



PRESS RELEASE

PSA Approves the Conduct of the 2018 Survey on Overseas Filipinos (SOF)

Date of Release: 04 July 2018

Reference No. 2018- 108

To provide essential information on overseas Filipinos, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) approved the clearance for the conduct of the 2018 Survey on Overseas Filipinos (SOF) on 20 June 2018.

The SOF 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 transfer received by the families and mode of remittance.

A total of 5,000 individuals and 45,000 households will be selected for the SOF. The survey will utilize a total of Php 132,500 for printing expense. The 2018 SOF is a rider survey to the October 2018 round of the Labor Force Survey (LFS).

Results from the 2017 SOF, which covered the period April to September 2017, show that:

- The number of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who worked abroad at any time during the reference period was estimated at 2.3 million. Overseas Contract Workers (OCWs) or those with existing work contracts comprised 97.0 percent of the total OFWs during the period April to September 2017.
- CALABARZON has the largest proportion of OFWs with 20.7 percent of the total OFWs while the region with the least proportion of OFWs was from Caraga with 1.7 percent.
- There were more female OFWs (53.7 percent) than male OFWs (46.3 percent). On the other hand, the largest proportion of OFWs belonged to the age group 30 to 34 years old comprising 21.7 percent of all OFWs, followed by those aged 25 to 29 years old with 20.4 percent.
- Saudi Arabia was the leading country of destination among OFWs (25.4 percent). Other popular destinations were United Arab Emirates (15.3 percent), Kuwait (6.7 percent), Hong Kong (6.5 percent), and Qatar (5.5 percent).



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PSA Complex, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1101
Telephone: (632) 938-5267
www.psa.gov.ph

- The total remittance sent by OFWs during the period April to September 2017 was estimated at Php 205.2 billion. These remittances include cash sent home (Php 146.8 billion), cash brought home (Php 48.3 billion), and remittances in kind (Php 10.1 billion).

The SOF was reviewed and cleared for conduct under the Statistical Survey Review and Clearance System (SSRCS), a mechanism being implemented by the PSA by virtue of Rule 28 of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) No. 10625 to:

- ensure sound design for data collection;
- minimize the burden placed upon respondents;
- effect economy in statistical data collection;
- eliminate unnecessary duplication of statistical data collection efforts; and
- achieve better coordination of government statistical activities.

In line with this, the PSA enjoins the public to support the said survey.

For further information on SSRCS, please contact the Statistical Standards Division (SSD) of the Standards Service (SS) with telephone numbers (02) 376-1928 and (02) 376-1931, and email address: ssd.staff@psa.gov.ph or ssdss.staff@gmail.com.

Lisa Grace S. Bersales

LISA GRACE S. BERSALES, Ph.D.

Undersecretary

National Statistician and Civil Registrar General

JBP/CJA/PARSBJAHG