



Statistics on Street Vendors and Market Traders in Metropolitan Lima and Urban Peru

Lisette Aliaga Linares¹

Despite the increasing presence of supermarkets and large retailers in Peruvian cities, small-scale trade, either on streets or within roofed markets, remains one of the main providers of goods and services for the urban population. In 2015, street vendors and market traders together represented 9.2 per cent of non-agricultural employment in Metropolitan Lima and 12.4 per cent of non-agricultural employment in urban Peru outside of Lima.

In many cities across Peru, and especially in Metropolitan Lima, street trade was traditionally a predecessor to trading in local roofed markets. A study conducted by the Institute for Liberty and Democracy (ILD) found that 83 per cent of the 331 roofed markets of Metropolitan Lima in 1985 were either built or bought by former street vending associations (De Soto 2002, 72). This same study also found a progressive transition from itinerant trading, through fixed post to market stall trading. Based on five case studies, researchers estimated that these self-managed and collectively-financed relocation projects took on average 17 years until vendors could occupy roofed markets (De Soto 2002, 75).

Since the 1990s, as cities in Peru have tightened control over the economic use of public spaces, many street vendors have been relocated from open-air to roofed markets. For the municipal government periods of 2003-2006,



Rosa Hidalgo Beltrán sells fresh herbs in the streets surrounding the old wholesale market, known as La Parada, in Lima.
Photo: Juan Arredondo/Getty Images Reportage

¹ Lisette Aliaga Linares is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Senior Research Associate at the Center for Public Affairs Research at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a member of WIEGO. The author thanks Carmen Roca, WIEGO Lima Focal City Coordinator, for her collaboration in reviewing the methodology to identify street vendors and market traders in Peru; Edith Anampa, WIEGO Peru project officer, for sharing her insights about recent changes in street vendor regulations; Sally Roever, for her helpful comments to the first draft; and Joann Vanek, for her careful editing and revision of this brief.

2007-2010, and 2011-2014, Metropolitan Lima and other local governments in Peru have intensified evictions of street vendors and confiscations of their merchandise. For instance, the available information from the National Registry of Municipalities, *Registro Nacional de Municipalidades* (Spanish acronym RENAMU), reports that 69 per cent of municipalities in Metropolitan Lima carried out operations to control street vending in 2005, with an average of 35 interventions per municipality.² Since then, the average number of interventions increased from 181 for the period of 2007-2010 to 297 for the period of 2011-2014, while the percentage of municipalities undertaking such operations essentially stayed the same. Local governments outside Lima have also increased their control over street vending, although to a lesser degree. In 2005, one third of the municipalities outside Lima undertook operations to control street vending, with an average of 10 per municipality. The percentage of municipalities that undertook operations peaked at 49 for the period 2007-2010 then decreased to 27 for the period 2011-2014. However, the average number of operations per municipality during this period increased from 25 to 44.

Based on case studies of large and medium size open-air markets in Lima, Guerrero (2001) concluded that the transfer of street vendors to markets led to many positive outcomes related to the improvement of public space, a more active role on the part of municipalities in the promotion of local economic development, and a reduction of the time required by vendors to occupy stalls in off-street relocation projects. However, her study also found that few municipalities offered an alternative option for the vendors left out of these schemes. For instance, municipalities usually restricted licenses to a small quota of fixed-post vendors in specific trades, making it harder for new vendors to work legally in public space. Also, the full social and economic impact of these policies has not yet been evaluated; it is still unclear whether the policies were effective in revitalizing neighborhoods, strengthening the businesses of the relocated vendors, or achieving sustainability over time as intended.

Recent policies in Lima have expanded street vendor relocation to include those outside of open-air markets. In 2014, after two years of dialogue between authorities and street vendor leaders, the Metropolitan Lima Ordinance No. 1787 created a regulatory framework that conditioned the granting of licenses upon vendors' registration in a relocation project. Without further dialogue, the new municipal government in 2016 replaced this Ordinance with Metropolitan Lima Ordinance No. 1933, which reduced the duration of renewable licenses from two-years to one year. On the one hand, if implemented successfully in Lima, this ordinance could speed up the transfer of street vendors to roofed markets for a wide-range of street vendors, and potentially free some licenses for new street vendors. On the other hand, the reduction to a one-year license may jeopardize the success of relocation projects, which count on vendors' stability to allow for collective savings and careful selection of market sites. Generally, policies adopted in Lima then spread to other municipalities.

Market trade continues to be thought of as the stepping stone to upgrade street vendors' working conditions. Yet, little is known about how working conditions compare between street vendors and market traders in relation to access to social protection, actual earnings and tax registration. In addition, little is known about whether working conditions differ between men and women street vendors and market traders, or whether conditions have improved for street vendors once they have been relocated in market stalls.



Félix Builches Coronel sells newspapers on the streets of Lima. Photo: Juan Arredondo/ Getty Images Reportage

Metropolitan Lima and other local governments in Peru have intensified evictions of street vendors and confiscations of their merchandise.

² These estimates are from the National Registry of Municipalities, *Registro Nacional de Municipalidades* (Spanish acronym RENAMU). The number of years in which operations were reported vary across municipal government periods. For the period 2003-2006, only 2005 has information on this question. In 2004, municipalities responded only if they conducted control operations. For the period 2007-2010, information was gathered for the years 2007, 2008, and 2010. For the period 2011-2014, information comes from RENAMU figures for 2011, 2012, 2013.

While a full assessment of the impact of relocation would require a longitudinal approach, this analysis takes another approach and compares the working conditions of street vendors with market traders in Metropolitan Lima and in urban Peru outside of Lima. The first section of this analysis discusses the methods used to identify street vendors and market traders in Peru's household survey, *Encuesta Nacional de Hogares* (Spanish Acronym ENAHO). The second section tracks changes in the number of street vendors and market traders over time. The years chosen — 2004, 2007, 2011, and 2015— represent the earliest years available for each term when mayors took office. The third section compares differences by sex in participation, employment status, and the types of products and services sold by street vendors and market traders in Metropolitan Lima and in urban Peru outside of Lima. The brief concludes with an analysis of the working conditions of self-employed market traders and street vendors, based on a comparison of earnings, hours worked, access to health insurance, and tax registration.

Results of this analysis show that the working conditions of market traders, as measured in this study, are not significantly better than those of street vendors. Therefore, there is still a pressing need for policy initiatives that can extend social protection and provide better economic opportunities for both market traders and street vendors.

Identifying Street Vendors and Market Traders in Peru's Surveys

The ENAHO produces data on the living conditions and poverty of the population as well as data to assess the effectiveness of social programs. It has a nationally representative sample size as well as representative sub-samples for Metropolitan Lima, and urban and rural areas across the three different natural regions of the country (Coast, Andes, and Amazon). The information is collected throughout the year, with results and data sets published quarterly and annually.

The ENAHO has five specialized questionnaires to cover a wide array of topics. Data on street vendors and market traders is in the Employment and Income Module, which contains information for the working age population (ages 14 and over) and in the Income of Independent Workers Module. Independent workers refers to self-employed individuals who reported being either employers or own account workers. Only this module includes a question on place of work.

The definition of street vendors in this brief includes those who sell goods and offer services in loosely defined public spaces. Market traders are workers who sell goods or provide services in built markets on publicly or privately owned land (as defined in Vanek, Chen, and Raveendran 2015).

In the ENAHO data, street vendors and market traders have specific occupational codes, derived from the *Clasificación Internacional Uniforme de Ocupaciones* (Spanish acronym CIUO). CIUO codes from 911 to 927 correspond to categories of street vendors by specific products of sale,³ while CIUO code 574 refers to “those selling in kiosks and market stalls (not street vendors).” Relying only on the CIUO codes creates two major



Rosa Luna Viuda de Luna is a food vendor at the Bolivar Market in Lima. Photo: Juan Arredondo/Getty Images Reportage

Data on street vendors and market traders was identified using Peru's household survey, *Encuesta Nacional de Hogares* (ENAHO).

³ CIUO codes for street vendors include those who sell fresh edible produce (911), prepared food (912), non-edible agricultural products (913), fish and related (914), live animals and dairy products (915), pharmaceutical products and medicinal herbs (916), manufactured food products (917), soft drinks, tobacco, and derived products (918), personal hygiene products (919), general street vendors (920), combustible substances (921), fabric, embroidery, or related (922), home appliances and furniture (923), newspapers, books, and magazines (924), art-related products (925), sports products and toys (926), and unclassified products (927).

limitations. First, most of the occupational codes locate these workers as a sub-occupation of the retail sector and do not include services typically rendered at streets or market stalls. Second, there are some inconsistencies in the reporting of the place of work question. For instance, many workers classified as market traders by the CIUO code declared working in improvised posts on streets or as itinerant/peddler on the place of work question. This confusion may arise because the general term “market stalls” in CIUO code 574 could refer also to those who work in open-air markets, in which case stalls are improvised. To address these problems in this analysis, street vendor and market trader categories were created by cross-classifying occupational codes, place of work, and employment status classifications as described in table 1 below.

Table 1: Operational Definitions of Street Vendors and Market Traders Based on ENAHO Occupational Codes, Place of Work and Employment Status

Street Vendors	Market Traders
<p>Selling goods</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Workers classified with CIUO codes 911-927, specifically street sellers who are not self-employed. 2) Self-employed workers classified with CIUO codes 911-927, who declared as options in the place of work question: itinerant/peddler, within vehicles transporting people or merchandise, improvised stall at streets, improvised stall at marketplace, fixed-post at streets and those who did not respond to the place of work question. 3) Self-employed workers classified with CIUO code 574 (retail in market stalls and kiosks — not street vendors) who reported in the place of work question the options in 2) above. These workers were considered to be in open air marketplaces. 	<p>Selling goods</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Workers classified with CIUO code 574 (retail in market stalls and kiosks — not street vendors) who are not self-employed. 2) Self-employed workers classified with CIUO codes 574 who responded to the place of work question as working at a fixed stall in a marketplace, and those who did not respond to the place of work question.
<p>Offering services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Self-employed workers whose place of work options included those above, and who performed the following occupations by CIUO code: 944 (shoe shiners/car cleaners), 945 (unclassified services which include typewriters, photographers, etc.), 985 (loaders), 396 (musicians and performers), 522 (cooks), 541 (hair-dressers), 764 (processed food makers – involved in making food such as fried potatoes, etc.), 766 (bread, patisserie makers), 772 (embroiderers), 773 (hat makers), and 777 (shoe repair). 	<p>Offering services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) Self-employed workers who reported working in a fixed stall in a marketplace with CIUO codes: 313 (electric, electronic or cell related technicians), 321 (operators of computer equipment), 322 (photographers), 364 (accounting services), 391 (graphic designers), 462 (photocopy operators), 522 (cooks), 541 (hair dressers), 746 (machine sewers), 748 (dyers), 764 (processed food makers), 766 (bread, patisserie makers), 768 (unclassified prepared food makers – involved in making food such as tamales, etc.), 771 (dress makers), 772 (embroiderers), 777 (shoe repair), 791 (watch repair and related), 792 (jewelry maker).

As the place of work question is only asked of those who declare being either employers or own account workers, it is impossible to check inconsistencies in occupational codes for all workers. However, as described later in this brief, other employment statuses are less prominent within the two worker groups. Additionally, the list of specific occupations that qualify as offering services was developed in collaboration with WIEGO team members in Peru to capture the diversity of services typically offered at the street or market stalls in Peru.

Street Vendors and Market Traders in Urban Peru: 2004-2015

As of 2015, the number of street vendors and market traders in urban Peru reached 1.2 million, which is around a ten per cent increase from 2004 (table 2). For the same year, both worker groups jointly represented 11 per cent of non-agricultural employment in urban Peru. Over the period 2004-2015, the increase in market traders in Lima has not been as large as the decrease in street vendors. By contrast, in urban Peru outside of Lima the numbers of both street vendors and market traders increased significantly. However, as a share of non-agricultural employment, these groups together are a smaller component of the non-agricultural labor force in 2015 than they were in 2004. The share dropped from 12.5 to 9.2 in Lima, and from 15.1 to 12.4 in urban Peru outside of Lima.

In 2015 around 40 per cent of all the street vendors and market traders in the country were in Lima, the capital and largest city. The increased control over street vending appears to have had only a minor impact on the number of street vendors and market traders. In 2015, there were 325,758 street vendors in Lima, a decrease of six per cent relative to 2004. By contrast, the 126,493 market traders represent an eight per cent increase relative to 2004. In other words, comparing 2004 to 2015, roughly twenty thousand street vendors were lost but only 9 thousand market traders were gained. In 2011, the number of market traders peaked at around 184,000 without a significant reduction in the number of street vendors. As a proportion of non-agricultural employment, street vendors steadily decreased from 9.3 per cent in 2004 to 6.6 per cent in 2015. During this period, there was not a consistent trend in the percentage of market traders in non-agricultural employment; however, overall the percentage decreased from 3.2 to 2.6.

In urban Peru outside of Lima, the number of both street vendors and market traders was larger in 2015 than in 2004. However, the changes within this period differ for each worker group. From 2004 to 2007 the growth in the number of market traders exceeded that of street vendors (roughly a 78,000 net increase in market traders versus 60,000 for street vendors). From 2007 to 2011 the number of street vendors decreased steadily by 35,000 workers while the number of market traders increased by 22,000 workers. As a proportion of non-agricultural employment, the trend for street vendors is similar to that in Lima. The percentage of street vendors in non-agricultural employment decreased, from 12.2 per cent in 2004 to 8.8 per cent in 2015. The percentage for market traders similar to that in Lima varied inconsistently but increased overall from 2.9 per cent of non-agricultural employment in 2004 to 3.6 in 2015.



Victor Mata Vargas is a fish vendor in a street market in the local municipality of Independencia in Lima. Photo: Juan Arredondo/Getty Images Reportage

As of 2015, the number of street vendors and market traders in urban Peru reached 1.2 million.

Table 2: Street Vendors and Market Traders in Metropolitan Lima and in Urban Peru Outside of Lima: Numbers and Percentages of Non-agricultural Employment 2004, 2007, 2011 and 2015

2a. Metropolitan Lima

	Street Vendors			Market Traders			Both Occupations		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Population									
2004	223,101	123,138	346,239	75,896	41,371	117,267	298,997	164,509	463,506
2007	209,145	119,169	328,314	79,234	39,341	118,574	288,379	158,510	446,888
2011	216,956	110,025	326,981	127,428	56,565	183,993	344,384	166,590	510,974
2015	222,044	103,714	325,758	88,750	37,743	126,493	310,794	141,457	452,251
Per cent of Non-Agricultural Employment									
2004	13.7	5.9	9.3	4.7	2.0	3.2	18.4	7.9	12.5
2007	11.0	5.1	7.8	4.2	1.7	2.8	15.1	6.8	10.6
2011	10.1	4.3	6.9	6.0	2.2	3.9	16.1	6.5	10.9
2015	10.0	3.8	6.6	4.0	1.4	2.6	14.1	5.2	9.2

2b. Urban Peru outside Lima

	Street Vendors			Market Traders			Both Occupations		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Population									
2004	311,342	192,816	504,158	81,424	38,207	119,631	392,766	231,023	623,789
2007	371,463	193,477	564,940	135,925	61,870	197,795	507,388	255,347	762,735
2011	373,931	155,659	529,590	146,294	74,244	220,538	520,225	229,903	750,128
2015	382,144	141,164	523,308	148,098	67,098	215,196	530,242	208,262	738,504
Per cent of Non-Agricultural Employment									
2004	16.6	8.6	12.2	4.3	1.7	2.9	20.9	10.3	15.1
2007	16.4	7.3	11.5	6.0	2.3	4.0	22.4	9.6	15.5
2011	14.5	5.1	9.4	5.7	2.4	3.9	20.2	7.6	13.4
2015	14.1	4.4	8.8	5.5	2.1	3.6	19.5	6.4	12.4

Source: Author's calculations based on 2004-2015 ENAHO and 2003-2015 RENAMU survey

Differences between Street Vendors and Market Traders 2015

Participation of Women and Men

There are significant differences between women and men in trends in non-agricultural employment for both worker groups (table 2). While the number of men street vendors steadily decreased in Metropolitan Lima, the number of women street vendors decreased only up to 2007 and increased since then. As a result, street vending continues to be a more important source of employment for women than for men. In 2015 street trade represented 10 per cent of women's non-agricultural employment, but only 3.8 per cent of men's. In urban Peru outside Lima, the number of men street vendors steadily decreased after 2007 while the number of women street vendors steadily increased. Street vending as a source of employment declined somewhat for women, from 16.6 per cent of non-agricultural employment to 14.1 per cent. However as in Lima, it remained a more important source of employment for women than for men as the percentage for men was only 4.4 in 2015.

Among market traders there was a consistent trend from 2004 to 2015 only for women in urban Peru outside of Lima, resulting in an increase in their numbers by around 66,000. The numbers of men in both locations and of women in Lima in market trading peaked in 2011, followed by a large drop in numbers in 2015. As a result, the number of men market traders in urban Peru outside of Lima — as for women — increased significantly by about 29,000. The number of women in market trade also increased in Lima by about 13,000 but the numbers of men decreased by around 3,500. As a source of employment, market trade declined for women (from 4.7 to 4.0 per cent of nonagricultural employment) and for men (2.0 to 1.4 per cent) in Lima between 2004 to 2015 but increased in urban Peru outside of Lima for both women (from 4.3 to 5.5 per cent of non-agricultural employment) and men (from 1.7 to 2.1 per cent).

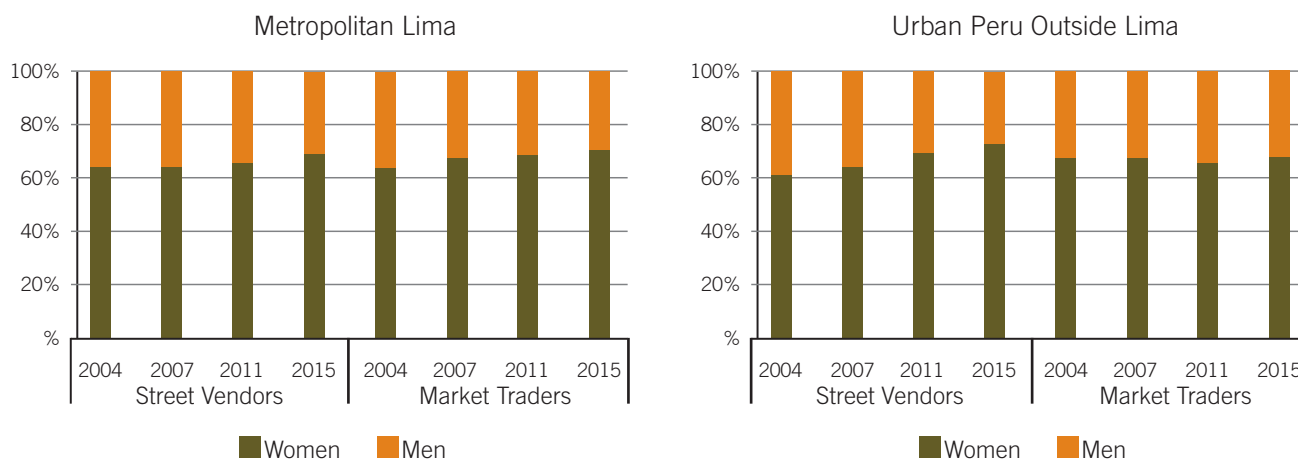
Women represent an increasing share of workers employed in both groups. In 2004, women comprised 64 per cent of street vendors in Lima and 62 per cent in urban Peru outside of Lima. In 2015, this share increased to 68 per cent in Lima and 73 per cent in urban Peru outside of Lima. Women's participation also increased for market traders in Lima from 65 in 2004 to 70 per cent in 2015. For urban Peru outside of Lima, women represented around 69 per cent of market traders for most years studied.



Virginia Valencia Paredes is a flower vendor at the San José Market in Lima. Photo: Juan Arredondo/Getty Images Reportage

Women represent an increasing share of workers employed as market traders and street vendors.

Graph 1: Women's and Men's Shares of Street Vending and Market Trade: Metropolitan Lima and Urban Peru Outside of Lima, 2004-2015



Source: Author's calculations based on ENAHO.

Employment Status

The majority of street vendors and market traders are self-employed in both Lima and urban Peru outside of Lima (table 3). Self-employment is far more common among street vendors than market traders in both locations – 94 per cent and 66 per cent in Lima, and 95 per cent and 58 per cent in urban Peru outside of Lima.

Since the overwhelming majority of street vendors — both women and men — are self-employed in both locations, only a small percentage are either wage workers or contributing family workers (or workers under similar unpaid arrangements). In both locations, men are almost twice as likely to be wage workers as women and women are more likely than men to work as contributing family workers.

Among market traders, self-employment is also the predominant status for women and for men in both locations. In Lima 70 per cent of women market traders and 56 per cent of men are self-employed. In urban Peru outside of Lima 58 per cent of women and 55 per cent of men are self-employed. Men are more likely to be wage workers (35 per cent) compared to women (19 per cent) in Lima while there is little difference by sex in the percentage of wage workers in urban Peru outside of Lima. Many market traders are contributing family workers in both locations but especially in urban Peru outside Lima where 24 per cent of men and 20 per cent of women are in this status.

Sale of Goods/Provision of Services

The ENAHO has a wide range of specific categories for the different products and services sold or provided by street vendors and fewer categories for market traders.⁴ For this reason a detailed comparison between these two worker groups is not possible. However, even these categories show important differences for each worker group by sex and between the two locations.

The majority of street vendors and market traders in both locations sell goods rather than offer services (table 3). At least 90 per cent of women street vendors and of both women and men market traders sell goods rather than provide services. The percentage of men working as street vendors in both locations is somewhat lower: in Lima two-thirds sell goods and one-third provide services; in urban Peru outside of Lima about three-quarters sell goods and one-quarter provide services.

The most common item sold by women street vendors is prepared food — reported by about one-third of women street vendors in Lima and about one-quarter of those in urban Peru outside Lima, but only by about 7 per cent of men street vendors in both locations. Among market traders, the most common category reported by women and men in both locations is not prepared food but rather the broad category of food, drinks, tobacco and other. This category was reported by about two-thirds of men and about one-half of women in Lima and 55 per cent of men and 49 per cent of women in urban Peru outside of Lima.



Benito Alarcón unloads sacks of onions from a truck at the Wholesale Market of Santa Anita in Lima. Photo: Juan Arredondo/Getty Images Reportage

The majority of street vendors and market traders sell goods rather than offer services.

⁴ The occupational code is used to identify specific categories of street vendors. Market traders are captured by the code 574 of the 3rd revision of the industrial classification in the ENAHO survey. For more detailed disaggregation, the 4th revision is used to differentiate this sector by products of sale.

Table 3: Selected Characteristics of Street Vendors and Market Traders in Metropolitan Lima and Urban Peru Outside of Lima, 2015

	Metropolitan Lima			Urban Peru Outside of Lima		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Street Vendors						
<i>Employment Status</i>						
- Self-employed	93.8	94.0	93.9	95.2	94.9	95.1
- Wage worker	1.4	2.7	1.8	1.5	3.6	2.1
- Family Unpaid or other	4.8	3.3	4.3	3.3	1.6	2.8
<i>Products/ Services</i>						
a) Goods	97.4	67.6	87.9	97.9	76.0	92.0
- Perishable food 1/	6.7	10.3	7.8	8.0	15.7	10.1
- Prepared food	30.7	7.0	23.2	28.7	6.9	22.8
- Manufactured food & groceries	14.4	16.9	15.2	18.1	20.5	18.7
- Newspaper/magazines	1.5	2.1	1.7	0.1	1.3	0.5
- Clothing and shoes	12.7	11.7	12.4	11.7	9.7	11.2
- Other	31.5	19.6	27.7	31.1	21.8	28.6
b) Services	2.6	32.4	12.1	2.1	24.0	8.0
- Shoe shiners, car cleaners	-	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.3
- Porters ("estibadores")	-	11.2	3.6	-	12.2	3.3
- Other	2.6	20.3	8.2	2.1	11.0	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Market Traders						
<i>Employment Status</i>						
- Self-employed	70.5	56.4	66.3	58.5	55.2	57.5
- Wage worker	19.2	35.2	24.0	21.2	20.5	21.0
- Family Unpaid or other	10.3	8.3	9.7	20.3	24.3	21.6
<i>Products/ Services</i>						
a) Goods	93.9	90.9	93.0	96.4	92.1	95.1
- Prepared food	12.0	6.4	10.3	14.2	0.6	10.0
- Food, drinks, tobacco and other	47.1	66.8	53.0	49.1	54.6	50.8
- Clothing and shoes	22.2	4.9	17.0	22.0	21.1	21.7
- Other	12.7	12.8	12.7	11.1	15.8	12.6
b) Services	6.1	9.1	7.0	3.6	7.9	4.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00

Source: Author's calculations based on ENAHO.

1/ Includes Fresh produce, meat, fish, poultry, milk, and other related perishable products.

The Working Conditions of Self-employed Street Vendors and Market Traders 2015⁵

A larger share of market traders compared to street vendors do not have access to health insurance. In Lima, 48 per cent of market traders are uninsured compared to 41 per cent of street vendors. In urban Peru outside Lima, the difference between the two occupations is greater, as 47 per cent of market traders and only 36 per cent of street vendors are uninsured. Overall, women in both locations are less likely than men to be uninsured. This may be connected to the problems of affordability as men's and market traders' relative higher monthly incomes may render them unqualified to access low-cost or subsidized health insurance.

Compared to street vendors, market traders are more likely to be registered in the tax system. Licenses or other forms of municipal fees are more crucial to the businesses of street vendors than tax registration.⁶ However, market traders' tax registration is low; only 33 per cent of market traders in Lima and 20 per cent in urban Peru outside of Lima have registered for taxes. Among street vendors tax registration is even lower: seven per cent in Lima and three per cent in urban Peru outside of Lima. Men are more likely to be registered in the tax system than women except in urban Peru outside of Lima.

Market traders earn more than street vendors. Market trader net earnings in a month are 2.3 times higher in Lima and 1.9 times higher in urban Peru outside of Lima than street vendors. The monthly earnings advantage seems to be related to the longer working hours of market traders. The average work week for a market trader was 57 hours in Lima and 54 hours in urban Peru outside of Lima. On average, a street vendor works 36 hours a week in Lima and 33 hours in urban Peru outside of Lima. In terms of hourly net earnings there is little difference between street vendors and market traders. Around one Nuevo sol difference favors market traders in Lima over street vendors. But in urban Peru outside Lima, the difference favors street vendors by almost the same amount.

In both locations, women market traders work fewer hours, earn less and have lower hourly net earnings than men market traders.



Auria Cantorin owns a newsstand in Lima. Photo: Juan Arredondo/Getty Images Reportage

In terms of hourly net earnings there is little difference between street vendors and market traders.

⁵ Data are presented for men market traders in Lima; however the number of cases in the sample is less than 100.

⁶ No information on licenses is available.

Table 4: Indicators of Working Conditions for Self-employed Street Vendors and Market Traders in Metropolitan Lima and Urban Peru outside of Lima, 2015

	Street Vendors			Market Traders		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Metropolitan Lima						
Uninsured rates (per cent)	36.5	48.9	40.5	45.3	54.6*/	47.7
Registered in Tax System (per cent)	5.6	10.7	7.2	34.9	27.4*/	33.0
Monthly net earnings (Nuevos Soles)	573.3	838.6	659.8	1,004.9	2,716.6*/	1,449.6
Hours worked in a week	30.8	45.4	35.6	56.1	61.1*/	57.4
Hourly net earnings (Nuevos Soles)	5.7	5.2	5.5	4.8	11.4*/	6.5
Urban Peru outside of Lima						
Uninsured rates (per cent)	32.3	46.8	35.9	42.6	58.3	46.7
Registered in Tax System (per cent)	2.7	5.4	3.4	13.2	36.9	20.3
Monthly net earnings (Nuevos Soles)	472.3	912.7	580.8	983.7	1,403.6	1,092.2
Hours worked in a week	29.9	42.1	32.9	53.3	57.6	54.4
Hourly net earnings (Nuevos Soles)	5.5	8.5	6.2	4.9	6.7	5.3

Source: Author's calculations based on ENAHO.

*/ Estimates for this category of workers were based on a small sample size (less than 100 cases).

References

De Soto, Hernando. 2002. "Informal Trade." In *The other path : the economic answer to terrorism*, 59-92. New York: Harper & Row.

Guerrero, Elsie. 2001. *De Ambulantes a Empresarios: Reubicación y Reordenamiento del Comercio Ambulatorio*. Lima: NGO Alternativa-DESCO.

Vanek, Joann, Martha A. Chen, and Govindran Raveendran. 2015. "A guide to obtaining data on types of informal workers in official statistics. Domestic workers, home-based workers, street vendors and waste pickers." WIEGO Statistical Brief No. 8. Cambridge, MA, USA: WIEGO.

About WIEGO: Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing is a global network focused on securing livelihoods for the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy. We believe all workers should have equal economic opportunities and rights. WIEGO creates change by building capacity among informal worker organizations, expanding the knowledge base, and influencing local, national and international policies. Visit www.wiego.org.