

External users (Secondary Users) of accounting information include the following:

Creditors: for determining the credit worthiness of an organization. Terms of credit are set by creditors according to the assessment of their customers' financial health. Creditors include suppliers as well as lenders of finance such as banks.

Tax Authorities (BIR): for determining the credibility of the tax returns filed on behalf of a company.

Investors: for analyzing the feasibility of investing in a company. Investors want to make sure they can earn a reasonable return on their investment before they commit any financial resources to a company.

Customers: for assessing the financial position of its suppliers which is necessary for them to maintain a stable source of supply in the long term.

Regulatory Authorities (SEC, DOLE): for ensuring that a company's disclosure of accounting information is in accordance with the rules and regulations set in order to protect the interests of the stakeholders who rely on such information in forming their decisions.

SUMMARY OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL USERS

Internal users of accounting information are those who are involved in planning, organizing and running the business. They need more detailed information on a timely basis in order to support their decisions. Examples of these internal users are managers, employees and owners.

The external users of accounting information are those individuals or organizations outside a company who are interested in its financial information. Examples of these external users are potential investors, suppliers and government agencies.