

# The ifb Time Use Study

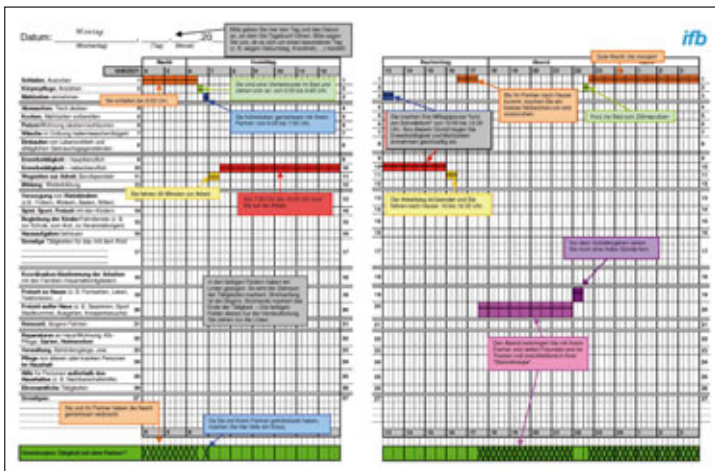
Hans-Peter Blossfeld, Daniela Grunow, Annika Jabsen, Harald Rost, Marina Rupp, Florian Schulz  
Sub-project of the DFG Project „Division of household labour as a process”

## 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



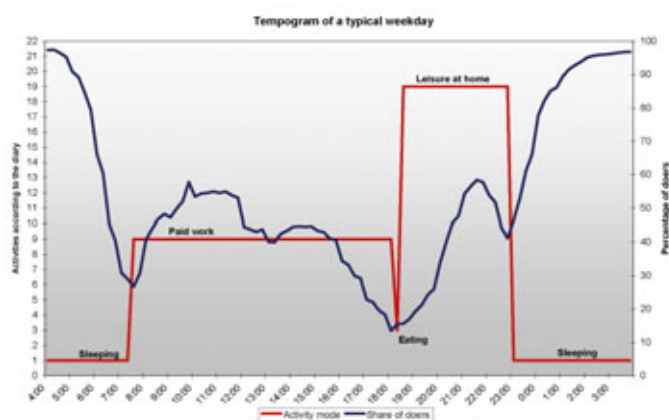
Time estimation



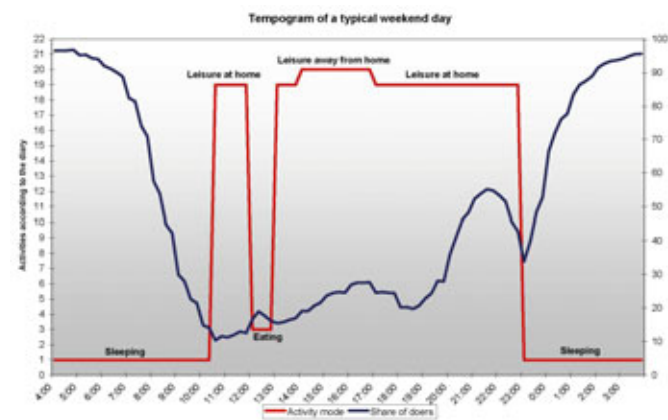
Task participation index



## 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.



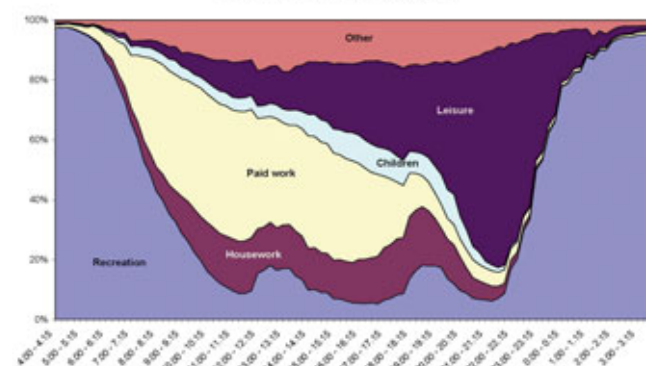
The typical weekend pattern of German women and men is centred around the main activities in the field of leisure.

Diary vs. survey data

	Total			Men			Women		
	Means diary	Means survey	Average absolute deviation: diary-survey	Means diary	Means survey	Average absolute deviation: diary-survey	Means diary	Means survey	Average absolute deviation: diary-survey
Doing dishes	18	25	15	17	12	25	33	19	
Cooking	26	39	22	21	16	38	57	28	
Cleaning	26	36	22	17	15	42	55	29	
Doing laundry	14	20	13	3	5	25	34	21	
Shopping	23	26	17	15	20	30	32	19	
Commuting	7	11	10	6	9	8	7	11	
Maintenance	21	28	22	29	38	28	13	18	16
Paperwork	4	6	7	4	7	8	4	5	6
N	572	572	572	282	282	282	290	290	290

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

Percentage of activities during a typical day



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.