

Gender, Migration, Remittances: Evidence from Germany

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Background

- In 2007, about seven million foreigners were living in Germany. While the total number of foreigners has decreased over the last decade, female migration to Germany has increased.
- Today, women constitute 49% of migrants living in Germany, although the proportion varies significantly by country of origin. Germany is one of the top ten remitting countries worldwide

- To date, research has failed to address the gender-specific determinants of remittances from Germany.

Dependent Variable:

"Amount of remittances"

Motivation

How do transnational family networks work?

What are the recent gender specific determinants of remittances?

Do gender specific network effects occur?

Does the remittances behavior of different migrant groups follow similar patterns?

Data source:

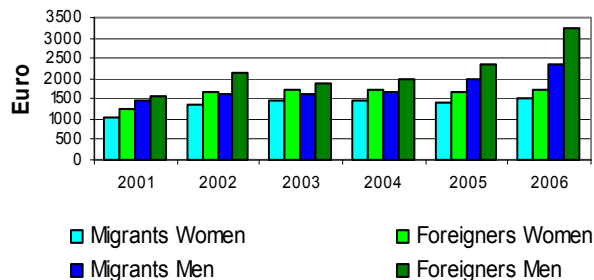
SOEP 2001-2006



Reference: Elke Holst, Andrea Schäfer, Mechthild Schrooten (2008): Gender, Migration, Remittances: Evidence from Germany. SOEPpapers No. 111
http://www.diw.de/documents/publikationen/73/85991/diw_sp0111.pdf
DIW Berlin Discussion Papers No. 800
<http://www.diw.de/documents/publikationen/73/86156/dp800.pdf>

Results

Amount of Remittances (average)



Networks and Gender, dependent variable: amount of remittances¹ (Tobit)

	Foreigners	Germans with migration background	All Migrants
Age	0.189	0.307***	0.257***
Age Squared	-0.003*	-0.003***	-0.003***
Gender (Female=1)	5.746	-0.029	1.445
Marital Status (Married=1)	2.740***	1.756*	2.369***
Education (in years)	0.412***	0.510***	0.393***
Individual Labor Income ¹	0.554***	0.310**	0.466***
Net Equivalent Family Income ^{1,2}	0.135	-0.068	0.047
Household Size in Germany	-0.843***	-0.079	-0.421**
Relative Duration of Stay	-5.168***	-10.801***	-7.700***
Remigration Plans (yes=1)	0.653	2.406**	0.882
Network Abroad			
(Grand)Parents Abroad (yes=1)	1.236	2.497***	1.567***
Children Abroad (yes=1)	6.939***	2.431	5.352***
Siblings Abroad (yes=1)	3.627**	-0.398	1.348
Other Relatives Abroad (yes=1)	-0.744	-0.869	-0.894
Friends Abroad (yes=1)	-0.192	2.285**	1.785**
Interaction Terms			
Age*Female	-0.020	0.045	0.040
Married*Female	0.494	0.233	-0.246
Education*Female	-0.084	-0.217	-0.105
Individual Labor Income*Female	-0.008	-0.166	-0.148
Family Income*Female	-0.062	0.160	0.049
Household Size*Female	-0.214	-0.131	-0.111
Relative Duration of Stay*Female	-2.986	2.155	-0.951
Remigration Plans*Female	-2.392**	-1.493	-1.888**
(Grand)Parents Abroad*Female	-1.821	-0.429	-0.418
Children Abroad*Female	-3.430**	-1.857	-3.368***
Siblings Abroad*Female	-4.376**	3.081**	-0.018
Other Relatives Abroad*Female	1.042	0.272	0.364
Friends Abroad*Female	-0.382	-0.529	-0.782
Constant	-16.394***	-18.498***	-17.378***
Observations	2 929	3 382	6 311
Persons	732	995	1 648
Log Likelihood	-2 061	-2 436	-4 533

1 In; 2 In of monthly net equivalent family income minus individual's income;
significant at 10%; ** significant at 5%; *** significant at 1%;
Source: SOEP 2001-2006, authors' calculations.

Conclusions

- Gender matters
- Interaction terms reveal gender specific network effects
- Different groups of migrants show remarkable differences in international networking

Further Steps

- Analysis of the linkages between gender specific migration patterns and remittances
- Relevance of social norms and gender roles
- Relative role of the migrant within the transnational network