

Continuous Employment Survey (ECE)

Informal employment

Fact Sheet

February 2015



ILO recommendations

- Resolution concerning statistics of employment in the informal sector, adopted by the Fifteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), 1993.
- Guidelines concerning a statistical definition of informal employment, adopted by the Seventeenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), 2003.
- Measuring informality: A statistical manual on the informal sector and informal employment, 2013.

Points to consider

- Main job.
- Employed population aged 15 years and over.
- All workers captured in the survey are included: agricultural and related activities, domestic workers and contributing workers.

Limitations

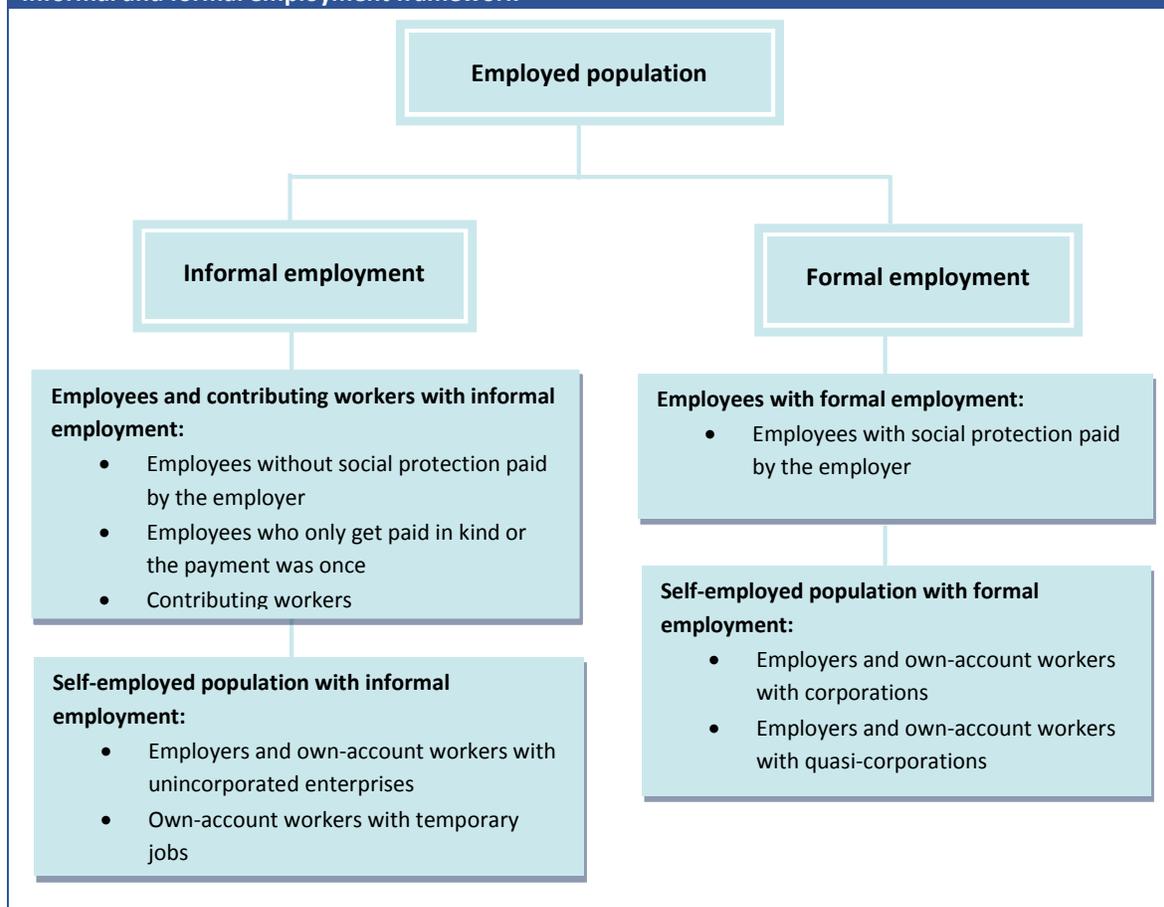
- It is not possible to measure the employees in the formal and informal sector: the ECE does not investigate the legal organization of the enterprise and the type of accounts kept for the employees.
- It is not possible to distinguish producers cooperatives from the variable status in employment.
- The ECE could bring information about the formal and informal employment according to the secondary job from IV quarter 2014.

Informal employment concept

The informal employment comprises the total number of jobs with the following characteristics, depending on the status in employment:

- Employees without social protection paid by the employer, this means employees without social protection reductions.
- Employees who only get paid in kind or the payment was once, who by the nature of their employment, are not susceptible to social protection reductions.
- Contributing workers, irrespective of whether they work in formal or informal sector enterprises.
- Employers and own-account workers that have enterprises not registered in the National Registry of Property of Costa Rica and do not keep formal accounts periodically.
- Own-account workers with temporary jobs (working less than a month), who by the nature of work are not likely to be registered or kept formal accounts periodically.

Informal and formal employment framework



Dissemination

<http://www.inec.go.cr>

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