Engendering statistics on work and the labour force

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6 December 2021 | Inter-Agency Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS)
ILO strategy to improve measurement of women’s work: a full statistical cycle approach

What we do

• Integrating gender in global statistical standards
• Research and testing in survey data collection
• Evidence-based modular survey tools & guidance
• Direct technical assistance & capacity building

Why it matters

• Reference for countries on what to measure, how, how often
• Generate evidence to reduce gender biases in Labour Force Survey (LFS) data collection
• Accelerate national uptake of good LFS practices
• Support sustainable LFS programmes, fill gender data gaps, improve international comparability
Engendering Informality Statistics project

A 3-year project (2020-2023) led by the ILO with generous support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that is:

1. Supporting preparation of a new statistical standards for measuring informality
2. Testing Labour Force Survey methods
3. Reviewing use of informality statistics

All with a gender focus

Advancing social justice, promoting decent work
Issues for testing

First round of 40 cognitive interviews

Focus: Existing generic LFS questions

Topics:
- Identifying dependent contractors
- Identifying informality for enterprises and informal employment:
  - Registration systems
  - Keeping accounts for taxation purposes
  - Types of social protection
  - Access to paid annual and sick leave

Uganda - August
Peru - October

Uganda - December
Peru - December

Uganda - Q2 2022
Measuring unpaid care work (pilot project)

Support production of statistics on unpaid care and domestic work and total work time where an independent TUS is unfeasible.

Provide interim statistics between independent TUS rounds.

Advance analysis of relationships and trade-offs between paid and unpaid forms of work.

Testing focussed in three distinct geographies in two countries in two regions.

Stress-testing feasibility in challenging settings.

Development and refinement of stylised and light diary modules for LFS attachment.

Intensive qualitative phase + robust survey experiments.

Comparison of instrument performance, results, viability.

Expert trialling and validation.

In partnership with NSOs.

In coordination with other UN agencies.

A modular approach.

Regular, cost-effective statistics on UCDW, and total work time, using existing national LFS programmes.

Evidence-based LFS-TU modules, guidelines, and implementation toolkits due for release in 2022.

A dedicated ILO-ITC training course to support uptake from 2022.

* Informing ongoing work to update the UN global guidance on the production of time use statistics.
## Issues for testing

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### Timeline
- **November – December 2021**
  - Rapid Ethnographic Assessment
    - Haryana, India
- **January – February 2022**
  - Cognitive Interviews
    - Laos PDR, [Haryana, India]
- **March – April 2022**
  - Survey Experiment 1
    - Laos PDR
    - (n = 880 households)
- **July – August 2022**
  - Survey Experiment 2
    - Laos PDR
    - (n = 880 households)
Measuring violence and harassment in the world of work

ILO Violence and Harassment Convention C190 adopted in 2019
Recommendation R206 calls for collection and publication of statistics

1. Assessment of existing data sources

- No dedicated survey - various surveys with different purposes
  - Working conditions surveys
  - Crime and victimization surveys
  - Other surveys (LFS, survey of psychosocial risks, etc.)

- Very limited information available
  - Main forms of violence not always covered
  - Focus on workplace only
  - No detail on specific acts / perpetrator / consequences / action taken / reporting mechanisms

- Information collected not harmonized
  - Different target population, definitions of violence, recall period, etc.

- Incomplete disaggregation variables
  - Missing labour force status, characteristics of work, migration status, disability status, etc.

⇒ Necessary to improve data collection and develop standards for statistical measurement
2. Initial work towards a survey methodology for measurement

- Development of a preliminary measurement framework
  - detailing the relevant concepts and definitions (including that of world of work)
  - describing the main methodological issues
  - ethics and safety considerations required in such sensitive topic

- Development of tools for testing and research purposes
  - Questionnaire module
  - Preliminary survey protocol (building-on previous work on gender-based violence measurement in other domains)

- Test implementations scheduled in 2022
  - Jordan and Mongolia
  - An opportunity to be confirmed in a West African country

- Establishment of a working group?
The leading source of labour statistics.

New to this site? Start here

Key topics
- COVID-19
- Sustainable development
- Child labour
- Unpaid work

Labour supply
- Population and labour force
- Employment
- Unemployment

Working conditions
- Wages
- Working time
- Safety and health at work

Poverty and inequality
- Working poor
- Labour income and inequality
- Informal economy
- Social protection

Competitiveness
- Labour productivity
- Labour costs
- Inflation

Industrial relations
- Collective bargaining
- Union membership
- Work stoppages

Selected groups
- Labour migrants
- Youth
- Women
- Volunteers
Expanded gender-relevant data and indicators in ILOSTAT
Current projects to bring more sex-disaggregated data to the ILO modelled estimates data series

**Recovering gender granularity**
Recovering gender granularity in ILO modelled estimates after the COVID-19 disruption
• Timely key labour market indicators broken down by sex: employment, unemployment...

**Expansion of indicators by gender**
Expanding the set of indicators with gender breakdown
• Nowcast of working-hours and labour income by sex

**New gender-relevant indicators**
Producing new indicators relevant for gender disparities
• Time series of informal employment by sex
• Access to employment by sex
• Participation by household type

**Policy simulations**
Pilot tests of methodology to simulate the effect of policies on labour markets
• Effects of social protection and other policies on labour force participation (by household type and gender)
Thank you

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