

Chapter 1

Introduction

1. Background and objective

As National Statistical Office (NSO) has realized the importance of informal employment data, the informal employment survey was conducted for the first time in 2005. In order to provide continuous data, the survey has been conducted annually. The survey has usually been conducted along with the labor force survey during the third quarter. The purposes of the survey include to serve information for the requirement of planning agencies and policy makers, as well as to create informal employment database, in order to extend social security coverage for all occupations. As a result, informal employed people will have access to social security and protection from their work. The results of this survey could further contribute for an improvement of their quality of life.

The informal employment survey has been conducted for collecting data about the number and characteristics of the population who are out of the coverage and have no social security as well as not covered by the labor law. The data obtained from the survey include.

- 1) The number of formal and informal employment
- 2) The important demographic and social aspects of formal and informal employment such as age, sex, level of educational attainment, occupation, industry, and hours of work, etc.
- 3) Other data, for instance, informal employed persons who get hurt or accident from work, right to medical treatment and problem from work, etc.

2. Coverage

Population reside in the private and special household.

3. Data collection

The survey, along with the labor force survey which was conducted during the 1st-12th of July-September 2011 was obtained through interviews head or member of households of 4,680 households in the Bangkok, 45,360 households in other municipal areas and 29,520 households in non-municipal areas or a total of 79,560 households throughout the kingdom. Enumerators with previous experience in survey operations were employed in the Bangkok and other provinces (Changwat).

4. Definition

4.1 Formal Employment refers to employed persons who are protected and have social security from work.

- 1) Officer government, permanent employees of central government official, government authority and local government.

- 2) State employees.
- 3) Private school principals or teachers, according to the law schools.
- 4) Employees of foreign governments or international organizations.
- 5) Employees who are protected by labor laws.

4.2 Informal Employment refers to employed persons who are not protected and have no social security from work like formal employment.

4.3 Employed persons are persons, 15 years of age and over who during the survey week,

- 1) Worked for at least one hour for wages/salary, profits, dividends or any other kind of payment, in kind; or
- 2) Did not work at all or worked less than one hour but
 - 2.1) receives wage/salary, profits from business enterprise or farm during the period of absence; or
 - 2.2) not receive wage/salary, profits from business enterprise or farm during the period of absence but had regular jobs or business that they would be return to work.
- 3) Worked for at least one hour without pay in business enterprises or on farms owned or operated by household heads or members.

4.4 Job; A job is defined as any of the following

- 1) Work for cash wages, salaries or for pay "in kind," or
- 2) Work for profit on own farm or in own or partly own business, or
- 3) Work without pay or profit on a farm or in a business owned or operated by the head or any member of the household.

4.5 Occupation refers to the kind of work performed by a person at his job. Most persons generally hold only one job. For a person having more than one job, only the job at which he worked for the greater number of hours during the survey week was recorded. If the number of working hours for each job was exactly the same, the job which gave him the higher income was recorded. If the number of working hours and the income earned from each job were the same, the job for which he had preference was recorded. If the respondent could not give his preference, the job at which he had been working for the longest time was the one recorded.

The survey used the classification which was suitable to Thailand's occupation based on International Standard Classification of Occupation (ISCO-08) of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

4.6 Industry; The term "industry" as herein used refers to the nature of economic activity undertaken in the establishment in which a person worked or the nature of business in which he was engaged during the survey week. If a person had more than one job, the industry corresponding to the occupation recorded was asked.

The survey used the classification which was suitable to Thailand's industry based on Thailand Standard Industrial Classification, (TSIC) 2009 revised by National Statistical Office.

4.7 Work status refers to the status of person's occupation in the survey week. Work status was classified as follows

- 1) An employer is defined as a person who operates his own enterprise for profit or dividends and hires one or more employees in his enterprise.
- 2) An own account worker is a person who operated an enterprise on his own account or jointly with others in the form of a partnership either for profit or dividends but without engaging any employees.
- 3) An unpaid family worker is a person who works without pay on a farm or in a business enterprise owned or operated by the household head or any other member.
- 4) A government employee is defined as a person who works for pay in a government agency or government enterprise. Included in this category, therefore are civil servants, police, enterprise owned and operated by an employer.
- 5) A private employee is a person who works for pay a non-governmental municipal officers, and employees or government enterprises.
- 6) A member of a producers' cooperative is a person who hold a "self-employment" job in a cooperative producing goods and services, in which each member takes part on an equal footing with other members in determining the organization of production, sales and/or other work of the establishment, the investments and the distribution of the proceeds of the establishment amongst their members.

Since January 2001, the survey used the International Classification of Status in Employment, 1993 (ICSE-93) of the International Labor Organization (ILO) which add one more status to those used in the previous year, that is a member of a producers' cooperative.

4.8 Hours worked mean hours actually worked during the survey week. For a person holding more than one job, his hours worked would be the sum total of hours worked on all jobs. For a person who had a regular job but was not at work during the survey week, the hours worked would be recorded zero.

4.9 Level of educational attainment

Educational levels are classified as follows:

1. **None** means all persons who have never attended school or had no education.
2. **Less than elementary** means all persons who have completed a grade lower than Pratom 6 (or formerly Pratom 7 or Matayom 3).
3. **Elementary level** means all persons who have completed Pratom 6 (or formerly Pratom 7 or Matayom 3) or higher but not lower secondary level.
4. **Lower secondary level** means all persons who have completed Matayom 3 (formerly Matayom 3 or Matayom 6) or higher but not upper secondary level.

5. Upper secondary level

5.1 Academic means all persons who completed Matayom 6 (formerly Matayom 5 or Matayom 8) in general education schools or completed higher but not higher level.

5.2 Vocational and technical means all persons who have completed a lower secondary and have then completed the three year course required for this level in vocational and technical colleges or completed higher but not higher level.

5.3 Teacher training means all persons who have completed the teacher training course and receiving a certificate equivalent to upper secondary level or completed higher but not higher level.

6. Higher level

6.1 Academic means all persons who completed a course receiving academic diploma, bachelor, master and doctoral degree level.

6.2 Higher technical education means all persons who completed vocational or technical education, and receiving vocational diploma and the degree of bachelor.

6.3 Teacher training means all persons who completed a course receiving educational diploma, bachelor, master and doctoral degree level.

7. Short course vocational training means all persons who have completed a vocational course of less than twelve months duration and have received a certificate or other document certifying completion of such a course. The educational requirements for persons taking such courses vary, but the minimum requirements are completion of at least grade 4 (Pratom 4) or the equivalent.

8. Other means all persons who have completed types of education other than the aforementioned.