



THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN 1997 (The Year in Review)

Overview

In 1997, the Philippines had a women labor force of about 11.4 million while men accounted for 19.0 million. The economically active population posted modest gains in 1997 at 1.9 percent (+363,000) for men and at 2.3 percent (+260,000) for women compared to last year's robust growth of 4.1 percent (+727,000) and 6.0 percent (+626,000), respectively.

Although labor force participation rates (LFPR) of women slightly declined to 49.3 percent in 1997 from 49.8 percent in 1996, still more than one-third of the country's labor force were women (37.3 % in 1996 and 37.4 % in 1997). The LFPR of men remained unchanged at 83.5 percent. (Table A)

Employment

Employed women reached 10.2 million in 1997, a mere 2.3 percent

growth from 10.0 million in 1996. Meanwhile, men posted a much lower growth of 1.7 percent, i.e. from 17.2 million in 1996 to 17.5 million in 1997.

Employment growth for men and women in 1997 declined compared to 1996. An increment of only 296,000 (1.7%) among men and 232,000 (2.3 %) among women were accounted for in 1997 in contrast with the remarkable growth noted in 1996 for men (5.2%) and women (7.1%), respectively.

Women employment rate remained relatively stable at 90.3 percent in 1996 and 90.2 percent in 1997 whereas, the employment rate of men declined from 92.1 percent to 91.9 percent a year after. (Table A)

Indicator	1996		1997		Increment		Growth Rate (%)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Labor Force	18,634	11,098	18,997	11,358	363	260	1.9	2.3
LFPR (%)	83.5	49.8	83.5	49.3	0.0	-0.5	-	-
Employed	17,170	10,016	17,466	10,248	296	232	1.7	2.3
Employment Rate (%)	92.1	90.3	91.9	90.2	-0.2	-0.1	-	-

Sector Group



Employment in the agricultural sector decline among men (-210,000) and women (-121,000) in 1997.

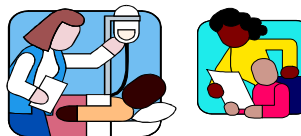
Correspondingly, the sector's share to total women employment went down from 31.0 percent in 1996 to 29.1 percent in 1997.

Conversely, employment gains were observed in the services producing sector not only among women (+329,000) but also among men (+328,000).

More than half of the employed women in 1996 (56.4%) and 1997 (58.3%) were absorbed by the services sector. Among men, it accounted for about one-third, 31.8 percent and 33.1 percent, respectively. In particular, large increases were posted by employed women engaged in community, social and personal services (+252,000) and financing, insurance, real estate and business services (+43,000). Likewise, women employed in transportation, communication and storage industry noted a convincing growth of 23.1 percent.

On the other hand, few additions in men (+178,000) and women employment (+21,000) were noted in the industrial sector in 1997. In proportion to respective total employment, the sector claimed 19.1 percent (3.340 million) male employment in 1997 from 18.4 percent (3.162 million) last year. The share of women remained almost unchanged at 12.6 percent (1.290 million) from 12.7 percent (1.269 million) a year ago.

Occupation Group



Large increases in male and female employment were noted in all occupations except those engaged in agricultural works which posted a decline of 2.7 percent for men and 3.8 percent for women. Obviously, men were dominant in administrative, executive and managerial posts and agricultural and production works while more women were engaged in professional, clerical, sales and services. Noteworthy, is the increasing trend of women holding managerial positions, i.e. from 144,000 to 172,000 in 1997 (+28,000).

Class of Worker

Modest gains in wage and salary employment were posted for men (6.2% or +500,000) and women (6.9% or +313,000). The number of female own-account workers slightly increased (1.7% or +54,000) in 1997 while male own-account workers decreased by a negligible 0.4 percent (-29,000). Apparently, unpaid family workers suffered a sharp decline, from 1.923 million to 1.749 million (-9.1% or -174,000) for men and 2.288 million to 2.153 million (-5.9% or -135,000) for women. Convincingly, growth in employment was maintained in remunerative type of work.

Hours of Work

Female employment on full-time basis (*working 40 hours or more a week*) increased by 7.1 percent (*414,000*) from 5.836 million in 1997 to 6.250 million a year after. On the other hand, men engaged in full-time employment posted a big increment (*+732,000*) or a 6.5 percent increase from last year's 11.186 million. Part-time employment (*worked less than 40 hours a week*) declined by 8.0 percent (*-466,000*) for men and 5.4 percent (*-219,000*) for women.

Area

A decrease in male employment in the urban areas was observed during the year (*-1.1% or -86,000*). On the other hand, female employment showed an increase of about 1.1% (*+56,000*). A positive increment was however, noted in rural employment among men (*+383,000 or 4.0%*) and women (*+176,000 or 3.5%*).

Age Group

A downtrend was posted by employed men and women clustered in the 15 – 24 years age group. Data registered a decrease of 1.6 percent (*-62,000*) for men and 1.1 percent (*-23,000*) for women. On the other hand, employed persons clustered in the 25 years and over age group noted an increment of 360,000 (*2.7%*) for men and 255,000 (*3.2%*) for women.

Marital Status

Modest employment gain was noted among married women (*3.3% or +196,000*). This is lower by about 0.6 percentage point compared to employed married men (*3.9%*). Similarly, working divorced / separated women increased by 19.4percent, i.e. from 160,000 in 1996 to 191,000 in 1997.

Conversely, the number of single male employees decreased from an employment level of 5.271 million in 1996 to 5.146 million a year later (*-125,000*). Likewise, single female employees posted a decline of 1.1 percent (*-32,000*).

Highest Educational Attainment

Higher growth rate was claimed by women with college education than men (*4.9% vs.5.5%*). Levelwise, employed men with college education posted bigger employment gains than women (*156,000 vs. 153,000*).

Data show that increases in employment among men and women who reached high school was about the same (*1.7%*). It is also evident that increase in employment for men and women with elementary education was very minimal while those with no education at all remained unchanged for women.

FOR INQUIRIES:

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Table 1 – Employed Men and Women in the Philippines: 1996 - 1997

(In thousands except rates)

Indicator	1996		1997		Increment		Growth Rate (%)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Total	17,170	10,016	17,466	10,248	296	232	1.7	2.3
Sector / Major Industry Group								
Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry Industry	8,545	3,100	8,335	2,979	-210	-121	-2.5	-3.9
Mining and Quarrying	102	11	118	12	16	1	15.7	9.1
Manufacturing	1,479	1,217	1,505	1,226	26	9	1.8	0.7
Electricity, Gas and Water	104	14	114	18	10	4	9.6	28.6
Construction	1,477	27	1,603	34	12	7	8.5	25.9
Services	5,460	5,647	5,788	5,976	328	329	6.0	5.8
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,382	2,632	1,490	2,648	108	16	7.8	0.6
Transportation, Storage and Communication	1,552	78	1,646	96	94	18	6.1	23.1
Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	373	241	404	284	31	43	8.3	17.8
Community, Social and Personal Services	2,153	2,696	2,248	2,948	95	252	4.4	9.3
Industry Not Elsewhere Classified	3	1	4	2	1	1	33.3	100.0
Major Occupation Group								
Professional, Technical and Related Workers	576	991	593	1,056	17	65	3.0	6.6
Administrative, Executive and Managerial Workers	288	144	345	172	57	28	19.8	19.4
Clerical Workers	509	684	517	727	8	43	1.6	6.3
Sales Workers	1,250	2,600	1,308	2,613	58	13	4.6	0.5
Service Workers	1,093	1,368	1,194	1,551	101	183	9.2	13.4
Agricultural, Animal Husbandry and Forestry Workers, Fishermen and Hunters	8,452	3,086	8,228	2,969	-224	-117	-2.7	-3.8
Production and Related Workers, Transport Equipment Operators and Laborers	4,984	1,133	5,261	1,146	277	13	5.6	1.1
Occupation Not Adequately Defined	18	9	21	15	3	6	16.7	66.7
Class of Worker								
Wage and Salary Worker	8,091	4,558	8,591	4,871	500	313	6.2	6.9
Own – Account Worker	7,156	3,170	7,127	3,224	-29	54	-0.4	1.7
Unpaid Family Worker	1,923	2,288	1,749	2,153	-174	-135	-9.1	-5.9

Table 1 - Employed Men and Women in the Philippines: 1996 – 1997 (Con't.)

(In thousands except rates)

Indicator	1996		1997		Increment		Growth Rate %)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Hours Worked								
Worked Less Than 40 Hours	5,819	4,037	5,353	3,818	-466	-219	-8.0	-5.4
Worked 40 Hours and Over	11,186	5,836	11,918	6,250	732	414	6.5	7.1
Did Not Work / Not Reported	166	143	195	180	29	37	17.5	25.9
Area								
Urban	7,602	5,024	7,516	5,080	-86	56	-1.1	1.1
Rural	9,568	4,993	9,951	5,169	383	176	4.0	3.5
Age Group								
15-24	3,979	2,149	3,917	2,126	-62	-23	-1.6	-1.1
25 and over	13,190	7,867	13,550	8,122	360	255	2.7	3.2
Marital Status								
Single	5,271	3,016	5,146	2,984	-125	-32	-2.4	-1.1
Married	11,432	5,965	11,875	6,161	443	196	3.9	3.3
Widowed	340	864	328	906	-12	42	-3.5	4.9
Divorced / Separated	110	160	114	191	4	31	3.6	19.4
Unknown	18	10	4	6	-14	-4	-77.8	-40
Highest Educational Attainment								
No Grade Completed	542	328	552	328	10	0	1.8	0.0
Elementary	7,369	3,840	7,390	3,863	21	23	0.3	0.6
High School	6,020	3,067	6,120	3,118	100	51	1.7	1.7
College	3,205	2,761	3,361	2,914	156	153	4.9	5.5
Not Reported	33	20	44	26	11	6	33.3	30.0

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source of Basic Data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.