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IT Time Use Statistics as Data Source of Welfare Indicators, a Mexican Approach

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The literature and statistics about the time use need to be analyzed to bring light on the changes in the patterns followed by the households to generate potential productive activities from home by itself. The borderline between leisure and time use on internet for working, studying, seeking jobs, buying, self-training, or other activities that might generate an economic retribution in the short or long futures is something that deserves study to understand better if this kind of time use is generating eventually economic or productive benefits.

The use of information technology (IT) by households is studied by the statistical office in Mexico (INEGI) through the National Survey on Availability and Use of IT in the Households. In addition, the satellital account for the non-remunerated work contributes to understanding the time use of the Mexican households in a wide sense. With both statistical approaches this document explores for the period 2015-17 the time use spends in activities that would help to identify potential welfare indicators.

The characterization of the time uses in internet and social media by gender, scholarship, place of residence and sociodemographic stratum contributes to identify more precisely the target population for which a potential welfare indicator might be focused.

The paper proposes the use of the available economic and social statistics to identify indicators that would help to understand better how the IT can help households to upgrade the time use in leisure into activities with clear impact in their welfare.