

Annex 1. Key questionnaire dimensions and items for individuals, employment, working conditions and health problems. The First Central American Working Conditions and Health Survey, 2011.

| Dimensions | Items |
|--|--|
| Individual conditions | Sex, age, education, nationality, salary, number of economic dependents at home, home task duties. |
| Employment conditions | Labor relationship, type of contract, length of employment, week schedule, working hours per week, social security coverage, social benefits. |
| General working conditions | Main occupation or work task, economic activity, job title, type of workplace, travel to work. |
| - Hygiene conditions | Extreme temperature, humidity, noise, vibrations, toxics substance manipulations, solar radiation, passive tobacco exposure, breathing chemical substances, contact with waste or bodily materials from people or animals, insects or plant poisons. |
| - Ergonomic conditions | Usual posture (sitting, walking, standing, kneeling down, bending), handling heavy loads, repetitive movements, extreme strain, uncomfortable working position, forceful movements. |
| - Psychosocial conditions | High demand, multitasking at the same time, complex task, hide emotions and feelings, very high speed, tight deadline, working time arrangement, work task and pace organization, support from manager and colleagues. |
| - Safety conditions | Unstable surface, inadequate space, insufficient light, dangerous tools and equipment. |
| Violence | Physical, verbal abuse, sexual harassment. |
| Health problems | Self-perceived, musculoskeletal pain, respiratory, cardiovascular and skin problems, headache, general health questionnaire (ghq-12), work accident |
| Medical care and preventive activities | Medical exams, occupational risk information |

Annex 2. Demographic and labor characteristics of sample (n = 12,024) by sex. First Central American Survey of Working Conditions and Health, 2011.

| | Guatemala | | El Salvador | | Honduras | | Nicaragua | | Costa Rica | | Panama | | Central America | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Women No.(%) | Men No.(%) |
| Age | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| < 30 | 369(50.3) | 486(38.3) | 319(38.9) | 375(31.7) | 324(37.8) | 411(35.9) | 372(38.5) | 429(41.4) | 298(36.4) | 404(34.1) | 287(38.1) | 386(30.8) | 2036(41.5) | 2577(36.2) |
| 30-50 | 280(38.1) | 515(40.6) | 386(47.1) | 502(42.3) | 354(41.3) | 462(40.3) | 457(47.3) | 396(38.1) | 410(50.0) | 528(44.6) | 352(46.8) | 617(49.3) | 2148(43.8) | 2967(41.7) |
| > 50 | 86(11.7) | 268(21.1) | 114(13.9) | 307(26.0) | 180(20.9) | 273(23.3) | 137(14.2) | 212(20.5) | 112(13.6) | 252(21.3) | 113(15.0) | 249(19.9) | 720(14.7) | 1576(22.1) |
| Education | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Illiterate | 98(13.3) | 216(17.0) | 14(1.7) | 46(3.9) | 41(4.8) | 86(7.5) | 37(3.8) | 108(10.4) | 6(0.7) | 6(0.6) | 3(0.4) | 6(0.5) | 282(5.8) | 655(9.2) |
| Primary | 294(40.0) | 604(47.6) | 375(45.7) | 516(43.6) | 430(50.1) | 695(60.6) | 257(26.6) | 403(38.8) | 301(36.7) | 501(42.3) | 72(9.5) | 181(14.5) | 1839(37.5) | 2124(43.3) |
| Secondary | 300(40.8) | 393(31.0) | 347(42.3) | 515(43.5) | 331(38.6) | 308(26.9) | 418(43.2) | 397(38.3) | 362(44.1) | 526(44.4) | 484(64.5) | 852(68.1) | 3166(44.5) | 2704(38.0) |
| University | 43(5.9) | 55(4.3) | 83(10.2) | 106(9.0) | 55(6.4) | 57(5.0) | 256(26.4) | 130(12.5) | 152(18.6) | 150(12.7) | 193(25.6) | 213(17.0) | 660(13.5) | 594(8.3) |
| Economic sectors | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural | 136(18.4) | 565(44.5) | 39(4.8) | 353(29.8) | 73(8.6) | 491(42.8) | 67(7.0) | 465(44.8) | 47(5.7) | 249(21.0) | 24(3.2) | 246(19.6) | 479(9.8) | 2648(37.2) |
| Industry | 106(14.4) | 281(22.1) | 142(17.3) | 280(23.6) | 101(11.8) | 173(15.1) | 106(10.9) | 193(18.6) | 88(10.7) | 251(21.2) | 68(9.0) | 268(21.4) | 632(12.9) | 1461(20.5) |
| Services | 493(67.1) | 423(33.3) | 638(77.9) | 551(46.5) | 683(79.7) | 482(42.1) | 794(82.1) | 380(36.6) | 686(83.6) | 684(57.8) | 661(87.8) | 738(59.0) | 3793(77.3) | 3011(42.3) |
| Occupational groups | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Professionals | 26(3.5) | 21(1.6) | 17(2.0) | 31(2.6) | 30(3.5) | 21(1.8) | 142(14.7) | 33(3.2) | 71(8.7) | 44(3.7) | 67(8.9) | 69(5.5) | 314(6.4) | 185(2.6) |
| Technicians | 22(3.0) | 29(2.3) | 23(2.9) | 34(2.9) | 12(1.4) | 18(1.6) | 48(4.9) | 22(2.2) | 35(4.3) | 54(4.6) | 50(6.6) | 65(5.2) | 171(3.5) | 197(2.8) |
| Administrat. support | 54(7.3) | 38(3.0) | 66(8.0) | 52(4.4) | 54(6.3) | 37(3.3) | 84(8.6) | 43(4.2) | 90(10.9) | 83(7.0) | 170(22.6) | 50(4.0) | 446(9.1) | 282(4.0) |
| Services/retail sales | 341(46.4) | 249(19.6) | 462(56.4) | 336(28.4) | 535(62.3) | 282(24.6) | 462(47.8) | 161(15.5) | 409(49.9) | 318(26.9) | 299(39.8) | 300(23.9) | 2501(51.4) | 1596(22.4) |
| Farmers/ fishing | 134(18.2) | 570(44.9) | 39(4.7) | 342(28.9) | 77(8.9) | 476(41.5) | 61(6.3) | 458(44.1) | 38(4.7) | 227(19.2) | 26(3.5) | 202(16.1) | 468(9.5) | 2588(36.4) |
| Skilled manual | 124(16.9) | 288(22.7) | 153(18.7) | 320(26.9) | 68(8.0) | 194(16.9) | 84(8.7) | 222(21.4) | 78(9.5) | 332(28.1) | 63(8.3) | 335(26.7) | 612(12.4) | 1648(23.2) |
| Unskilled manual | 32(4.3) | 73(5.7) | 56(6.9) | 69(5.8) | 81(9.4) | 117(10.2) | 83(8.6) | 96(9.3) | 92(11.3) | 118(9.9) | 70(9.4) | 218(17.4) | 305(7.6) | 606(8.5) |
| Total | 735(100) | 1269(100) | 820(100) | 1184(100) | 858(100) | 1146(100) | 967(100) | 1037(100) | 820(100) | 1184(100) | 752(100) | 1252(100) | 4904(100) | 7120(100) |

Annex 3. Selected employment and working conditions by sex. First Central American Survey of Working Conditions and Health (n=12,024), 2011.

| | Guatemala | | El Salvador | | Honduras | | Nicaragua | | Costa Rica | | Panama | | Central America | |
|--|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Women No.(%) | Men No.(%) |
| Employment conditions | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Labor relationship | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employer with employees | 148 (20.1) | 243(19.2) | 182(22.2) | 374(31.6) | 209(24.4) | 262(22.9) | 276(28.6) | 431(41.6) | 94(11.5) | 234(19.8) | 177(23.6) | 363(29.0) | 1083(22.1) | 1831(25.7) |
| Self-employed | 333(45.3) | 634(50.0) | 381(46.5) | 438(37.0) | 380(44.3) | 510(44.5) | 220(22.7) | 236(22.7) | 196(23.9) | 296(25.0) | 141(18.8) | 235(18.7) | 1793(36.6) | 2686(37.7) |
| Permanent employee | 148(20.2) | 195(15.4) | 198(24.1) | 273(23.1) | 189(22.1) | 209(18.2) | 384(39.7) | 247(23.8) | 443(54.1) | 553(46.7) | 369(49.0) | 564(45.1) | 1515(30.9) | 1735(24.4) |
| Temporary employee | 100(13.6) | 188(14.8) | 55(6.7) | 95 (8.0) | 79(9.2) | 164(14.3) | 85(8.8) | 123(11.8) | 64(7.8) | 89(7.5) | 65(8.6) | 89(7.1) | 481 (9.8) | 840 (11.8) |
| Work without contract (% among employees) | 37 (25.0) | 58 (15.1) | 14 (5.5) | 40 (10.9) | 21 (7.8) | 51 (13.7) | 9 (1.9) | 7 (1.9) | 28 (5.5) | 38 (5.9) | 7 (1.6) | 7 (1.1) | 137 (6.9) | 235 (9.1) |
| Work without social security coverage | 642(83.2) | 1089(85.8) | 639(78.0) | 931(78.6) | 733(85.4) | 1039(90.6) | 650(67.3) | 809(78.0) | 270(32.9) | 412(34.8) | 325(43.3) | 523(41.8) | 3482(71.0) | 5324(74.8) |
| Work more than 48h/week | 280(38.1) | 497(39.2) | 211(25.7) | 383(32.3) | 341(39.8) | 339(29.6) | 331(34.2) | 301(29.0) | 206(25.1) | 477(40.2) | 131(17.4) | 294(23.5) | 1607(32.8) | 2409(33.8) |
| Working conditions | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slippery and unstable surface* | 83(11.3) | 319(25.1) | 79(9.6) | 209(17.7) | 99(11.5) | 321(28.0) | 74(7.6) | 233(22.5) | 73(8.9) | 339(28.6) | 17(2.3) | 72(5.8) | 463(9.4) | 1626(22.8) |
| Dangerous tools and machines* | 84(11.4) | 370(29.2) | 125(15.3) | 236(19.9) | 93(10.8) | 264(23.0) | 59(6.1) | 205(19.7) | 56(6.8) | 250(21.1) | 55(7.3) | 271(21.6) | 493(10.1) | 1697(23.9) |
| High temperature** | 150(20.4) | 372(29.3) | 132(16.1) | 327(27.6) | 175(20.4) | 348(30.4) | 105(10.8) | 141(13.6) | 68(8.3) | 222(18.7) | 74(9.8) | 225(18.0) | 773(15.8) | 1770(24.9) |
| Breathing chemical substances** | 114(15.5) | 279(22.0) | 90 (10.9) | 222(18.7) | 117(13.6) | 195(17.0) | 110(11.3) | 132(12.7) | 54(6.6) | 175(14.8) | 47(6.2) | 191(15.3) | 586(11.9) | 1279(18.0) |
| Handling toxic substances** | 41(5.6) | 187(14.7) | 28(3.5) | 102(8.6) | 72(8.3) | 226(19.8) | 17(1.7) | 55(5.3) | 32(3.9) | 136(11.5) | 13(1.7) | 61(4.9) | 224(4.6) | 863(12.1) |
| Handling heavy loads** | 63(8.5) | 341(26.9) | 57(7.0) | 202(17.0) | 48(5.6) | 246(21.4) | 27(2.8) | 114(11.0) | 36(4.3) | 178(15.1) | 3(0.5) | 139(11.1) | 273(5.6) | 1390(19.5) |
| Repetitive movements** | 266(36.2) | 600(47.3) | 363(44.3) | 545(46.0) | 442(51.5) | 646(56.4) | 505(52.3) | 576(55.6) | 349(42.5) | 590(49.8) | 161(21.4) | 363(29.0) | 2101(42.8) | 3451(48.5) |

(*) always or very often (**) more than half working day

Annex 4. Health-related problems by sex. First Central American Survey of Working Conditions and Health (n=12,024), 2011.

| | Guatemala | | El Salvador | | Honduras | | Nicaragua | | Costa Rica | | Panama | | Central America | |
|---|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Women No.(%) | Men No.(%) |
| Self-perceived good health | 496(67.5) | 808(63.7) | 574(70.0) | 807(68.2) | 542(63.2) | 742(64.7) | 473(48.9) | 548(52.9) | 627(76.4) | 950(80.2) | 642(85.3) | 1063(84.9) | 3233(65.9) | 4753(66.8) |
| Good mental health | 323(44.0) | 609(48.0) | 369(45.0) | 528(44.5) | 531(61.8) | 735(64.1) | 553(57.2) | 628(60.5) | 437(53.3) | 708(59.8) | 650(86.3) | 1086(86.7) | 2659(54.2) | 4036(56.7) |
| Occupational injury with at least two days of absence | 14(2.0) | 53(4.1) | 10(1.2) | 29(2.5) | 26(3.1) | 30(2.6) | 48(4.9) | 99(9.6) | 16(1.9) | 17(1.4) | 6(0.8) | 13(1.0) | 123(2.5) | 270(3.8) |
| Back pain | 419(57.0) | 679(53.5) | 365(44.5) | 501(42.3) | 367(42.8) | 575(50.2) | 372(38.4) | 480(46.3) | 466(56.9) | 782(66.1) | 549(73.0) | 894(71.4) | 2462(50.2) | 3792(53.3) |

Annex 5. Comparison by sex, age and economic sectors between the last census data available (N) and the weighted sample (n) for each country. First Central American Survey of Working Conditions and Health, 2011.

| | | Sex | | Age | | | Economic Sectors | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------|---------|------------|-------------|------------|------------------|----------|----------|
| | | Women | Men | < 30 years | 30-50 years | > 50 years | Agricultural | Industry | Services |
| Guatemala | n | 735 | 1269 | 855 | 794 | 354 | 700 | 387 | 916 |
| | % | 36.7 | 63.3 | 42.7 | 39.6 | 17.7 | 34.9 | 19.3 | 45.7 |
| | N | 1782578 | 3431905 | 2173858 | 2086016 | 954610 | 1812054 | 999371 | 2403059 |
| | % | 34.2 | 65.8 | 41.7 | 40.0 | 18.3 | 34.8 | 19.2 | 46.1 |
| | p-value | 0.019 | | 0.612 | | | 0.950 | | |
| El Salvador | n | 820 | 1184 | 694 | 888 | 422 | 393 | 422 | 1189 |
| | % | 40.9 | 59.1 | 34.6 | 44.3 | 21.0 | 19.6 | 21.1 | 59.4 |
| | N | 1030119 | 1442116 | 872346 | 1098682 | 501207 | 520606 | 530995 | 1420634 |
| | % | 41.7 | 58.3 | 35.3 | 44.4 | 20.3 | 21.1 | 21.5 | 57.5 |
| | p-value | 0.496 | | 0.651 | | | 0.185 | | |
| Honduras | n | 858 | 1146 | 735 | 817 | 452 | 564 | 274 | 1165 |
| | % | 42.8 | 57.2 | 36.7 | 40.7 | 22.6 | 28.2 | 13.7 | 58.2 |
| | N | 1065742 | 1810507 | 1057991 | 1155690 | 662568 | 926239 | 410604 | 1539407 |
| | % | 37.1 | 62.9 | 36.8 | 40.2 | 23.0 | 32.2 | 14.3 | 53.5 |
| | p-value | <0.001 | | 0.827 | | | <0.001 | | |
| Nicaragua | n | 967 | 1037 | 802 | 853 | 350 | 532 | 299 | 1174 |
| | % | 48.3 | 51.7 | 40.0 | 42.5 | 17.4 | 26.5 | 14.9 | 58.6 |
| | N | 1147530 | 1463559 | 986875 | 991503 | 461404 | 782014 | 380737 | 1277031 |
| | % | 43.9 | 56.1 | 40.4 | 40.6 | 18.9 | 32.1 | 15.6 | 52.3 |
| | p-value | <0.001 | | 0.127 | | | <0.001 | | |
| Costa Rica | n | 820 | 1184 | 702 | 938 | 364 | 295 | 339 | 1370 |
| | % | 40.9 | 59.1 | 35.0 | 46.8 | 18.2 | 14.7 | 16.9 | 68.3 |
| | N | 702092 | 1172078 | 650830 | 862723 | 360617 | 311831 | 327752 | 1218449 |
| | % | 37.5 | 62.5 | 34.7 | 46.0 | 19.2 | 16,8 | 17.6 | 65.6 |
| | p-value | 0.001 | | 0.467 | | | 0.018 | | |
| Panamá | n | 752 | 1252 | 673 | 969 | 362 | 270 | 336 | 1398 |
| | % | 37.5 | 62.5 | 33.6 | 48.3 | 18.1 | 13.5 | 16.8 | 69.8 |
| | N | 488154 | 876103 | 446439 | 665819 | 251999 | 187134 | 241159 | 935964 |
| | % | 35.8 | 64.2 | 32.7 | 48.8 | 18.5 | 13.7 | 17.7 | 68.6 |
| | p-value | 0.104 | | 0.700 | | | 0.493 | | |