



### **Class Differences in Filipino Quality of Life, 1996 and 2001.**

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#### *Abstract*

*The Philippine round of the 1995/96 World Values Survey (WVS), done by Social Weather Stations, showed significant relations of Quality of Life to socio-economic class, using the class definitions of marketing and opinion research practitioners in the Philippines (interview-rated) and the respondent-rated subjective socio-economic class. In the 1996 survey, the different classes are equally happy, but more of the upper classes assess themselves as healthy, are satisfied with their household's financial situation, are generally satisfied with their lives, and feel they have control over their lives.*

*Filipinos consider family, work and religion as important in life, although upper classes slightly give more importance to family compared to lower classes. Leisure time, politics and friends are considered relatively less important by Filipinos, with the upper classes attaching slightly more importance to friends and leisure time as compared to lower classes.*

*Even as the upper and lower classes are alike in giving priority to good manners, religious faith and hard work as top values to be learned by children at home, the upper classes give greater importance to feeling of responsibility than lower classes. The lower classes attach more importance to unselfishness than upper classes.*

*Large proportions of Filipinos, regardless of class, would like to put more emphasis on family life at the same time work, respect for authority and the development of technology, the latter especially among the upper classes. They are low on interpersonal trust. Majority are proud of being Filipinos and this is more evident among upper than lower classes.*

*This paper will update the 1996 study by including the new Philippine round for the quinquennial WVS, which was just completed in August 2001.*

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**SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS**

**Table 1. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS  
Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	April 1996	July 2001
<b>Total Philippines</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Area</b>		
<b>National Capital Region</b>	15	15
<b>Luzon</b>	42	42
<b>Visayas</b>	21	20
<b>Mindanao</b>	23	23
<b>Socio-economic Class</b>		
<b>ABC</b>	11	10
<b>D</b>	69	66
<b>E</b>	20	24
<b>Sex (pre-determined)</b>		
<b>Male</b>	50	50
<b>Female</b>	50	50
<b>Age Group</b>		
<b>18-24</b>	23	18
<b>25-34</b>	29	26
<b>35-44</b>	21	24
<b>45 &amp; older</b>	28	32
<b>Civil Status</b>		
<b>Ever-married</b>	73	74
<b>Living-in</b>	2	2
<b>Never married</b>	24	24
<b>Educational Attainment</b>		
<b>Elementary or less</b>	31	30
<b>High School to vocational</b>	39	43
<b>College or higher</b>	30	27
<b>Self-rated class</b>		
<b>Upper class</b>	2	3
<b>Upper-middle class</b>	14	12
<b>Lower-middle class</b>	40	32
<b>Working class</b>	26	22
<b>Lower class</b>	19	31



**Table 2. SUBJECTIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CLASS BY CLASS**  
**Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey				SWS July 2001 WVS Survey					
		Class			Gamma		Class			Gamma
	Total	ABC	D	E		Total	ABC	D	E	
Self-rated socio-economic class					.48***					.45***
Upper class	2%	7%	1%	1%		3%	6%	3%	1%	
Upper-middle class	14	38	12	5		12	36	10	7	
Lower-middle class	40	45	42	34		32	45	35	17	
Working class	25	5	28	23		22	10	22	29	
Lower class	19	5	17	37		31	4	30	46	

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant



**Table 3. HAPPINESS AND SELF-ASSESSED HEALTH BY CLASS Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey				<i>Gamma</i>	SWS July 2001 WVS Survey				<i>Gamma</i>
	<i>Total</i>	Class				<i>Total</i>	Class			
		<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>			<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	
<b>Happiness</b>					<b>.07,ns</b>					<b>.13**</b>
Very happy	40%	53%	38%	40%		38%	44%	39%	35%	
Quite happy	52	41	53	54		49	50	49	48	
Not very happy	7	5	7	6		12	6	11	16	
Not at all happy	1	0	2	0		1	0	1	1	
<b>State of Health</b>					<b>.20***</b>					<b>.08,ns</b>
Very good	16	33	14	15		19	29	18	16	
Good	36	39	37	30		38	30	39	39	
Fair	42	25	43	50		36	33	36	35	
Poor	5	4	5	4		6	7	6	8	
Very poor	1	0	1	0		1	1	0	2	

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant



**SOCIAL  
WEATHER  
STATIONS**

**Table 4. SATISFACTION WITH HOUSEHOLD FINANCIAL SITUATION AND LIFE AS A WHOLE, AND FEELING OF CONTROL OVER LIFE BY CLASS Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey				SWS July 2001 WVS Survey					
	Total	Class			F-ratio	Total	Class			F-ratio
		ABC	D	E			ABC	D	E	
<b>Satisfaction with household financial situation</b>					<b>19.02***</b>					<b>11.12***</b>
Mean score in scale of 1-10: 1= dissatisfied, 10= satisfied	6.0	7.2	6.0	5.5		5.8	6.5	5.9	5.3	
<b>Satisfaction with life as a whole</b>					<b>14.15***</b>					<b>14.78***</b>
Mean score in scale of 1-10: 1= dissatisfied, 10= satisfied	6.8	7.7	6.8	6.3		6.7	7.4	6.8	6.0	
<b>Free choice and control over life</b>					<b>3.44*</b>					<b>10.47***</b>
Mean score in scale of 1-10: 1= none at all, 10= a great deal	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.8		6.8	7.7	6.8	6.6	

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant



**Table 5. FACTORS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT IN LIFE**

**Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey					SWS July 2001 WVS Survey				
	Total	Class			Gamma	Total	Class			Gamma
		ABC	D	E			ABC	D	E	
<b>% saying VERY IMPORTANT:</b>										
<b>Family</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>.38*</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>-.14,ns</b>
<b>Work</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>-.07,ns</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>-.48***</b>
<b>Religion</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>.01,ns</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>-.23**</b>
<b>Service to others</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>.01,ns</b>
<b>Friends</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>.19***</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>.10*</b>
<b>Politics</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>.02,ns</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-.04,ns</b>
<b>Leisure time</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>.10*</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>.14***</b>

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant



**Table 6. IMPORTANT VALUES FOR CHILDREN TO LEARN  
Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey					SWS July 2001 WVS Survey				
	Total	Class			Gamma	Total	Class			Gamma
		ABC	D	E			ABC	D	E	
% saying IMPORTANT:										
Good manners	80%	74%	80%	82%	-.12,ns					
Hard work	59	54	59	62	-.08,ns	74%	66%	76%	72%	-.03,ns
Independence	50	57	48	54	-.002,ns	66	68	66	66	.02,ns
Feeling of responsibility	56	70	55	51	.19***	65	73	64	62	.10,ns
Tolerance and respect for others	47	47	48	44	.05,ns	60	64	61	56	.10,ns
Religious faith	62	56	64	62	-.04,ns	59	55	62	54	.06,ns
Thrift, saving money and things	31	29	31	31	-.02,ns	45	55	45	41	.13*
Obedience	45	48	45	45	.02,ns	44	40	43	50	-.13*
Unselfishness	30	18	32	33	-.16**	39	22	40	45	-.21***
Determination and perseverance	30	34	28	32	.001,ns	37	49	35	38	.05,ns
Imagination	10	11	11	8	.14,ns	14	16	12	16	-.04,ns

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant



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**Table 7. TRUST IN PEOPLE BY CLASS**

**Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey					SWS July 2001 WVS Survey				
	<i>Total</i>	Class			<i>Gamma</i>	<i>Total</i>	Class			<i>Gamma</i>
		<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>			<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	
<b>Most can be trusted vs. Need to be careful in dealing with people</b>					<b>.09,ns</b>					<b>.26*</b>
<b>Most can be trusted</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>4%</b>		<b>8%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>6%</b>	
<b>Need to be careful</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>96</b>		<b>92</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>94</b>	
<b>Most people would take advantage vs. They would try to be fair</b>					<b>—</b>					<b>.07,ns</b>
<b>Would take advantage</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>—</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	
<b>Would try to be fair</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>~</b>		<b>72</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>74</b>	

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant





**Table 8. WHETHER CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE FUTURE ARE GOOD OR BAD BY CLASS**  
**Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey				SWS <i>Total</i>	July 2001 WVS Survey					
	<i>Total</i>	Class				<i>Gamma</i>	<i>Total</i>	Class			<i>Gamma</i>
		<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>				<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	
<b>More emphasis on family life</b>					<b>.19,ns</b>					<b>.02,ns</b>	
<b>Good</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>92%</b>		<b>92%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>93%</b>		
<b>Don't mind</b>	2	1	1	4		7	3	8	6		
<b>Bad</b>	4	5	4	5		1	2	1	1		
<b>Greater respect for authority</b>					<b>.10,ns</b>					<b>-.03,ns</b>	
<b>Good</b>	77	75	79	70		70	62	71	70		
<b>Don't mind</b>	10	8	9	14		24	35	24	22		
<b>Bad</b>	13	17	12	16		6	3	6	8		
<b>More emphasis on development of technology</b>					<b>.27***</b>					<b>.08,ns</b>	
<b>Good</b>	81	87	83	71		68	69	69	64		
<b>Don't mind</b>	6	0	6	11		25	23	25	27		
<b>Bad</b>	13	13	11	18		7	7	6	9		
<b>Less emphasis on money and material possessions</b>					<b>-.03,ns</b>					<b>.04,ns</b>	
<b>Good</b>	34	43	32	39		49	55	49	48		
<b>Don't mind</b>	10	5	11	10		32	26	32	33		
<b>Bad</b>	55	52	57	51		19	18	19	19		
<b>Less importance of work in our lives</b>					<b>-.09,ns</b>					<b>.07,ns</b>	
<b>Good</b>	23	17	24	23		33	40	33	30		
<b>Don't mind</b>	6	4	5	8		25	15	27	23		
<b>Bad</b>	72	79	71	70		42	46	40	47		

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant



**Table 9. FEELING OF NATIONAL PRIDE BY CLASS**  
**Philippines, SWS April 1996 and July 2001 WVS Surveys**

	SWS April 1996 WVS Survey					SWS July 2001 WVS Survey				
	<i>Total</i>	Class			<i>Gamma</i>	<i>Total</i>	Class			<i>Gamma</i>
		<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>			<i>ABC</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	
Pride in being a Filipino					.37***					-.08,ns
<b>Very proud</b>	76%	87%	79%	62%		87%	80%	88%	87%	
<b>Quite proud</b>	19	12	16	31		11	18	10	10	
<b>Not very proud</b>	3	0	2	5		2	1	2	2	
<b>Not at all proud</b>	2	1	3	2		0	1	0	1	

\*  $p \leq .05$ ; \*\*  $p \leq .01$ ; \*\*\*  $p \leq .001$ ; ns=not significant