

# Statistical Brief - Apprentices in countries with large informal economies

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This statistical brief compares country-level data on apprenticeships with an interest in countries with large informal economies. It investigates the possibilities and limitations of current labour force statistics to provide a snapshot on apprenticeships, with data compiled by the ILO from 27 countries (26 African and 1 South Asian countries). It also provides key findings and recommendations based on the comparative analysis.

Informal employment is prevalent among apprentices, irrespective of payment. The issue of child labour persists within apprenticeships. While male apprentices dominate, there are instances where females outnumber males in certain countries. Apprenticeships are vital in facilitating the transition to work and enhancing skills, and countries have diverse methods of identifying apprentices, leading to variations in data. The age range of apprentices typically falls between 18 and 34, with some individuals continuing beyond 30. Discrepancies between Labor Force Survey (LFS) data and administrative records are notable in specific countries; hence, apprenticeships shape the future of work.

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