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Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin
für Sozialforschung



Jutta Allmendinger
Lena Hipp
Stefan Stuth

Atypical Employment in Denmark

Discussion Paper

P 2013-003

www.wzb.eu/atypical

August 2013

Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB)

Research Area

President's Project Group

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:

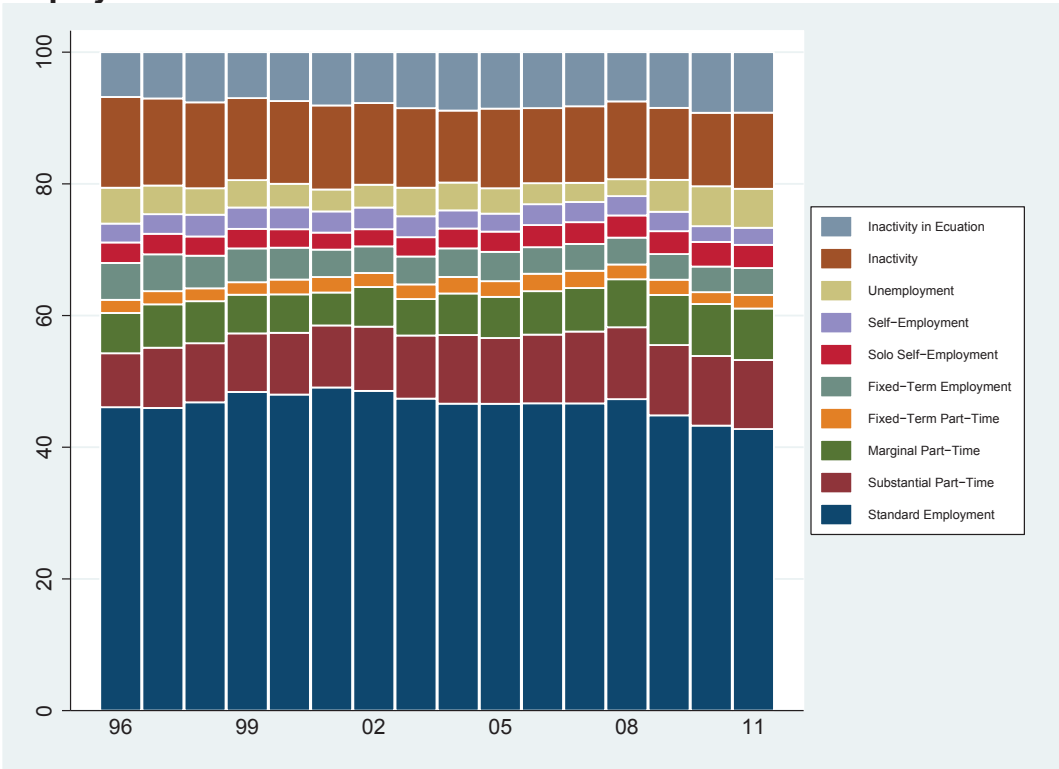
Allmendinger, J., Hipp, L., Stuth, S. (2013): Atypical Employment in Denmark, *Atypical Employment in Europe 1996–2011*, Discussion Paper P 2013-003, Berlin: WZB, pp. 23–25, www.wzb.eu/atypical.

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Denmark

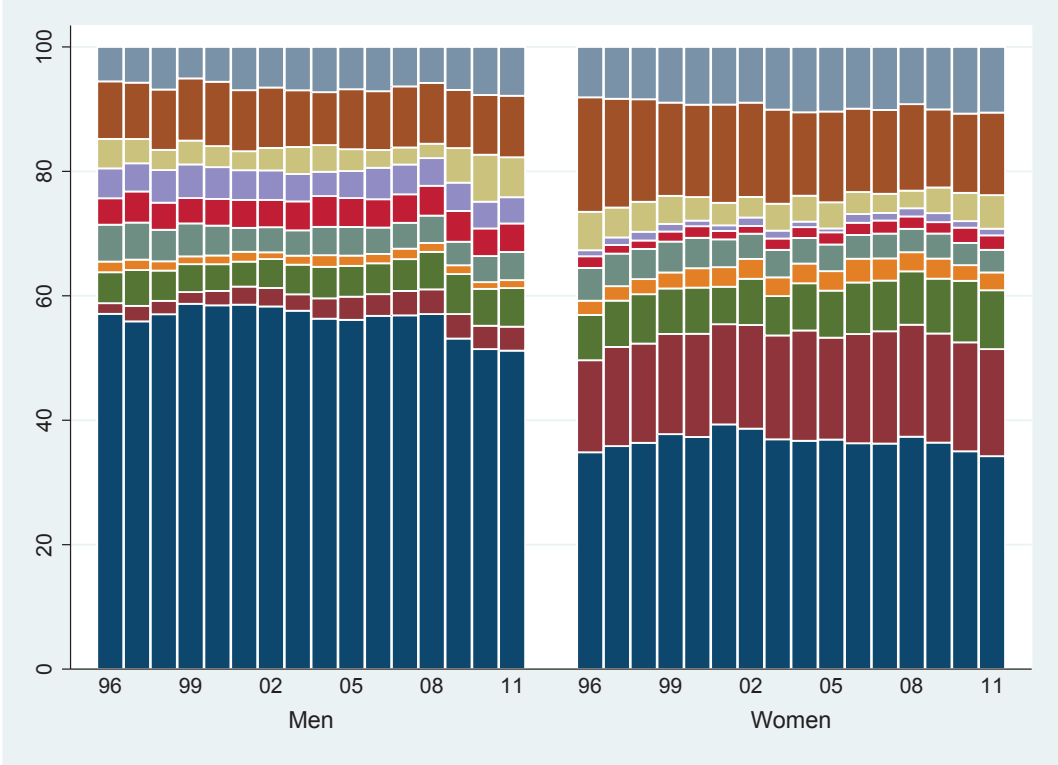
The employment rates of all the groups studied were relatively high, although younger people, older people, and low-skilled workers have lower employment levels than, for example, men or highly qualified individuals. Women, people with lower qualification levels, and people under the age of 30 entered atypical employment and standard employment in similar numbers. Marginal part-time employment was more common among younger people and low-skilled workers than substantial part-time employment. Employment in Denmark fell quite dramatically during the crisis. Whereas employment was still at 78 percent in 2008, it had fallen to 73 percent by 2011. This fall was largely due to decreases in standard employment. Whereas 47.3 percent of all employed people were in this form of employment at the beginning of the crisis, by 2011 it was a mere 43 percent. By contrast, atypical employment largely remained stable. The fall in employment primarily affected men (a drop by 6.2 versus a drop by 3.2 percentage points for women). Atypical employment remained stable among both genders. The younger generation has also been affected by the crisis: Their employment rates dropped by 10.6 percentage points. This represents a particularly large drop compared to the drops for the middle and older age groups (3.7 and 0.7 percentage points respectively). Atypical employment in the under-30s only fell by 2 percentage points. Among the other age groups it remained stable.

Employment in Denmark (1996–2011).



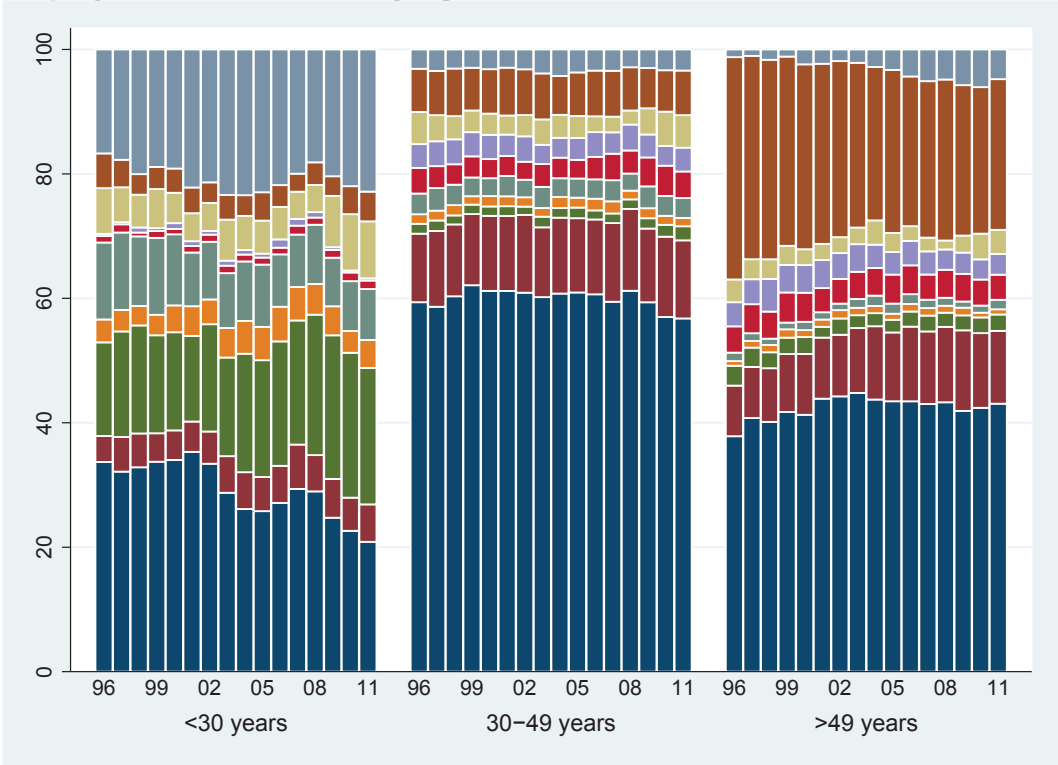
Data source: ELFS (second quarter based on yearly and quarterly surveys).

Employment in Denmark by Gender (1996–2011).



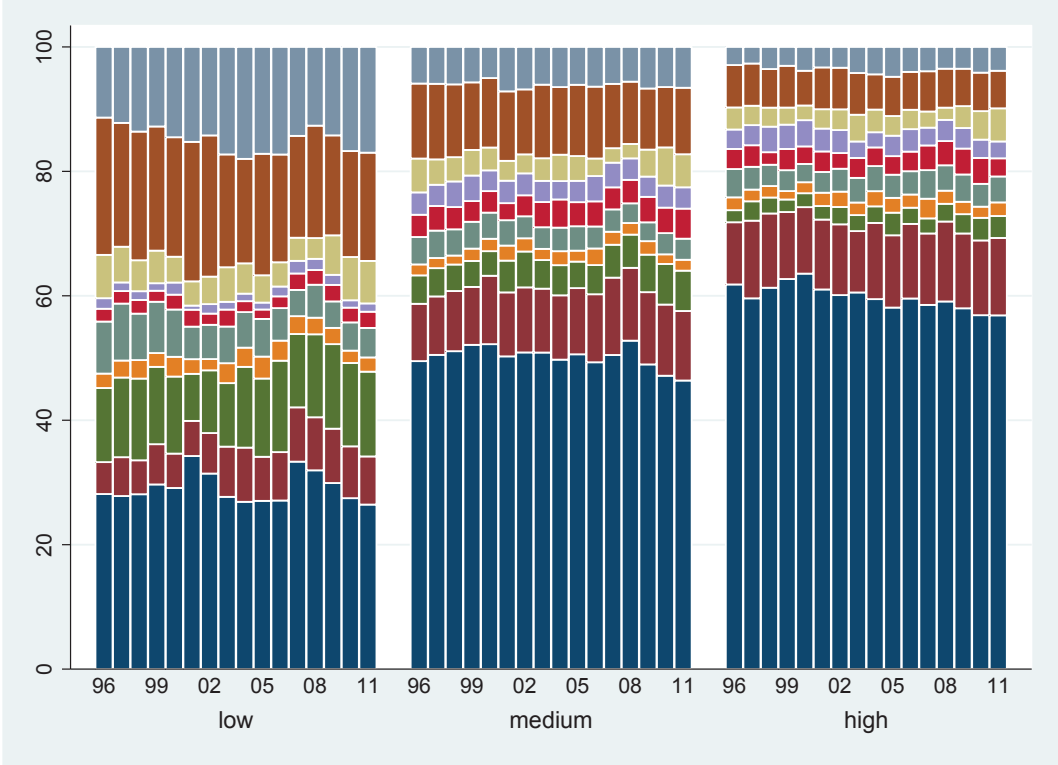
Data source: ELFS (second quarter based on yearly and quarterly surveys).

Employment in Denmark by Age (1996–2011).



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

Employment in Denmark by Education (1996–2011).



Data source: ELFS (second quarter based on yearly and quarterly surveys).⁶

⁶ Due to the implementation of harmonized concepts and definitions in the survey, information on education and training lack comparability with the preceding years from 2003 onwards (http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/Related_documents/emploi_em05.htm).

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.