
Historical occupational structures: Europe in the early modern and modern periods

Comments

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A few conceptual questions

- Occupation vs labour force

- Unemployed
- Rentier

See the Dutch case where female rentiers were active in financial business (p.12)

- Household work: 'farmer's wife', 'carpenter's wife', etc.

- Population census, tax record, baptism register

- Usual status, never activity-based
- Whose occupation, whose activity:

Household vs individual

The new Belgian estimates

- Rehabilitating population censuses
 - Agriculture: lower share (p.15)
 - Despite :
 - That De Brander reduced the number in agricultural employment by 30 per cent (p.8);
 - That the new estimates accept the number in PC as it is (p.14).
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Issues

- By-employment
 - Principal- subsidiary
 - In Indonesia and Japan, farming is regarded as a principal occupation
 - Any case where farming is considered a by-employment?: A response to Shaw-Taylor's question no.2 (p.16)
 - Classic account by Daniel Defoe of the West Riding, Yorks., where according to Shaw-Taylor, two-thirds of male adults were in industrial employment
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Hypothesis (1): By-employment

- The more proletarianised, the less serious the problem of by-employment.
 - The less proletarianised, the more likely to follow an inverse-U shaped pattern of development (Saito-Settsu paper).
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- Women's employment

- 'Hidden' in historical records, except in early censuses or census-type listings of inhabitants
 - Proto-industrial employment
 - Female household heads:
See the Dutch paper;
however, probability of having information of their occupations varied with mortality
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Two English examples:

Cardington, Beds. And Corfe Castle, Dorset

Labour-force participation rate

	Married	Widowed
Cardington		
1792	68%	68%
1851	64	71
Corfe Castle		
1790	9%	82%
1851	3	27

Source: Saito, 'Who worked when', LPS, no.22, 1979.

Smithian growth and specialisation

- Specialisation or the division of labour
 - Horizontal
 - Between intermediate and finished goods industries, between dealing and selling, etc.
 - Vertical
 - Between management and labour: growth of wage labour or proletarianisation
 - Problems of classification
 - The PST system
 - Casual labour: What does the ‘decline of the category “Other”’ mean in the Dutch context?
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Hypothesis (2):

Specialisation and the division of labour

Division of labour
between industries
High Low

Proletarianisation

High

ENG

⇐ NL

Low

JPN