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Bayerisches Staatsinstitut für Hochschulforschung und Hochschulplanung

Frequencies and Financial Returns of Employer Changes

Gender Differences among German University Graduates

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Bayerisches Staatsinstitut für Hochschulforschung und Hochschulplanung

Outline

- 1. Aims of the study
- 2. Hypotheses
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 - 4.1 Frequencies of employer changes
 - 4.2 Returns of employer changes
- 5. Conclusion

1. Aims of the study

- Major importance of occupational mobility
 here only changes of the employer
- Effects on Gender Wage Gap?
- > Three areas of investigation:
- 1. Frequency of employer changes
- 2. Financial returns of employer changes
- 3. Gender differences

2. Hypotheses

• Search cost hypothesis:

Men change employer less often (H1)

- Segregation hypothesis: Men don't change employer less often (H2)
- Entry job hypothesis: Women gain higher returns from employer changes (H3)
- Advancement hypothesis: Men gain higher returns from employer changes (H4)

3. Data

- Bavarian Graduate Panel (German: BAP)
- Survey of Bavarian graduates of universities (of applied sciences)
- Graduation cohort 2005/06
- First and second wave (ca. 1 and 6 years after graduation)
- Data for employment characteristics on a monthly base

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4. Results

• Descriptive: Gender Wage Gap over time



Present already at the beginning

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4.1 Frequency of employer changes

final number of employers	male	female	total	cumulative
1	50.89%	46.07%	48.74%	48.74%
	33.16%	30.99%	32.20%	80.93%
	12.91%	15.50%	14.07%	95.00%
	2.53%	6.39%	4.25%	99.25%
5	0.51%	1.05%	0.75%	100.00%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	

- Logistic regression: significant gender coefficient
- Changes sign after inclusion of control variables
- Women more mobile only because of differing labor market situations
- > Argument for **H1**: search cost hypothesis

4.2 Returns of employer changes

• Descriptive: income before/after 1st change



Greater difference after change

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Random-effects-regressions with growth curves

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Steeper income trajectories for mobile persons
 Among them steeper trajectories for men
 Indicator for H4: Advancement hypothesis

- Fixed-effects-regressions
- Employer as categorical variable
- Gender interaction
- Changes pay off
- Significant interaction coefficients only with hourly wage
- Equal relative, but larger absolute gains for men

	log. hourly wage	hourly wage
1 st employer	(reference)	(reference)
2 nd employer	0.228***	4.000***
3 rd employer	0.361***	6.321***
4 th employer	0.531***	8.527***
5 th employer	0.413	6.783
1 st employer*male	(reference)	(reference)
2 nd employer*male	0.011	1.582**
3 rd employer*male	0.047	3.955***
4 th employer*male	0.038	4.164*
5 th employer*male	0.168	6.180
Industrial sector		
1: BIC	-0.089*	-3.234***
2: Manufacturing	(reference)	(reference)
3: Services	-0.075**	-1.792***
4: Media, educ, assoc.	-0.140***	-3.030***
Experience	0.001***	0.018***
Firm size		
Small	-0.043	-0.585
Medium	(reference)	(reference)
Large	0.029	1.101*
Executive position	0.161***	3.598***
Public sector	0.050*	0.208
Unlimited contract	0.129***	1.246**
Multinat. company	0.056*	1.008**
Constant	2.686***	16.193***

5. Conclusion

- Higher occupational mobility of women
- To large parts attributable to job characteristics (unlimited contracts, large firms, satisfaction)
- Other variables controlled: men more mobile
- Employer changes yield equal relative returns
- But higher starting incomes for men
- Higher absolute gains