

## Values, Attitudes, and Behaviour of the Filipino Youth: Evidence from the Young Adult Fertility and Sexuality Studies



Grace T. Cruz  
UP Population Institute

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## Objective

- To describe the Filipino young adult ages 15-24 in terms of their
  - socio-economic and demographic characteristics
  - lifestyle indicators
  - attitudes and values
  - family connectedness
- Discussion will be based mainly on data provided by the series of Young Adult Fertility and Sexuality Studies (YAFS) conducted by the UPPI and DRDF in 1994, 2002 and 2013

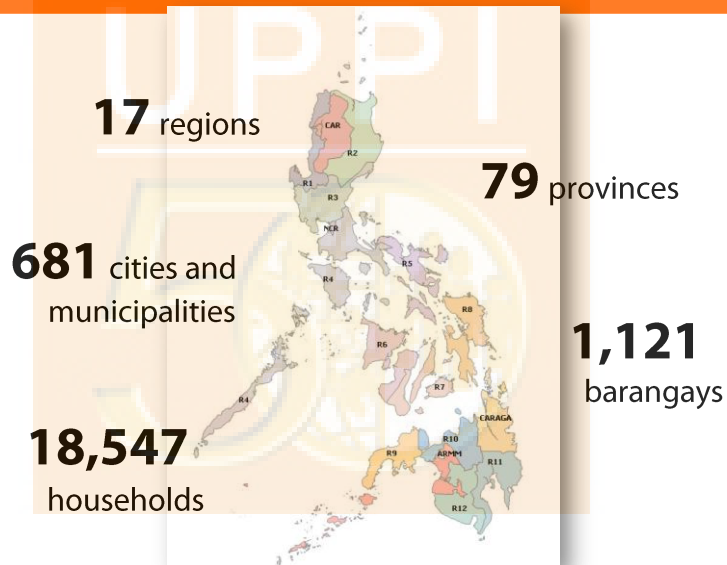
## Summary features of YAFS studies

	YAFS1 (1982)	YAFS2 (1994)	YAFS3 (2002)	YAFS4 (2013)
<b>Sample size</b>	5,204	10,879	19,728	19,178
<b>Target population</b>	Females 15-24 Single & married	Males and females 15-24 Single & married	Males and females 15-27 Single & married	Male and females 15-24 Single & married
<b>Study domain</b>	Region	Region	Region with provincial estimates for 5 large provinces	Region
<b>Methodology</b>	Quantitative	Quantitative  Sealed envelope technique	Multi-method (qualitative & quantitative)  Sealed envelope technique	Multi-method (qualitative & quantitative)

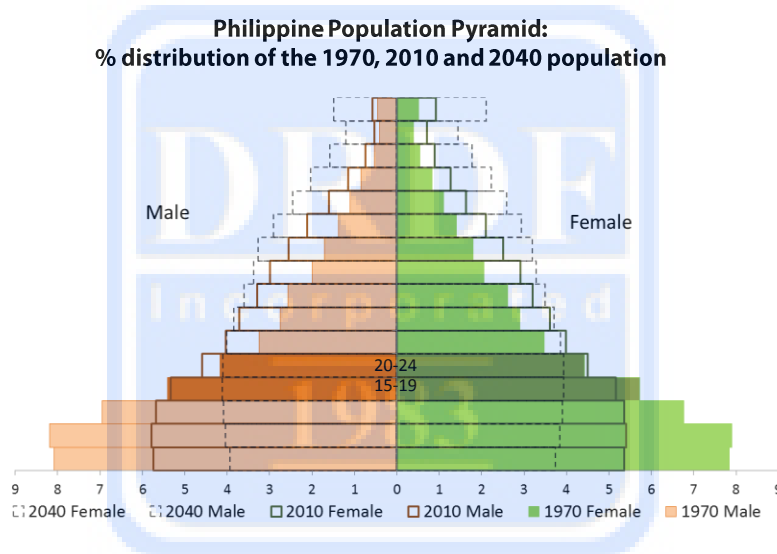
## Questionnaire Modules

	YAFS1 (1982)	YAFS2 (1994)	YAFS3 (2002)	YAFS4 (2013)
Socioeconomic background of respondent's family,		Socioeconomic background of respondent's family	Individual Characteristics	Individual Characteristics
Individual demographic and socioeconomic characteristics		Individual demographic and socioeconomic characteristics	Media	Family Characteristics and Relationships
Relations with parents and home influences		Residential history	Residential History	Self-esteem and Values
Experience with bio social factors		Population Education	Family Characteristics	School, Work and Community
Sex education		Friendship and dating	Self-esteem and Values	Media
KAP on dating, premarital sex, pregnancy, marriage and non marriage conception.		Marriage	School, Work and Community	Smoking, Drinking and other behaviors
		Sex and Contraception	Smoking, Drinking and other behaviors	Friendship and Peers
		Pregnancy and Childbearing	Friendship and Peers	Health and Lifestyle
		Reproductive Health and HIV	Puberty, Dating and Sex	Puberty, Dating and Sex
			KAP towards sex, marriage and related issues	Fertility and Contraception
			Reproductive Health and STD/AIDS	KAP towards sex, marriage, sex and related issues
				Reproductive Health
	6	9	11	12

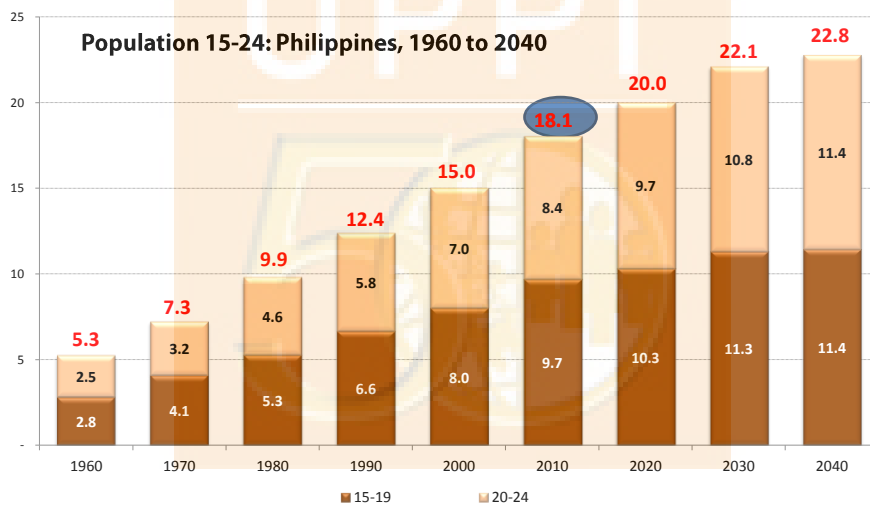
## Coverage of YAFS4: 19,178 cases



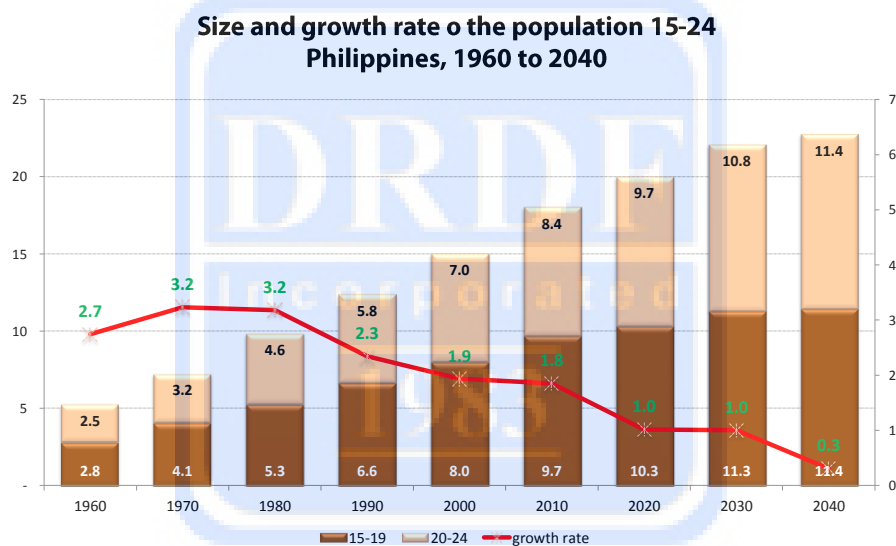
## Youth Bulge: A result of the interaction of fertility, mortality, and population momentum



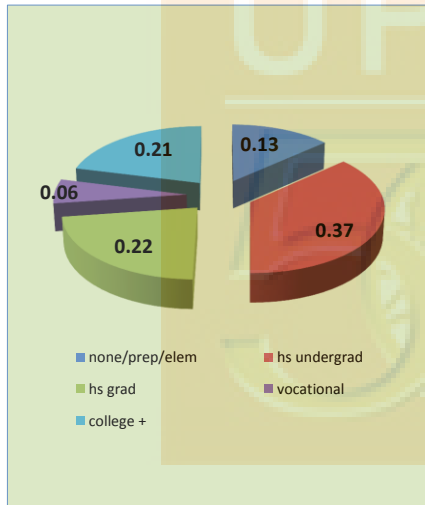
The number of the population 15-24 is increasing with the momentum expected to continue until 2040.



The youth population has been growing at a decelerating rate since the 1970s.



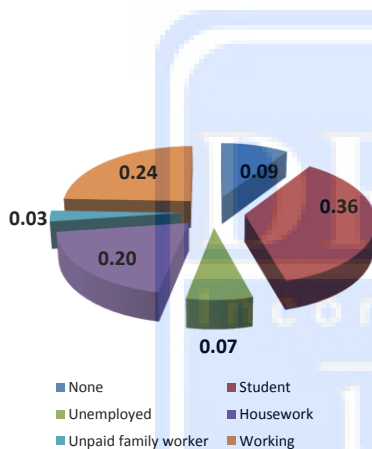
## Education profile: 1 in 2 is a high school graduate



- BUT, their education level seems to be declining
  - proportion who have attained at least a HS education declined from **53%** in 1994 to **49%** in 2013
- Their English proficiency is also declining

YEAR	% who can read in English well	% who can write in English well	% who can speak in English well
2002	69%	63%	37%
2013	64%	59%	31%

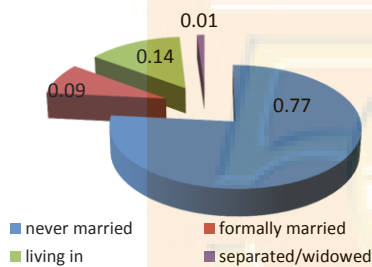
## Most of the Filipino youth are either studying, working or doing housework (YAFS 2013)



Data on their main activity for the 3 months preceding the survey show that the proportion of

- idle youth (i.e. doing nothing) increased from **7%** in 2002 to **9%** in 2013
- youth in school declined from **48%** in 2002 to **36%** in 2012
- working youth increased from **36%** in 2002 to **47%** in 2013

## About a quarter of the youth have ever been married



- More youth are currently in a live-in arrangement than formal marriage
- The proportion in a live-in arrangement increased from 6% in 2002 to 14% in 2013

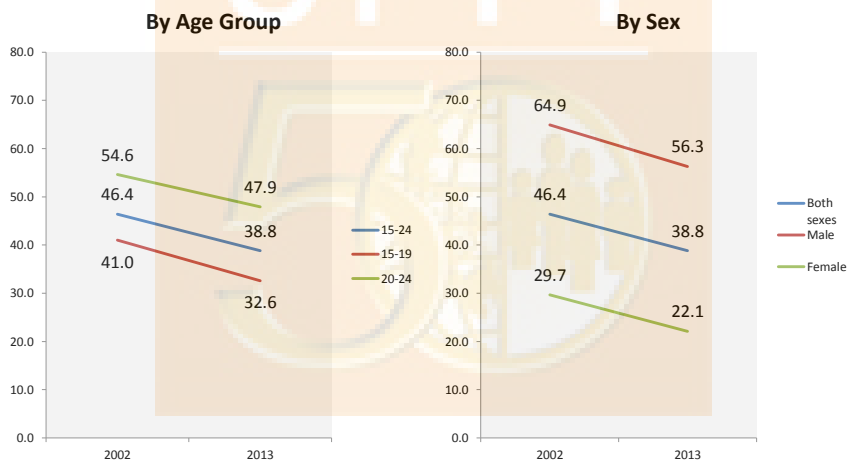
## Mobility and displacement

- % who have ever been displaced in the last five years due to
  - natural calamity like typhoons, earthquake, flooding  
**8.5%**
  - peace and order problem  
**4.7%**

- Regions with highest displacement due to
  - **natural calamity**
    - ARMM-----**21%**
    - CARAGA---**18%**
    - Region VI—**14%**
  - **Peace and order**
    - ARMM-----**33%**
    - Region XII---**15%**
    - CARAG-----**7%**

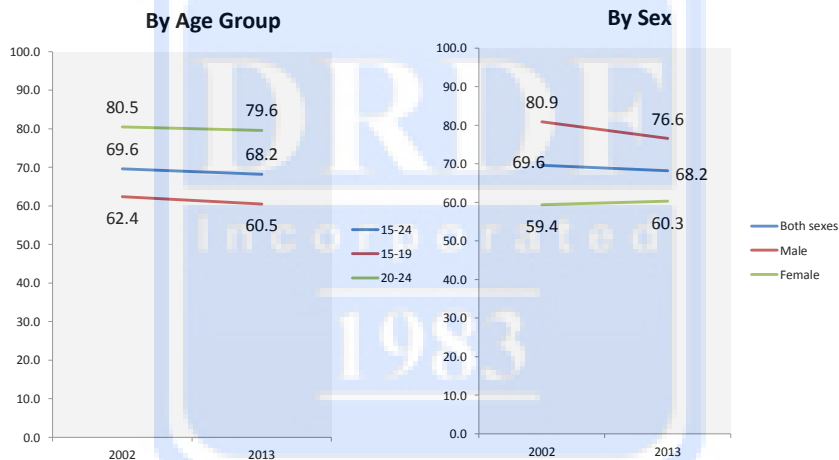
**Risk behaviors of the Filipino youth:**  
39% youth have ever tried smoking in 2013 with the level declining in the past decade

Level is significantly higher among males than females.



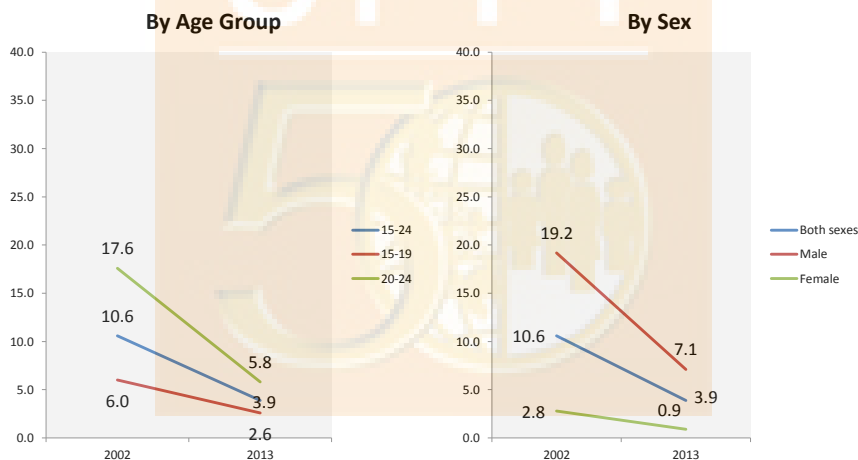
**68% have ever tried drinking alcoholic beverages with reduced level of practice during the past decade**

Level is are significantly higher among males than females.

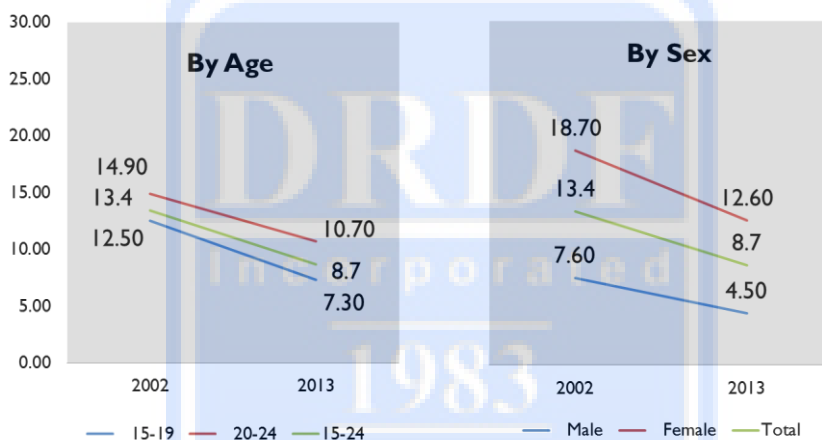


The proportion of youth who ever used drugs is low and declining

Level is significantly higher among males than females.

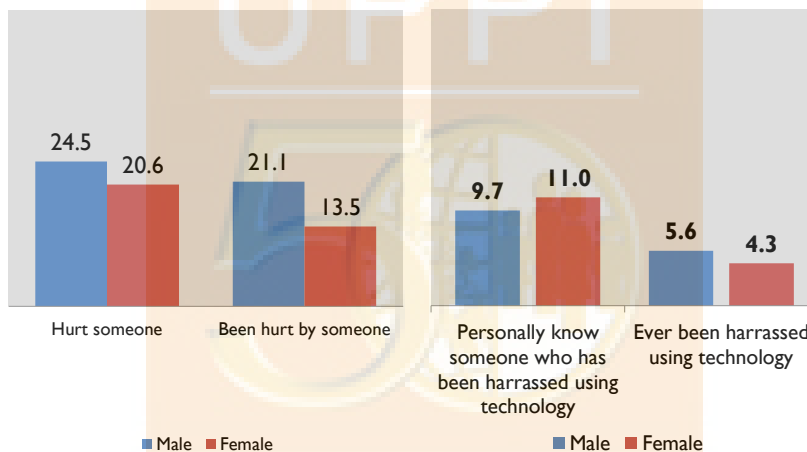


Considerable proportion ever thought of committing suicide





Violence is also among the top concerns of the youth as shown by the proportion who experienced violence in the past 12 months and harassment using technology (internet, cellphones, cameras, etc.)



While the Filipino youth experience challenges and risks, they also engage in positive activities...

- **86%** attend religious services
- **35%** took part in religious ceremonies/activities like prayer rallies, fellowship, bible study or healing sessions
- **24%** participated in any activity initiated by community leaders/members in the past 3 months
- **28%** done volunteer work
- **68%** engage in physical exercise
- **71%** sleep at least 8 hours per day
- **38%** read the newspaper or tabloid or comics or magazines or books other than textbooks at least once a week

## ... exhibit a positive self-esteem...

% who agree or strongly agree with the following statements:

- On the whole, I am satisfied with myself -----**85%**
- I feel that I have a number of good qualities----**89%**
- I feel that I am a person of worth----- **87%**
- I take a positive attitude towards myself-----**92%**

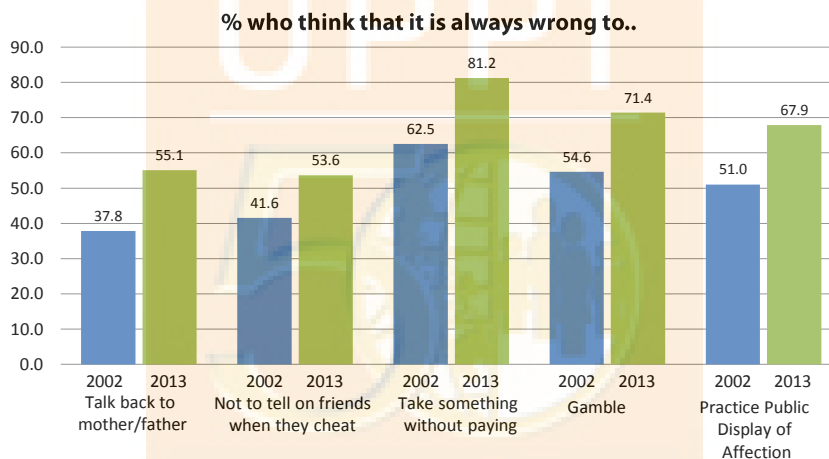
No significant difference in the level between the males and the females

...and display a positive outlook on life with no apparent differential between the males and females.

### Mean self-esteem scores:

<b>All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life?</b> (0-dissatisfied to 10- satisfied)	7.2
<b>How satisfied are you with the financial situation of your family?</b> (0-dissatisfied to 10- satisfied)	6.4
<b>Taking all things together, would you say you are not happy at all or very happy?</b> (0-not happy at all to 10-very happy)	7.9

### Sense of right and wrong: the Filipino youth value respect for elders and honesty



No major gender difference except for gambling where males showed a higher level of tolerance relative to the females (48% vs. 60%).

### Filipino youth report strong family connectedness

- **83%** were raised mostly by both parents
  - males (85%) > females (80%)
- **85%** report that their father and mother get along well most or all the time
  - males (88%) > females (82%)
- Most young people say they get along well with their father and mother although more get along better with their mother than their father
  - males > female

## Filipino youth report parents as their top role models

In the last decade...

- drop in the proportion who consider their father as their role model
- Increased preference for entertainers and celebrities as role models
- the proportion who consider their mother as their role model has remained more or less stable

TOP ROLE MODEL	2002			2013		
	MALE	FEMALE	BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE	BOTH SEXES
FATHER	44	29	36	30	17	23
MOTHER	23	37	30	20	36	28
ENTERTAINER /CELEBRITY	7	6	7	14	12	13

## Summary

The Filipino youth comprise a significant sector of the Philippine population.

- The population ages 15-24 numbered 18 million in 2010 and is expected to increase further at least until 2040, albeit at a decelerating rate.
- The youth population sector comprises a fifth of the total population of the country.

## Summary

**The Filipino youth are in a precarious condition as indicated by the risks and challenges they face.**

- While half of them have attained at least a secondary education, there is a declining level of education. This is supported by the drop in their English proficiency and a decrease in the proportion who are in school.
- Elevated level of working and idle youth in the past decade (an indication of economic stress)
- Low but a considerable proportion who have experienced displacement due to environmental and peace and order factors.

## Summary

**The Filipino youth are in a precarious condition as indicated by the risks and challenges they face.**

- Norms on marriage may be changing as indicated by a higher proportion of youth who are in live-in arrangement
- Increasing preference for entertainers as role models
- The youth are also exhibiting risk behaviors including smoking, drinking, drug use and suicide ideation although the level is declining over the last decade (higher among males than females)
- Violence is also a concern among the youth, which includes harassment using new information technology such as cell phones, internet, etc.

## Summary

### Strengths and opportunities:

- Education profile is high.
- Despite the challenges they face, the Filipino youth continue to exhibit positive behavior such as attendance in religious activities, engagement in physical exercise, community and volunteer work, among others.
- Self-esteem and life satisfaction are high and traditional values such as respect for elders and honesty are sustained with no difference observed between male and female youth.

## Summary

### Strengths and opportunities:

- The Filipino youth enjoy strong and stable family ties. Most were raised by both parents and they get along well with their parents.
- Parents are considered as their top role models. Mothers continue to be held in high regard although the fathers are losing ground.

## Discussion

- The Filipino family serves as a protective factor that helps build the character and resilience among the youth. To what extent can the family continue to be a resource for the youth particularly in the context of an increasing international labour migration which affects the stability of the family?
- Does parenting from a distance explain the diminishing view of fathers as role models?
- To what extent is the increased admiration of entertainers and celebrities attributed to the proliferation of the new forms of media subscribed by the youth? How can we harness the potential of the new media to promote the well-being of the youth?

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yafs4@drdf.org.ph

www.drdf.org.ph

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