



**15TH NATIONAL
CONVENTION
ON STATISTICS**

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Initiatives to Measure the Size of Gig Workers and Online-related Occupations in the Philippines Using the Labor Force Survey

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Outline of the Presentation

- 1 Introduction**
- 2 Challenges and Initiatives in Measuring the Size of Gig**
- 3 Statistical Results**
- 4 Suggestions/Recommendations**



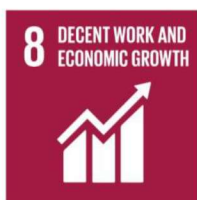
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I. Introduction



THE GLOBAL GOALS



called for policies and measures that would regulate the “gig” or platform economy (ILO, 2021, p.10)



- studied decent work situations in the Philippines
- platform economy has potential for employment opportunities for all
- independent workers give rise to decent work gaps (Artajo and Mones, 2021)



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establishing a legal framework on “gig economy” (NEDA, 2022).



- need to have a workable “monitoring system” on online platform labor (Soriano, C.R, 2021).
- need to define the “gig economy”; study the profile of freelancers; and identify the industries that generate gig workers (Mia and Habaradas, 2020)
- regarded the gig economy as non-standard or alternative employment arrangement (Esguerra, 2019)

Initiatives to Measure the Size of Gig Workers



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II. Challenges and Initiatives in measuring the size Gig Workers



conceptual or operational definitions and identification of occupational classification of gig workers vary across countries.

Conducted a pilot study: Two- pronged Approaches






a. Inclusion of online-related question in the LFS

b. Proposed Updating of the 2012 PSOC



1. Inclusion of online-related question in the LFS

Literature Review

Country/ Proponent	Definition	
United States ILO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Also known as platform economy ➤ composed of digital labour platforms Source: (ILO, 1996-2021) - web-based platforms - location-based applications (apps) 	   
Schwellnus C. et al. (2019) (OECD)	two-sided digital platforms that match workers on one side of the market to customers (final consumers or businesses) on the other side on a per-service "gig"	
Woodcock and Graham (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ characterized by independent contracting that happens through, via, and on digital platforms. ➤ contingent, with variable hours, involving payment on a piece-work basis. 	

Country/ Proponent	Questions/Data Items Included in LFS	Estimate
United States Current Population Survey staff US BLS 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2005	Contingent Worker Survey (Contingent jobs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alternative employment arrangements: independent contractors, - on-call workers, - temporary help workers, and - contract company workers. 	
United States Current Population Survey staff (2018) of U.S. BLS	workers who a) use a company's website or mobile app to connect to clients or customers and obtain short jobs, projects, or tasks; b). paid by or through the company that owns the website or mobile app; c). choose when and whether to work; and d). may do the short jobs, projects, or tasks in person or online. Contingent Worker Supplement is a set of questions that has periodically been appended to the nation's monthly labor force survey"	1.0 of total employment in May 2017
Malaysia Harun et al. (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - employees and own account workers - employees, those who worked less than 30 hours per week as a proxy for part-time employees - Occupation category which was considered freelancers and technology-based occupations 	18.4% of employed as part-time private employees and own account workers They identified 218 Occupations



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RT01

B. ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS										
For persons who ever worked or had a job/business during the past week										
FOR PERSONS 5 YEARS OLD AND OVER										
Check col. for members 5 years old over	Did ____ do any work for at least one hour, including work from home or telecommuting during the past week?	What is ____'s working arrangement?	Although ____ did not work, did ____ have a job or business during the past week?	Did ____ engage in online platform or mobile application, for at least an hour, in his/her work/job or business in the past week?	Where was ____'s location of work?	What was ____'s primary occupation during the past week?	In what kind of industry did ____ work during the past week?			L i n e N o.
	1 YES 2 NO, skip to Col. 10	1 working in the default place of work (not at home) 2 telecommuting/work from home 3 home-based work 4 on job rotation 5 on a mixed mode working arrangement 6 on reduced hours (Enter code then skip to Col. 11A)	1 YES 2 NO 3 NO, TEMPORARILY (If code 2 or 3, skip to Col. 25)	1 YES 2 NO (Enter code)	(Enter Province/Municipality Code) Specify Province/Municipality	(Specify occupation e.g. elementary teacher, rice farmer, etc.) Enter PSOC Code	(Specify industry e.g. Public elementary education, growing of paddy rice, etc.) Enter PSIC Code			
	(9)	(9A)	(10)	(11A)	(11B) (11C)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(1)

“Did ____engage in an online platform or mobile application, for at least an hour, in his or her work/job or business in the past week?” 1 – Yes 2 – No

Proposed Scope and coverage of **gig workers**:

- ☐ Employed/Underemployed persons who are fifteen (15) years and over, with work at least an hour, including telecommuting/working from home during the past week;
- ☐ Workers in a private household, establishments, government, and/or self-employed;
- ☐ Engaged in digital labor platforms or not engaged in digital labor platforms (onsite)
- ☐ Part-time worker (less than 30 hours) or full-time worker but want additional hours of work (more than 30 hours); and/or
- ☐ Nature of Employment are:
 - Short-term or seasonal or casual job/business/unpaid family work
 - Worked for different employers on day to day or week-to-week basis

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Proposed Scope and coverage of online-related occupation

- Employed/Underemployed persons who are fifteen (15) years and over, with work at least an hour, including telecommuting/work from home during the past week;
- Engaged in online platform or mobile application at least an hour in his/her work or business in the past week;

Proposed scope and coverage of gig workers who are engaged in digital labor platform

- Employed/Underemployed persons who are fifteen (15) years and over, with work at least an hour, including telecommuting/working from home during the past week;
- Workers in a private household, establishments, government, and even self-employed;
- Engaged in an online platform or mobile application for at least an hour in his/her work or business in the past week
- Part-time worker (less than 30 hours) or full-time worker but want additional hours of work (more than 30 hours); and/or
- Whose nature of employment is short-term or work for a different employer on a day-to-day or week-to-week basis

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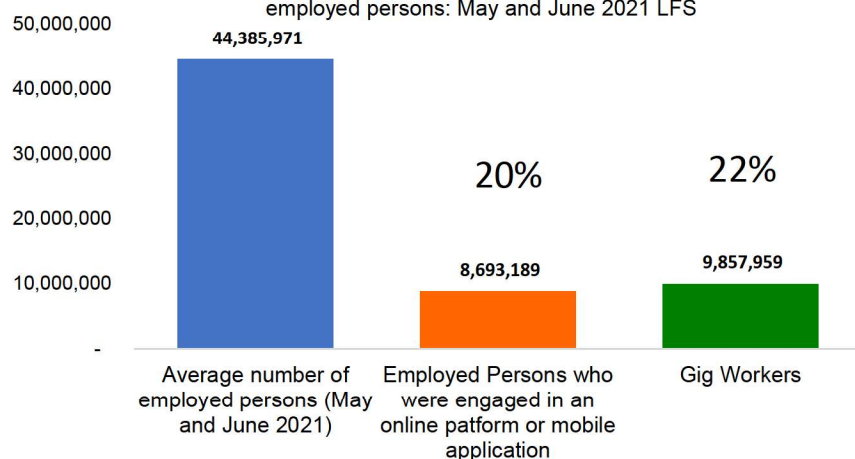
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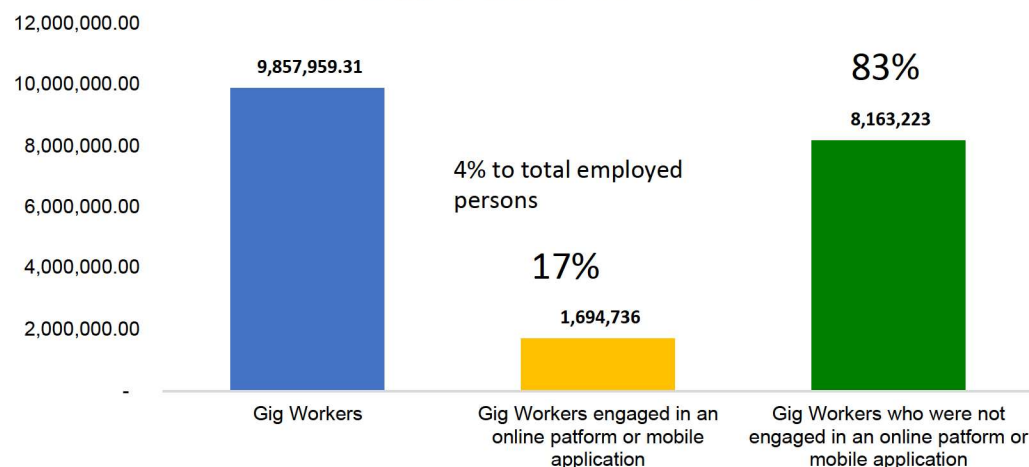
III. Statistical Results

Figure 1. Number and percent share of Gig workers and employed persons engaged in digital labor platform to the average number of employed persons: May and June 2021 LFS



- employed in private establishments 68 % (6.7 million persons)
- self-employed 22 % (2.1 million persons)
- worked for private households 6% (584 thousand persons)
- worked for the government 5 % (463 thousand persons)

Figure 2. Number and percent share of gig workers engaged in digital labor platforms to the total gig workers: May and June 2021 LFS



- gig workers engaged in digital labor platforms attained college education, 37 % (1.7 million employed persons).
- gig workers not engaged in digital labor platforms attained Junior High School and Elementary Education, with 49 percent shares (4 million employed persons) and 28 percent shares (2.3 million employed persons)
- See Annex 1 on the result by Industry

Initiatives to Measure the Size of Gig Workers

IV. Suggestions/Recommendations

- suggest that the question of the uses of digital labor platforms shall be supplemented in the monthly LFS (see Annex 2)
- suggested that in the future LFS, the five (5) digit code of the updated PSIC shall be used in classifying the kind of industries where the respondents worked.
- Questions on the name of the employer and the name of the digital labor platforms the respondents' using in his/her work would also be useful in the identification and validation of gig workers and gig industries.
- TWGs on labor and occupations and Technical Committee on Statistical Standards and Classifications shall formulate definitions/ criteria or scope and coverage of gig workers based on the result of the pilot study.

Annex 1

Top industries that generated gig workers who were engaged in online platforms or mobile applications were:

1. Retail Trade, Except Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles, 28 percent (478 thousand employed persons),
2. Crop and Animal Production, Hunting and Related Service Activities, 14 percent (243 thousand employed persons),
3. Construction of Buildings with 11 percent (187 thousand employed persons)
4. Office Administrative, Office Support and Other Business Support Activities with 6 percent (107 thousand employed persons)
5. Other Personal Service Activities with 5 percent (93 thousand employed persons),
6. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security with 5 percent (85 thousand employed persons),
7. Education with 3 percent (56 thousand),
8. Food and Beverage Service Activities with 3 percent (52 thousand employed persons)
9. Land Transport and Transport Via Pipelines with 3 percent (45 thousand employed persons).

Annex 2

Proposed Questions to be Supplemented in the Monthly LFS

1. Did ____ use social media platforms, mobile applications, and/or online web-based platforms for the following? (answerable by yes or no)
 - a. Connect with clients and/or potential clients and obtain short jobs, projects, or tasks
 - b. Providing customer services
 - c. Trade goods and services
 - d. Tools for communication, forums, and training
 - e. Accessing banking or financial services
 - f. Play to earn mobile games
 - g. Live streaming/vlogging
 - h. Purchases goods and/or services
 - i. Receive orders for goods and/or services
 - j. Recreation/Entertainment/ Research
 - k. Others, Specify_____

2. Did ____ use the social media platforms, mobile applications and/or online web-based platforms for the following? (Check box)
 - a. Main source of job/income
 - b. Secondary job/income
 - c. Not a source of job/income, e.g., For Recreation/Entertainment/ Research/Communication etc.

3. What percent of the total income was generated by ____ via social media, mobile applications, and online web-based applications, buying and selling via the internet? _____%



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Thank you!



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