



# CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

Press Release No. 17-2017

## CONSULATE REPORT: WOMEN LEAD MEN AMONG OVERSEAS VOTERS IN CHICAGO

Since the resumption of the registration for overseas voting last December, the Consulate General of the Philippines in Chicago has, so far, registered around two thousand Filipinos throughout the Midwest region of the United States. Together with the 12,000 Filipinos alone and those with dual citizenship who have registered in the past registration cycles, they will be able to take part in all upcoming national Philippine elections.

In a related report issued by the Consulate, coinciding with the International Women's Month this March 2017, women far outnumber men among registered voters, a possible indication of Filipino women's increasing social consciousness and political activeness. Gender classification and other key findings of the study show the following characteristics of the registered overseas voters:

**Gender.** Out of the 12,684 registered overseas voters, 64% are women, while only 36% are men. The report does not determine the actual cause of such disparity, as women have enjoyed numerical advantage in the Filipino American population in the 16 states under the Consulate's jurisdiction, based on the 2010 U.S. Census Survey. However, it emphasizes that women's voice and role in body politic, especially in electing future leaders, have indeed grown much stronger.

**Status Abroad.** With regard to the overseas voters' immigration status, 61% are lawful permanent residents or immigrants in the U.S. Those with or temporary worker status, considered as OFWs, comprise 7% of the entire group.

Meanwhile, Filipinos who have naturalized in the U.S. are also given the opportunity to register to vote once they reacquire/retain their Philippine citizenship. These represent 23%, the second largest sector, which the Consulate expects to increase as more FilAms avail themselves of dual citizenship while the voter's registration continues up to 30 September 2018.

**Age Groups.** The data show that the biggest age group is 36-45 years old, making up around 26% of the overseas voters, closely followed by the 46-55 (18%) and 56-65 (20%) brackets. The younger 26-35 and much older 66 plus groups combined constitute 30% of the total. The youngest group of 18-25 is the smallest at 6%.

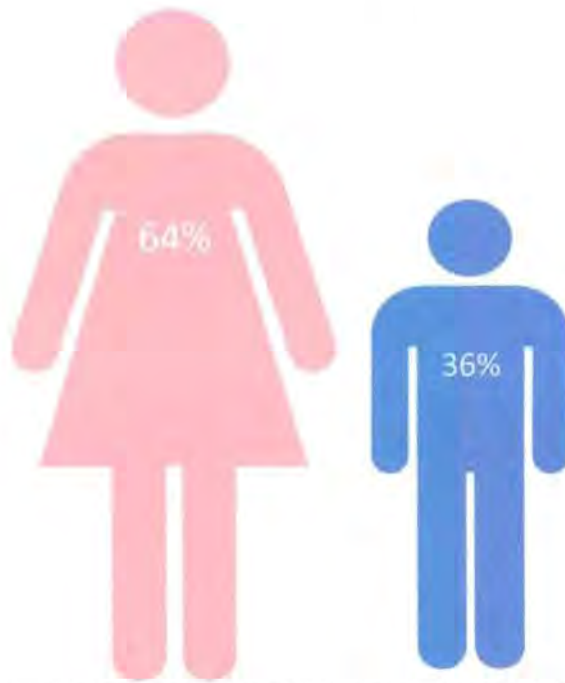
In each age group, women consistently outnumber men as registered overseas voters.

Consul General D.G. Calonge, in sharing these findings with the Filipino community, renews his call for all Filipino citizens in Post's jurisdiction ages 18 and above to register to vote. "As citizens, it is our civic and sacred duty to strengthen our democracy and wisely choose our country's future leaders," he said.

For questions on how to register to vote or other inquiries, please email Sheridan Sabeniano or Kya Cupino at [nychicagopcg@gmail.com](mailto:nychicagopcg@gmail.com). Attached are the visual representations of the aforementioned figures with each key finding.



## GENDER CLASSIFICATION

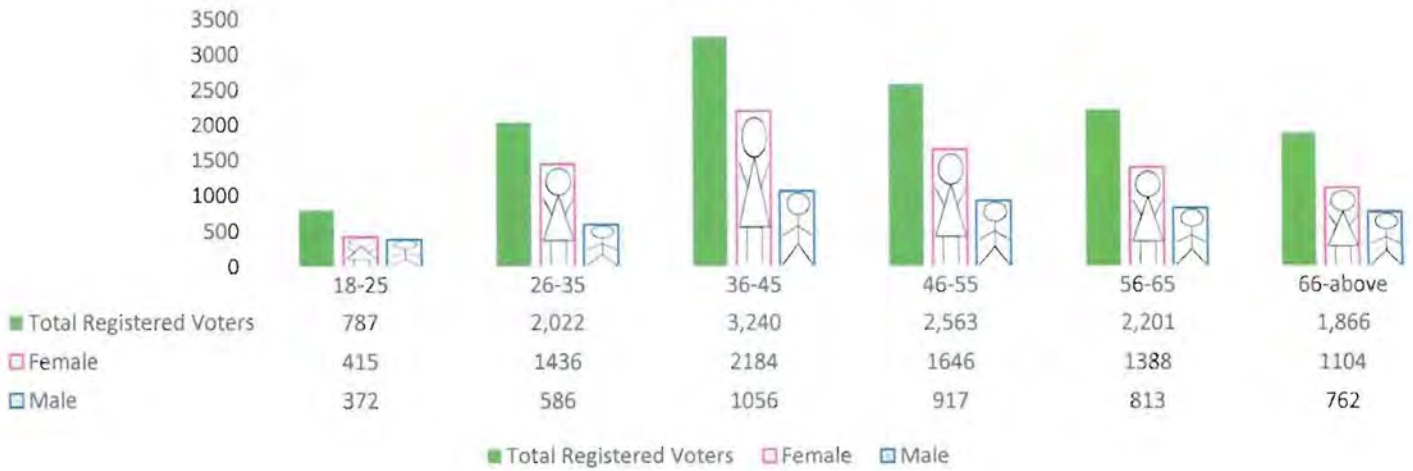


Female overseas registered voters (64%) greatly outnumber the male (36%).

## STATUS ABROAD



## AGE GROUPS



*Consul General Generoso D.G. Calonge (left) receives the report on the demographic profile of the current pool of Overseas Voters in Chicago prepared by Ms. Kya Cupino (right), Project-Term Assistant for Overseas Voting Registration at the Philippine Consulate General in Chicago. Ms. Cupino also serves as a primary contact and processor of applications for Overseas Voting Registration and Certification, for those who are already registered in the Philippines (photo courtesy of Mr. Arneil Torres). END*