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## Practical Training Session II: Repeated Cross-sectional Analyses

### Exercise 1 – Prevalence of temporary employment

**Determine the prevalence of temporary employment in 2021, by country (a) and by age group (b).**

#### Data sets needed

- EU-LFS yearly data 2021, all countries combined in one data set (2021.dta)

#### Variables needed

- COUNTRY Country of residence
- AGE\_GRP Age group
- EMPSTAT Being in employment
- STAPRO Status in employment, main job
- TEMP Permanency of main job

#### Sample selections

- drop Germany and Ireland, due to data limitations for training purposes (COUNTRY)
- age 15-64, working age population (AGE\_GRP)
- only employed persons (EMPSTAT)
- only employees, no self-employed (STAPRO)
- only respondents with valid information on the permanency of their job (TEMP)

#### Solution steps

- open 2021 data and select the sample
- determine the prevalence of temporary employment by country (a); show the result in a table or bar chart
- determine the prevalence of temporary employment by age group (b)<sup>1</sup>, for all countries combined and – if you have time – by country; show the result in a table or bar chart

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<sup>1</sup> not by age, as age in single years is not available in all countries

## Exercise 2 – Trend in temporary employment, age and cohort effects

In Exercise 1, you found that the prevalence of temporary employment is strongly dependent on age. The proportion of temporary employment decreases with age.

However, as this finding is based on cross-sectional data, it is not clear whether this is actually an age effect. The younger people also belong to the younger cohorts, while the older people come from older cohorts. If temporary employment increases across cohorts, it may also be a cohort effect.

Therefore, **examine the change in temporary employment** and answer the following questions:

- a) **Does the prevalence of temporary employment change over time?**
- b) **Does the prevalence of temporary employment change with age and/or across birth cohorts? Are there differences between countries?**

Use a descriptive approach and calculate the prevalence of temporary employment over the life course of synthetic cohorts. Then run logistic regression models and calculate the effects of age and cohort on the probability of temporary employment.

### Data sets needed

- EU-LFS yearly data 1983-2021 (1983.dta-2021.dta)

### Variables needed

- YEAR                      Fixed reference year
- COUNTRY                Country of residence
- AGE                        Age in completed years
- EMPSTAT                Being in employment
- STAPRO                 Status in employment, main job
- TEMP                     Permanency of main job

### Sample selections

- keep countries where data and valid values for TEMP are available for *all* years from 1983 to 2021 (COUNTRY),<sup>2</sup> see attached table
- age 25-54, prime-age workers (AGE)<sup>3</sup>
- only employed persons (EMPSTAT)
- only employees, no self-employed (STAPRO)
- only respondents with valid information on the permanency of their job (TEMP)

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<sup>2</sup> with the exception of Ireland, due to data limitations for training purposes

<sup>3</sup> due to the high share of younger workers who participate in education (i.e. students, apprentices) and because "younger and older workers are more likely to be voluntarily in a temporary job" (Latner 2022, p. 392).

## Solution steps

- open 2021 data and append 2020-1983 data
- keep only relevant variables
- select the sample
  
- examine the trend in temporary employment over time (a)
- for all countries combined and by country
- show the results in tables or bar charts
  
- examine *descriptively* the trend in temporary employment over the life course of synthetic cohorts (b)
- generate birth cohort via age and survey year (cohort=YEAR-AGE)<sup>4</sup>
- group 3 cohorts at intervals of 10 years (1939-41, 1949-51, 1959-61, 1969-71, 1979-81, 1989-91, see attached table)
- dummy code (0/1) the variable TEMP (if you have not already done so)
- determine the prevalence of temporary employment over the life course of synthetic cohorts, by calculating the mean of dummy-coded TEMP by AGE and cohort group
- for all countries combined and by country
- show the results graphically
  
- examine the trend in temporary employment over the life course of synthetic cohorts, using *multivariate* analyses (b)
- as these analyses are time-consuming, draw a random 30% subsample (stratified by country, age and cohort)
- run logistic regression models
- use TEMP (dummy-coded) as dependent variable
- use AGE and birth cohort (generated) as metric independent variables, with the simple assumption that their effects are linear
- use COUNTRY as categorical independent variable
- calculate 3 models:
  - (1) simple model with main effects of all independent variables
  - (2) model with additional interaction between cohort and COUNTRY (to allow for different cohort effects between countries)
  - (3) model with additional interaction between cohort and COUNTRY and between AGE and COUNTRY (to allow for different cohort and age effects between countries)
- calculate and plot margins (predicted probabilities); for ages 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 55; and for cohorts 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990
- check which model fits best
- check whether age and cohort effects differ between countries

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<sup>4</sup> as YEARBIR (Year of birth) is not included in the scientific use files

## Availability of variable TEMP, by country and year

no data

data, but no valid cases (only -3)

data and valid cases

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
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AT=Austria, BE=Belgium, BG=Bulgaria, CH=Switzerland, CY=Cyprus, CZ=Czechia, DE=Germany, DK=Denmark, EE=Estonia, EL=Greece, ES=Spain, FI=Finland, FR=France, HR=Croatia, HU=Hungary, IE=Ireland, IS=Iceland, IT=Italy, LT=Lithuania, LU=Luxembourg, LV=Latvia, MT=Malta, NL=Netherlands, NO=Norway, PL=Poland, PT=Portugal, RO=Romania, SE=Sweden, SI=Slovenia, SK=Slovakia, UK=United Kingdom

