

Material metadata

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Keywords

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Geolocation

French-speaking part of Switzerland

Article abstract

Although extensive research on career transitions exists, little is known about the challenges and processes of involuntary career change. Building on Savickas's theoretical framework of objective and subjective careers, we investigated the subjective experiences of involuntary career changes while apprehending their objective unfolding. Following a longitudinal qualitative design, we conducted two waves of semistructured interviews with 18 participants who had been forced to change careers due to health issues, migration, or saturated labor market in Switzerland. A four-step temporal thematic analysis covering case description, case comparison, case processes analysis, and processes comparison highlighted a spectrum of career change processes. At one end, individuals experienced synchronous progressions and regained meaning and control over their career combined with a rather linear status sequence. Conversely, some individuals underwent asynchronous developments consisting of either modest objective steps that instigated meaningful subjective experiences or status stagnation, leading to a loss of control and meaning. These findings underscore the variety of involuntary career change processes and unveil synchronicity as a key temporal element in involuntary career change processes. Implications for research and practice are discussed.

Materials description

PDF: Codebook - Qualitative thematic tree, with 33 codes and selected excerpts illustrating them (F)
PDF: Readme for Codebook & Bibliography (F)

Source of data

18 semi-structured interviews in French, performed in 2021 and 2022, from a SNF-funded project, 100019_192429, 2020-2024

Software information

Microsoft Word

Complementary information

Qualitative longitudinal research (QLR) is non-existent in vocational psychology, and due to pages limitations, authors could not show extensively the procedures behind QLR in the paper. This makes this data replication interesting for junior researcher trying to implement QLR.

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