

Web Article
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More People in Region 1 Want to Work Abroad

More and more people in the country, the Ilocos Region included, had been eyeing overseas employment as an alternative in ensuring financial security in the light of financial uncertainties and dwindling local employment opportunities.

Data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) Regional Center for Luzon-La Union for the month of January 2006 showed an increasing number of people in the region who are interested in working abroad.

The number of applicants for land-based overseas employment increased by 19.5 percent in January 2006 as compared to January 2005. The number of applicants to Special Recruitment Agencies (agencies sanctioned by PESO and POEA) which constitute about 71.3 percent of the total land-based applicants, grew by 19.9 percent. There were slightly more men, with a 51.7 percent share and growth rate of 180 percent, than women applicants, with a negative 25.6 percent growth. Meanwhile, the number of walk-in applicants was up by 18.5 percent as men and women applicants grew by 18.4 percent and 18.5, respectively.

Likewise, the number of workers with processed contracts slightly increased from 1957 in September 2005 to 1993 in January 2006. Majority (96.5 percent) of the workers were rehires or balik-manggagawa which increased by 1.0 percent. There were slightly more women than men rehires. Meanwhile, the number of new hires decreased by 7.5 percent as the number of workers directly hired decreased by 33.3 percent from 53 in Sept 2005 to 49 in January 2006. Those hired by private agencies (23), all of them women, increased by 90.9 percent.

On the other hand, the number of deployed workers in Region 1 as reported by the Air Transportation Office in Laoag City, was up by 11.5 percent from 410 in September 2005 to 457 in January 2006. All of them were land-based women rehires.

(Source of Basic Data: Philippine Overseas Employment Administration Regional Center for Luzon-La Union)