

Continuous Employment Survey (ECE)

Informal employment

Fact Sheet

February 2017



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

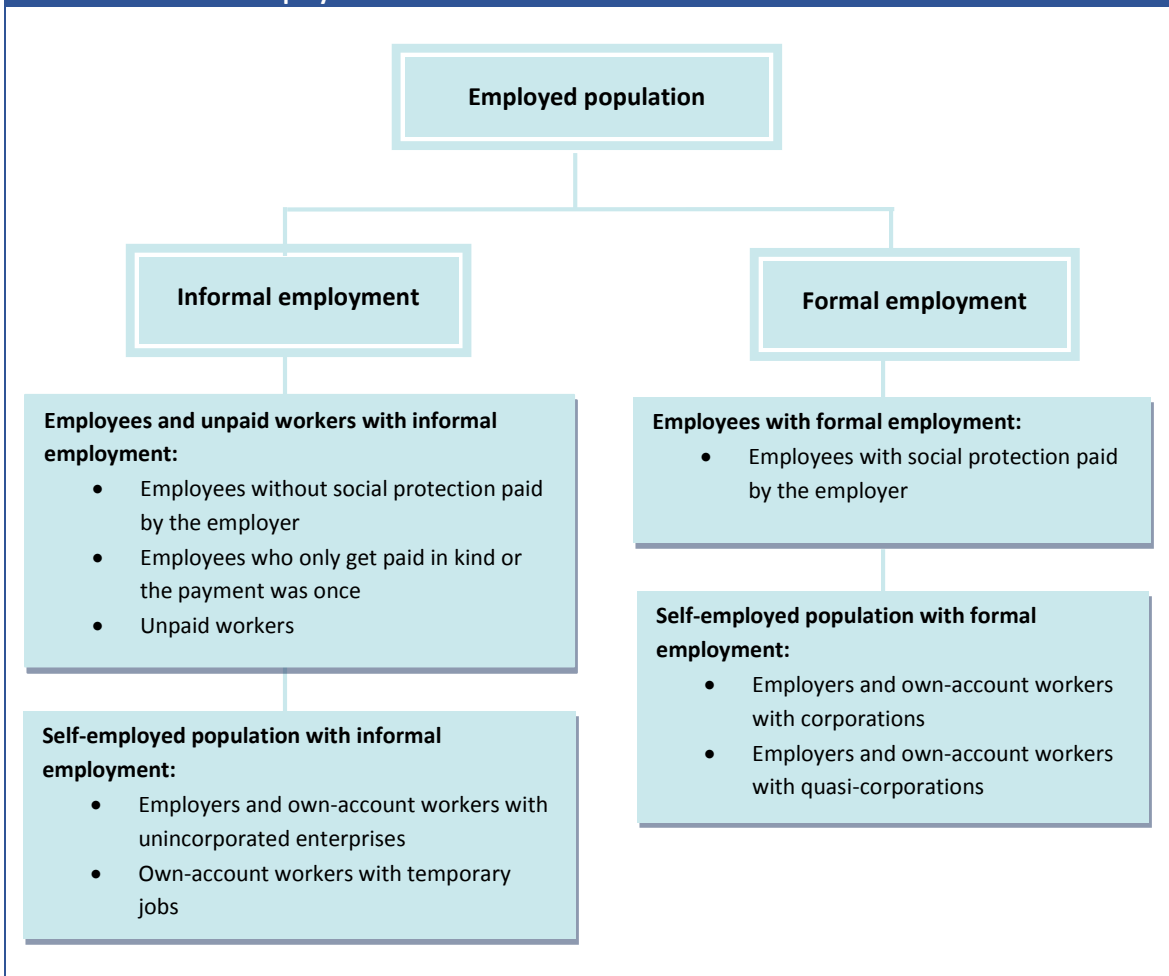
- It is not possible to measure the employees or unpaid workers in the formal and informal sector: the ECE does not investigate the legal organization of the enterprise and the type of accounts kept for those workers.
- It is not possible to distinguish producers cooperatives from the variable status in employment.
- The ECE could bring information about the formal and informal employment according to the secondary job from Q4-2014.

Informal employment concept

The informal employment comprises the total number of jobs with the following characteristics, according to 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.
- Unpaid workers, irrespective of whether they work in formal or informal 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



Quarters and years available

From Q3-2010 to the current quarter.

Dissemination of results

Excel tables: www.inec.go.cr

Accelerated Data Program (ADP): <http://sistemas.inec.cr/pad4/index.php/catalog/167>

Redatam: <http://sistemas.inec.cr:8080/bincri/RpWebEngine.exe/Portal?BASE=ECE&lang=esp>