

# Pace of life and labor market integration of migrants

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## Abstract

The aim of this paper is to emphasize how interactions between different paces of life govern the dynamics of migrants' labor market participation, by comparing individuals born in Germany and individuals born abroad. Following social psychology, pace of life is imprinted during the very early on and affects many economic and non-economic decisions. We found differences in the personal pace of life with the pace of life of the society, which lead to adaptation problems. In particular, we study whether pace of life mismatches may contribute to an explanation of worse labor market participation of migrants. Therefore, we use the German Socio-economic Panel (G-SOEP), which contains at least one person who had either immigrated to Germany since 1994 or whose parents had done so. In our paper, we compute the pace of life differences between Germany and the country of origin of the migrants and find evidence that pace of life differences may contribute to our understanding of migrant labor market integration.

**Keywords:** Pace of life, labor market participation, migration, integration

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