



time-pieces

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New developments in time technology – projects, data, computing and services

A BRIEF PROFILE OF THE IATUR COMMUNITY

Kimberly Fisher
IATUR Secretary-Treasurer

The visibility of time use research has grown considerably in recent years. Since 2000, attendance at the annual meetings of the International Association for Time Use Research as well as the number of articles and books using time-related data have greatly expanded compared with previous decades. This research note draws on IATUR records and a survey of the IATUR community in 2003 to profile the people who have registered an interest in the work of IATUR.

Time use studies attract researchers from around the world. Over 300 people from 44 countries (shown in Table 1) are currently registered members of IATUR or have requested to be on the IATUR mailing list. Slightly more than half of these people (52.5%) are women; 47.5% are men.

In March 2003, all people who registered for the 2002 IATUR conference in Lisbon as well as people on the IATUR e-mail list as of 1 March 2003 who did not attend the Portugal conference – 266 people in all - were e-mailed a questionnaire. Half (133 people – 50%) responded. This survey revealed that academics and students account for the largest proportion of time use researchers, though Figure 1 shows that people working at national statistical offices also constitute a significant proportion of the time use community. Time use research also attracts people from international organisations, private research agencies, journalists, and some people who simply have an interest in the subject. Nearly 80% of people who attended the Lisbon conference ranked time use as the key or a main focus of their research (see Figure 2).

For 16.1% of participants, time use was a minor research focus, while 4.5% came out of general interest.

The opportunity to hear other people’s time use work attracted more people to the 2002 IATUR conference than other motivations, followed closely by the opportunity for researchers to present their own work to the international time use community. A number of people commented that they found the possibility of learning about the successes and challenges faced by people doing similar work offered inspiration for their own work. Others also reflected on the value of enabling people new to the field to mingle with more established and leading time use researchers. More than forty people commented on the importance of social interactions at IATUR meetings, regularly expressing appreciation of the “open”, “friendly”, and “low-key” atmosphere where people could find value both in the formal discussions in sessions and also in the informal conversations between sessions and at social events. Possibilities for networking with other time use researchers attracted over 60% of the participants to the 2002 conference, with nearly half also attending to learn more about time use data collection and analysis techniques.

Table 1: Distribution of Time Use Researchers by Country as of February 2004

Number of people with interest in IATUR	Countries where IATUR members and people on the IATUR e-mail list work		
1 to 4	Albania Austria Bulgaria Estonia Greece Hungary India Ireland	Israel Korea Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Macedonia Nigeria Palestine	Poland Romania Slovak Republic Slovenia South Africa Taiwan Thailand Turkey
5 to 9	Brazil Denmark Italy	Japan New Zealand Norway	Russia Sweden Switzerland
10 to 19	Belgium Finland France	Germany Netherlands	Portugal Spain
20 or more	Australia Canada	United Kingdom	United States

Figure 1: Time use employment sectors

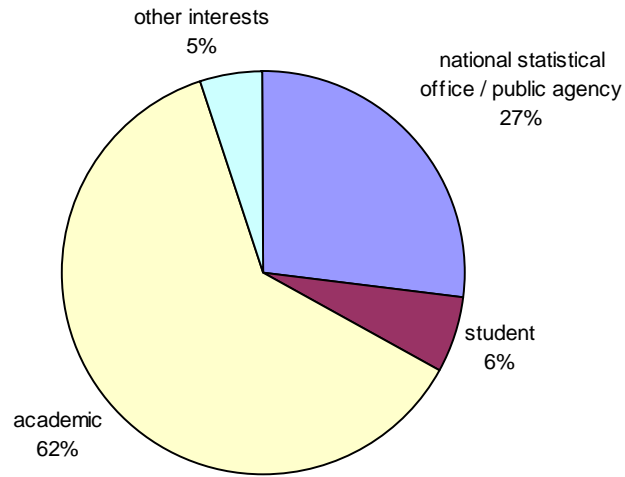
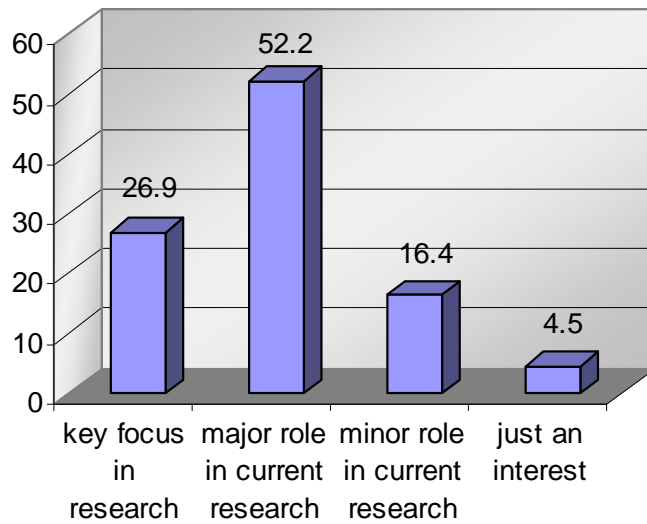


Figure 2: Significance of time use in people's research careers



MTUS PROGRESS REPORT: THE MULTINATIONAL TIME USE STUDY

Jonathan Gershuny,
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The UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) has agreed to provide four year funding for a programme of work on time diary materials, "Time-use Studies, Daily Life and Social Change" based at ISER in Essex, and starting in October 2004. The programme includes a range of substantive projects bringing together micro time-use perspectives (studying sequences and aggregates of time-use at the individual level) with macro-perspectives such as time-based social accounting systems, into an integrated account of social change. It will also support work on time diary data resources, enabling among other activities a significant programme of extension and improvement to the Multinational Time Use Study (MTUS).

Highest priority is work on the Harmonised European Time Use Study (HETUS), materials which, despite their name, are at present in need of considerable development before they are suitable for comparative research. Eurostat, which has sponsored HETUS from its inception in the early 1990s, is unable to make the micro-data available to researchers. The MTUS team has made a number of bilateral agreements with national authorities willing to contribute HETUS materials; so far we have consents to add data from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, France, UK and Slovenia. We are in negotiation with Denmark, Germany and Italy, and other HETUS contributing countries are cordially invited to join in. Heritage materials from the US are also being revised (under a separate project, funded from a Yale University-based research foundation), so as to provide an appropriate historical comparator for the new American Time Use Study (ATUS) collected by the US Bureau of Labour Statistics and due for release in Summer 2004.

The future MTUS work goes beyond the mere addition of recent datasets. We are also developing a new generation of comparative data files. A new release of WORLD5 data including a number of HETUS studies is expected by late summer, and further studies will be added as they become available. In addition we are developing a new WORLD6 format, that will include, for the first time, the original diary data in an activity sequence form, rather than as totals of time devoted to various sorts of activity, so as to enable use of the full range of time diary evidence (including multiple simultaneous activities, location and co-presence data) for analytic purposes.

The MTUS is currently used by more than 100 researchers and research groups across the world. The new releases will be added to the downloadable materials which can be found on <http://iserwww.essex.ac.uk/mtus/>, together with full documentation and information on sources and procedures.

THE 2001/02 GERMAN TIME USE SURVEY - SCIENTIFIC AND PUBLIC USE FILES

Erlend Holz
Federal Statistical Office of Germany

One decade after the first survey in 1991/92, the Federal Statistical Office of Germany conducted a new Time Use Survey in 2001/2002. Again the survey was based on the financial support by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Bundesministerium fuer Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend, BMFSFJ) and was carried out together with the statistical offices of the German ‚Laender‘. As it was already the case for the 1991/92 survey the Federal Statistical Office will provide two different sets of 2001/02 German time use microdata. On the one hand a “Scientific Use File“ (ScF/SUF) will be made available to scientific institutions in Germany. On the other hand a “Public Use File” (PcF/PUF) will be offered to everyone in Germany and abroad. The Public Use File is a solution how foreign researchers can be given access to the data. The advantage and specific attraction of microdata consist in the diversity of the ways in which they can be analysed. Some examples of research topics are:

- poverty and time use (poverty and wealth reporting, see Kettschau, Hufnagel, Holz 2004),
- household production/valuation of unpaid work, exchange between paid and unpaid work, between household production and market,
- inequality between men and women in daily life (gender statistics / gender analysis),
- volunteer, community work and networks, exchange of informal help between households (social capital analysis),
- working time patterns, new arrangements of working time (incl. telework, working at home),
- social life, physiological recreation and leisure activities including the use of new communication technologies (cultural analysis),
- time use and commitments of families, family life, child care, arrangements to reconcile family and job, intrahousehold division of work,
- time use of special populations like young people, senior citizens etc,
- education / learning in life / lifelong learning,
- mobility,
- time stress and time crunch.

Because of this bulk of topics the Federal Statistical Office was assisted in its analyses by a Scientific Evaluation Council (‘Wissenschaftlicher Auswertungsbeirat’) whose members worked in most different areas. Their contributions will be published soon (see Statistisches Bundesamt (Ed.), forthcoming 2004). The 2001/02 German Time Use Survey consists of about 5400 households, about 37700 diary days and about 270 activity codes. Its design follows EUROSTAT’s Guidelines on Harmonized European Time Use Surveys, HETUS (for European analysis and results see e.g. EUROSTAT 2004). All household members aged 10 years and older were asked to fill out diaries based on 10-minute intervals on three days – two days during the week from Monday to Friday, one day on the weekend. Data were collected on primary and secondary activities, persons involved or present, the location and mode of transport. A wide

range of household and personal data (socio-demographic/economic variables and other background variables) were collected in special questionnaires, too. For more information about the German Time Use Surveys, ordering, prices, schedules etc please contact:

Mr. Erlend Holz, Statistisches Bundesamt, Zweigstelle Bonn (Federal Statistical Office of Germany, Bonn Branch Office), Graurheindorfer Str. 198, 53117 Bonn, Germany,; erlend.holz@destatis.de

References:

EUROSTAT (2004): How Europeans spend their time. Everyday life of women and men. Data 1998 – 2002. Luxembourg.

Kettschau, I., Hufnagel, R. and E. Holz (2004, forthcoming): Lebensgestaltung auf Haushaltsebene – Verknuepfung zwischen Armutsforschung und Zeitbudgetdaten. Expertise für das Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend, Beitrag zum Berichtskapitel fuer den 2. Armuts- und Reichtumsbericht der Bundesregierung. Fachhochschule Muenster, Fachbereich Oecotrophologie, Muenster.

Statistisches Bundesamt (Ed.) (2004, forthcoming): Alltag in Deutschland – Analysen zur Zeitverwendung. Schriftenreihe/Publication series “Forum der Bundesstatistik”, Vol. 43, Stuttgart.

THE GERMAN SOCIO-ECONOMIC PANEL STUDY (SOEP)

The SOEP is a wide-ranging representative longitudinal study of private households. It provides time use data information on all household members, consisting of Germans living in the Old and New German States, Foreigners, and recent Immigrants to Germany. The Panel was started in 1984. In 2002, there were more than 12,000 households, and nearly 24,000 persons sampled.

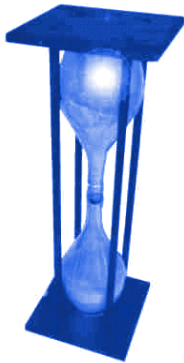
The time use data include for example normal day time (hours per day), leisure time activity frequencies, and many detailed indicators on working time. Time allocation is one topic. Others include household composition, occupational biographies, employment, earnings, health and satisfaction indicators.

The data are available to researchers in Germany and abroad in SPSS, SAS, Stata, and ASCII format for immediate use. Extensive documentation in English and German (including questionnaires and frequencies) is available online.

Contact: SOEP, DIW Berlin, D-14191 Berlin, Phone: +49 30 89789-292, Fax: +49 30 89789-109, Email: soepmail@diw-berlin.de, Internet: <http://www.diw.de/gsoep>

RESEARCH NETWORK ON TIME USE (RNTU)

The objective of the International Research Network on Time Use (RNTU) is to support researchers who are interested in time use with questions and answers considering survey statistics, methods and results of analyses and explanations micro-behavior and macro-impacts as well as policy matters.



We offer an internet information system and network about time use research at our website:

<http://ffb.uni-lueneburg.de/timeuse> or <http://ffb.uni-lueneburg.de/rntu>.

Besides Resources with information about time related institutions, journals, events and data bases, the RNTU Research Safe is the heart of the time use network. The interested user may search for any desired information on his/her topic via an internet query in a relational data base system of who is doing what and more. Our information system offers data concerning the researchers, their subjects and projects, methods, results, references, available literature, suggestions etc.

We kindly ask for your support: Please fill in the RNTU-questionnaire in the internet or connect with us by mailing and help us with further suggestions. Your help is greatly appreciated.

RNTU is a project of the University of Lüneburg and its Research Institute on Professions (FFB) (<http://ffb.uni-lueneburg.de>) headed by Prof. Dr. Joachim Merz and supported by the German Federal Statistical Office (www.destatis.de). RNTU works together with IATUR, the International Association on Time Use Research (www.iatur.org) and the Time Use Research Program (TURP) at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada (Prof. Andrew S. Harvey, Director), in particular, as well as with further organizations and persons.

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<http://ffb.uni-lueneburg.de/timeuse>



Book reviews

by Kimberly Fisher

**Baigorri, A. and Fernández, R.,
Botellón: Un Conflicto Postmoderno
(2004)**

Publisher: Barcelona: Icaria Editorial
Languages Available: Spanish

This book examines the phenomenon of the botellón, a contemporary custom of youths in Spain to meet in open spaces to drink alcohol, listen to music, and socialise. Not all people living around the locations that young people chose to practice the botellón approve of the behaviour of these young people. This book explores the dimensions of social conflict between the young people and their detractors.

**Michael Bittman and Nancy Folbre (Eds.)
Family Time: The Social Organization of
Care (2004)**

Contributing Authors: Michael Bittman, Michelle Budig, Lyn Craig, Janet Fast, Kimberly Fisher, Nancy Folbre, Anne Gauthier, Duncan Ironmonger, Joe Marchand, Shelly Pacholok, Timothy Smeeding, Cathy Thomson, Judy Wacjman, Douglas Wolf

Publisher: New York/London: Routledge
Languages Available: English

This book presents a collection of essays examining the problems of defining, measuring, and valuing the unpaid informal provision of care to children, working age

adults with impairments, and the elderly in private households. Though the authors primarily engage with time use data collected in Australia, Canada, Finland, and the USA, the book also presents analysis of a variety of data sources. Chapters cover both theoretical issues and implications for public policy.

**Breedveld, K. and van den Broek, A.
De Meerkeuzemaatschappij
(Multiple Choice Society) (2003)**

Publisher: Den Haag: Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau

Website: <http://www.scp.nl/boeken/titels/2003-8/nl/metainfo.htm>

Languages Available: Dutch, with an English summary

This book investigates how people in the Netherlands have responded to increasing options for organising their activities during the day arising from changes in economic, political, demographic and cultural conditions through an examination of four topics: opening hours of public services; the location of paid work; the scheduling of child care in daily routines; how time use patterns change as service hours change. The book primarily draws on time use data collected in the Netherlands for four decades, and gives special attention to women's increasing labour market participation and the rising prevalence of information communication technologies.

The book finds that the increasing range of choices open to people in the Netherlands has led to people undertaking more activities and spending more money on activities, but this increase in activity has accompanied a decrease in leisure time. Increasing flexibility in the scheduling of paid and unpaid work has produced some benefits but also entails significant downsides for people in the Netherlands.

Daniel S. Hamermesh and Gerard A. Pfann (Eds.)
How People Use Their Time: Economic Approaches (2004)

Contributing Authors: Namkee Ahn, Patricia Apps, T Bauer, Jens Bonke, René Fahr, Anna Galdeano, Nabanita D. Gupta, Daniel S. Hamermesh, Mike Horrigan, Andrea Ichino, Joyce Jacobsen, Stephen Jenkins, Juan F. Jimeno, Anders Klevmarken, Peter Kooreman, Gerard A. Pfann, Nina Smith, Frank Stafford, Jean Yeung.
Publisher: Amsterdam: Elsevier
Languages Available: English

This book presents selected papers from a conference organised to examine the significance of time use data for economic analysis. The book covers such topics as child care, informal education, gender gaps in wages and use of time, time patterns over the lifecycle, activities of the unemployed, shopping hours, leisure time, the continuous national time use study in the USA, and general methodological issues. The book has an international focus.

Mary Fraire (Ed.)
I Bilanci del Tempo e le Indagini sull'Uso del Tempo: Metodologie di Rilevazione e

Analisi Statistica dei Dati Sull'uso del Tempo Umano Giornaliero (2003)

Contributing Authors: C.Facioni, Mary Fraire, S.Gazzelloni, Maria Clelia Romano
Publisher: Roma: CISU Ed.
Languages Available: Italian

This book serves as a handbook for the collection and analysis of time use data for users from academic, public policy, and national statistical agency backgrounds, as well as for those with a general interest in time use. Though the book includes a focus on time use data collected in Italy, it also tracks the development of international time use projects, including IATUR and the Multinational Time Use Study. The book also includes tables of time use results and example programs in SPSS, SPAD, and SAS.

John de Graaf (Ed.)
Take Back Your Time Day: Fighting Overwork and Time Poverty in America (2003)

Contributing Authors: Cecile Andrews, Robert Bernstein, Stephen Bezruchka, Barbara Brandt, Eric Brown, Kirk W. Brown, Barbara Carlson, William Doherty, Carol Eickert, Lori Erickson, Camilla H. Fox, Larry Gaffin, Beverly Goldberg, Lonnie Golden, Anders Hayden, Benjamin Hunnicutt, Tim Kasser, David Korten, Anna Lappé, Sharon Lobel, Paul Loeb, Irene Myers, Karen Nussbaum, Carol Ostrom, Christine Owens, Linda Breen Pierce, Charles Reasons, Vicki Robin, Joe Robinson, Jonathan Rowe, Juliet Schor, Barbara Schramm, Suzanne Schweikert, Jerome Segal, Bob Sessions, Sean Sheehan, Betsy Taylor, David Wann, Rabbi A. Waskow

Publisher: San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc.

Website: <http://www.timeday.org>

Languages Available: English

This collection of essays serves as an organising text for a movement in the United States that seeks to increase the proportion of free time and to decrease the time spent in paid work and consumption. The book includes sections about the dominance of work in the lives of people in the USA and the over-scheduling of family life. The essays then explore the potential health, social, and environmental consequences of these patterns of life. The book concludes with possible solutions that people in the USA might adopt to change their lifestyles.

Jos de Haan, Andries van den Broek, Frank Huysmans, and Koen Breedveld
Tijdverschijnselen. Impressies van de Vrije Tijd (2003)

Publisher: Den Haag, Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau

Website: <http://www.scp.nl/boeken/speciaal/spec21/nl/metainfo.htm>

Languages Available: Dutch

This book draws on the extensive regular collection of time use data in the Netherlands over the last four decades to examine changing patterns of cultural consumption and use of information technology in that country.

Eurostat
Time Use at Different Stages of Life - Results from 13 European Countries (2003)

Publisher: Luxembourg: Eurostat

eIJTUR, 2004, Vol. 1, No 1

Website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/Public/datashop/print-catalogue/EN?catalogue=Eurostat&collection=12-Working%20papers%20and%20studies&product=KS-CC-03-001-__-N-EN

Languages Available: English, French, German

Languages Available: English, French, German

This on-line publication uses the basic tables produced from the Harmonised European Time Use Surveys (HETUS) project to examine differences in daily time use patterns in European countries. These basic tables cover aggregated time spent on an average day in 12 broad categories of activities broken down by sex, employment status, and lifecycle groups. The tables cover both average minutes spent per day and the participation rate for each demographic group in each activity.

Åsa Westermark
Informal Livelihoods: Women's Biographies and Reflections About Everyday Life: A Time-Geographic Analysis in Urban Colombia (2003)

Publisher: Göteborg, Sweden: Department of Human Economic Geography, Serie B, No 102, Göteborg University

Languages Available: English

The book reports on qualitative work with two female informal-sector workers in Bogota Colombia. The author asked the women to keep time and geographic movement diaries over an extended period. The study reveals the importance of understanding women's daily life circumstances when planning strategies for improving their living conditions.

**Merz, J. and M. Ehling (Eds.), Time Use –
Research, Data and Policy (1999)**

Contributing Authors: Artemov, V., Artemova, O., Beblo, M., Bediako, G., Chadeau, A., Dellaert, B., Dietrich, H., Dobbelsteen, S., Ehling, M., Flood, L., Garhammer, M., Gershuny, J., Grasjö, U., Grieco, M., Harvey, A., Hofmann, E., Holz, E., Huq, M., Hynes, T., Juster, Th., Kirsten, D., Klevmarken, A., Kooreman, P., Küster, Chr., Lang, R., Mata, A., Merz, J., Meyer, I., Occelli, S., Pinyopusarek, M., Rydenstam, K., Seel, B., Turner, J., van Soest, A., Vanek, J., Wagenhals, G., Wenke, M., Wilson, C., Wolf, E., Yan, H.

Publisher: Baden-Baden: Nomos

Languages Available: English

This book presents papers from an international conference to provide an actual survey time use on research, their data and their implications for a targeted economic and social policy. Topics from an economic and social sciences perspective included are: formal and informal economy, new working hour arrangements, labour supply, working hour tension, freelance and contract working, paid and unpaid labour supply, women and the family, shadow economy, valuing household production, welfare analysis of extended income, temporal obligations, time poverty, commuting and travel, panelanalyses, microsimulation of tax and benefit changes, international time use data, national accounts and time budgets, leisure, internet-based marketing, sustainable consumption and environmental protection, volunteers and the welfare state ...