

Total Work Time and its Allocation in Households:

Evidence from Four European Countries

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Aim of the presentation

- Demonstrate the contents of the Harmonised European Time Use Database
- Describe the possibilities it offers for analysing allocation of time in households

HETUS Database: 15 countries

■ Germany	2001–2002	Belgium	2005
■ Spain	2002–2003	Bulgaria	2001–2002
■ France	1998–1999	Estonia	1999–2000
■ Italy	2002–2003	Latvia	2003
■ Finland	1999–2000	Lithuania	2003
■ Sweden	2000–2001	Poland	2003–2004
■ UK	2000–2001	Slovenia	2000–2001
■ Norway	2000–2001		

Data

Country	Fieldwork period	Sample size (persons)	No. of days
Finland	1999–2000	5 322	Two days
Germany	2001–2002	12 655	Three days
Spain	2002–2003	46 774	One day
United Kingdom	2000–2001	10 366	Two days

Two subsamples (aged 20–74)

- All couples (married or cohabiting),
- Couples (married or cohabiting) with children aged 0–17

Activity status of the spouses

- Employed (full-time or part-time)
- Not employed (on maternity, parental or other leave, unemployed, student, retired, permanently disabled, fulfilling domestic tasks, other)

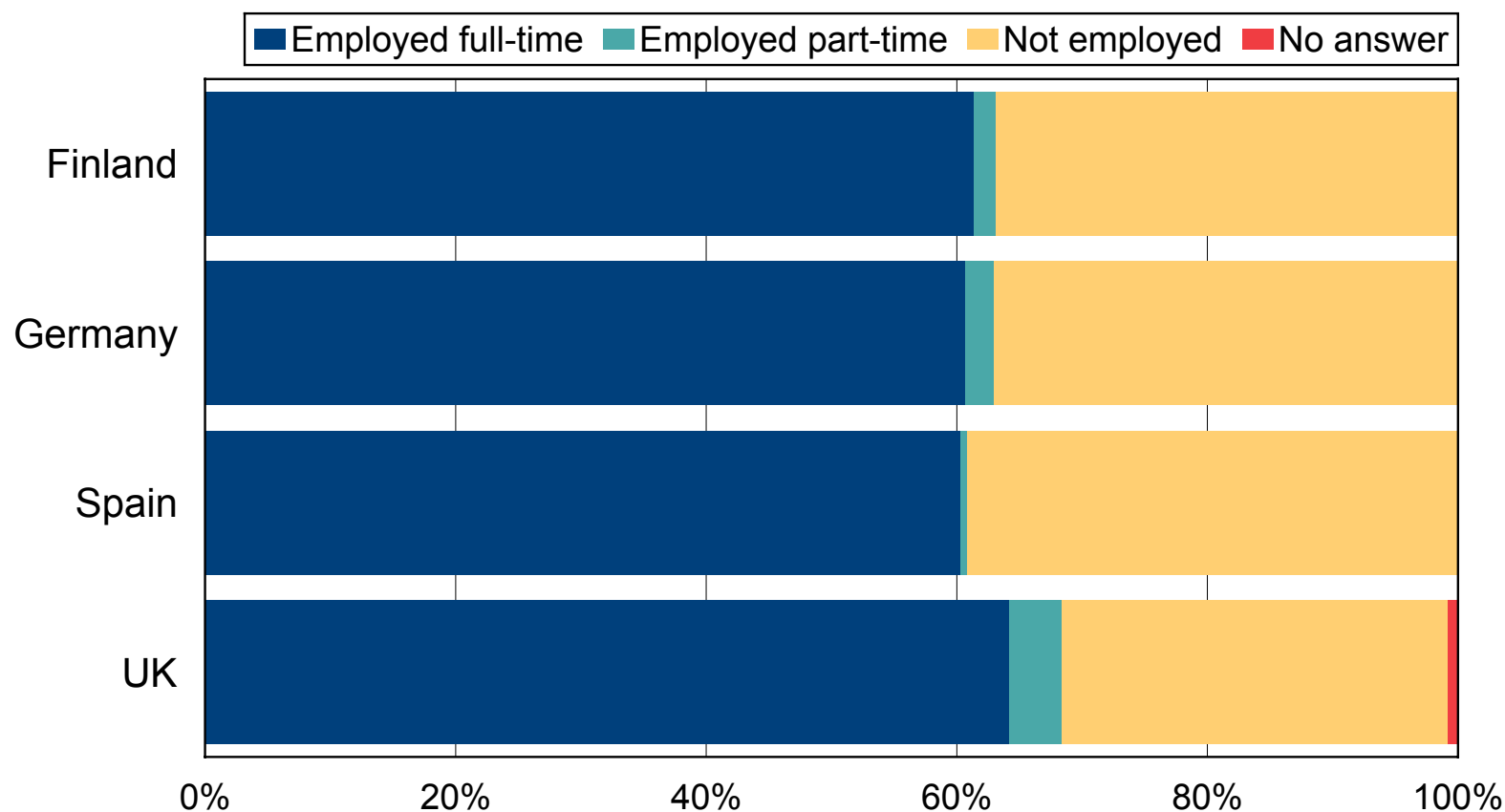
Time use variables available

- Main activity (49 categories)
- Secondary activity (10 categories)
- Location and mode of transport (11 categories)
- Social context (8 categories)

Total work time

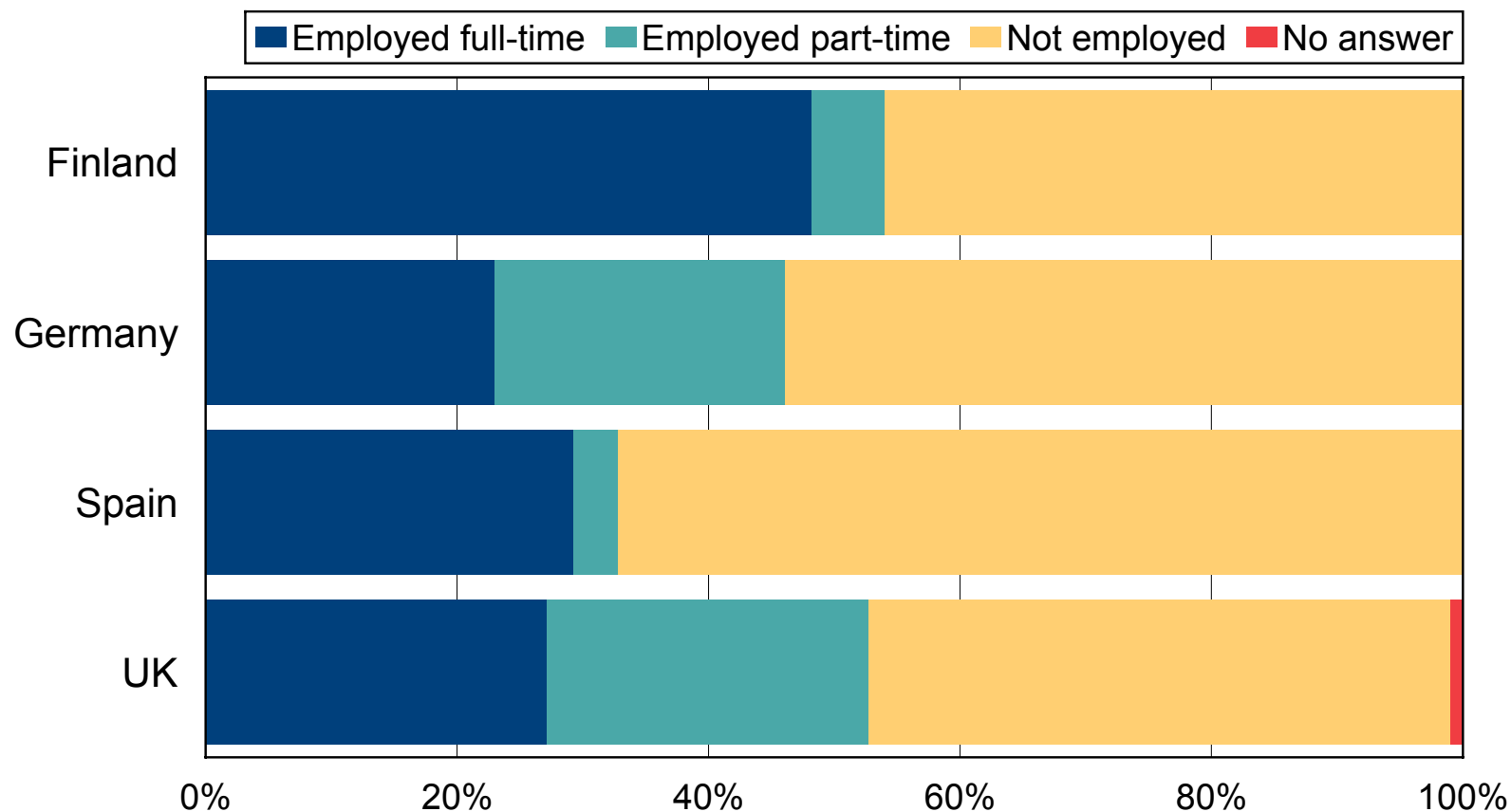
- Paid work (without commuting)
- Domestic work (without travel):
 - Child care
 - Other domestic (housekeeping, maintenance, shopping)

Activity status of married or cohabiting men aged 20 to 74, weighted distribution (%)



Source: HETUS online database

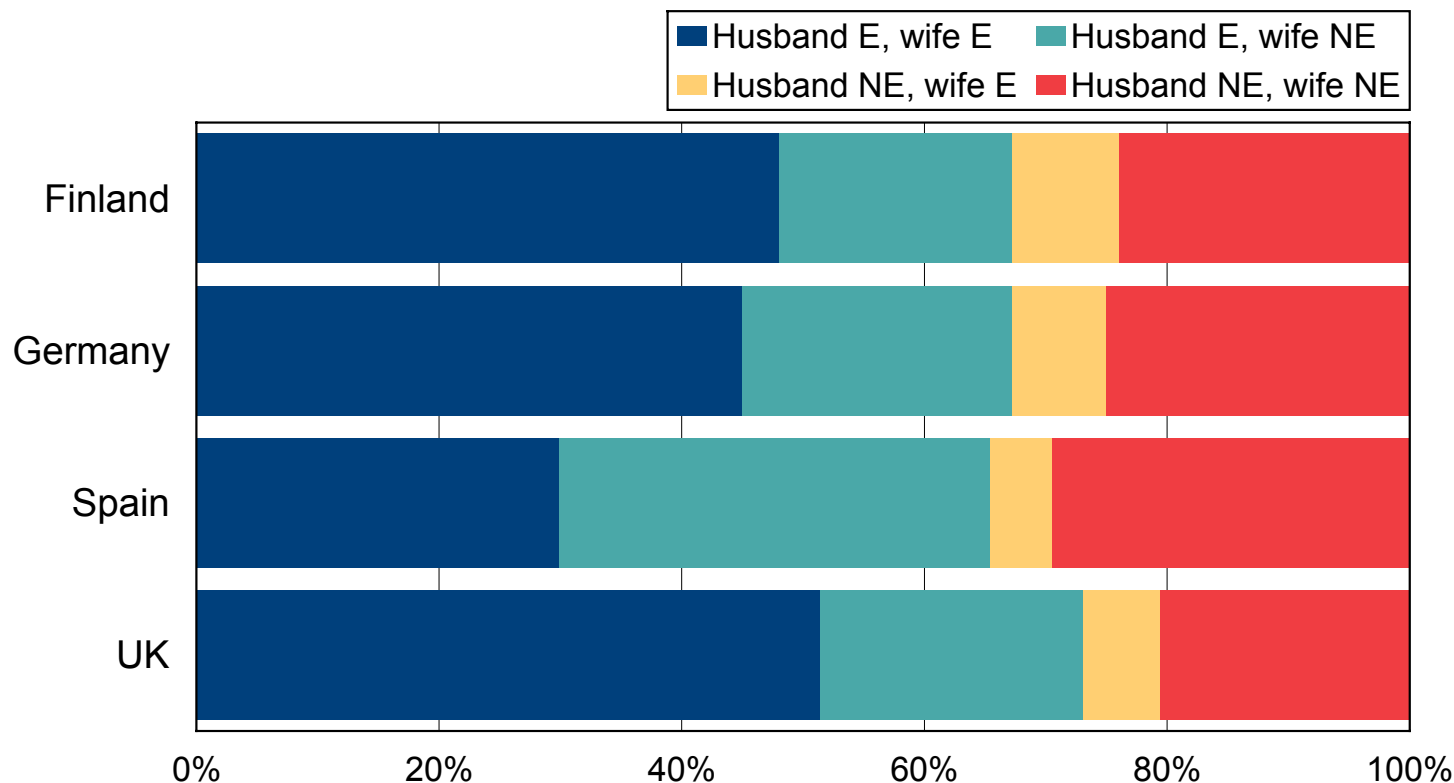
Activity status of married or cohabiting women aged 20 to 74, weighted distribution (%)



Source: HETUS online database

Distribution of cases by activity status by country, weighted distribution (%)

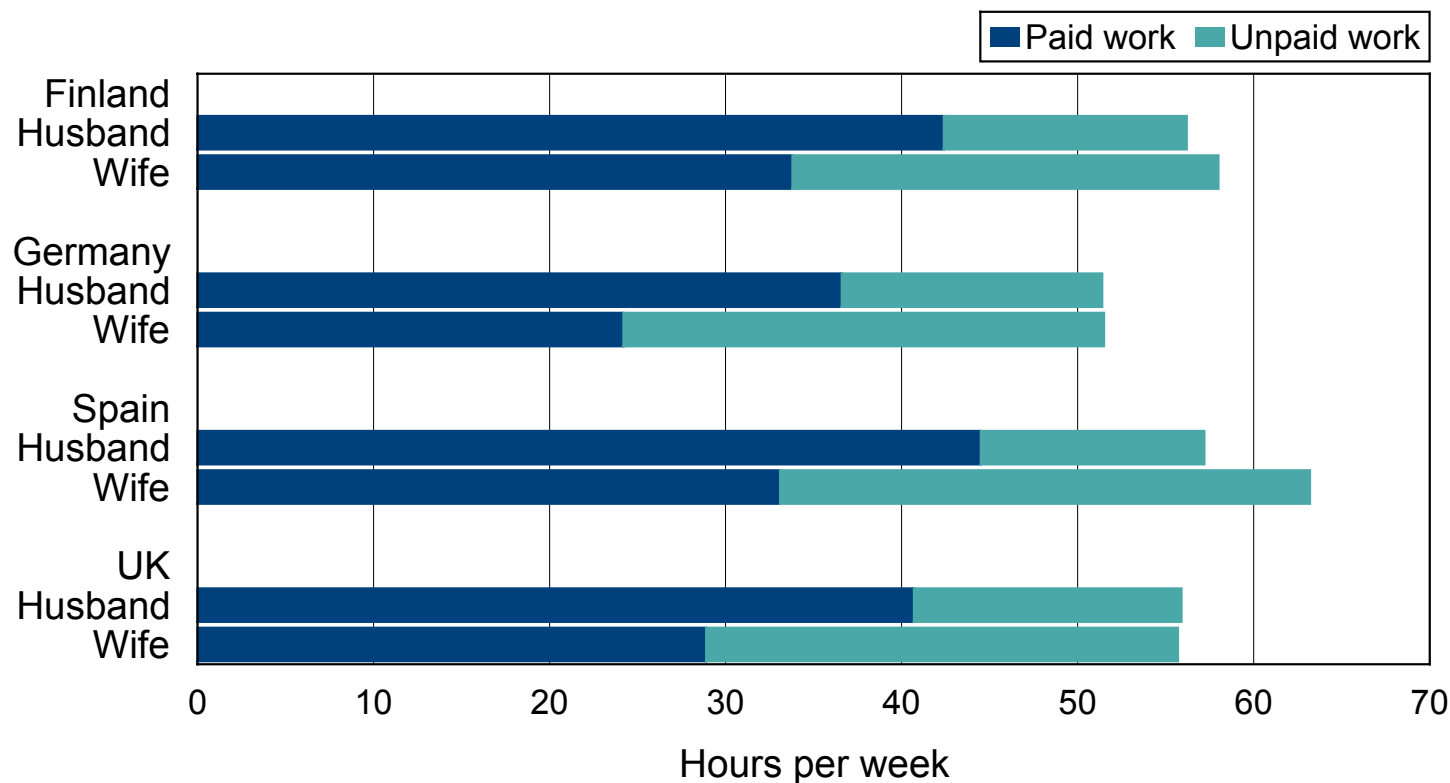
E=employed, NE=not employed



Source: HETUS online database

Total work time by country

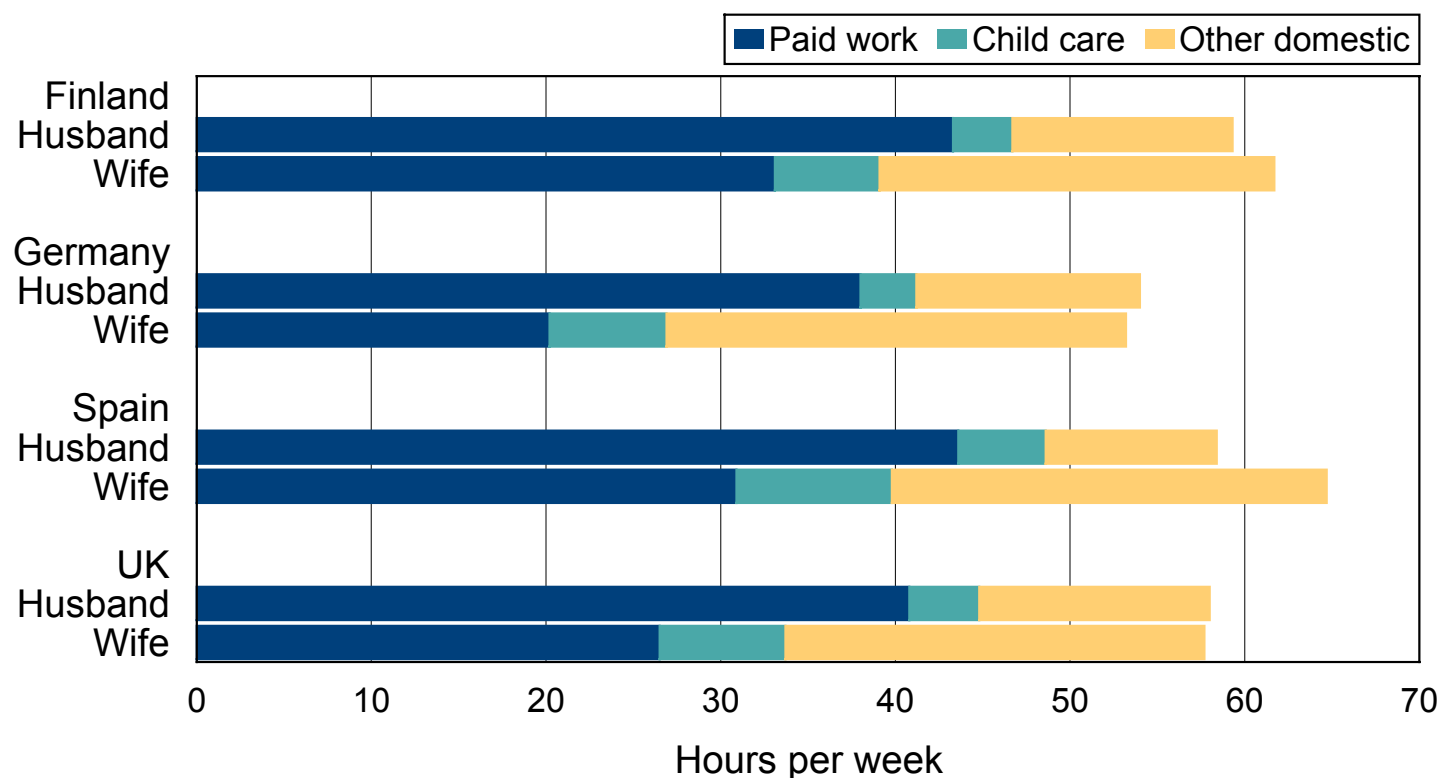
Both employed



Source: HETUS online database

Allocation of time to paid work, childcare and other domestic work by country

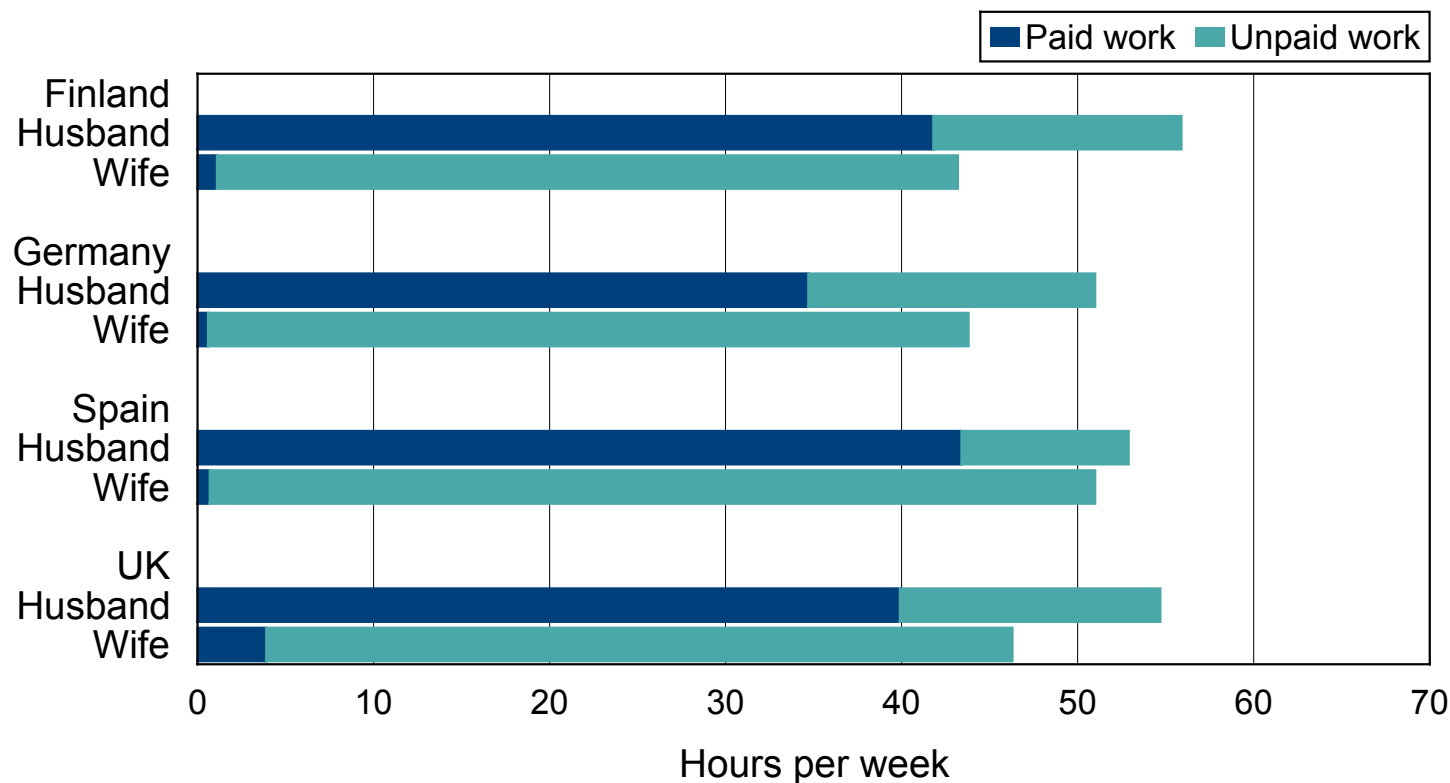
Both employed, couples with children aged 0–17



Source: HETUS online database

Total work time by country

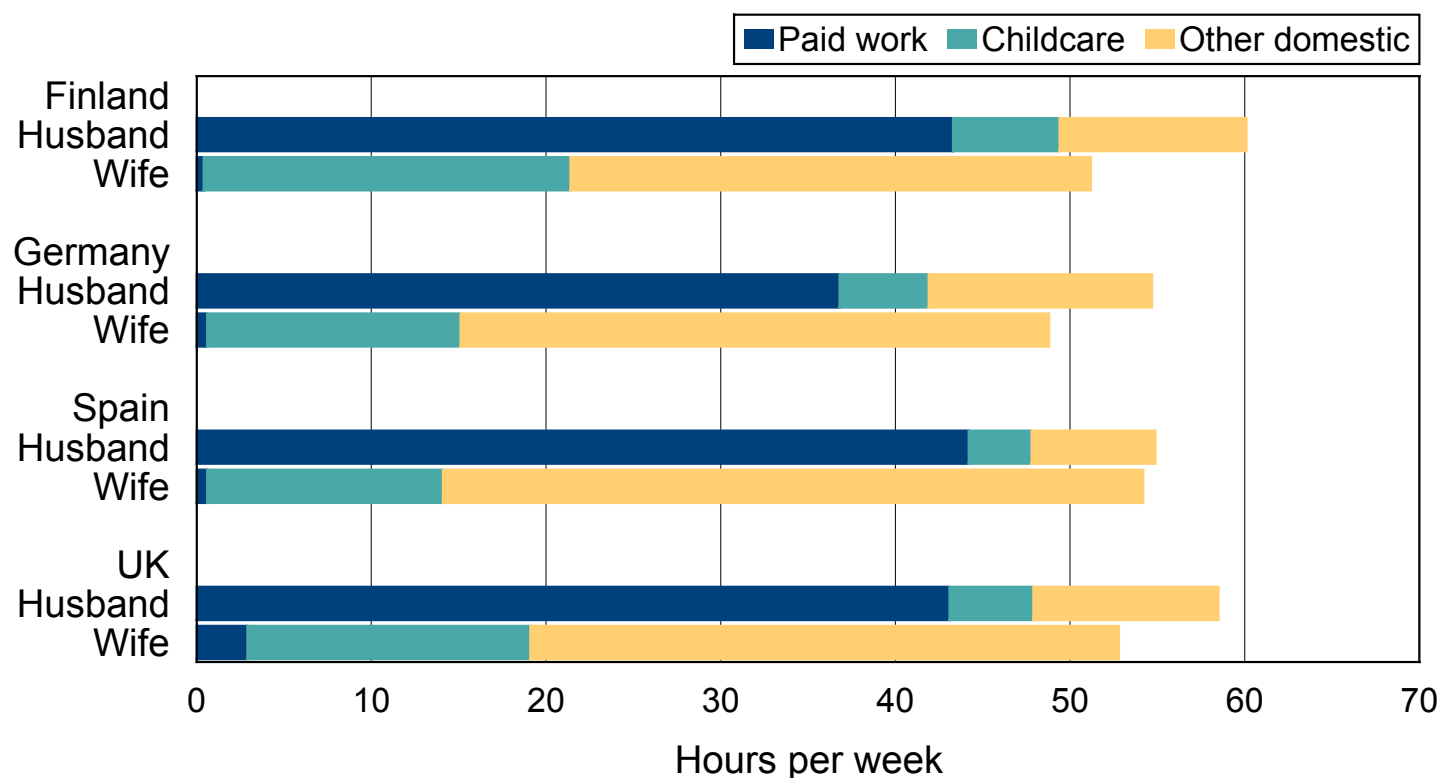
Husband employed, wife not employed



Source: HETUS online database

Allocation of time to paid work, childcare and other domestic work by country

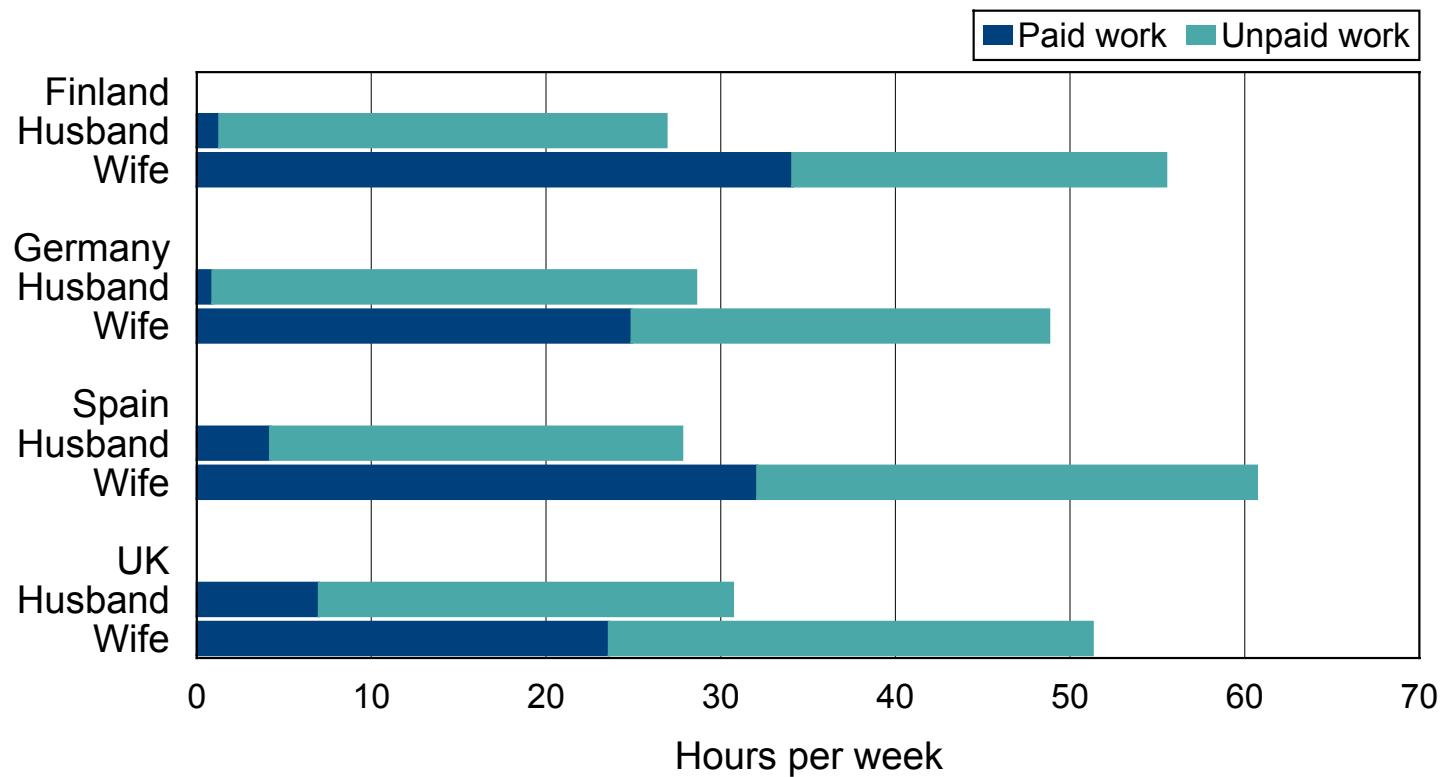
Husband employed, wife not employed, couples with children aged 0–17



Source: HETUS online database

Total work time by country

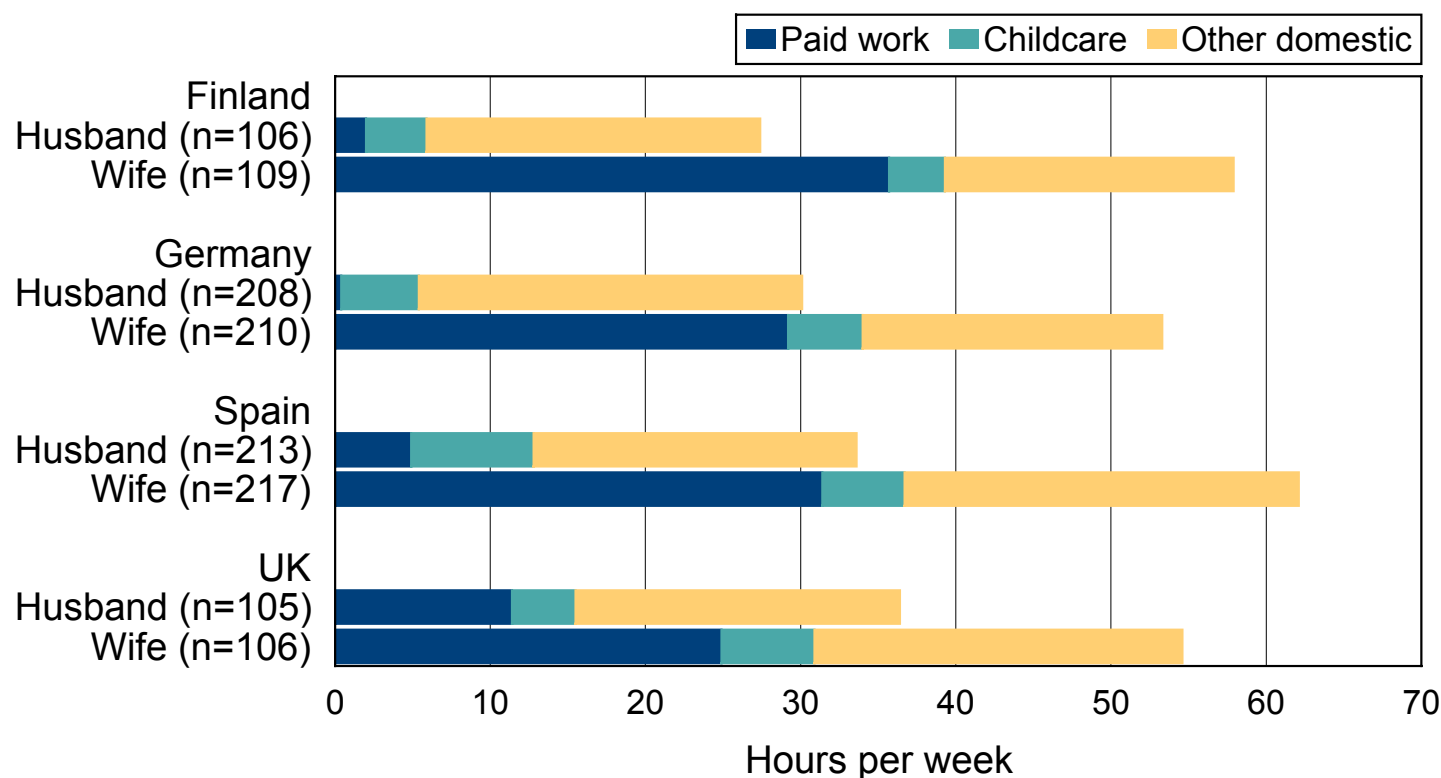
Husband not employed, wife employed



Source: HETUS online database

Allocation of time to paid work, childcare and other domestic work by country

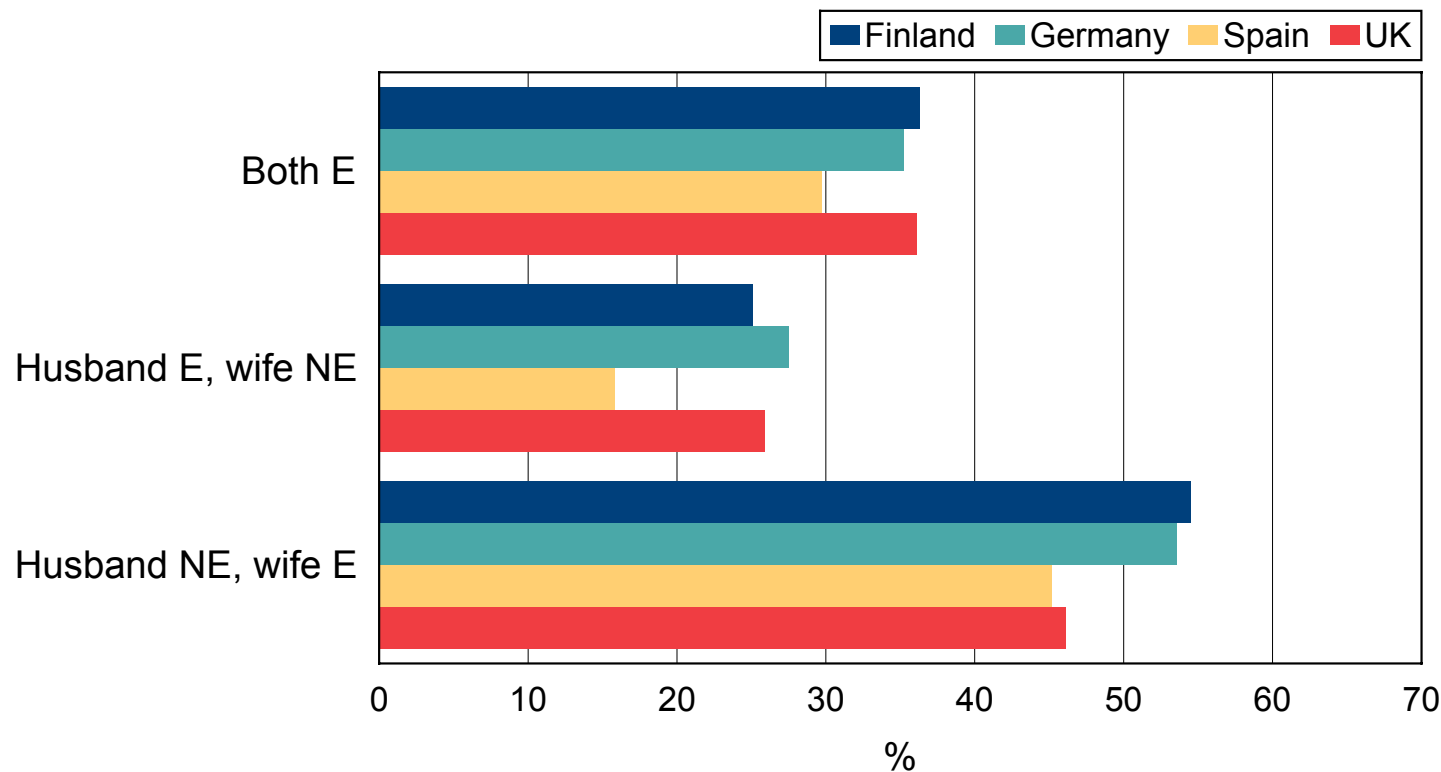
Husband not employed, wife employed, couples with children aged 0–17



Source: HETUS online database

Husband's share of spouses' total time used for domestic work by country, all couples

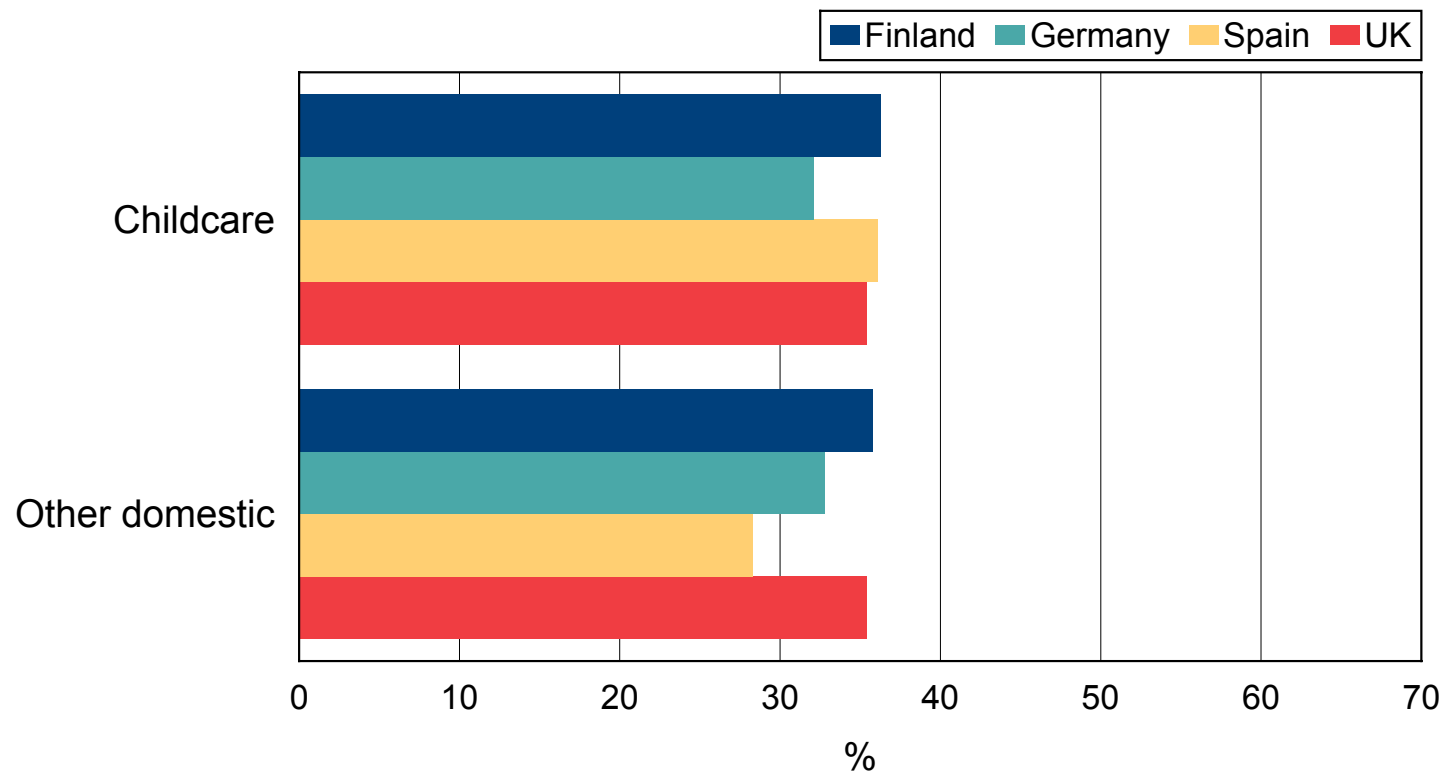
E=employed, NE=not employed



Source: HETUS online database

Husband's share of spouses' total time used for domestic work, couples with children aged 0–17

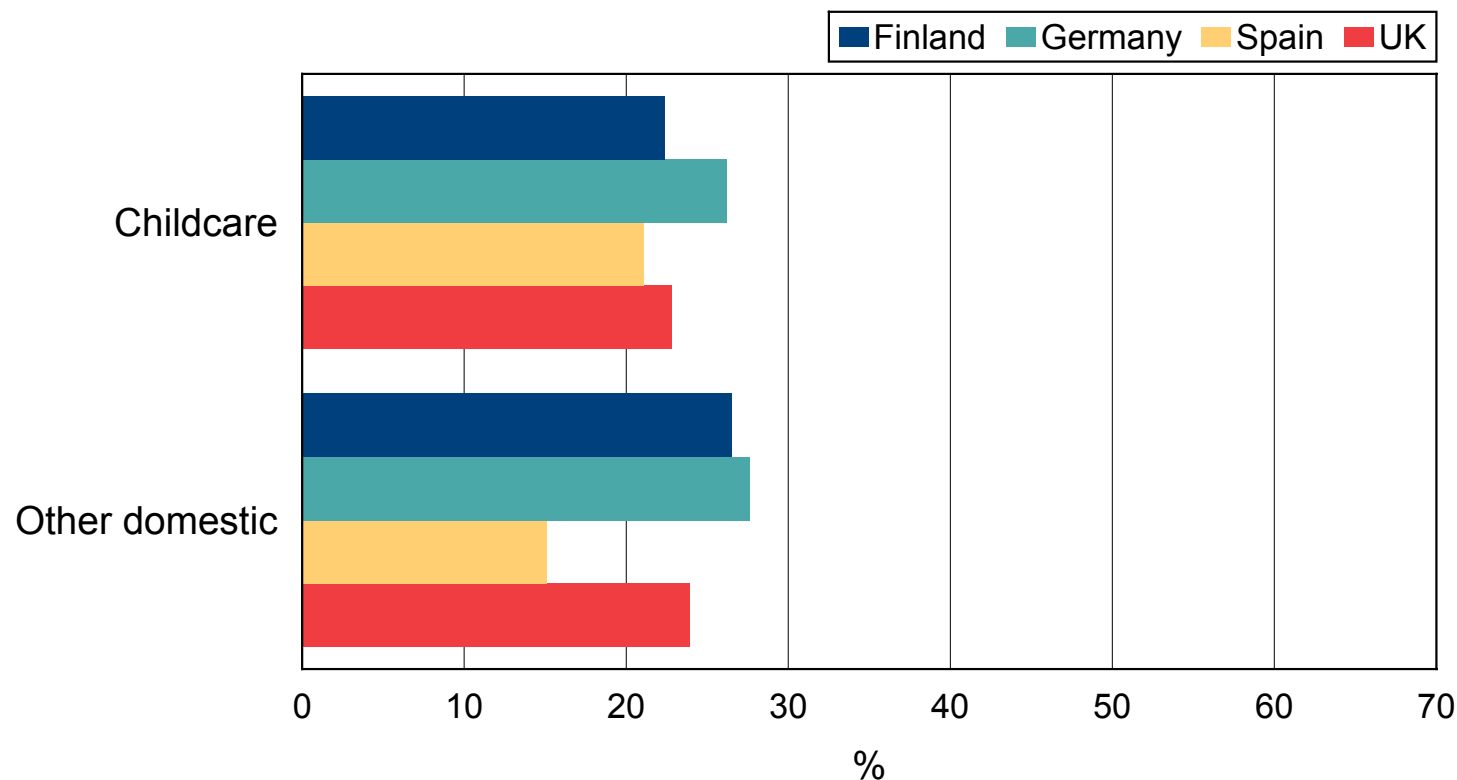
Both employed



Source: HETUS online database

Husband's share of spouses' total time used for domestic work, couples with children aged 0–17

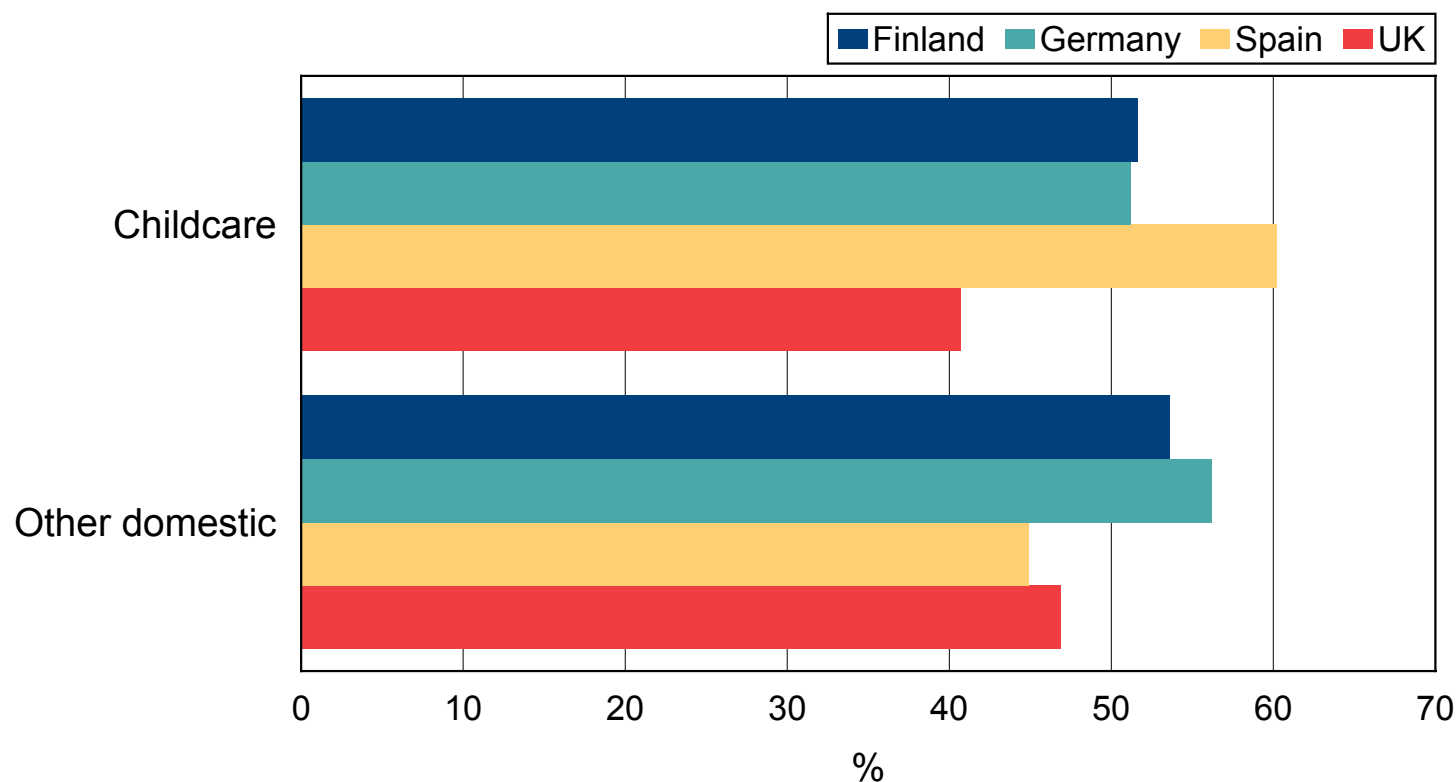
Husband employed, wife not employed



Source: HETUS online database

Husband's share of spouses' total time used for domestic work, couples with children aged 0–17

Husband not employed, wife employed



Source: HETUS online database

Conclusions

- HETUS database offers good possibilities for analysing allocation of time in households
- The total workload of dual-earner spouses is nearly equal in Finland, Germany and the UK
- In Spain, women's work load is bigger than men's because of women's huge domestic workload
- Men do more paid work and women more domestic work in all the selected countries
- Non-employed husbands with an employed wife do a bigger share of domestic work than working husbands

Conclusions cont.

- However, we have compared here gross time for paid work and net time for domestic work (see Rydenstam, 2004)
- Breaks are included in paid work but not in domestic work
- => unfavourable for women

Source:

- Harmonised European Time Use Survey [online database version 1.0]. Created 2005-2007 by Statistics Finland and Statistics Sweden.
- <https://www.testh2.scb.se/tus/tus/>
- Credentials: klas.rydenstam@scb.se