

Perspectives of the Male Gender That Force Him to Have Double Work or Double Economic Activity in Piedras Negras

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Abstract: The Project was created with the aim of analyzing and evaluating the situation of workers who have double employment or income in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, as support for the Confederation of Workers of Mexico (CTM), and its main objective is to identify the reasons why men seek to have a double job in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, as well as what jobs men with dual occupation perform and determine whether a dual work activity in men represents a strain that can result in family, personal and health instability. Underemployment includes all workers who, even with job, seek another to complete their temporary or economic needs.

Key words: double employment, workers, economic problems, family instability, health problems

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1. Introduction

The economy has not been able to grow at the pace necessary to adequately increase formal employment. A good percentage of the employed population in Mexico has the need and availability to work longer hours (underemployment), which reflects that the labor market does not provide sufficiently attractive opportunities to these people. The growing need to seek more working time is due, in part, to low wages. The advantage of having two jobs is very clear if we speak from a purely economic point of view, but this option represents a strain on the

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worker that can result in family, personal and health instability, and sometimes in illnesses that can prevent not only the possibility of working in two places, but simply the possibility of working.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Background

According to the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), the underemployment rate stood at 7.8% in September, the highest figure since August 2016. By gender, the rate for men reached 8.2%, while the rate women were 7.4%.

The growing need to seek more working time is due, in part, to low wages.

More than half (54%) of the country's subordinate and paid workers earn, at best, up to two minimum wages (6,161 pesos per month), according to National Survey of Occupation and Employment for the second quarter of 2019.

During the third quarter of 2019, the unemployment population in Mexico totaled 2.1 million people.

Among the entities with the highest unemployment rates in third quarter of the year are: Tabasco with 5.4%, Queretaro with 5.4%, Mexico City and Sonora with 5.0%; Baja California Sur, Coahuila of Zaragoza and the State of Mexico with 4.8%, Nayarit with 4.5%, Durango with 3.9%; and Aguascalientes, Chiapas and Colima with 3.8%.

INEGI also reported that, in addition to the previous percentage of workers, there are men and women who are looking for a second job (7.8%), to cover their basic needs.

2.2 Current Situation

The new normal? Five million people have two or more jobs in Mexico.

According to the National Household Income and Expenditure Survey, in 2022 there are 5.3 million people who have two or more jobs in Mexico. Oaxaca is the state where there were more people who reported having two or more jobs, where two out of ten have more than one boss to be able to bring money home. In Guerrero, Campeche, Chiapas, Yucatan, Tabasco, Hidalgo and Michoacan the percentage ranges between 11 and 19 percent of the population that has two or more jobs. In Jalisco, five percent of the people surveyed reported that they have two or more jobs, which is more than 202 thousand people.

At least 3.1 million Mexicans have a second job, according to data up to the second quarter of the year 2022 from the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), which represents around 5% of the employed population in the country. Some do it supplement their monthly income, others do it to have financial support, and some do it to grow their wealth. However, more than half of Mexicans earn minimum wage or less in their second occupation.

2.3 Coahuila of Zaragoza State

The state of Coahuila of Zaragoza has 4.8% unemployment rate, below the states with highest unemployment rate such as Tabasco, Queretaro, Mexico City and Sonora. Added to these problems are men and women who seek a second job to cover their basic needs, since their income from a single job is not enough.

For the above, we seek to have an overview of the perspectives of the men who force him to have a double job in the city of Piedras Negras. Determine the percentage of the economically active population in Piedras Negras that in in the situation of having a double job, identifying the needs that have forced them to seek a double income, what are the reasons why they seek double employment and what are the jobs where men with double jobs perform.

In addition, see if there is a relationship between dual employment and personal, family and health instability.

3. Case Study

3.1 Activities

A survey was conducted in the different companies in the manufacturing sector of the city of Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico.

3.2 Results

The age of the respondents is distributed as follows: 8% are from 16 to 30 years old, 29% are from 31 to 40 years old, 35% are from 41 to 50 years old, and 28% are from 51 years old and older.

Most of the respondents finished primary and secondary school (76%), those who have secondary and higher education (16%), and those who have no studies (8%).

56% of respondents have a salary of \$5,000 to \$8,000 pesos per month. The other 44% have a salary more than \$8,000 pesos per month, but not more than \$13,000.

Most of the respondents are operators (91%), the other 9% are quality auditors, supervisors, technicians and engineers. The working hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Of the men surveyed, 63% are married, 18% are single, 11% are living together, 4% are divorced, 2% are dating, and 2% are widowed.

51% of men said that their wife also works. In 76% of cases, children are financially dependent on their parents.

20% of men surveyed have a second job, of which only 10% is formal employment, 90% corresponds to informal employment. Formal employment is paid employment that is registered, regulated and protected by legal frameworks. Informal employment is considered unstable and does not enjoy a social benefits scheme, nor a type of contract that formalizes labor and contractual relations.

Of the respondents who have dual employment, 50% have a monthly income of \$5,000 to \$8,000 pesos for both jobs, the other 50% have a monthly income of more than \$8,000 pesos.

The main reasons why men seek double employment:

- My salary from just one job is not enough to cover my family's needs (43%).
- Payment of tuition fees (21%).
- Payment of debts and loans (21%).
- Others (15%).

Of the men who have double employment, they expressed having the following family problems:

- Distancing from family (50%).
- Distancing from his wife (25%).
- Distancing from their children (25%).

The main behavioral problem derived from having double employment, the respondents mentioned fatigue.

The main health problems are mentioned as follows:

- Muscle pain (50%).
- Poor diet (25%).
- Stress (13%).
- Headache (12%).

4. Conclusion

From the study carried out, we can mention the following conclusion:

One in five people surveyed has a second job, where the majority is informal, where they work at times that they can, usually on the weekend.

Among the most frequent problems expressed by the people surveyed with double employment is fatigue.

The main reasons that motivate them to double employment are a higher salary to cover the needs of their family. And in half of the married people surveyed, both parents work (which we could also think of as double employment, since both parents work).

Of the people surveyed, and who did not have a second job, 41% said they are looking for second job, and the main reason was to have a higher income.

Of the people surveyed, who said they are not looking for a second job, it is because they will not spend enough time with their family (58%), or they will not get enough rest (20%).

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