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Atypical Employment in Austria

Discussion Paper

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Project

The Institutional Determinants of Atypical Employment and Social Inequality in Europe, founded by the Hans Böckler Foundation and supervised by Jutta Allmendinger, Johannes Giesecke, and Kathrin Leuze



Citation:

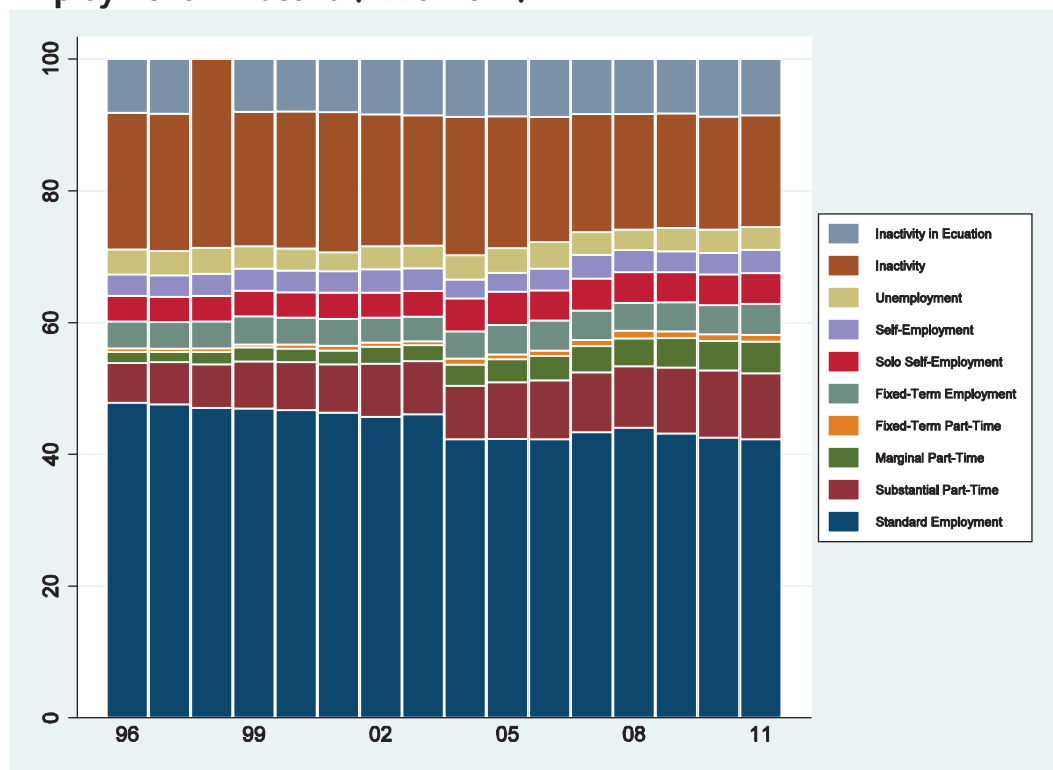
Allmendinger, J., Hipp, L., Stuth, S. (2013): Atypical Employment in Austria, *Atypical Employment in Europe 1996–2011*, Discussion Paper P 2013-003, Berlin: WZB, pp. 14–16, www.wzb.eu/atypical.

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Austria

Employment trends in Austria exhibited limited fluctuation. After a relatively stable phase at the start of the new century, in 2004 employment reached a low point for nearly all the groups examined. Employment rates then recovered. Within this, the individual labor market groups were represented to differing degrees. Over-49s and low-skilled workers had lower employment rates. Women were also less well represented in the labor market, although their employment rate, along with that of older employees, markedly increased. Inactivity decreased in all the groups investigated, with the exception of men and highly qualified individuals (although the level of inactive people was already low in these groups). Despite this fall in the level of inactivity, women, older people, and low-skilled workers were particularly likely to be inactive. Whereas for most groups the proportion of normal employment was greater than that of atypical employment, the relation was reversed for women and low-skilled workers. These groups have become more likely to be in nonstandard than in standard employment. In most groups, part-time employment was the dominant form, particularly for women, the 30-to-49 age group, and individuals with mid-level qualifications. By contrast, fixed-term contracts were more frequently adopted by younger employees and low-skilled workers. The people with the highest education levels were particularly likely to be solo self-employed. The economic crisis did not affect employment in Austria.

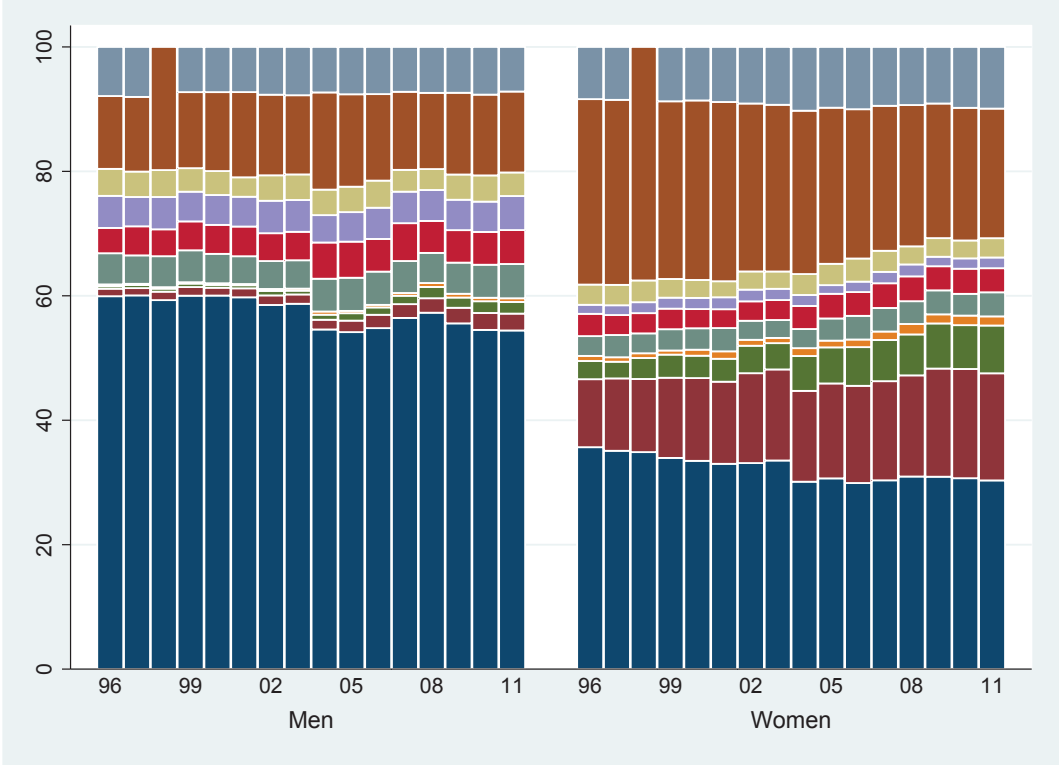
Employment in Austria (1996–2011).



Data source: ELFS (first quarter based on yearly and quarterly surveys)³.

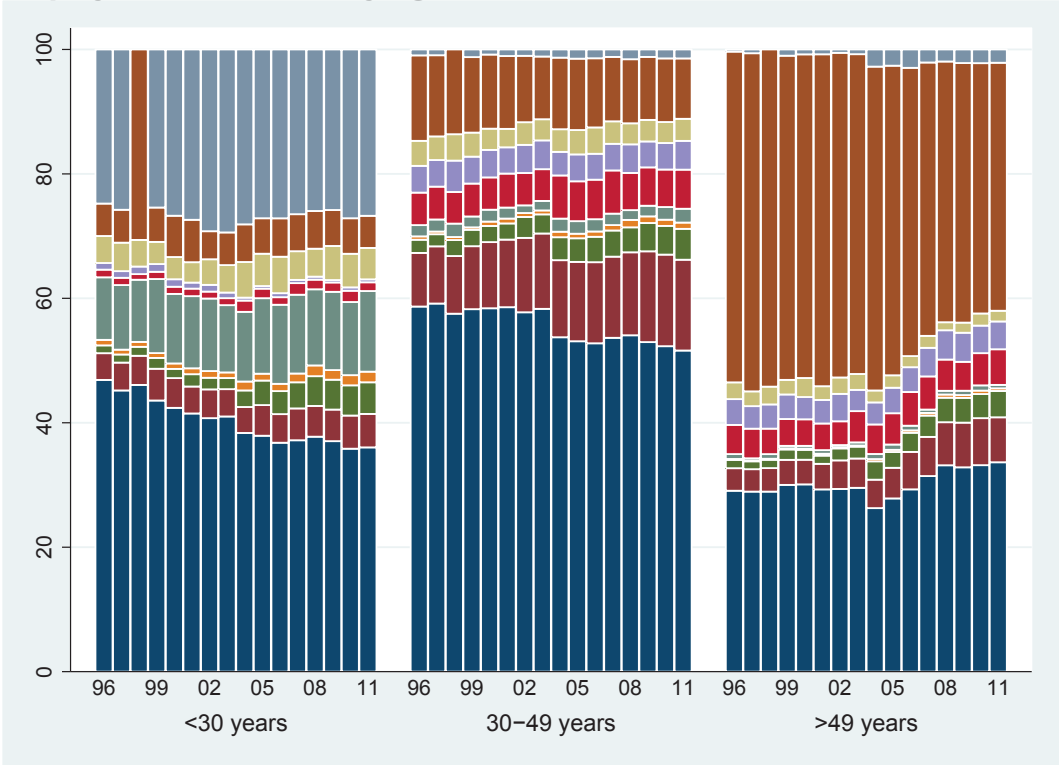
³ No information was available on education and training in Austria for 1998. However, the age category chosen (15 to 64 years of age) includes all people attending school and those in education or training. The group of people who were in education and training cannot clearly be identified. Therefore, people who were in education or training in 1998 are in the “inactive” category.

Employment in Austria by Gender (1996–2011).



Data source: ELFS (first quarter based on yearly and quarterly surveys)

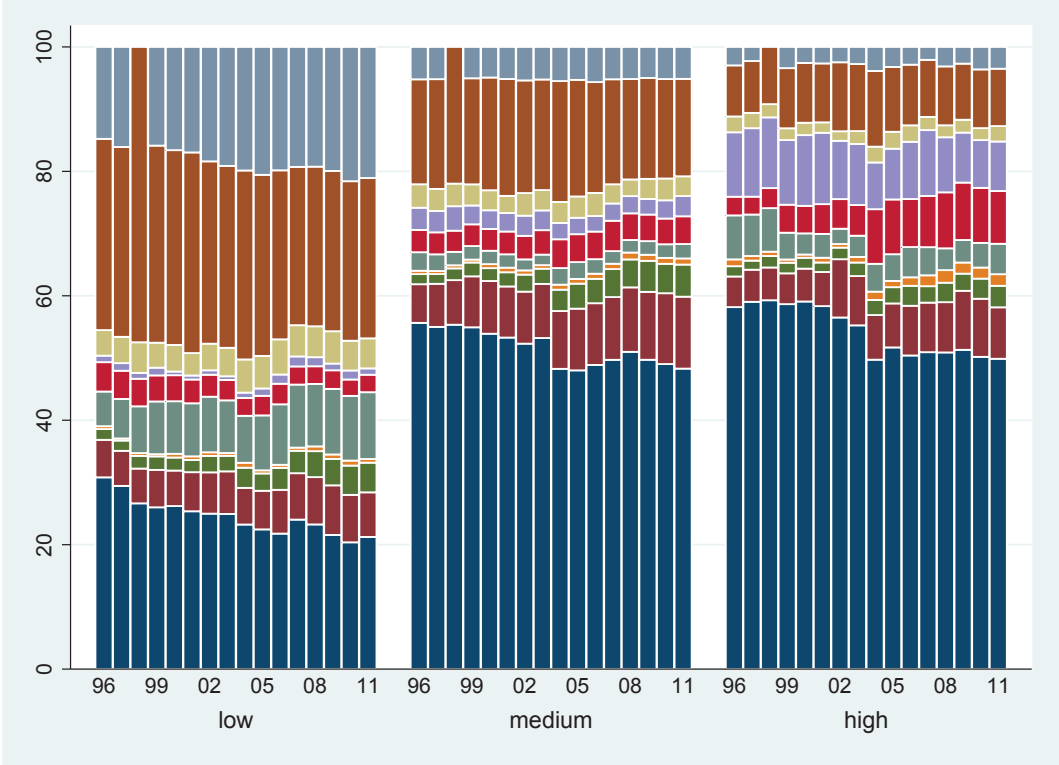
Employment in Austria by Age (1996–2011).



Data source: ELFS (first quarter based on yearly and quarterly surveys)

The survey process in Austria was changed in 2004 and continuous survey methods were adopted. For this reason, the comparability with the preceding year is limited. More source details are contained in the respective country tables, which can be accessed on the project website.

Employment in Austria by Education (1996–2011).



Data source: ELFS (first quarter based on yearly and quarterly surveys)

Important terms

The **population studied** includes all people who were of working age (between 15 and 64 years of age) at the time of the survey but excludes those living in collective living quarters (monasteries/convents, hospitals, etc.) and those doing military service.

A person was considered **employed** if they were working in the private or public sector, either in a dependent or self-employed capacity, for at least one hour a week and received a salary, wage, or other monetary remuneration for this.

Individuals were considered **unemployed** if they were not employed but were actively seeking work and were available to the labor market or if they were entering employment within the following three months.

Those who were neither employed nor unemployed were considered economically **inactive**. Inactive individuals who were in education or training were assigned to the inactive **in education or training** category.

A **standard employment relationship** exists when an individual is in a dependent employment relationship for at least 35 hours weekly and has a permanent employment contract.

Marginal part-time employment is employment with fewer than 20 hours a week.

Substantial part-time employment is employment with 20 hours and more a week but less than 35 hours a week.

Fixed-term employment exists when the period during which a contract is valid is limited. We differentiate between fixed-term employment (35 hours and more a week) and fixed-term part-time employment (less than 35 hours a week).

Self-employment exists when an individual's main economic activity is not dependent employment.

Solo self-employment refers to self-employment without employees.

The **educational/skill levels** "low," "medium," and "high" are based on the ISCED classification of qualifications developed by UNESCO.

The aggregated data used in our country profiles can be downloaded from the project's website (www.wzb.eu/atypical). Interested users can also find explanations regarding some of the methodological problems that exist for certain years or variables.