

ANNEX I

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
 CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

17 November 2021

Online meetings on measuring poverty and inequality, 30 November - 2 December 2021
I. ABSTRACT

Title	<i>Mexican household surveys in the pandemic context</i>
Author Name	<i>Edgar VIELMA</i>
Author Organization	National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)
Author email address	EDGAR.VIELMA@inegi.org.mx
Topic	<i>Survey response in the pandemic context</i>

In March 2020, the household survey field operations were suspended as part of the measures adopted by the Mexican federal health authority to restrict population mobility. To continue generating the necessary data, INEGI designed the Telephone Survey of Occupation and Employment (ETOE), with the objective to maintain the supply of information on the situation of occupation and employment during the pandemic. The ETOE shares the same conceptual characteristics as the suspended National Survey of Occupation and Employment (ENOE).

In late 2020, INEGI retook the operational activities in the field, carried out training and face-to-face interviews in order to conduct the National Survey of Household Income and Expenditure (ENIGH), the benchmark survey for measuring poverty in Mexico carried on a biennial basis. During the survey taking, INEGI followed the guidelines on health and social distance protocols established by the Ministry of Health. In addition, INEGI adjusted the sample size to reduce the expected percentage of non-response. Hired additional personnel to achieve greater control and supervision of operational activities.

Both surveys aim to determine the income and expenditure flow of the households, the occupational and sociodemographic characteristics of their members, and the infrastructure of dwellings. This serves to assess the number of people living in poverty in Mexico. The production of the Labor Trend Poverty Index (ITLP) continued, which, every three months, measures the trend in the purchasing power of labor income.

INEGI continually reviews household survey methodologies and assesses their relevance through Cognitive or Statistical Tests. All updates are submitted to Public Consultation, the public, private and academic sectors can learn about and participate in the process.

In operational terms, because of the pandemic, INEGI used telephone numbers from the housing sampling frame to conduct computer-assisted telephone interviews, in cases where it was not possible to carry out activities in the field.

In conceptual terms, recently the statistical projects have homologated the systems of classification of occupation and economic activity; in addition, in the subject of occupation and employment, questions of migration and workplace have been included to identify the labor mobility of the population. Regarding the issue of income, the collection of social programs provided by the federal government in Mexico has been updated.

Since the beginning of 2017, begins the process to implement a new Labor Survey model that adopts the conceptual framework of the XIX and XX International Conferences of Labor Statisticians. For its part, the income survey assesses the updating of new social programs, and the design of a better scheme for attracting remittances.