



Impact of the 21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS)

2024: Meeting of the Group of Experts on Quality of Employment

International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS)

- ▶ Global standard-setting mechanism in labour statistics
- ▶ ILO hosts & acts as Secretariat
- ▶ Meets every 5 years (since 1923)
- ▶ Tripartite structure: Governments (NSO, MoL), Employers' and Workers' representatives
- ▶ Observers: International and regional organizations, NGOs
- ▶ **21st ICLS**: in total 534 participants (388 in person).



International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) – key recent developments

2023 21st ICLS

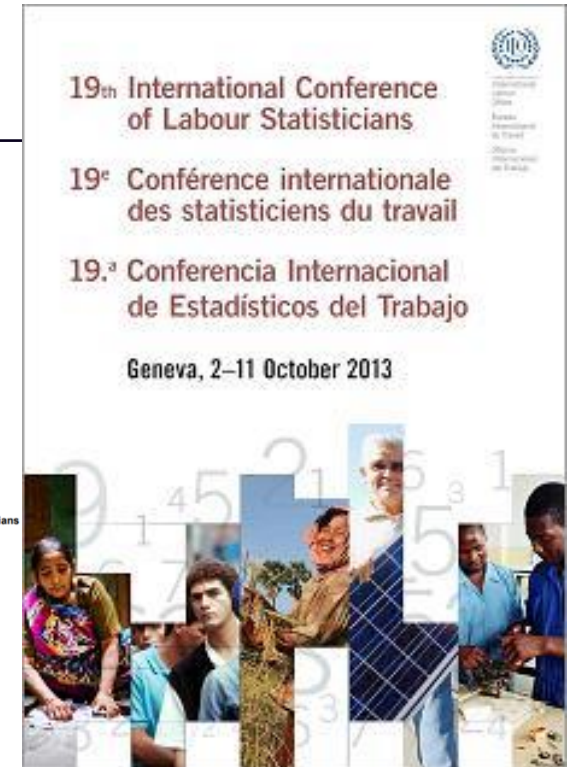
- **21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy**

2018 20th ICLS

- **20th ICLS resolution on statistics on work relationships**
- ICSE-18

2013 19th ICLS

- **19th ICLS resolution on statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization**
- Changed the foundation of labour statistics



Key topics at the 21st ICLS

- ▶ New statistical resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy
- ▶ Work related income
- ▶ Care work
- ▶ Digital platform work
- ▶ ISCO-08
- ▶ Labour migration
- ▶ Updates to 19th ICLS Resolution I on own-use provision of services and volunteer work
- ▶ Various updates on other topics – cooperatives, industrial relations, skills etc.
- ▶ Updates on the state of play of countries implementation of previous standards

Documents available at:

<https://ilostat.ilo.org/about/standards/icls/icls-documents/>

► Resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy

Process for revision



▶ 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy

- ▶ A more comprehensive statistical standard, aligned to the most recent statistical labour standards
 - ❑ Integrates the concept of work as defined by the 19th ICLS resolution in the framework of informal economy.
 - Recognizes that informality exists not only in relation to employment but also within forms of work other than employment
 - ❑ Integrates the 20th ICLS resolution concerning statistics of work relationships
 - Includes integrating ICSE-18 and dependent contractors that was introduced at the 20th ICLS
 - ❑ Replaces the previous standards.
 - The 15th ICLS resolution concerning statistics on employment in the informal sector.
 - The 17th ICLS guidelines concerning a statistical definition of informal employment.

- ▶ Provides an overarching coherent statistical framework
- ▶ Based on the concepts of *informal productive activities*, *Informal economy*, *Informal work*
 - ❑ First time there is a statistical definition of the concept of informal economy
 - ❑ Informal market economy: a more focused narrow concept that includes the core components

- ▶ Close alignment with the SNA
 - ❑ Close collaboration with the UNSD and IMF
 - The framework in the 21st ICLS resolution will form part of the 2025 SNA update
 - For the first time there is an aligned view on the informal economy between labour statistics and economic statistics.

21st ICLS draft resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy

▶ Concepts of informal employment and informal sector

- ❑ Builds on previous definitions
- ❑ Strengthened definitions and recommendations for operationalization, increased harmonization between countries
- ❑ Clarifications of what “informal” means from a statistical point of view and how the different concepts are linked and differ.
- ❑ Changes reflects to a large degree, the development in country practices during the last 30 years.
 - ILO have managed to produce estimates on informal employment for more than 100 countries.

▶ Increased relevance for high income countries

- ❑ An important objective have been to increase the relevance of the framework for high income countries e.g.;
- ❑ Economic units engaging formal employees are by default formal economic units.
 - Simplifies data collection for countries with a high degree of formality.
- ❑ Recognition of the existence of “partly informal productive activities in relation to formal jobs”.
 - Captures situation when a person has a formal job but as part of that formal job carries out some of the activities without, for example declaring them in relation to tax.

21st ICLS draft resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy

- ▶ An indicator framework
 - ❑ In parallel, with the revision work an indicator framework have been developed.
 - ❑ Support countries in the production of policy relevant statistics.
 - ❑ Key indicators are included in the resolution.
 - ❑ Additional indicators is part of the supporting indicator framework.
 - ❑ Closely linked to policies addressing informality.

- ▶ Improved recommendations and tools for data collection forms an essential part to support the new resolution
 - ❑ Different projects are carried out with the intention to develop tools for countries to use.

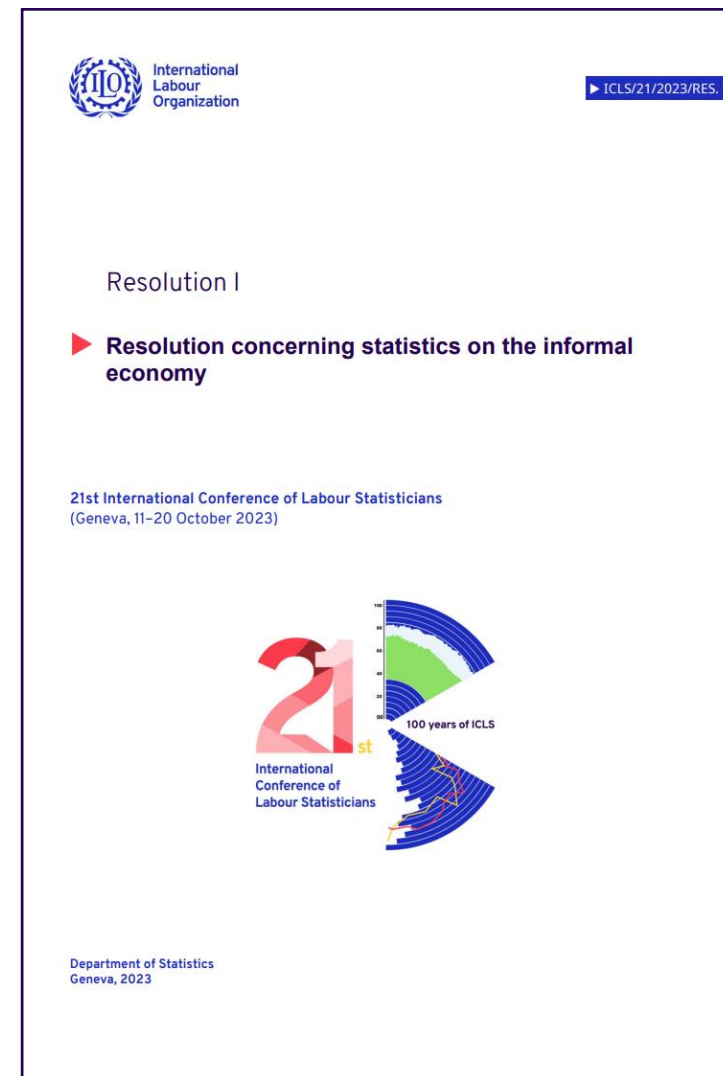
▶ Links:

Resource web-page:

<https://ilostat.ilo.org/topics/informality/>

Resolution I:

<https://ilostat.ilo.org/about/standards/icls/icls-documents/>



The image shows the cover of a document titled 'Resolution I' from the 21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians. The cover features the ILO logo and the text 'International Labour Organization' in the top left. In the top right corner, there is a small blue box with the text '▶ ICLS/21/2023/RES. I'. The main title 'Resolution I' is centered. Below it, a red triangle points to the text '▶ Resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy'. Further down, the text '21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians (Geneva, 11-20 October 2023)' is displayed. At the bottom right, there is a graphic with the number '21st' in large red and blue digits, and a circular chart with blue and green segments. Below the graphic, it says 'International Conference of Labour Statisticians' and '100 years of ICLS'. At the bottom left, it says 'Department of Statistics Geneva, 2023'.

International
Labour
Organization

▶ ICLS/21/2023/RES. I

Resolution I

▶ Resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy

21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians
(Geneva, 11-20 October 2023)

21st
International
Conference of
Labour Statisticians
100 years of ICLS

Department of Statistics
Geneva, 2023

▶ Other developments

Work related income

- ▶ Minor updates of the resolutions from 16th and 17th ICLS
 - ▶ The resolution concerning the measurement of employment-related income
 - ▶ The resolution concerning household income and expenditure statistics
 - ▶ Align with concepts and terminology of later resolutions such as 19th and 20th ICLS resolutions
- ▶ Discussion on possible future work
 - ▶ Request from countries for measurement guidance to support measurement through LFS
 - ▶ Particular focus on lower and middle income countries that often lack dedicated surveys on income and earnings
- ▶ Work will commence in 2024 in consultation with countries
- ▶ Initial work likely to focus on compilation of measurement approaches
- ▶ Subsequent focus on concepts

Care work

- ▶ Lack of a statistical standard on the concept of the care economy and care work
- ▶ 19th ICLS resolution establishes framework to measure all care work (inclusion of own-use provision of services, the separation between the five forms of work).
- ▶ However, does not include definitions that distinguish care work from non-care work – particularly within employment
- ▶ Some practices exist focussing on use of ISIC and ISCO but discussion required to agree a common harmonised approach
- ▶ Discussion also required on the range of indicators required on care work and the care economy
- ▶ Conference supported future work and requested establishment of a technical working group

Digital platform work

- ▶ Topic of high interest
- ▶ Joint OECD/Eurostat/ILO handbook published
- ▶ Further work could be done to refine definitions and provide measurement guidance
- ▶ Conference supported further work and a working group will be established in 2024 with the aim to develop statistical guidelines to be presented for the 22'nd ICLS.

ISCO-08 update

- ▶ This was initialized after the 20th ICLS, and a working group was established
- ▶ Results of ongoing work presented
- ▶ A range of issues have been/are being discussed
 - Movements in jobs between major groups, redefinition of different unit groups
 - In depth discussion on skill levels within the classification
 - Plans for a more dynamic ISCO -implement more frequent minor updates
- ▶ Working group will continue and updated ISCO to be agreed by 2028

Labour migration

- ▶ Guidelines were adopted in 2018
- ▶ Various developments since including new international framework from UNSC on International migration and mobility statistics, and the linked indicator framework
- ▶ Strengthen the coherence between the ICLS Guidelines and the newly adopted UN statistical framework to ensure aligned concepts and terminology.
- ▶ Resolve some issues with selected definitions in the guidelines
- ▶ This work will take place in 2024/2025
- ▶ Planned to publish updated guidelines in 2025

19th ICLS resolution I, minor amendments

- ▶ Volunteer work – clarification of language on exclusion of activities done during paid time off from employment
- ▶ Own-use provision of services
- ▶ Removal of one-hour threshold in 24 hour period to align with SDG 5.4.1 and general practice on time-use measurement
- ▶ Alignment of activity clusters to ICATUS-16

▶ **Thank you**
<https://ilostat.ilo.org/about/standards/icls/icls-documents/>

