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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Fieldwork period</th>
<th>Sample size (persons)</th>
<th>No. of days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1999–2000</td>
<td>5 322</td>
<td>Two days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>2001–2002</td>
<td>12 655</td>
<td>Three days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2002–2003</td>
<td>46 774</td>
<td>One day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>2000–2001</td>
<td>10 366</td>
<td>Two days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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)
Statistics Finland

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>Wife</th>
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<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td><img src="chart1" alt="Bar chart for Finland" /></td>
<td><img src="chart2" alt="Bar chart for Finland" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td><img src="chart3" alt="Bar chart for Germany" /></td>
<td><img src="chart4" alt="Bar chart for Germany" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td><img src="chart5" alt="Bar chart for Spain" /></td>
<td><img src="chart6" alt="Bar chart for Spain" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td><img src="chart7" alt="Bar chart for UK" /></td>
<td><img src="chart8" alt="Bar chart for UK" /></td>
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</table>

Hours per week:
- **Paid work**
- **Unpaid work**

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

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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

- Finland
  - Husband
  - Wife
- Germany
  - Husband
  - Wife
- Spain
  - Husband
  - Wife
- UK
  - Husband
  - Wife

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:


- https://www.testh2.scb.se/tus/tus/

- Credentials: klas.rydenstam@scb.se