals (excluding ICT) | 9.9 |
| Systems Analysts | 9.7 |
| Building Architects | 9.6 |
| Applications Programmers | 8.9 |
| Telecommunications Engineers | 8.4 |
| Industrial and Production Engineers | 8.3 |
| Lawyers | 8.2 |
| Dieticians and Nutritionists | 7.9 |
| Accountants | 7.6 |
| Graphic and Multimedia Designers | 7.5 |
| Advertising and Marketing Professionals | 7.5 |
| Town and Traffic Planners | 7.3 |
| Information and Communications Technology Sales Professionals | 7.1 |
| Public Relations Professionals | 6.9 |
| Product and Garment Designers | 6.5 |
| Librarians and Related Information Professionals | 6.2 |
| Visual Artists | 5.7 |
| Web and Multimedia Developers | 5.5 |
| Translators, Interpreters and Other Linguists | 5.5 |
| Mathematicians, Actuaries and Statisticians | 5.3 |
| Chemical Engineers | 5.0 |
| Training and Staff Development Professionals | 4.9 |
| Film, Stage and Related Directors and Producers | 4.8 |
| Mechanical Engineers | 4.8 |
| Geologists and Geophysicists | 4.8 |
| Chemists | 4.7 |
| Authors and Related Writers | 4.6 |
| Farming, Forestry and Fisheries Advisers | 4.6 |
| Information Technology Trainers | 4.4 |
| Musicians, Singers and Composers | 4.4 |
| Psychologists | 4.4 |
| Electrical Engineers | 4.2 |
| Cartographers and Surveyors | 4.1 |
| Audiologists and Speech Therapists | 4.0 |
| Early Childhood Educators | 4.0 |
| Electronics Engineers | 4.0 |

Table 3. Number of Applicants per Vacancy for Professional Positions by Occupation, Philippines: January 2015 to June 2016 (Concluded)

| OCCUPATION TITLE | Applicants/ <br> Vacancy |
| :--- | :---: |
| Education Methods Specialists | 3.2 |
| Environmental Protection Professionals | 3.0 |
| Primary School Teachers | 2.9 |
| Announcers on Radio, Television and Other Media | 2.6 |
| University and Higher Education Teachers | 2.6 |
| Dentists | 2.5 |
| Pharmacists | 2.5 |
| Religious Professionals | 2.4 |
| Social Work and Counseling Professionals | 2.4 |
| Economists | 2.4 |
| Nursing Professionals | 2.2 |
| Physicists and Astronomers | 2.0 |
| Physiotherapists | 2.0 |
| Midwifery Professionals | 1.8 |
| Vocational Education Teachers | 1.7 |
| Archivists and Curators | 1.7 |
| Landscape Architects | 1.6 |
| Generalist Medical Practitioners | 1.4 |
| Specialist Medical Practitioners | 1.2 |


[^0]:    Note: Details may not add up to total due to rounding
    Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2015/2016 ISLE

