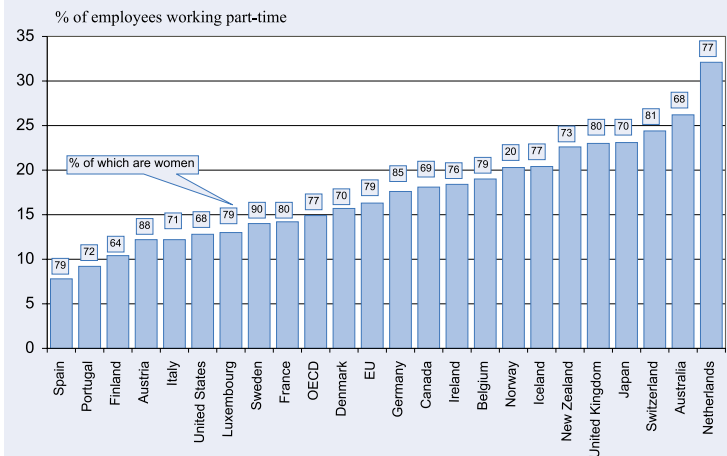


WOMEN DOMINATE PART-TIME WORK

Part-time work in OECD member countries averaged 15.3% of total employment in 2000. At 16.3%, the European Union lies above the average, but looks modest compared to countries like Australia (26.2%) or Japan (23.1%). Part-time work is lowest in the central east European countries like the Slovak Republic (2.1%), Hungary (3.2%), and the Czech Republic (3.3%), although Poland weighs in at 12.8%. The southern belt (Spain at 7.8% and Portugal at 9.2%) has also visibly less part-time employment than the rest of Europe, where the Netherlands at 32.1%, Switzerland at 24.4% and the United Kingdom at 23% have the highest shares of part-time workers.

Over the decade of the 1990s, part-time work has increased most markedly in Luxembourg where it rose from 7.6% to 13.0% and in Ireland where it grew from 9.8% to 18.4%. In the EU the incidence of part-time work went up from 13.3% in 1990 to 16.3% in 2000, while in the OECD as a whole, the

PART-TIME WORKERS, 2000



Source: OECD Employment Outlook, June 2001.

share of part-time employment increased from 14.3 to 15.3%.

It may not be surprising that part-time work in the OECD countries is dominated by women. The proportion of part-time workers who are female ranges from 63.8% in Finland to 90.4% in Luxembourg. These figures are similarly high whether they occur in a country like Spain (78.6%) with a low share of part-time employment or the Netherlands (76.2%) with a high share.

H.C.S.