Changes in the Association between European Workers’ Employment Conditions and Employee Well-being in 2005, 2010 and 2015

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Abstract: The aim of this paper is to study whether there is a change in the association between employment conditions and European employees’ well-being at three different time points (the years 2005, 2010 and 2015), characterized by different socio-economic contexts. We based our study on the European Working Conditions Survey. Logistic regressions were performed by adjusting for gender, age, level of education, seniority, occupation, establishment size, activity sector and economic activity. Adjusted odds ratios (ORadj) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) are reported. In general, the association between employment conditions (type of employment contract, supervising, weekly working hours, long working hours, other paid jobs, working at weekends or doing shifts) and well-being indicators (anxiety, fatigue and dissatisfaction) seemed to continue being harmful, or had even changed for the worse since 2005. The paper briefly discusses the possible reasons for this situation and calls for future research on the relation between well-being and irregular type of contracts, self-employment, supervising others or hours worked per week. Some implications in public health policies are also discussed.

Keywords: employment conditions; anxiety; fatigue; dissatisfaction; European workers; labor conditions; workforce; workplace wellness; mental health

1. Introduction

Labor conditions (employment conditions, working conditions, employment relations, risk factors, psychosocial work factors…) that affect workers’ well-being have been extensively studied, for example, in the different reports by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) [1], and other studies [2–6]. There is less research about changes in these conditions over time and their associations with employees’ mental health and satisfaction [7], and even less about whether the relationships of these conditions on workers’ well-being remain the same over time [6,8–11]. Considering this lack of investigation, we propose to find out whether there was a change in the relationship between employment conditions and well-being indicators (anxiety, overall fatigue or dissatisfaction) on European workers between 2005, 2010 and 2015.

Some well-known studies have not focused specifically on analysing the changes that have occurred, as they only mention them [12–14]. Other studies have focused on specific working populations and activity sectors, or on only one country [2,5,11,15–22], or on very few countries in the same geographical area [23,24], reducing the possibility of generalizing the results. Other studies have concentrated on analysing the changes in some type of variables (for example, psychosocial work factors), or the evolution of employment conditions over time, but without examining the
associations of these changes on employees’ well-being [7,25]. Other studies that have related different aspects of labor conditions to well-being have not analysed these relationships over time or the results specifically produced by employment conditions [6,26-30].

From the few studies carried out in Europe to find out whether the repercussions of employment conditions can vary over time, the following ideas stand out. Benach et al. [8] reached the conclusion that the prevalence of all the physical and mental well-being indicators in 2000 showed a slight increase; that is, they were worse than in 1995. In general, distribution of health indicators by type of employment was very similar in both surveys. In their final report, Welz et al. [31] corroborate that, with very few exceptions, in Europe since the crisis, countries saw a drop in absenteeism and an increase in presenteeism, along with a rise in job satisfaction. However, Lopes et al. [32] show that there has been a significant reduction in the percentage of satisfied workers during the period from 1995 to 2010. Parent-Thirion et al. [14], meanwhile, point out that the high level of satisfaction has remained stable or, in any case, only declined slightly during 2000–2010 decade, with the economic downturn after 2007–2008 not appearing to have affected employee satisfaction. Some studies [31,33,34], although not all [8,32], analyse the variables independently and, when proposing relationships between variables and changes over time, use only descriptive data to separately analyse each variable, showing that there seem to be common tendencies. Therefore, none of the conclusions drawn from these studies has been adjusted for a set of variables that the literature has established as having a differential result in workers’ well-being (such as sociodemographic variables, occupation, activity sector, and economic activity).

In addition, to date, more attention has been paid to the prevention of psychosocial risks [1,35,36] than to the possible effect of changing employment conditions on well-being. The challenge we propose in this article is to fill this gap by using harmonized European data in such a way that it is possible to draw general conclusions for all types of occupations, activity sectors, and economic activities. For this purpose, we use the European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS) in three periods with very different socioeconomic contexts (2005, 2010, and 2015). One of the overall aims of the EWCS is to measure labor conditions across European countries and monitor trends over time. The EWCS is highly valued by policymakers and researchers as an important and distinctive source of comparative and in-depth information [36].

We chose the years 2005 and 2010 because it is well-known that, in Europe especially, there was a severe economic crisis that had effects on the employment conditions of its citizens [37,38]. We also add the last available European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS6) with data form 2015 [39], to check the trends several years after the crisis and analyse pre- and post-crisis years [5]. It is evident that the changes we might show cannot be blamed only on the effects of the crisis. They also reflect developments that occurred before the crisis [40,41] due to the phenomenon of globalization, the search for greater flexibility at every level (decentralisation of collective bargaining, intensification of work…), and the tertiarisation process [9].

However, the threat to the workers well-being posed by the economic crisis of 2007–2008 is widely recognized in the scientific literature, particularly in the context of the EU, among other things because quality jobs are replaced by jobs with lower wages and worse working conditions, accentuating the increase in flexible and precarious employment arrangements, and increasing job insecurity [10,12,25,31,42].

Knowing the potential changing associations between employment conditions and workers’ well-being makes it possible to better adapt public policies, focusing first on improving the employment conditions that have larger and more stable relationships with labor well-being. In addition, those employment conditions whose relationship with well-being vary more for circumstantial reasons [43–45] should be taken into account by these programmes in order to make the appropriate adaptations when these variations are expected to occur (for example, during periods of economic recession). In summary, as Morley [36] points out, if interventions are to be effective, public policies need to take into account the links and interactions between what goes on in the workplace and what is happening in society in general. According to the aforementioned, this study
analyses whether the change in the socioeconomic context is related to a change in the association between the employment conditions and well-being of European workers.

2. Materials and Methods

The EWCS is conducted by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound), which is an autonomous EU agency, funded by the general budget of the European Commission. The EWCS series began in 1990–1991, and it is generally conducted once every five years. The survey is based on a questionnaire administered face-to-face to a random sample of ‘persons in employment’ (i.e. employees and the self-employed), representative of the working population in each EU country. When a suitable sampling frame (register) with addresses/persons is not available for a country, the random route method is used to select the households and individuals. No quotas or similar non-random solutions were implemented [14,46–48].

The EWCS coverage over the years reflects the evolution of the EU, as more states have joined over time. In 2005, the survey included 31 countries, including the 27 current EU member states (EU-27) at the time. In 2010, the fifth wave covered 34 states. The sixth wave of the survey (2015) was the most comprehensive so far in terms of geographical coverage; it covered the EU-27 Member States and eight other European countries [39]. In this paper, we analyse the EU-27 data.

The statistical population includes all persons aged 15 or over who are in employment during the reference period. A person is considered in employment if he or she did any work for pay or profit during the reference week for at least one hour. This is the same definition as the one used in the Labor Force Survey [49], and the same inclusion and exclusion rules apply. In most countries, the target number of interviews was between 1000 and 2000, with the exception of smaller countries (Estonia, Cyprus, Slovenia, Malta, and Luxembourg), where the target was 600 interviews in 2005. In all, the EWCS aimed to complete 29766 interviews in 2005; 42900 in 2010 and 43000 in 2015. In our case, the sample for the EU-27, the setting for this study, consisted of 24526 employees (55.8% male; 44.2% female) in 2005; 33190 employees (55.1% male; 44.9% female) in 2010 and 32738 employees (52.4% male; 47.6% female) in 2015.

The aim of the EWCS is to provide an overview of the state of labor conditions – understood in a broad sense – in the EU, in order to identify major issues and changes affecting the workplace and contribute to better monitoring of the quality of work and employment in Europe. The number of questions and issues covered in the EWCS has expanded in each subsequent survey, but a core set of key questions has remained unchanged to facilitate the study of trends in employment and working conditions. The EWCS questionnaire includes more than 100 items on a wide range of issues related to the employment conditions and related variables [46]. The questionnaire was created by Eurofound and tested in various ways to ensure that it provides a valid measurement of the concepts surveyed.

Uniformity during data collection was ensured through the development of guidelines and training material for all respondents, subsequently translated into all the national languages (for a more detailed description see [47]). These data provide a unique and comparable source of information about the working conditions in different European countries (the same questionnaire was used in all the countries covered). The data from the 2005 and 2015 waves of the EWCS included in the Integrated Data File (under SN 7363 http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-7363-7) were used for the analysis [50].

The definitions of the variables in this study were based on the report by Parent-Thirion et al. [14] (see Appendix C for definition of variables and descriptive statistics). Below, we describe the transformations made (SPSS syntax details for variables’ transformation are provided in Appendix A).

Well-being. Our response variables related to workers’ well-being can be grouped in two types. (a) In the first type of variables, respondents were asked to indicate whether they had suffered from anxiety (depression or anxiety in 2005 and 2010), or overall fatigue in the past 12 months (yes/no). (b) The second type of response refers to satisfaction, measured by the following question: “On the
whole, are you very satisfied, satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the working conditions in your main paid job?”. The use of single-item scales for well-being variables is considered a valid procedure [51,52]. We recoded the responses as a dichotomous variable (satisfied/not satisfied) to obtain enough cases in the crossings among the various exposure/fit variables levels to facilitate the interpretation of the results as other research works have done [1,15,53–55].

Employment conditions. The employment condition measures are our exposure variables. We are going to focus our research on the analysis of the employment conditions by distinguishing them from other types of variables such as working conditions or employment relations [5,37,56]. Benach et al. [25] and Van Aerden et al. [57] clarify that employment conditions have to do with the mutual agreements between employees and their employers about the employment organisation in terms of contract, working hours, etc. However, working conditions refer to the general physical, ergonomic, biological, chemical, and psychosocial environment at work and various risks. Employment or industrial relations refer to the way all stakeholders at work interact with each other, both in a formal (such as collective bargaining processes) and informal (such as contact with their supervisor or social support) sense. Specifically, we are going to address the following nine employment conditions: (a) Type of employment contract and self-employment, with 4 categories: permanent contract, temporary contract, self-employed, and no contract & others; (b) supervision, with two categories: with no subordinates and with one or more subordinates; (c) weekly working hours: less than 20h, between 20h and 35h, between 36h and 45h, and more than 45h per week; (d) long working hours, defined as: working more than 45 hours per week and more than 10 hours per day at least once a month (two categories: yes/no); (e) atypical working days to distinguish those who work weekends from the rest (yes/no); (f) shift work, with two categories (yes/no); and (g) alternating/rotating shifts to differentiate those who work set shifts from those who work rotating shifts; (h) other paid jobs (yes/no).

Year of survey. To meet the main objective of our research we used the year of survey (2005, 2010 or 2015) as moderator of the relationship between employment conditions and well-being indicators. 2005 represents the pre-crisis scenario. Between 2007–2010 there was a very deep economic crisis in Europe that affected all countries (although not in the same way), and it was considered away in 2015 as evidenced by numerous studies [12,14,25,31–33, 42].

Control variables. All of our results have been adjusted, taking into account a set of variables established in the literature that can differentially influence the relationship between the employment conditions and workers’ well-being [12–14,25,31]. These potential confounding or control variables are the following: sex (male/female), age (16–24; 25–34; 35–54; 55 or more), education level (pre-primary or primary; lower, upper and post-secondary; tertiary education, first and second), seniority (1 year or less; more than 1 to 5 years; more than 5 years), establishment size (number of workers in the workplace: 1–9; 10–249; 250 and over), activity sector (public; private; other), economic activity (industry; services; public administration and defense), and occupation as main paid job (isco9—Elementary occupations; isco8—Plant and machine operators and assemblers; isco7—Craft and related trade workers; isco5—Service workers and shop and market sales workers; isco4—Clerks; isco3—Technicians and associate professionals; isco2—Professionals; isco1—Legislators, senior officials and managers. The missing categories were eliminated because of an insufficient number of cases, which made it impossible to perform the statistical analyses).

Logistic regressions were performed to investigate the association between the workers’ employment conditions and well-being, adjusting for relevant characteristics of respondents and their workplaces, as described above. Separate logistic regression models were adjusted for each employment condition due to the non-convergence of the estimation algorithm by including all exposures and adjustment variables together in a single regression model [15,44] Although this practical approach does not allow the analysis of the possible correlation between exposures, due to random selection of all EWCS samples, the estimated effects can be considered highly representative of the natural groups independently characterized by all levels of the exposure variables investigated.
Furthermore, we tested the interaction between the employment conditions and the year of the survey to assess whether the relationship between the employment conditions and well-being was the same in 2005 and 2010, and in 2010 and 2015.

As data were obtained from probabilistic samples at all the three studied time points, the three EWCS data series jointly make up a longitudinal populations design. The statistical validity of the comparison made among these series lies in the high representativeness and the maintenance of the same procedure and questionnaire to collect the data in each series, as well as including in the regression models both the main adjustment variables and the effect of the interaction among the analyzed exposure variables and the time when data were collected. This allows an analogous interpretation of the results with which a longitudinal panel design was made.

Logistic regression models were fitted using IBM SPSS Statistics v22.0 package (SPSS syntax details for logistic regressions are provided in Appendix B). The results of the association between employment conditions and well-being are presented as adjusted odds ratios (ORadj) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI). Cross-national weights necessary to produce European figures were computed by multiplying each national weight by the country’s proportion in the EU-27 region, and statistical analyses were conducted by weighting the relative size of the workforce in each of the European countries.

3. Results

3.1. Relation between Well-being and Employment Contract

Regardless of the year (see Table 1), and based on the significance of the results, holding a temporary contract did not differ much for anxiety compared to having an indefinite contract. Nonetheless, having a temporary contract involved an increase in the odds for fatigue and dissatisfaction versus holding an indefinite contract.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DepVariable</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No Contract</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Self-Employed</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Temporary</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>0.69 (0.52;0.90) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.22 (1.04;1.43) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.80 (0.66;0.98) *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.30 (1.00;1.68) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.45 (1.23;1.71) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.00 (0.82;1.22)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.10 (0.87;1.39)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.51 (1.32;1.72) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.06 (0.91;1.22)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>0.86 (0.74;1.01)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.38 (1.24;1.53)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.32 (1.18;1.48)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.43 (1.22;1.67) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.33 (1.20;1.48) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.37 (1.22;1.53) *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.91 (0.75;1.09) ↓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.29 (1.17;1.42) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.28 (1.15;1.42) *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissatisfaction</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.19 (1.02;1.38) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.77 (0.68;0.88) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.51 (1.35;1.69) *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.32 (1.13;1.54) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.82 (0.72;0.93) *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.26 (1.13;1.41) *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2.05 (1.76;2.40) * ↑</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.21 (1.08;1.36) * ↑</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.54 (1.39;1.71) * ↑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N weighted 67993 (anxiety); 68002 (fatigue); 69158 (dissatisfaction). ORadj 95% CI: Compared to reference category, adjusted odds ratio (ORadj) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) adjusted for sex, age, education level, seniority, occupation, establishment size, activity sector and economic activity. * indicates exposure ORadj statistically different from 1 (α<0.05) for row year; BY (Between Years difference): compares between row year and previous row year (i.e. 2010 vs 2005 or 2015 vs 2010); ↓ indicates no overlapping ORadj 95% CI and decrease of ORadj, and ↑ indicates no overlapping ORadj 95% CI and increase of ORadj.

Being self-employed was associated with increased odds of having anxiety or fatigue compared to holding an indefinite contract for all the three study years, but was related to a slight drop in the odds of dissatisfaction in 2005 and 2010, while more dissatisfaction clearly came over than for the permanently employed people in 2015.

The association between people who worked with temporary contracts or being self-employed and well-being did not change from 2005 to 2010, and no changes were observed between 2010 and
2015 (save dissatisfaction as mentioned above, which was more negatively marked for the self-employed).

The odds of experiencing anxiety, fatigue or dissatisfaction in the people with no work contracts varied for all three studied years. In 2005, compared to employees with a permanent contract, the workers with no contract reported less anxiety, fatigue was statistically the same and dissatisfaction was slightly higher. In 2010, these three problems were significantly marked for this group. Nevertheless, in 2015, anxiety was no different for the workers with no contract and those with indefinite contracts, although differences were found in 2005 (less anxiety in the workers with no contract) and 2010 (more anxiety in the workers with no contract). After the increase in 2010, fatigue in 2015 once again did not differ among the workers with no contracts and those with indefinite contracts, which occurred in 2005. Dissatisfaction, which was higher in 2010 than in 2005, significantly rose again in 2015 compared to 2010.

3.2. Relation between Well-being and Supervising

The relation between supervising other people and anxiety or fatigue has grown over the years, although significant differences were seen only when comparing anxiety between 2010 or 2015 with 2005, or when comparing fatigue in 2015 with 2010 or 2005 (Table 2). In 2005, very little difference was observed between being a supervisor or not, and anxiety or fatigue was less for people who supervised others. However, the anxiety or fatigue associated with supervising others became worse in each dataset. The data clearly revealed an association with being a supervisor and less job dissatisfaction, which was weaker (a significant change) between 2010 and 2015.

Table 2. Relationship between well-being and supervising others, long working hours and other paid job in 2005–2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DepVariable</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Supervising Others 1 or More (Reference: None)</th>
<th>Long Working Hours Yes (Reference: No)</th>
<th>Other Paid Job(s) Yes (Reference: No Other Paid Job)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ORadj 95% CI</td>
<td>ORadj 95% CI</td>
<td>ORadj 95% CI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>0.87 (0.76;1.00)</td>
<td>2.08 (1.81;2.39) *</td>
<td>1.20 (0.97;1.49)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.16 (1.01;1.34) *</td>
<td>2.06 (1.78;2.39) *</td>
<td>1.07 (0.85;1.34)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.28 (1.24;1.52) *</td>
<td>2.41 (2.16;2.68) *</td>
<td>1.19 (1.02;1.38) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>0.89 (0.81;0.98) *</td>
<td>2.39 (2.17;2.63) *</td>
<td>1.43 (1.25;1.65) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.04 (0.95;1.14)</td>
<td>2.40 (2.18;2.63) *</td>
<td>1.12 (0.98;1.29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.24 (1.14;1.34) *</td>
<td>2.16 (1.98;2.36) *</td>
<td>1.04 (0.92;1.18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissatisfaction</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>0.65 (0.58;0.73) *</td>
<td>1.46 (1.30;1.63) *</td>
<td>1.45 (1.24;1.68) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>0.59 (0.52;0.66) *</td>
<td>1.50 (1.34;1.67) *</td>
<td>1.19 (1.03;1.38) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.76 (0.69;0.84) *</td>
<td>1.57 (1.42;1.74) *</td>
<td>1.22 (1.07;1.39) *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N weighted supervising: 67685 (anxiety); 67695 (fatigue); 68884 (dissatisfaction). Long working: 67158 (anxiety); 67170 (fatigue); 68256 (dissatisfaction). Other paid: 67976 (anxiety); 67986 (fatigue); 69146 (dissatisfaction). ORadj 95% CI: Compared to reference category, adjusted odds ratio (ORadj) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) adjusted for sex, age, education level, seniority, occupation, establishment size, activity sector and economic activity. * indicates exposure ORadj statistically different from 1 (p<0.05) for row year; BY (Between Years difference): compares between row year and previous row year (i.e. 2010 vs 2005 or 2015 vs2010); † indicates no overlapping ORadj 95%CI and decrease of ORadj, and †† indicates no overlapping ORadj 95%CI and increase of ORadj.

3.3. Relation between Well-being and Long Working Hours

Long working hours were related to worse results in all the considered response variables (see Table 2). This relation remained stable when comparing all three studied years. The effects were stronger on fatigue and anxiety than on dissatisfaction for all the considered years. In other words, it would seem that a long working day (working more than 10 h a day several days a month) was related to worse well-being compared to those employees who did not have such long work schedules. The odds for anxiety and fatigue were more than double, and came close to being 50% higher for dissatisfaction.
3.4. Relation between Well-being and having Another Paid Job

Having another paid job, either occasionally or regularly, was not so strongly associated with anxiety in 2005 and 2015 (a 20% increase in the odds compared to having only one job). This association disappeared in 2010, and no differences were observed between the people with one job and those with several. Not a very marked tendency appeared to reduce the relation between having another paid job and more fatigue. Indeed, in 2015 no effects were found, but in 2005 the people who did several jobs reported more fatigue than those with only one job. Job dissatisfaction was higher (45% higher in 2005 and approx. 20% higher in 2010 or 2015) among those workers who had several paid jobs. The changes in the intensity of this association were not significant among the three studied years.

3.5. Relation between Well-being and the Number of Weekly Working Hours

Regarding the number of weekly working hours (Table 3), working 45 hours or more per week was clearly associated with worse well-being, regardless of the year and for all the considered variables. No marked differences appeared for working between 20 and 35 hours/week with the reference group, but belonging to this category led to a neutral association, or even to less anxiety, fatigue or dissatisfaction in 2005 by being significantly related to higher anxiety, more fatigue and greater dissatisfaction in 2010 or 2015. Compared to the people who worked between 36 h and less than 45 h, having shorter work weeks (<20h) appeared to be generally associated with better well-being in all the studied years. However, this beneficial effect seemed to weaken with time, and a clear change in anxiety and dissatisfaction appeared between 2005 and 2015. For fatigue, the change in the association appeared in 2010.

Table 3. Relationship between well-being and the number of weekly working hours in 2005–2015. Hours usually work per week in main paid job (reference: 36h–45h).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DepVariable</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>&gt;45 h</th>
<th>20 h–35 h</th>
<th>&lt;20 h</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ORadj 95% CI</td>
<td>BY</td>
<td>ORadj 95% CI</td>
<td>BY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.69 (1.48;1.94) *</td>
<td>1.07 (0.93;1.23)</td>
<td>0.55 (0.41;0.75) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.63 (1.40;1.89) *</td>
<td>1.09 (0.95;1.25)</td>
<td>0.79 (0.61;1.03)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2.26 (2.03;2.53) *</td>
<td>1.46 (1.32;1.62) *</td>
<td>1.10 (0.93;1.30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>2.10 (1.92;2.30) *</td>
<td>0.84 (0.76;0.93) *</td>
<td>0.48 (0.40;0.58) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2.01 (1.84;2.20) *</td>
<td>1.07 (0.98;1.17)</td>
<td>0.84 (0.71;0.98) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.90 (1.74;2.07) *</td>
<td>1.15 (1.06;1.24) *</td>
<td>0.82 (0.71;0.94) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissatisfaction</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.44 (1.30;1.60) *</td>
<td>0.88 (0.79;0.97) *</td>
<td>0.69 (0.57;0.82) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.50 (1.36;1.66) *</td>
<td>1.04 (0.95;1.14)</td>
<td>0.75 (0.63;0.88) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.55 (1.41;1.71) *</td>
<td>1.15 (1.05;1.25) *</td>
<td>0.90 (0.78;1.04)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N weighted: 67131 (anxiety); 67143 (fatigue); 68252 (dissatisfaction). ORadj 95% CI: Compared to reference category, adjusted odds ratio (ORadj) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) adjusted for sex, age, education level, seniority, occupation, establishment size, activity sector and economic activity. * indicates exposure ORadj statistically different from 1 (p<0.05) for row year; BY (Between Years difference): compares between row year and previous row year (i.e. 2010 vs 2005 or 2015 vs2010); † indicates no overlapping ORadj 95%CI and decrease of ORadj, and ↑ indicates no overlapping ORadj 95%CI and increase of ORadj.


Working at weekends (atypical working days), work shifts, and working alternating or rotating shifts, were associated with higher anxiety, fatigue and dissatisfaction (Table 4). For anxiety, working on atypical working days was associated more than working set shifts or alternating/rotating shifts. Working set shifts led to an increased association with anxiety from 2005 to 2010, which lowered in 2015 to levels that were similar to, or lower than, those in 2005. Alternating/rotating shifts modestly increased the odds for anxiety (about 20%), and they remained stable throughout the three time points. Similarly, fatigue was more associated with working on atypical days. In 2015, the negative association once again increased (the odds of evidencing fatigue from working on atypical working...
days almost doubled that for working only Monday-Friday). When we analyzed dissatisfaction, these three employment conditions presented very similar increased odds (an increase of around 40%-60%).

Table 4. Relationship between well-being and atypical working days, shift work and alternating/rotating shifts in 2005–2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DepVariable</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Work on Saturdays and/or Sundays Yes (Reference: No)</th>
<th>Work in Shits Yes (Reference: No)</th>
<th>Alternating or Rotating Shifts Yes (Reference: No)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ORadj 95% CI</td>
<td>BY</td>
<td>ORadj 95% CI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.64 (1.46;1.83) *</td>
<td>1.37 (1.20;1.56) *</td>
<td>1.16 (0.97;1.39)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.53 (1.36;1.72) *</td>
<td>1.74 (1.52;1.99) *</td>
<td>1.23 (1.02;1.48) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.60 (1.47;1.74) *</td>
<td>1.17 (1.06;1.29) *</td>
<td>1.18 (1.04;1.34) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.81 (1.68;1.95) *</td>
<td>1.46 (1.34;1.59) *</td>
<td>1.27 (1.13;1.43) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.58 (1.47;1.70) *</td>
<td>1.46 (1.34;1.59) *</td>
<td>1.47 (1.31;1.65) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.91 (1.78;2.04) *</td>
<td>1.44 (1.34;1.56) *</td>
<td>1.36 (1.24;1.50) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissatisfaction</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.40 (1.29;1.52)</td>
<td>1.57 (1.43;1.72) *</td>
<td>1.60 (1.42;1.80) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.42 (1.31;1.53) *</td>
<td>1.48 (1.36;1.62)</td>
<td>1.47 (1.31;1.65) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.56 (1.45;1.68) *</td>
<td>1.47 (1.36;1.59) *</td>
<td>1.44 (1.30;1.60) *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N weighted work on Saturdays/sundays: 67218 (anxiety); 67228 (fatigue); 68343 (dissatisfaction); work in shifts: 67913 (anxiety); 67923 (fatigue); 69064 (dissatisfaction); alternating/rotating shifts: 67788 (anxiety); 67798 (fatigue); 68941 (dissatisfaction). ORadj 95% CI: Compared to reference category, adjusted odds ratio (ORadj) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) adjusted for sex, age, education level, seniority, occupation, establishment size, activity sector and economic activity. * indicates exposure ORadj statistically different from 1 (p<0.05) for row year; BY (Between Years difference): compares between row year and previous row year (i.e. 2010 vs 2005 or 2015 vs2010); ↓ indicates no overlapping ORadj 95% CI and decrease of ORadj, and ↑ indicates no overlapping ORadj 95% CI and increase of ORadj.

4. Discussion

The relation between employee conditions and the three well-being variables remained with no major changes taking place over time for the employees with temporary contracts, long working hours, with other paid jobs, working on atypical working days or working any kind of shifts. In nearly all these circumstances, the odds of suffering anxiety or fatigue or dissatisfaction increased compared to the reference category for each employment condition.

Between 2005 and 2010, Europe went through a severe economic crisis. No one seems to question that this crisis produced a worsening in employment and job conditions [16,17,23,32,37,40]. Curtarelli et al. [33] indicate that the crisis may have influenced workers’ subjective perception of their work situation and its effects on their physical and mental well-being. Some studies posit that workers’ perceptions of the work environment are likely to be derived not only from the personal and organizational context, but also from the external macroeconomic context [16,58]. As an example, Welz et al. [31] indicate that the economic crisis has caused an increase in job insecurity across Europe, along with specific changes in labour regulations. As a result, employees have growing concerns about having or keeping their jobs and maintaining their incomes, which affects their well-being and health [12]. Findings from the report on the impact of the crisis [42] show evidence of an increase in some psychosocial risks linked to changes that took place during the economic crisis (such as higher unemployment, more flexible labour regulations, and restructuring processes), which have had a negative effect on workers’ well-being [10]. Therefore, we could expect a change for the worse in well-being. One the one hand, the association between worse well-being and certain employment conditions which became more marked after the crisis remained (temporary contracts, long working hours, working shifts or weekends) [29,38,59–62].
On the other hand, we found that the negative effect on anxiety, fatigue and dissatisfaction were intensified for some employment conditions. For instance, for those workers with no contract, who in 2005 had 31% less odds of suffering anxiety than those with indefinite contracts had 30% higher odds in 2010 (a change of around 60% took place in the odds during this period). Likewise in 2005, the odds of presenting fatigue did not differ between not having a contract and holding an indefinite contract. In 2010 however, the odds had increased by 43%, and then lowered in 2015 before returning to the level they were at in 2005. As for both these outcomes, in 2005 the association was the opposite to what was expected. Worse employment conditions (no contract) were linked with less anxiety and fatigue than having an indefinite contract. Yet in 2010 (halfway through the crisis), the association reversed and was linked with more anxiety and fatigue. In 2015, the situation became more like that of 2005. That is to say, during economically good periods (2005 and 2015), not having a contract did not imply suffering more anxiety or fatigue than having an indefinite contract [63], but the likelihood of suffering anxiety or fatigue sharply rose during the crisis. However, further future research will be necessary to explain this tentative proposal because the available literature about it is scarce [30] and, according to the study sample, dissatisfaction was greater for those workers with no contracts than it was for those with indefinite contracts in all three studied years. Moreover, the association with dissatisfaction significantly increased in 2015 (with a 73% increase in the odds).

We also found a closer association between dissatisfaction and self-employment. Despite self-employment being associated with suffering more anxiety and fatigue than having an indefinite contract, in 2005 and 2010 it was linked with lower odds for dissatisfaction than for holding an indefinite contract. In 2015 it negatively jumped by 39% and self-employment was associated with a 21% increase in the odds for dissatisfaction. In 2015, the three well-being measures became more negative in self-employment situations than for the workers with indefinite contracts. This situation could perhaps reflect both the positive aspects of self-employment in certain groups before the crisis [64] and its effects [65] and the complexity of different types of self-employment (e.g. voluntary versus forced) and the outcomes deriving from them [66,67]. We believe that studying well-being and self-employment is an emerging theme and further future research will be necessary to analyze this association [68].

Changes also appeared in the effect of supervising others on well-being, which caused more anxiety and fatigue in 2010 and 2015, when it was linked with 13%–11% lower odds of suffering these outcomes in 2005. Although it still appeared as a source of protection against dissatisfaction, its effect on the odds went from being about 40% lower in 2005–2010 to only 24% lower in 2015, and could be linked with the growing anxiety and fatigue trend. Moreover, perhaps working as a supervisor in an organizational context has become more stressful after the crisis. Nevertheless, very little specific research has been conducted between well-being and having jobs that involve supervising others. Therefore, it would be interesting to open future research lines on this matter.

We also stress the relation that has become well-established between hours worked per week and effects on well-being [69]. In 2005 and 2010, the fewer the hours worked per week, the greater well-being was. In 2015 however, working between 20 and 35 hours/week or more than 45 hours/week was associated with worse well-being than for the 36–45 hours/week schedule, which was not that different to working fewer than 20 hours/week. Working fewer than 20 hours/week led to lower odds for anxiety, fatigue and dissatisfaction. So it would appear to be a positive condition for well-being when compared with working between 36–45 hours/week, perhaps due to the conciliation possibilities that it creates for workers [38,60]. However, this effect has become weaker with time and has gone from 40%–50% odds of suffering fewer negative effects to become almost equal to working 36–45 hours/week. Maybe the possible advantages of conciliation and having free time with this contract type fade when combining it with the inconveniences of earning less income, having few stable job perspectives or leaving a series of mini-jobs behind without the possibility of improving one’s professional promotion [38,69]. Likewise, working between 20 and 35 hours/week was not related to worse well-being than working normal hours (36–45h.) in 2005. After 2010, the odds of suffering anxiety, fatigue or dissatisfaction were higher than the reference category. We believe that the causes underlying this trend could be the same as for working fewer than 20
hours/week. Finally, we stress that between 2010 and 2015, the odds of suffering anxiety when working more than 45 hours/week sharply rose and became 126% higher than for those working normal working hours, although these relations could be conditioned by specific working conditions [34,70,71].

If we now broaden the focus of the policies, Benach et al. [25] argue that policies that impose more flexibility on the European labour force should also take into account the possible effects on the well-being of the employees affected. According to the European employment policy, high employment rates and high-quality jobs are not mutually exclusive. Instead, good-quality jobs are an important precondition for improving occupational well-being [2,25].

There is a danger that, organizations might be tempted to focus on survival (through changes in organizational policies such as temporary contracts, job losses or atypical working times) rather than improving the psychosocial work environment. Cost-cutting measures that might seem logical in the short term could, however, cause serious medium- and long-term consequences for people’s well-being, both individually and collectively [10]. Therefore, our results help to highlight the need for a focus on employment conditions as a way to better understand the changes in workers’ well-being, even in times of deep crisis.

From a more general point of view, public policies, both social and employment-related, should pay greater attention to the pursuit of the long-term strategic goal of promoting a generalized improvement in living and labor conditions [36,43–45]. In fact, various results stemming from the different EWCS have been included and developed in different European policies [36,39]. Examining the way employment conditions have changed (or remained the same), and their association with workers’ well-being can shed light on the progress being made in moving toward a more integrated, competitive, and sustainable Europe [40].

It is necessary to make some observations about our study. Our results are not based on a longitudinal design, but rather on the analysis of three comparable cross-sectional random samples. The inability to empirically rule out the possibility of reverse causation is a common limitation of cross-sectional studies in occupational stress research and epidemiology [25]. For this reason, a longitudinal perspective is extremely valuable in controlling effects on workers’ well-being. In any case, there is evidence that work and employment seem to be causally related to well-being, rather than the contrary [11,25]. In addition, indicators of well-being in the different EWCS are self-reported by the respondent, which has its limitations. Likewise, the measurement of well-being indicators with simple and crude indicators may have limited the possibility of detecting significant associations [8]. However, most of the indicators on self-reported well-being are commonly used in international studies, and many of them have been validated in previous research [1,51,52]. A correlation between the employed independent variables could also exist. We herein opted to analyze and report the results of each one separately. It would be convenient for future research to design alternatives to examine them in groups.

It is certain that the general view of relations sketched here at a global level for the EU-27 could be different for each country at the time points considered [9]. For example, the crisis in Europe has had a differentiated impact on working conditions [31] and psychosocial work factors [7]. We think that the control variables considered in this study make it possible to more accurately establish the relationship between employment conditions and well-being, as these conditions can vary among countries and within the same country. Our results can be generalized to any similar group of workers without considering their country of origin, thanks to the control of some key variables. Welz et al. [31], among others, also recognize the importance of these adjustment variables. Furthermore, other studies have not found clear differences among countries after eliminating the effects of certain confounding variables. For example, Benavides et al. [41] and Benach et al. [8] found that patterns were generally consistent across countries, and associations between employment categories and physical and mental well-being indicators remained virtually identical after country level variables were included in the models. Ardito et al. [12] found that well-being and safety at work depend on certain work variables that, when taken into account, cause cross-country differences to tend to disappear. Malard et al. [6] state that “for the large majority of the countries, the changes were not
different from the mean European changes for all factors’” (p. 1137). According to Morley [36], although major differences remain among countries, the evidence indicates that changes in the European policy environment are taking place as the EU evolves and integrates. Much of the traditional intra-EU stereotyping of countries in terms of their socioeconomic systems is increasingly misplaced. Elements of different labour market and welfare policy incentives and support arrangements are crossing boundaries. In fact, the country variable is only an aggregate of many other variables (not only labour, but also social, cultural, environmental...) that undoubtedly should be considered when designing national policies, but are less relevant when trying to design a policy framework for all of Europe. It seems that, as Parent-Thirion et al. [14] state, looking at changes in work over time, as measured by the EWCS series, shows limited changes globally, and the overall results do not fully reflect the emphasis in European policymaking during the past 20 years. There remains, therefore, a long way to go.

5. Conclusions

Europe suffered a severe economic crisis between 2005 and 2010, which it had recovered from in 2015. Our study, based on three comparable cross-sectional surveys, examined whether employment conditions were related to workers’ well-being in the same way at three different time points, without this result being confounded by the influence of other variables that the literature has established as possibly intervening in these relations.

In general terms, and with the same situation for the adjustment variables (gender, age, level of education, seniority, occupation, establishment size, activity sector and economic activity), the people with indefinite contracts, no supervising responsibilities, who work between 36 and less than 45 hours/week, do not work long working hours, do not have several jobs, do not work shifts (neither set nor alternating/rotating shifts) and do not work weekends report less anxiety, fatigue or job dissatisfaction than those in any of the other categories of each employment condition herein analyzed. That is, worse employment conditions lead to higher odds of suffering anxiety, fatigue or dissatisfaction compared to the reference category. Nonetheless, we observed that this relation did not always appear in this way for all the studied years for some working conditions (employment contracts other than indefinite contracts, supervising others and weekly working hours).

We believe that, although the relationships between work and well-being are complex and probably do not materialize in only one direction, work can have positive consequences for individuals’ well-being [1], but can also have negative consequences if employment conditions are unfavorable. In fact according to the analyzed data, the relation between employment conditions and employee well-being seemed to remain or increased in intensity for the years between 2005 and 2015. Worse employment conditions were associated with less well-being and socio-economic conditions, or this effect simply increased over time for some conditions, while intensity remained for the rest.


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**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

**Appendix A**

SPSS syntax details for variables’ transformation.

* data filter: years 2005, 2010 or 2015 and employees or self-employees in EUR-27
  FILTER OFF.
  USE ALL.
  SELECT IF (year >= 2005 & EU27=1).
EXECUTE.
USE ALL.
COMPUTE filtro1=(y15_Q2c=1 OR y10_hh2d=1).
VARIABLE LABELS filtro1 '((y15_Q2c=1 OR y10_hh2d=1))(FILTER). VALUE LABELS filtro1 0 'Not Selected' 1 'Selected'. FORMATS filtro1 (f1.0).
EXECUTE.
USE ALL.
SELECT IF (filtro1=1).
EXECUTE.
*Moderator variables for GLM.
RECODE year (2005=0) (2010=1) (2015=0) (ELSE=SYSMIS) INTO y10_05.
VARIABLE LABELS y10_05 'comparar 2005 con 2010 Year 2005 o 15 is 0, 2010 is 1 else sysmis'. EXECUTE.
RECODE year (2005=0) (2010=0) (2015=1) (ELSE=SYSMIS) INTO y15_05.
VARIABLE LABELS y15_05 'comparar 2005 con 2015 Year 2015 is 0, 2010 o 2015 is 0 else sysmis'. EXECUTE.
RECODE year (2005=1) (2010=0) (2015=0) (ELSE=SYSMIS) INTO y05_10.
VARIABLE LABELS y05_10 'comparar 2005 con 2010 Year 2005 is 1, 2010 is 0 else sysmis'. EXECUTE.
VARIABLE LABELS y15_10 'comparar 2010 con 2015 (2005=0) (2010=0) (2015=1) else sysmis'. EXECUTE.
RECODE year (2005=1) (2010=0) (2015=0) (ELSE=SYSMIS) INTO y05_15.
VARIABLE LABELS y05_15 'comparar 2015 con 2005 (2005=1) (2010=0) (2015=0) else sysmis'. EXECUTE.
* Outcome variables.
DO IF (year=2005).
RECODE y15_Q78h lt y15_Q78i lt (SYSMIS=0) (2=0) (ELSE=Copy) INTO anxiety05 fatigue05.
VARIABLE LABELS anxiety05 'anxiety clonada como en 2005' /fatigue05 'fatigue clonada como en 2005'. END IF.
EXECUTE.
DO IF (year>2005 & y15_Q74_lt=1).
RECODE y15_Q78h lt y15_Q78i lt (2=0) (8=0)(9=0)(ELSE=Copy) INTO anxiety05 fatigue05.
VARIABLE LABELS anxiety05 'anxiety clonada como en 2005' /fatigue05 'fatigue clonada como en 2005'. END IF.
DO IF (year>2005 & y15_Q74_lt=2).
RECODE y15_Q78h lt y15_Q78i lt (SYSMIS=0) (ELSE=0) INTO anxiety05 fatigue05.
VARIABLE LABELS anxiety05 'anxiety clonada como en 2005' /fatigue05 'fatigue clonada como en 2005'. END IF.
VALUE LABELS anxiety05 0 'Not mentioned' 1 'Mentioned'. VALUE LABELS fatigue05 0 'Not mentioned' 1 'Mentioned'. EXECUTE.
RECODE y15_Q88 (MISSING=SYSMIS) (3 thru Highest=1) (Lowest thru 2=0) INTO insatisfactionDic.
VARIABLE LABELS insatisfactionDic 'Insatisfaction dicotomica'.
VALUE LABELS insatisfactionDic 0 'Satisfied' 1 'Not satisfied'.
EXECUTE.
*exposure variables.
COMPUTE contract=$SYSMIS.
VARIABLE LABELS contract 'fusion y15_Q7_lt y15_Q11_lt autonomos y diferentes categorias de autoempleo y duracion de contrato'.
VALUE LABELS contract 1 'Indefinite contract' 2 'Temporary' 3 'Self-Employed' 4 'No contract & other'.
EXECUTE.
IF ANY(Y15_Q7.lt,1,2) contract = 4.
IF (y15_Q11.lt=1) contract = 1.
IF ANY(y15_Q11.lt,2,3,4) contract = 2.
IF (y15_Q11.lt=5) contract = 4.
IF (Y15_Q7.lt=2) contract = 3.
*estas dos no se ejecutna en realidad porque son missings.
IF (y15_Q11.lt=8) contract= 8.
IF (y15_Q11.lt=9) contract= 9.
execute.
COMPUTE supervision=$SYSMIS.
VARIABLE LABELS supervision 'personas a tu cargo recodificacion 0-1 '.
VALUE LABELS supervision 0 'none' 1 '1 or more'.
EXECUTE.
IF ANY(y15_Q23.lt,2,3) supervision = 1.
IF (y15_Q23.lt=1) supervision= 0.
COMPUTE hoursworked=$SYSMIS.
VARIABLE LABELS hoursworked 'Horas duracion jornada '.
VALUE LABELS hoursworked 1 '36h...45h' 2 '20h...35h' 3 '<20h' 4 '>45h'.
EXECUTE.
IF (y15_Q24<20) hoursworked = 3.
IF (y15_Q24>=20 AND y15_Q24<=35) hoursworked = 2.
IF (y15_Q24>35 AND y15_Q24<=45) hoursworked = 1.
IF (y15_Q24>45) hoursworked = 4.
COMPUTE longworkhour=$SYSMIS.
VARIABLE LABELS longworkhour 'Long working hours si y15_Q37d es un dia o mas y hoursworked mas de 45 horas semana '.
VALUE LABELS longworkhour 0 'No' 1 'Yes'.
EXECUTE.
IF (y15_Q37d<1 OR y15_Q24<=45) longworkhour = 0.
IF (y15_Q37d=1 AND y15_Q24<=45) longworkhour = 0.
IF (y15_Q37d=1 AND y15_Q24>45) longworkhour = 1.
COMPUTE workweekend=$SYSMIS.
VARIABLE LABELS workweekend 'Work on Saturdays and/or Sundays '.
VALUE LABELS workweekend 0 'No' 1 'Yes'.
EXECUTE.
IF (y15_Q37b<1 AND y15_Q37c<1) workweekend = 0.
IF (y15_Q37b=1 OR y15_Q37c=1) workweekend = 1.
RECODE y15_Q39e (MISSING=$SYSMIS) (1=1) (2=0) INTO shifts.
VARIABLE LABELS shifts 'Work in shits (reference: No) recodificada original'.
VALUE LABELS shifts 0 'No' 1 'Yes'.
EXECUTE.
COMPUTE alternateshift=$SYSMIS.
VARIABLE LABELS alternateshift 'Alternating or rotating shift (reference: No) '.
VALUE LABELS alternateshift 0 'No' 1 'Yes'.
EXECUTE.
IF (y15_Q39e=2 OR y15_Q41<=2 ) alternateshift = 0.
IF (y15_Q41 =3 ) alternateshift = 1.
IF (y15_Q41 =4 ) alternateshift = 0.
RECODE y15_Q27_lt (MISSING=SYSMIS) (4=SYSMIS) (1=1) (2=0) INTO otherpaid.
VARIABLE LABELS otherpaid 'Other paid job(s) (reference: No other paid job )'.
VALUE LABELS otherpaid 0 'No' 1 'Yes'.
EXECUTE.

* Additional variables.
RECODE y15_Q2a (MISSING=SYSMIS) (1=1) (2=2) INTO sex.
VARIABLE LABELS sex 'sex (male/female)'.
VALUE LABELS sex 1 'men' 2 'women'.
EXECUTE.
RECODE y15_Q2b (MISSING=SYSMIS) (Lowest thru 24=1) (25 thru 34=2) (35 thru 54=3) (55 thru Highest=4) INTO age.
VARIABLE LABELS age 'age (16-24; 25-34; 35-54; 55 or more)'.
VALUE LABELS age 1 '16-24' 2 '25-34' 3 '35-54' 4 '55 or more'.
EXECUTE.
RECODE y15_ISCED_lt (MISSING=SYSMIS) (Lowest thru 1=1) (2 thru 4=2) (5 thru 6=3) (ELSE=SYSMIS) INTO educa.
VARIABLE LABELS educa 'education level'.
VALUE LABELS educa 1 'pre-primary or primary' 2 'lower, upper and post-secondary' 3 'tertiary education, first and second'.
EXECUTE.
RECODE y15_Q17_lt (MISSING=SYSMIS) (Lowest thru 1=1) (1 thru 5=2) (5 thru Highest=3) INTO seniority.
VARIABLE LABELS seniority 'seniority'.
VALUE LABELS seniority 1 '1 year or less' 2 'more than 1 to 5 years' 3 'more than 5 years'.
EXECUTE.
DO IF (year=2015).
RECODE y15_Q16b (MISSING=SYSMIS) (1 thru 2=1) (3=2) (4=3) (7 thru Highest=SYSMIS) INTO estabsize.
END IF.
EXECUTE.
DO IF (year<=2010).
RECODE y15_Q16a (MISSING=SYSMIS) (1 thru 3=1) (4 thru 6=2) (7 thru 8=3) (9 thru Highest=SYSMIS) INTO estabsize.
END IF.
VARIABLE LABELS estabsize 'establishment size (number of workers in the workplace)'.
VALUE LABELS estabsize 1 '1-9' 2 '10-249' 3 '250 and over'.
EXECUTE.
RECODE y15_Q14 (MISSING=SYSMIS) (1=1) (2=2) (3 thru 5=3) INTO sector.
VARIABLE LABELS sector 'activity sector (public; private; other)'.
VALUE LABELS sector 1 'private' 2 'public' 3 'other'.
EXECUTE.
RECODE y15_nace_r1_lt_4 (MISSING=SYSMIS) (ELSE=Copy) INTO activity.
VARIABLE LABELS activity 'economic activity'.
VALUE LABELS activity 1 'agriculture' 2 'industry' 3 'services' 4 'public administration and defence'.
EXECUTE.
RECODE y15_ISCO_88_1 (MISSING=SYSMIS) (ELSE=Copy) INTO occupation.
VARIABLE LABELS occupation 'occupation as main paid job'.
EXECUTE.
missing values contract to occupation (8,9).

Appendix B

SPSS syntax details for logistic regressions.

*Macro.
DEFINE !MacrGLMdic (response= !TOKENS(1) / predictor= !TOKENS(1) / ajuste= !TOKENS(8) )
GENLIN !response (REFERENCE=FIRST) BY y10_05 y15_05 !predictor !ajuste
(ORDER=DESCENDING)
/MODEL y10_05 !predictor y15_05 y10_05*y!predictor y15_05*y!predictor !ajuste
INTERCEPT=YES DISTRIBUTION=BINOMIAL LINK=LOGIT
/Criteria METHOD=FISHER(1) SCALE=1 COVB=MODEL MAXITERATIONS=200 MAXSTEPHALVING=15
PCONVERGE=1E-006(ABSOLUTE) SINGULAR=1E-012 ANALYSISTYPE=3(WALD) CILEVEL=95 CITYPE=WALD
LIKELIHOOD=FULL /MISSING CLASSMISSING=EXCLUDE
/PRINT CPS DESCRIPTIVES MODELINFO FIT SUMMARY SOLUTION (EXPONENTIATED).
GENLIN !response (REFERENCE=FIRST) BY y05_10 y15_10 !predictor !ajuste
(ORDER=DESCENDING)
/MODEL y05_10 !predictor y15_10 y05_10*y!predictor y15_10*y!predictor !ajuste
INTERCEPT=YES DISTRIBUTION=BINOMIAL LINK=LOGIT
/Criteria METHOD=FISHER(1) SCALE=1 COVB=MODEL MAXITERATIONS=200 MAXSTEPHALVING=15
PCONVERGE=1E-006(ABSOLUTE) SINGULAR=1E-012 ANALYSISTYPE=3(WALD) CILEVEL=95 CITYPE=WALD
LIKELIHOOD=FULL /MISSING CLASSMISSING=EXCLUDE
/PRINT CPS DESCRIPTIVES MODELINFO FIT SUMMARY SOLUTION (EXPONENTIATED).
GENLIN !response (REFERENCE=FIRST) BY y05_15 y10_15 !predictor !ajuste
(ORDER=DESCENDING)
/MODEL y05_15 !predictor y10_15 y05_15*y!predictor y10_15*y!predictor !ajuste
INTERCEPT=YES DISTRIBUTION=BINOMIAL LINK=LOGIT
/Criteria METHOD=FISHER(1) SCALE=1 COVB=MODEL MAXITERATIONS=200 MAXSTEPHALVING=15
PCONVERGE=1E-006(ABSOLUTE) SINGULAR=1E-012 ANALYSISTYPE=3(WALD) CILEVEL=95 CITYPE=WALD
LIKELIHOOD=FULL /MISSING CLASSMISSING=EXCLUDE
/PRINT CPS DESCRIPTIVES MODELINFO FIT SUMMARY SOLUTION (EXPONENTIATED).
!ENDDEFINE.

*analysis.
WEIGHT BY w5_eu27.
USE ALL.
!MacrGLMdic response=anxiety05 predictor=contract ajuste= sex age educa seniority estabsize sector activity occupation.
Appendix C

Table C1. Definition of all variables and descriptive statistics for each year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Response Categories</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety: “Over the last 12 months, did you have anxiety?”</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>22582</td>
<td>30335</td>
<td>28678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue: “Over the last 12 months, did you have overall fatigue?”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>1729</td>
<td>3024</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>19019</td>
<td>26388</td>
<td>25823</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>5506</td>
<td>5687</td>
<td>5879</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job satisfaction: “On the whole, are you very satisfied, satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the working conditions in your main paid job?”</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very satisfied</td>
<td>6143</td>
<td>8268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfied</td>
<td>13970</td>
<td>19618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very satisfied</td>
<td>3395</td>
<td>4239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all satisfied</td>
<td>835</td>
<td>827</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of employment contract and self-employment. Permanent contract (unlimited duration); Temporary contract (limited duration, fixed-term, temporary employment agency contract) Self-employed (Having more than one client, not receiving regular (monthly) payment, resources should come through payment for products or services provided and being able to take decisions for organising work and recruiting staff);No contract &amp; others (apprenticeship or other training scheme, no contract and others)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permanent contract</td>
<td>15630</td>
<td>22458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary contract</td>
<td>2922</td>
<td>3663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employed</td>
<td>4030</td>
<td>5096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No contract &amp; others</td>
<td>1656</td>
<td>1567</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supervision: “How many people work under your supervision, for whom pay increases, bonuses or promotion depend directly on you?”</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No subordinates</td>
<td>19651</td>
<td>27098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One or more</td>
<td>4380</td>
<td>5747</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly working hours: “How many hours do you usually work per week in your main paid job?”</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 20h</td>
<td>1594</td>
<td>2202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between 20h and 35h</td>
<td>5264</td>
<td>7799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between 36h and 45h</td>
<td>12627</td>
<td>16975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 45h</td>
<td>4433</td>
<td>5441</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long working hours: working more than 45 hours per week and more than 10 hours per day at least once a month</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>20569</td>
<td>28527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3251</td>
<td>3922</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Atypical working days: working on Saturday or Sunday one or more times a month</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>10911</td>
<td>15506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13020</td>
<td>17184</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shift work: any kind of shift arrangement</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>19965</td>
<td>27210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>4245</td>
<td>5753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternating/rotating shifts: shift arrangement different of daily split shifts (with a break of at least 4 hours in between) or permanent shifts (morning, afternoon or night)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>22060</td>
<td>30051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2122</td>
<td>2871</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table C1. Cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Response Categories</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Paid Jobs: “besides Your Main Paid Job, do You have any other Paid Job(s)?”</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>22772</td>
<td>30657</td>
<td>30171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1480</td>
<td>2285</td>
<td>2449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>13680</td>
<td>18280</td>
<td>17155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>10846</td>
<td>14909</td>
<td>15576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>16-24</td>
<td>2676</td>
<td>2615</td>
<td>2151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>5614</td>
<td>7644</td>
<td>6702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35-54</td>
<td>13104</td>
<td>18120</td>
<td>17809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>55 or more</td>
<td>3048</td>
<td>4653</td>
<td>5926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education level</td>
<td>Pre-primary or primary</td>
<td>1483</td>
<td>1375</td>
<td>883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower, upper and post-secondary</td>
<td>16670</td>
<td>17991</td>
<td>21155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tertiary education, first and second</td>
<td>6270</td>
<td>8014</td>
<td>10545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniority</td>
<td>1 year or less</td>
<td>4276</td>
<td>4993</td>
<td>5397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 1 to 5 years</td>
<td>7149</td>
<td>9870</td>
<td>8525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than 5 years</td>
<td>12597</td>
<td>17930</td>
<td>18205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishment size (number of workers in the workplace)</td>
<td>1-9</td>
<td>8679</td>
<td>13139</td>
<td>10002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10-249</td>
<td>11101</td>
<td>15018</td>
<td>11201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>250 and over</td>
<td>3551</td>
<td>4019</td>
<td>10,06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity sector</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>16551</td>
<td>23381</td>
<td>23115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>6002</td>
<td>7470</td>
<td>7056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1692</td>
<td>2153</td>
<td>2196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic activity</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>1184</td>
<td>1447</td>
<td>1209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>7102</td>
<td>8250</td>
<td>7530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Services</td>
<td>8675</td>
<td>12349</td>
<td>13285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>7250</td>
<td>10746</td>
<td>10450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>2206</td>
<td>3002</td>
<td>2467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>3622</td>
<td>4938</td>
<td>5611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technicians and associate professionals</td>
<td>3223</td>
<td>5588</td>
<td>4842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clerical support workers</td>
<td>2908</td>
<td>3618</td>
<td>3727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Service and sales workers</td>
<td>3117</td>
<td>4569</td>
<td>4982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Craft and related trades workers</td>
<td>3465</td>
<td>4361</td>
<td>3982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plant and machine operators, and assemblers</td>
<td>2032</td>
<td>2840</td>
<td>2693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elementary occupations</td>
<td>2796</td>
<td>3036</td>
<td>3212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (differences between Total and sum of categories are missing values)</td>
<td>24526</td>
<td>33190</td>
<td>32738</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References


