



1.1.029 - Occupations, sectors and vocational education and training – An empirical study of wage variance

Research project: Abstract

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Occupations represent the intersection of acquired qualifications, labour market demand, and performed tasks (ABRAHAM, DAMELANG & HAUPT, 2018). Different occupations are associated with different wages and returns to education (see HAUPT, 2016b; FRIEDRICH & HIRTZ, 2021b). This research project will undertake a comprehensive investigation into the role of occupations in determining the wages of employees who have undergone dual or school-based vocational training. Alongside occupation, the analyses will consider two other significant wage determinants: gender and economic sector. To comprehensively examine wage variance across occupations, this research project employs a mixed-methods approach incorporating quantitative and qualitative research. The research project comprises three sub-projects. The first sub-project (TP1) uses quantitative methods to investigate the factors that explain why returns to education vary across occupations. The second sub-project (TP2) uses quantitative analysis to determine whether there is an occupation-specific gender pay gap. The third sub-project (TP3) takes a qualitative approach to examining the potential determinants of the positions (attitudes and opportunities) of those involved in wage determination (i.e. employers, employees, associations and trade unions) and their impact on returns to education.