

Health, Time Allocation and Work: Empirical Evidence from Turkey

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Abstract:

This paper investigates the relationship between health status and time allocation decisions of individuals. Although many studies address impacts of health on labour supply, few studies explore associations of health status with non-market work activities. Using a nationally representative sample from a recent Turkish Time Use Survey, this paper employs Seemingly Unrelated Regression framework to estimate multiple equations of various time use categories. Consistent with literature, empirical results indicate that higher levels of self-reported health status are associated with more time spent in market work. However, better health level is negatively correlated with time spent in non-market work, leisure and sleep. Yet, self-reported health status and time spent on personal care are not significantly related. Finally, demographics such as gender, age, education and marital status display correlations with time allocation of Turkish individuals.

Keywords: Time allocation; Self-reported health status; Market work; Non-market work; Seemingly unrelated regression (SUR)

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