

PMBC NEWSLETTER No.01-2015

PHILIPPINES-MALAYSIA ECONOMIC UPDATE



Total merchandise trade. In the first eleven months of 2014, total merchandise trade between the Philippines and Malaysia reached US\$3.88 billion, exceeding the US\$3.67 billion amount of total trade in goods recorded by the Philippine Statistics Authority in full year 2013.



Merchandise exports. At the same time, the country's exports of goods to Malaysia amounted to US\$1.08 billion. In 2013, the Philippines exported some US\$1.38 billion worth of goods to Malaysia.



Merchandise imports. Malaysia is the ninth biggest import supplier to the country in 2014, with merchandise imports amounting to U\$\$3.06 billion – up by 33.3% from U\$\$2.29 billion in 2013. The country's main merchandise imports from Malaysia consist of electronics, petroleum, oils, chemicals, and processed food.U.S. consisted mainly of electronics, food, machinery, chemicals, and transport products.



Balance of trade. In the first eleven months of 2014, the country's merchandise trade deficit with Malaysia already widened to US\$1.91 billion, which has already exceeded the US\$921 million negative bilateral trade gap incurred in 2013.

A quarterly publication of the Philippines-Malaysia Business Council, the **PMBC Newsletter** provides the latest socio-economic updates, as well as news on developments in trade and investments between the two countries.

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Foreign direct and portfolio investments. In the first eleven months of 2014, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has recorded zero net foreign direct investment inflows from Malaysia. Meanwhile, in November 2014, Malaysia emerged as the fifth largest source of foreign portfolio investment inflows to the country, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.



Approved foreign investment projects. In 2014, the country's investment promotion agencies approved projects with Malaysian equity worth P351 million, down by 59.3% from the P862 million worth of projects approved in 2013.



Overseas Filipino remittances. In 2014, the amount of cash remittances from overseas Filipinos in Malaysia as recorded by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas dropped 25.7% to US\$198.1 million from US\$266.8 million in 2013.

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Stock estimate of Overseas Filipinos. As of December 2012, the stock estimate of overseas Filipinos in Malaysia reached 686,547 – the biggest number of overseas Filipinos in East and South Asia, according to the Commission on Filipinos Overseas.



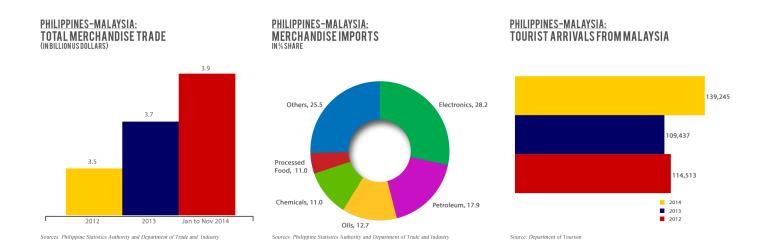
Tourist arrivals. Malaysia is the ninth biggest source of international visitor arrivals to the country in 2014, reaching 139,245, up by 27.2% from 109,437 visitors as recorded by the Department of Tourism in 2013.



Haiyan-related assistance. In terms of development assistance after typhoon Haiyan, Malaysia has pledged US\$1 million in cash assistance to the country, according to the Foreign Aid Transparency Hub website.

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Malaysia by the numbers



Join the Philippines-Malaysia Business Council!

The PMBC was established in 1996 to promote trade and investments between the Philippines and Malaysia. The council is composed of top business executives who seek to explore business opportunities between the two countries and to promote the exchange of views on policies of mutual concern. The Makati Business Club serves as the secretariat of the PMYBC.

For membership inquiries, contact Ms. Maria Victoria Sibal, PMBC Coordinator at (+63 2) 751-1143 or send an email to victoria.sibal@mbc.com.ph or mbc.businesscouncils@gmail.com