

Key Advances in Informal Employment Statistics, 1997-2024*

Advances by WIEGO

	1997
	WIEGO founded
	1998
	WIEGO invited to join Delhi Group
	2002
	ILO and WIEGO publish <i>Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Picture</i> with data on 25 countries
	2010
	WIEGO launches its Statistical Brief series 1) to provide statistics on informal employment and categories of workers in an accessible format at national, urban and city levels and 2) to describe methods for the collection, tabulation and analysis of statistics on workers in informal employment
	2011
	ILO and WIEGO create a database on the informal economy within official ILOSTAT database with data on 40 countries
	2013
	ILO and WIEGO publish second edition of <i>Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Picture</i> with data on 47 countries; ILO publishes <i>Measuring Informality: A Statistical Manual on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment</i> prepared by the Delhi Group, including WIEGO
	2014
	WIEGO publishes second set of regional estimates on informal employment in the developing world (based on direct estimates for 40 countries and indirect estimates for 80 countries) in <i>Statistics on the Informal Economy: Definitions, Regional Estimates and Challenges</i>
	2015
	WIEGO is invited to participate in the ILO Working Group on the Revision of the International Classification of Status in Employment
	2016
	WIEGO posts a dashboard with key statistical indicators at national level (40 countries) and at city level (19 cities), including numbers of domestic workers, home-based workers, street vendors and waste pickers, on its dashboard
	2019
	WIEGO and ILO publish <i>Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Brief</i> with global and regional estimates of informal employment
	WIEGO is invited to participate in the ILO Working Group for the Revision of the Statistical Standards on Informality
	2020
	ILO/ESCWA/WIEGO collaboration on Ford Foundation-funded project: Developing labour statistics with a focus on informality in the Arab region
	2023
	WIEGO participates in the panel celebrating the centenary of the ICLS

Advances in the Statistical System

1993 (prior to WIEGO)

International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) adopts enterprise-based definition of informal sector

1997

United Nations (UN) Statistical Commission Expert Group recommends work on "informal employment" to improve measurement of women's work
UN's expert group on informal sector statistics (Delhi Group) established

2002

ILO produces "Decent Work and the Informal Economy";
WIEGO provides background papers

2003

ICLS adds an employment-based definition of the informal economy

2008

System of National Accounts 2008 for the first time includes a chapter on the "Informal aspects of the economy" – an important step in estimating the contribution of the informal economy to the Gross Domestic Product

2014

Half of proposed amendments to ILC Standard Setting Discussion on "Transitioning from the Informal to the Formal Economy" are accepted, including recommendations for monitoring with statistics

2015

The indicators for the UN Sustainable Goals include indicator 8.3.1 - Proportion of informal employment in total employment by sex and agriculture/non-agriculture

2018

ILO includes informal employment as an element of the main database with data for over 100 countries on its ILOSTAT database

ILO publishes third edition of *Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Picture* with first global statistics of informal employment

ICLS recommends a new statistical standard on the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-18) that includes "dependent contractors" as a status category and place of work as an essential variable

2023

The 21st ICLS adopts a resolution that updates and improves measurement standards on the informal economy, including criteria for the classification of dependent contractors and contributing family workers as well as an indicator framework for national reports