

GFMD Thematic Workshop

“CHILDREN AND YOUTH ON THE MOVE: IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS”

Reflections II:

HOW DO CHILDREN WHO DO NOT MOVE EXPERIENCE MIGRATION?



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Commission on Filipinos Overseas
Philippines

2013 STOCK ESTIMATE OF OVERSEAS FILIPINOS

Commission on Filipinos Overseas

www.cfo.gov.ph

Total: 10.21 million

IRREGULAR

1.16 million

11%

PERMANENT

4.87 million

48%

TEMPORARY

4.21 million

41%

2017 Survey of Overseas Filipinos

Source: Phil. Statistics Authority



2.34M
OFWs

2.27M
OCWs

The number of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who worked abroad at anytime during the period April to September 2017 was estimated at 2.3 million. Of these total OFW, those with existing work contract comprised 97.0 percent and the rest worked overseas without contract

53.7%

FEMALE

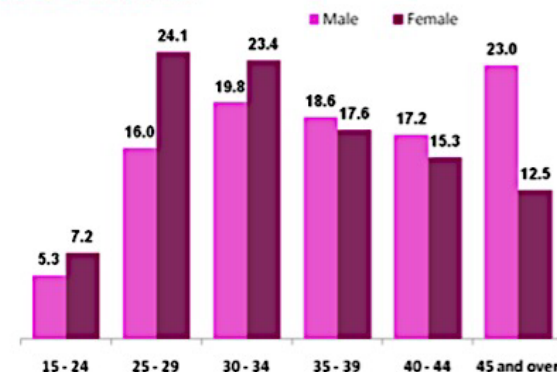


46.3%

MALE

More females than males among the OFWs, with the former comprising 53.7 percent of the total OFWs.

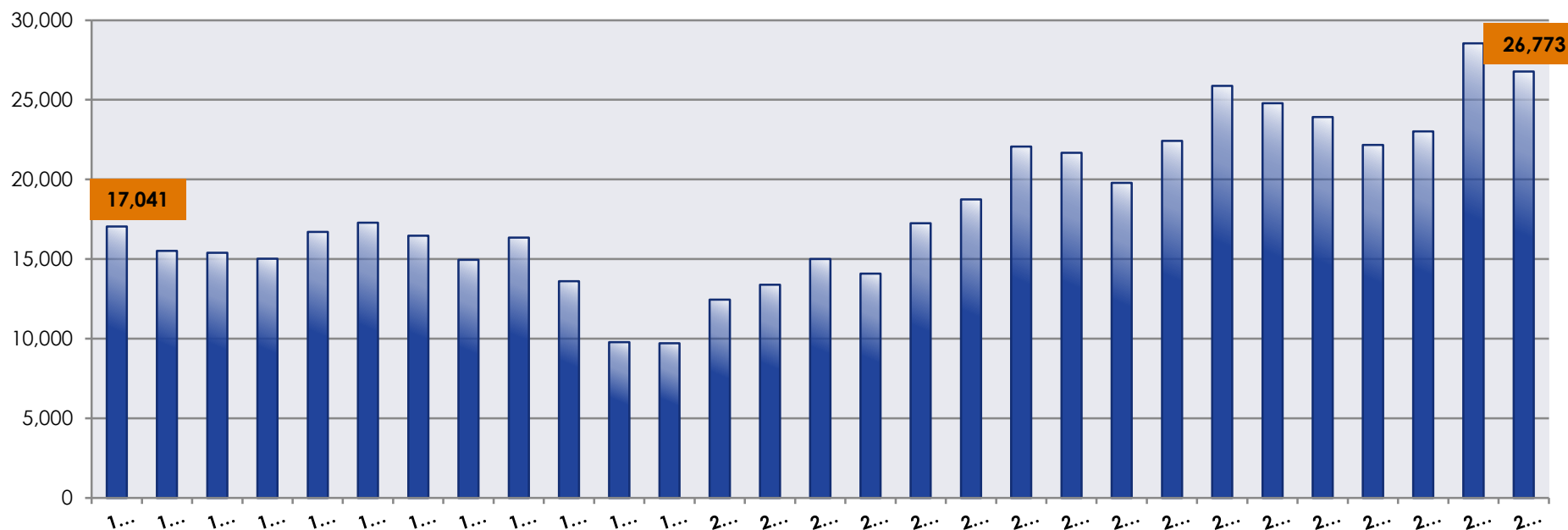
AGE GROUP



The female OFWs were generally younger than the male OFWs .

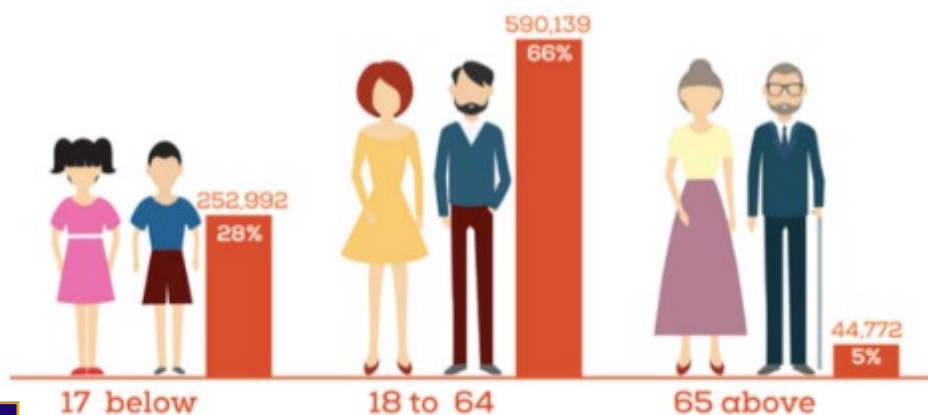
NUMBER OF REGISTERED FILIPINO EMIGRANTS BY AGE GROUP AND COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

1988 - 2016



Source:

Commission on Filipinos Overseas (www.cfo.gov.ph)



NUMBER OF REGISTERED FILIPINO EMIGRANTS BY AGE (2005-2015)

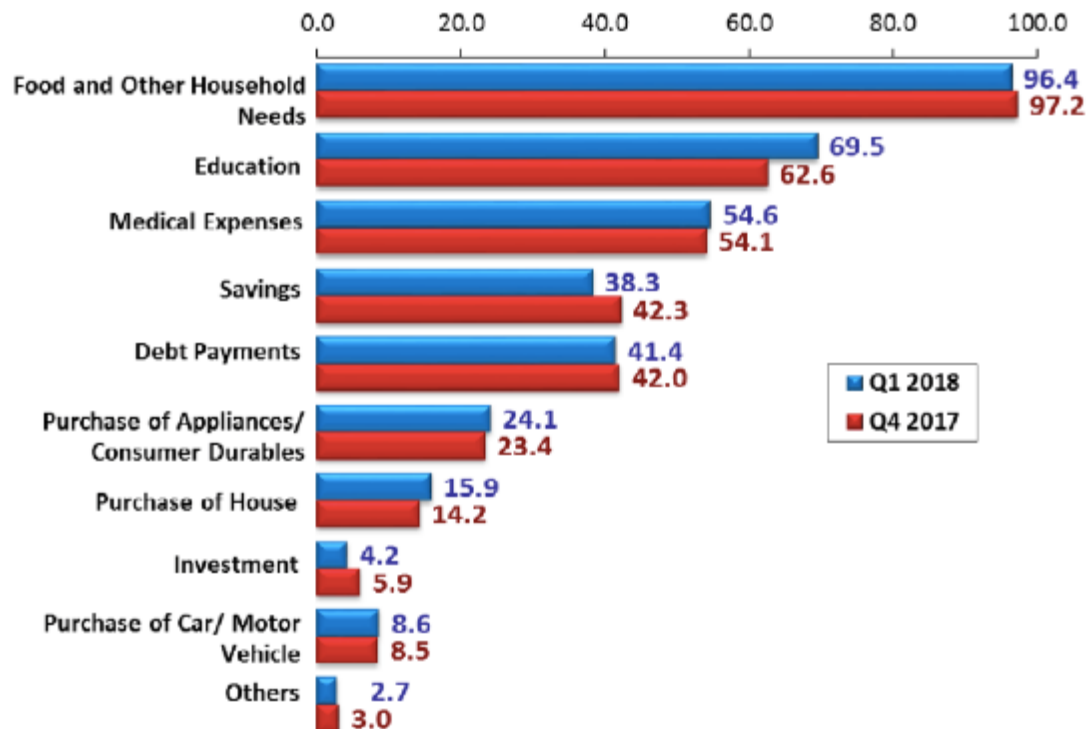
The average age of a Filipino emigrant is 31 years old.
28% of emigrants are 17 below.



How do Filipino households spend remittances received?

- 2017 Remittances to PH reached **\$28,059,789,000**
- Overseas Filipinos sent an average of P52,000 or roughly \$1,000 per month
- 1st Quarter 2018 Consumer Expectations Survey by Central Bank (BSP)
- Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) Households used remittances for the following:

- ✓ **food and household needs:** 96.4%
- ✓ **education:** 69.5%
- ✓ **medical expenses:** 54.6%
- ✓ **savings:** 38.3%
- ✓ **debt payments:** 41.4%
- ✓ **purchase of appliances:** 24.1%
- ✓ **purchase of house:** 15.9%
- ✓ **investment:** 4.2%
- ✓ **purchase of car/motor vehicle:** 8.6%



Impact of Financial and Social Remittances on Children Left Behind

- Better access to health and education (OECD, 2016)
- Enhance the children's material well-being (CHAMPSEA Study, 2003)
- Having a migrant parent affect general well-being of children left behind (CHAMPSEA Study, 2003)
- Most children declared themselves either very happy or happy, Children in less frequent contact with migrant parents were generally disadvantaged in relation to their subjective well being (CHAMPSEA, 2003)
- In general, there were no statistically significant differences in the schooling outcomes of children residing with both parents and those with parents working abroad except in cases where both parents were working abroad (Arguillas and Williams, 2010)
- Remittances create some form of dependency (social behavior)
- Children left behind encounter difficulty in searching for role models
- Cross border caregiving and long distance mothering = multiple burden and sacrifice
- Parental absence deprive children of emotional support and care that are detrimental to the children's welfare (CHAMPSEA, 2003)
- Gendered expectations on parenting roles (CHAMPSEA, 2003)



Hearts Apart by Scalabrini Migration Center (2003)

- Parental absence creates “displacement, disruptions, and changes in care giving arrangement”
- “When men migrate, the left-behind wives indeed assumed more responsibilities with their dual roles as fathers and mothers. But when women migrate it appears that families go through more adjustments – this is not surprising because changes in women’s roles often have more implications for the family than changes in men’s roles. If women assume men’s responsibilities, when the women are not around, men do not as readily take up care giving.”

Looking after the left-behind families of OFW: the Philippine Experience

by Dr. Maruja Asis (2013)

- Children of migrants were not disadvantaged in terms of health and well-being outcomes when compared with the children of non-migrants (SMC, 2011)
- Emerging roles of fathers as carers in mother-migrant households
- Left behind families have been able to cope with the support of the extended family. Even with migration, child care continues to be provided by family and kin

Social costs of migration on children





Peso SENSE
(government)

OFW Watch
(government)



OFW Family Circles



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS-LEGAZPI
OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES
OFW DEPENDENTS, SINGLE PARENTS, AND DIFFERENTLY- ABLED STUDENT ASSOCIATION
CITY OF LEGAZPI
OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

BRING YOU
OFW FAMILY DAY
Year 5

ENHANCING REINTEGRATION: LEAVING NO MIGRANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES BEHIND

DECEMBER 1, 2017
7:30AM-5:00PM
DARAGANG MAGAYON HALL

PARTICIPANTS: SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS (OFW DEPENDENTS)
ATTIRE: SHADES OF RED
WITH GUIDANCE POINTS, FREE LUNCH, GAMES AND MORE!

Addressing social costs of migration on children



COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS



ATIKHA
(civil-society led)

Are you a Japanese Filipino
or a Transnational child?
We've got something for you!

Join us in a day of fun filled
activities and know more about..

Batis-YOGHI

(Youth Organization that
Gives Hope and Inspiration)

awesome!!



Batis-YOGHI
(civil-society led)

Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI 2)



Addressing social costs of migration on children



COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS

Second Generation and the 1.5 Generation Migrants on Transnational Families and Identities

Transnationalized Belonging: Second Generation Filipinos in England (Llangco, 2013)

- Decision to not talk or tell about the parental homeland is a **strategy justified to facilitate the child's integration to the new homeland** so as not to confuse them while they are in the process of adapting to life in the UK
- Resulted to making them '**puzzled children**' and losing a functional knowledge of the life in the Philippines
- Second generation as **agents of transnationalism**

Filipino Migrant Youth In Rome, Italy (Valenzuela, 2011)

- The 1.5 generation Filipino children and youth brought to Italy tend to **suffer more** compared to Italian-born Filipinos who have fewer problems integrating. They become as Italian as any native child, taking as many of their values, culture and habits, as compared to a 1.5 generation out of school youth who may face **emotional and identity issues, rendering them vulnerable to risky behavior**



- Local government units can launch systems of **continuous monitoring of children and families' well being**
- Need for **programs directed to adults in charge of households, migrants and non-migrants on parenting and guidance**
- **Research** to examine profile, issues and problems of family fragmentation remittance dependency, risky behavior of children **towards targeted policy formulation**
- **National and local policies or long-term programs for children and families left behind** to include guidance and counseling, mentoring and values formation, post-arrival services for those joining their migrant families and **creation of migrant centers in local communities**
- Hold **dialogues or fora** with families left behind
- Include family members in **Pre-Departure Orientation Seminars**
- **Provide support to those who stay behind** – legal, social and financial assistance to households with absent parents (Perspectives on Global Development 2017: International Migration in a Shifting World, OECD)
- Make return sustainable by attracting emigrant back and **reintegrating** them (OECD, 2017)
- Enhance **family reunification policies**

Recommendations



Establish cultural
resource centers
in diplomatic posts



Youth Leaders in the
Diaspora (YouLead)

YOULEAD
2018 EXPERIENCE

Turning our Hearts to Home

JUNE 18-22, 2018
MANILA | BULACAN | ZAMBALES
PROGRAM FEE: 200 USD

Register now at www.youlead.cfo.gov.ph

Engage the youth diaspora

UGNAYAN SA CANADA MAY 10-18, 2018
Youth Forum and Consultation with Filipino Migrants in Canada

OTTAWA, ONTARIO
May 10, 2018 (Thursday)
Sentro Rizal Inauguration
Philippine Embassy, Ottawa
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Consultation Meeting with Filcom
Chancery's Mindanao Hall, PE Ottawa
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

TORONTO, ONTARIO
May 12, 2018 (Saturday)
Youth Forum and Consultation
Venue: TBA
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sentro Rizal Inauguration
Philippine Consulate General, Toronto
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm



Philippine Schools Overseas



Migration policies should have children's perspective, not just rights-based and gender-based perspectives

- Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration puts strong emphasis on protecting welfare of migrants, but not too much on assistance to families and children, including those left behind
- **Objective 4: Documentation**
 - Receiving states should not just give access to documentation (including proof of legal identity), but also provide such documentation where warranted
 - Host countries should ensure that sending states through their embassies and consulates are able to conduct consular and community outreach
- **Objective 7: Vulnerabilities**
 - Best interest of the child should be the primary consideration in situations where children are concerned
 - Apply both gender and age-sensitive approach
- **Objective 10: Trafficking**
 - Pay particular attention to migrants in vulnerable situations, specifically affording protection to women and children



- **Objective 11: Manage Borders**

- Train frontline and law enforcement actors at borders on child rights and child-sensitive procedures
- Emphasis on procedures for the determination of the best interests of the child, once a child crosses on an international border, particularly in the case of unaccompanied or separated child
- Prevent family separation and reunify families when family separation occurs

- **Objective 12: Status Determination**

- Avoid unnecessary delays and expenses for States, migrants and their families
- Referral mechanisms should be child-sensitive and gender responsive

- **Objective 13: Immigration Detention**

- End practice of child detention
- Detention of migrants as non-punitive and a measure of last resort

- **Objective 21: Return, Readmission and Reintegration**

- Principle of non-refoulement
- Voluntary return and reintegration programs must be both gender-responsive and child-sensitive



Thank you.



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