Visible more than ever: gender, Mexico’s labor statistics and the XIX ICLS

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Abstract

On October 2013, ILO adopted by means of the XIX International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) a new conceptual frame encompassing all modalities of work in a fashion that goes well beyond the System of National Accounts’ production boundary. The main purpose of this paper is to show how much the visibility of women’s activities, as well as their need of insertion in the labor market, will be possible to enhance in Mexico once the new conceptual frame shades light upon the information supplied by ENOE (Mexico’s current LFS). The analysis thus made goes both in terms of the mass of hours worked as well as with respect to the new set of indicators streaming from the new conceptual frame. The possibilities this allows plus the challenges and new questions arising on regards to active and passive ways of expressing a need of inclusion in the labor markets are illustrated. Finally the ways to understand and implement the subjective approaches implicit in the composition of the new indicators are discussed, given the wide implications they have in the future design of Labor Force Surveys.