

Review of: "Could governmental interventions improve subjective well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic? Findings from 750 street vendors in Cali, Colombia"

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We need more such investigations on the informal economic sector, which dominates so many economies and tends to get inadequate attention or is even ignored by policy-makers. This survey contains some important data concerning earnings, hours worked and economic self-assessment, among others, which should be very useful in framing policy to support operators in this sector.

Given the range of response possible in the extensive survey, and the varied distribution of responses, I find the text gives almost exclusive attention to the negative experiences of the vendor population. A more neutral position is desirable in this kind of academic presentation. For example, I note that more could access sufficient resources than could not. Also, the great majority had enough to satisfy basic needs and half of the vendors could also save. Why is this important? Knowing that the sector has vitality is important when budgets are allocated. Of course, the authors wish to emphasize the important areas for support, which also needs to be there.

I recognize that the paper is not primarily about corrective measures although there is brief mention at the end. It is usual in this kind of survey - speaking from experience - that the target population cannot produce a complete set of viable solutions, nor should they be expected to. The detailed investigation of this group, presumably on the ground, undoubtedly produced ideas for helping the vendor population prosper. These could be expanded legitimately in Discussion.

A small point: I would not include statistical results in the Abstract, which makes the reading and the understanding difficult. I would stick to clear statements of the results. There should also be a sentence stating how the survey was conducted.