Family and labour supply of native/immigrant women in Switzerland: human capital and household determinants

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In Switzerland, women’s patterns of employment are strongly sensitive to family circumstances (contrary to men): the ‘one-and-a-half-earner’ model.

Diversity in the labour supply in diverse family types among national groups is observed: low employment for immigrants/short working time for natives.

Objectives
- To estimate the extent to which women’s decision upon their level of participation in employment differs across origins in different family situations.
- To analyse the effect of educational level and partner’s profile (educational level and earnings) on women’s labour supply.

Data & variables
Swiss-born/immigrant women aged 20-49, not in education, not self-employed.
Sample sizes: 21,962 Swiss-born / 19,471 Immigrant women.

Methods
Double Hurdle Model to capture the two processes that lead to:
1) Employment (selection equation)
2) Hours (amount equation, conditional on participation)
Decomposition of the total marginal effect (unconditional) into two parts.

Results

| Childless women aged 20 to 49, in partnership. Marginal effects by origin |

| Women aged 20 to 49 with youngest children 0-5, in partnership. Marginal effects by origin |

Next steps...
Longitudinal analysis using the panel SLFS: Women’s labour supply (year $t \rightarrow$ year $t+1$) conditional to childbirth. Multinomial probit model.