The ifb Time Use Study

Hans-Peter Blossfeld, Daniela Grunow, Annika Jabsen, Harald Rost, Marina Rupp, Florian Schulz
Sub-project of the DFG Project „Division of household labour as a process“

Project goals

• How do people use time in their everyday life? It is our goal to collect current data on the scope of activities like employment, household chores, caring for children, etc.

• Time use data are used as indicators of the division of labour in intimate relationships or in joint households.

• How does the method of data collection influence the findings on time use and division of labour? It is our goal to test various time use measures empirically.

Data collection tools

- Time diary
- Time estimation
- Task participation index

Selected findings

The typical weekday pattern of German women and men (Monday to Friday) is as such: sleeping, working, leisure time, sleeping. Employment accounts for the largest portion of the day.

The typical weekend pattern of German women and men is centred around the main activities in the field of leisure.

There are considerable variations in the means between the time diaries and the stylised questions on time use for certain household activities.

The distribution of various activities along a "typical weekday" is marked by a clear bifurcation: While the morning hours and the early afternoon are predominantly spent in the workplace, the late afternoon and the evening are reserved for leisure activities.

Contact
Annika Jabsen, Florian Schulz, Institute for Family Research, University of Bamberg (ifb), Heinrichsdamm 4, D-96047 Bamberg.
Phone: +49 951 965 2515, email: annika.jabsen@ifb.uni-bamberg.de or florian.schulz@ifb.uni-bamberg.de