# Nonstandard educational trajectories in the Netherlands

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# Outline

➡ Effects of nonstandard paths: age and difficulty of non-standard path.

➡ Data, Model, and hypotheses.

➡ results.

➡ Conclusion and discussion.

# Age

➲ Nonstandard trajectories usually mean that the first nonstandard transitions and all subsequent transitions are made at a older age than people who followed a standard path.

➲ Older people are assumed to be more independent from their parents than younger people.

➲ Inequality of educational opportunities is less during the first nonstandard transition and all subsequent transitions.

➲ Controlling for age would make this difference disappear.

# Difficulty of a nonstandard path

➡ Following any path that deviates from the norm takes effort, and skills that high status parents are more likely to have than low status parents.

➡ Inequality of educational opportunity is higher during a nonstandard transition, however

➡ the inequality of educational opportunity will be the same during standard transitions following a nonstandard transition

# Data (1)

➜ Family survey 1992 1998.

➜ crime survey 1996.

➜ 3,800 cases and 8,000 transition.

➜ three educational levels: primary, secondary, tertiary.

➜ assume everybody finished primary.

➜ only transitions that end in a diploma are used.

# Data (2)

- per person:
  - gender
  - father's occupational status

- per transition:
  - age
  - year
  - Dummy variable if previous transitions were non-standard

- interactions:
  - nonstandard*fisei
  - year*female

# Model

➔ For each origin level of education multiple destinations.

➔ multinomial logit of destination given origin.

➔ Only destination that all origins have in common is exit.

➔ So exit reference category.

# Hypotheses

➔ age:

    ➔ IEO will be less during both nonstandard transitions *and* all subsequent transitions for people following a nonstandard path instead of a standard path if one does not control for age.

    ➔ This difference between standard and non-standard paths will decrease if one controls for age.

➔ difficulty of nonstandard path:

    ➔ IEO will be stronger during nonstandard transitions .

    ➔ IEO will be the same during standard transitions for people following a nonstandard path instead of a standard path.

## Table 1: Choice given completion of primary education

(odds ratios, base category is exit)

| | Destination | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Primary | | Secondary | | Tertiary |
| fisei (standard) | 4.097 | 1.239 | 12.483 | 7.004 | |
| fisei (nonstandard) | | | 1.625 | 1.893 | |
| year | 1.627 | 1.024 | 14.702 | 14.423 | |
| female | 1.426 | 1.273 | 2.102 | 2.055 | |
| femaleXyear | 0.031 | 0.055 | 0.055 | 0.061 | |
| prevnon | | | 2.242 | 0.657 | |
| age | | 0.362*** | | 0.952 | |

\* $p<0.05$; \*\* $p<0.01$; \*\*\* $p<0.001$

# Results

## Table 2: Choice given completion of secondary education

(odds ratios, base category is exit)

| | Destination | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Primary | Secondary | | Tertiary |
| fisei (standard) | 0.058 | 0.077 | 0.225 | 0.269 |
| fisei (nonstandard) | 67.829** | 60.106** | 253.883*** | 235.642*** |
| year | 5.750 | 27.903** | 8.253 | 30.499** |
| female | 2.950 | 2.360 | 2.656 | 2.268 |
| femaleXyear | 2.960 | 2.268 | 7.767 | 5.382 |
| prevnon | 0.034** | 0.088* | 0.040** | 0.080* |
| age | | 0.806*** | | 0.875*** |

* $p<0.05$; ** $p<0.01$; *** $p<0.001$

# Results

### Table 3: Choice given completion of tertiary education

(odds ratios, base category is exit)

| | Primary | Secondary | Tertiary | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | **Destination** | |
| fisei (standard) | | | 0.059*** | 0.053*** |
| fisei (nonstandard) | | | 0.009** | 0.009** |
| year | | | 0.299 | 0.687 |
| female | | | 26.280*** | 21.745*** |
| femaleXyear | | | 0.001** | 0.002** |
| prevnon | | | 9.214* | 13.758** |
| age | | | | 0.917*** |

\* p<0.05; \*\* p<0.01; \*\*\* p<0.001

# Conclusion age

➲ IEO is less during nonstandard transitions but *not* during all subsequent transitions for people following a nonstandard path instead of a standard path if one does not control for age.

➲ The difference between standard and non-standard paths decreased if one controlled for age.

# Conclusion difficulty of nonstandard path

➲ IEO was *not* stronger during nonstandard transitions .

➲ IEO was *not* the same during standard transitions for people following a nonstandard path instead of a standard path.

# Limitations

➔ Coarse categories needed because of lack of power.

➔ Even with coarse categories not a lot of power.

➔ Definition of IEO for nonstandard trajectories.

➔ Unobserved heterogeneity.