20 years of academic job market in History

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Abstract

This paper (draft) is a first attempt of analysing the dataset of academic job market in History using the posts from H-Net website. We can see a significant decline in available professor positions for the last 10 years, and a sharp fall in available jobs due to COVID-19.

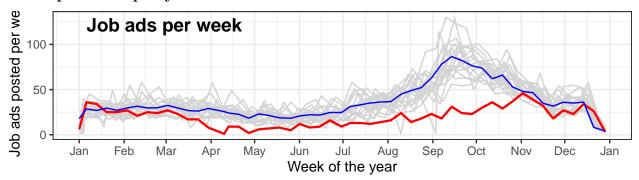
Introduction

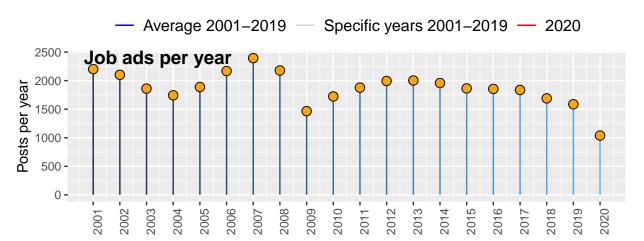
This data was downloaded from https://www.h-net.org/jobs and parsed into a relational database using Python and Django. Parser is available here and the most recent version of the database is available here. The code for analysis is here. In total for the last 20 years (starting from 2000 till December 31, 2020) a bit more than 38.000 job ads were posted at H-Net: on average about 1800 position per year.

Till recently about 2/3 of them were professorship positions (from Assistant to Full professor), but for the last 5 years these positions are in decline and in 2020 this amount dropped to below 45%.

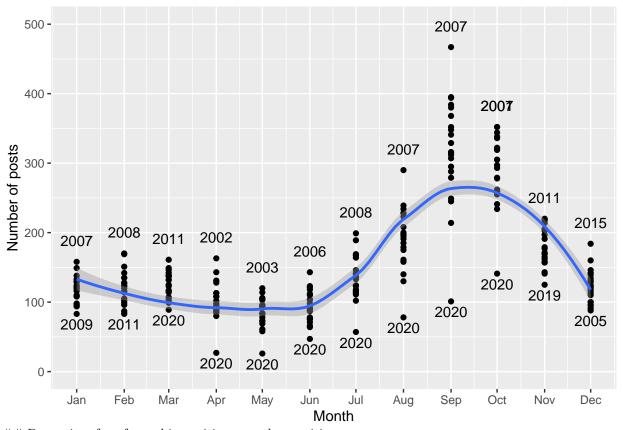
Number of posts per year

Posts per week per year





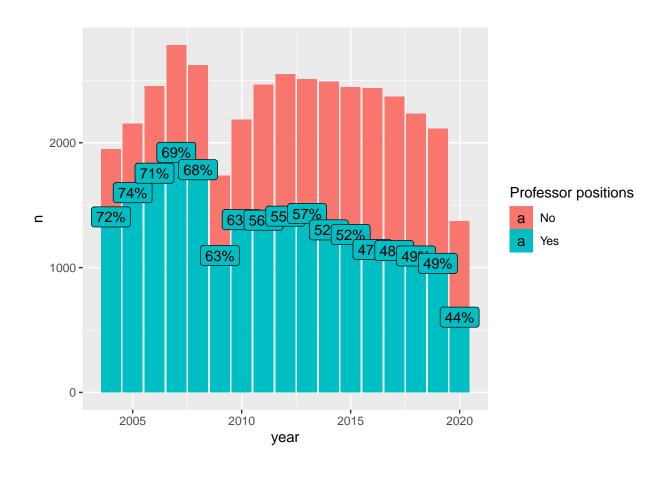
Seasonality (posts per month)



Dynamics of professorship positions vs other positions

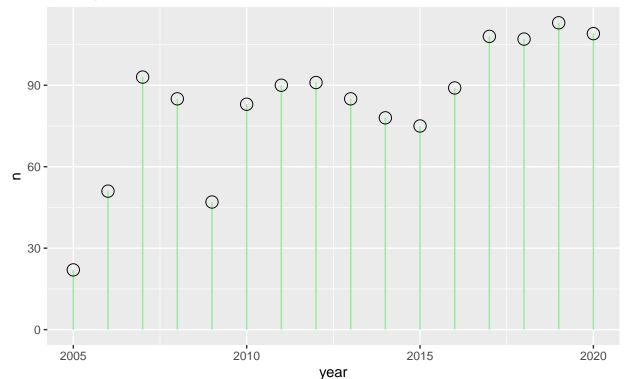
In the plot below percentages is a share of professorship positions in total number of job ads posted per year.

For the last 10 years share of professorship positions are in decline. It substantially fell in 2020 to less than a half. We might believe it's because other positions are posted more often, but in fact total number of posts per year is also in decline (we of course cannot guarantee that it's not due to falling popularity of H-Net website as an advertising platform)

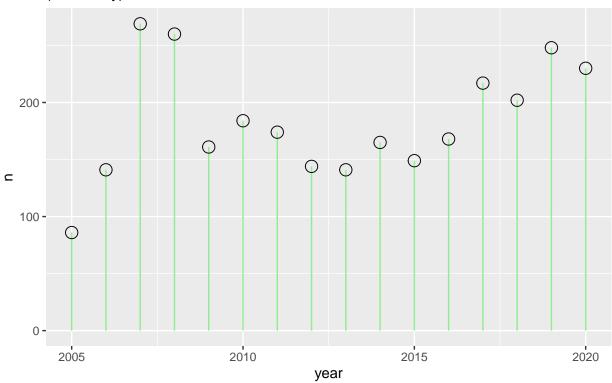


Black studies/Race studies positions

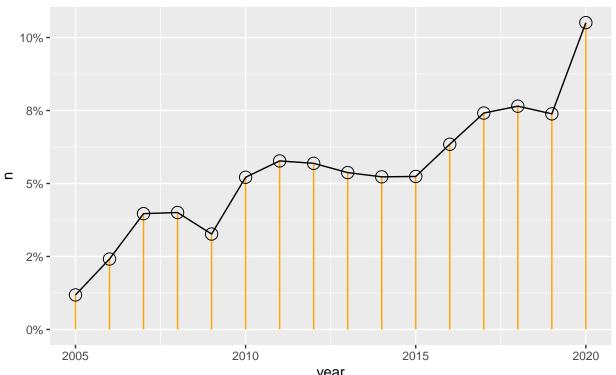
Number of Black/African/African—American positions (primary)



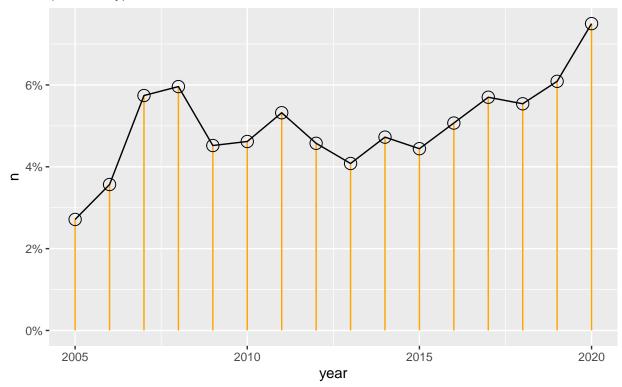
Number of Black/African/African-Ámerican positions (secondary)



Share of Black/African/African-American positions (primary)

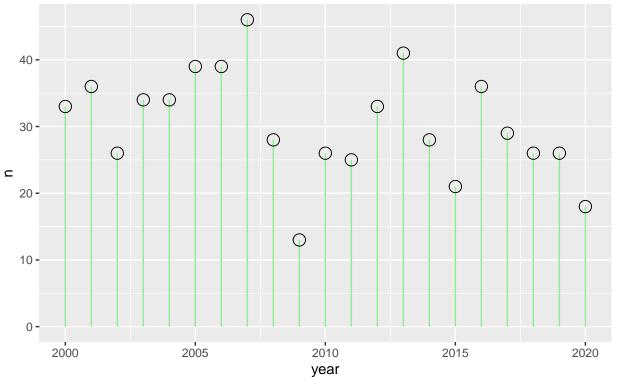


year
Share of Black/African/African-American positions (secondary)

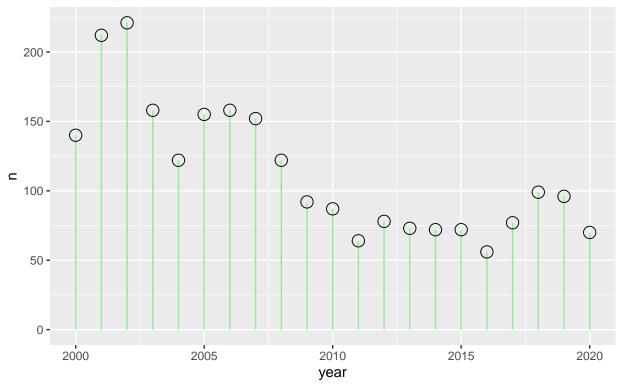


${\bf Feminism/Women\ studies\ positions}$

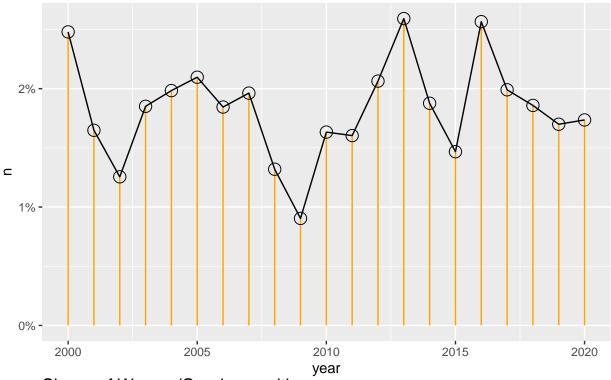
Number of Women/Gender positions (primary)



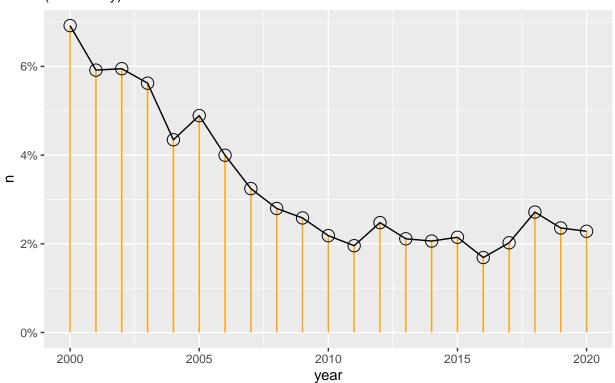
Number of Women/Gender positions (secondary)



Share of Women/Gender positions (primary)



Share of Women/Gender positions (secondary)



Positions posted by continent and country

