

Abstract

In Germany, E-Food has gained sales shares in food retailing, boosted by the Covid-19 pandemic. This has created new demands on labour and employment, especially in urban areas. E-Food delivery has increased due to newly emerged types of operations. For example, the promise of firms to deliver groceries in short periods of time has given rise to various logistics locations and, among other things, urban cycling delivery services. Whilst the media and unions are already warning of the emergence of precarious working conditions, the precise impact of E-Food on the development of new work locations and corresponding employment is poorly understood. This thesis examines E-Food in terms of its operational forms, locations, and work processes, as well as its impact on employees in Germany. The conceptual background is provided by work in geographic retail research and debates on employment and job quality. Primary and secondary data were collected for the analysis. It is shown that in some cases, complex forms of operation are emerging in which work and work locations are changing. In addition, new challenges arise for employees (including physical and psychological stress), which are identified in this work.