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Job Loss and Regional Mobility

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ABSTRACT

It is well documented that displaced workers suffer severe earnings losses, but not why this is so. One reason may be that workers are unable or unwilling to move to regions with better employment opportunities. We study this and find that job displacement increases regional mobility but, surprisingly, we also find that displaced workers who move suffer larger income losses than displaced workers who stay in the same region. This is not a selection effect, but reflects the fact that non-economic factors such as family ties are very important for the decision to migrate. Workers are less likely to move if they have family in the region where they already live, and job loss stimulates workers to relocate with parents and siblings when they live in different regions. Looking at earnings we find that the entire post displacement income difference between displaced movers and stayers is driven by workers moving to regions where their parents live or to rural areas. Furthermore, when looking at long-run family income, we find that the difference between displaced movers and stayers is very modest. With respect to selection, we find that migrants are positively selected on average, but very heterogeneous. They seem to be drawn disproportionately both from the high and the low end of the skill distribution in the region they leave.

Keywords: Plant closures, downsizing, regional mobility, earnings, family ties

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1 Introduction

One of the long-standing puzzles in economics is why there are persistent differences in employment and earnings across regions (Blanchard and Katz, 1992). Why do the workers simply not relocate? Another question that is not well understood, is why workers who have lost their jobs in plant closures or mass layoff events suffer significant and long-lasting employment and earnings losses. One possible explanation for both these puzzles is that workers are immobile and therefore face restrictions in their job search. The costs of moving may vary due to family commitments, networks and preferences regarding local amenities. Understanding the factors that determine migration is important for policy makers when they develop policies for regions that face adverse economic shocks. While the literature on both migration and job displacement is large, we know little specifically about the migration behavior of displaced workers and how they fare in the labor market. This paper aims to fill this gap in the literature by analyzing the mobility behavior and earnings of workers that have lost their jobs in plant closures or mass layoffs in Norway.

Plant exits and downsizing are considered an exogenous transitory income and employment shock to the individual workers. Our analysis consists of two parts. In the first part we analyze how job displacement affects workers' mobility decisions and what determines selection into mobility after a job loss. Specifically, we assess the effect of family networks (siblings and parents) in the local labor market in which the workers lose their jobs.³ Parents may affect mobility for several reasons:

¹ See e.g. Jacobsen, LaLonde and Sullivan (1994), Couch and Placzek (2010), Eliasson and Storrie (2006), Schmieder, von Wachter and Bender (2009), Rege, Telle and Votruba (2009) and Huttunen, Møen and Salvanes (2011).

² Increased international trade with low cost countries such as China, has had a particularly big impact on downsizing and restructuring of the manufacturing sector during the last couple of decades. See Author, Dorn, and Hanson (2013) for an analysis of the impact on regional labor markets in the US, and Balsvik, Jensen, and Salvanes (2014) for an analysis of the impact in Norway. Smoothing these restructuring processes is high on policy makers' agenda.

³ It is well established that family ties influence workers' mobility decisions (Mincer, 1978). Alessina et al. (2010) show that individuals who inherit stronger family ties are less mobile, have lower wages, and are less often employed.

People in general enjoy the company of their family, parents may influence workers' employment and earnings directly through their networks, parents may help bring up grandchildren or parents may be elderly and in need of care. ⁴ For much the same reasons siblings also represent a positive incentive for co-location, but having siblings can also make it easier to move away from elderly parents because they are substitute caretakers.⁵

In the second part of the analysis we assess the post-displacement labor market experience of movers and stayers. We compare displaced movers and stayers with a control group of non-displaced workers using the standard framework. In addition, we extend this framework with a fixed effects model borrowed from regional economics and cross-country migration studies (see e.g. Glaeser and Mare, 2001). We analyze individual and family earnings as well as individual and family income. Importantly, we use a regional consumer price index to take into account the fact that living expenses (especially housing) differ across regional labor markets. Our aim in this part of the paper is to understand whether the earnings differential between displaced movers and stayers is a causal effect of moving and whether movers tend to be positively or negatively selected.

It is not clear how workers select into migration after permanent job loss. While a standard proposition in the migration literature is that migrants tend to be favorably self-selected, it may well be that among displaced workers, the most productive are also best rewarded in their local labor market and do not have to move in order to find a good job. The Borjas-Roy model predicts that selection is based on relative returns to skills in the local labor market migrants move from

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⁴ See Lin and Rogerson (1995), Glaser and Tomassini (2000) and Kramarz and Skans (2011).

⁵ See Konrad et al. (2002) and Rainer and Seidler (2009). These papers do not assess migration per se, but analyze proximity between siblings and parents. In these models elder children may act strategically and migrate away from parents in need of care.

and the one they move to.⁶ Labor markets with higher returns to skills will attract migrants that were relatively higher skilled in their previous labor market, while labor markets with lower returns to skills will attract migrants that were relatively lower skilled in their previous labor market. It follows from this that movers may be a very heterogeneous group consisting of both positively and negatively selected workers. We analyze specifically both selection on observables and unobservables.

Key to our analysis is Norwegian linked employer-employee data from 1986-2005 that allow us to follow individuals even if they leave the labor force. Moreover, by analyzing earnings and employment patterns several years prior to job loss we can assess selection into mobility in a transparent way. Another unique feature of our data is that we have information on spouses, the age of children and the location of parents and siblings. This allows us to assess the effect of family networks on mobility.

Our paper makes several contributions to the literature. First, even though a large literature has examined the effect of job displacement on outcomes such as earnings, employment, health, fertility and children's schooling, no previous study has explicitly documented how job displacement affects regional mobility and how workers select into mobility after permanent job loss. Second, we analyze how post-displacement earnings and employment patterns differ between movers and stayers, while accounting for the pre-displacement differences between the groups.⁷

⁶ See Roy (1951), Borjas (1987, 1991), Borjas, Bronars, and Trejo (1992) and Abramitzky, Boustan and Eriksson (2012)

⁷ Boman (2011) provides some descriptive evidence on how post-displacement earnings differ between displaced movers and displaced stayers in Sweden, but there is no attempt to document or control for selection into mobility. Like us, he finds that movers tend to earn less than non-movers in the years immediately after the move, but that the difference fades away over time.

In general, we find that job displacement increases regional mobility. The mobility increase takes place in the first two years after displacement. Later, the difference in mobility between displaced and non-displaced workers is fairly constant. When conditioning on a large set of pre-displacement variables including children in school, marriage, and family networks, we find that job displacement increases mobility by 0.6 percentage points. This effect corresponds to an increase in mobility of about 30% when compared to the 2% migration average for non-displaced workers. We find that living close to parents and siblings is a factor that strongly reduces migration. We also find that displaced workers that move are very heterogeneous. Migrants seem to be drawn disproportionately from both the high and the low end of the skill distribution in the region they leave. This holds whether we look at observable or unobservable skills.

When analyzing the post-displacement labor market experience of movers and stayers, we find that displaced workers that move have significantly lower re-employment rates than those who stay in the pre-displacement region. Our fixed effect estimation results also indicate that displaced movers have larger earnings losses than displaced stayers, and that the difference is larger for women than for men. This might reflect the fact that women are often tied movers, and that it is the man's (or the highest earner's) career that determines the moving decision. When looking at total family income, the difference in the long-term earnings losses between movers and stayers is much smaller and not significant. When splitting the sample by post-displacement regional status, we find that the negative effect of migration is entirely driven by workers moving to rural regions and workers moving to a region where they have family. This suggests that non-economic reasons strongly influence the moving decision and, in particular, that workers are willing to suffer earnings losses in order to stay close to their families.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 describes the data sets and the sample. Section 3 lays out the empirical strategy. Section 4 presents evidence on how job loss influences workers' migration decisions and what affects selection into migration after job loss. Section 5 presents results on how job displacement affects labor market outcomes, and how these outcomes vary between movers and stayers. Section 6 concludes.

2 Data and Variable Definitions

Our primary data set is linked employer-employee data that cover all Norwegian residents between the age of 16-74 years in the years 1986-2005. It combines information from various administrative registers such as the education register, the family register, the tax and earnings register and the social security register. A unique person identification code allows us to follow workers over time. A unique spouse (married/cohabitating) and parent/children code exists. Likewise, unique firm and plant codes allow us to identify each worker's employer and to examine whether plants are downsizing or closing down. We also have a code for the individual's municipality of residence each year. Plant and regional labor market characteristics such as industry, size and the rate of unemployment are also available.

Employment is measured as months of full-time equivalent employment over the year. 8 "Earnings" are measured as annual taxable labor income. The included components are regular labor income,

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 $^{^8}$ We have three intervals for working hours and use these to control for part-time employment as follows: Y_{itb} = months of employment if a worker is working more than 30 hours per week. Y_{itb} = 0.5*(months of employment) if a worker is working 20-29 hours per week and Y_{itb} = 0.1*(months of employment) if a worker is working less than 20 hours per week.

income as self-employed, and benefits received while on sick leave, being unemployed or on parental leave. We also use an alternative variable, "income", which is earnings plus annual disability pension. This is done to capture the income of workers who leave the labor force. A third measure, "family income", is defined as the sum of income for the worker and the spouse. Income and earnings are deflated to 1998 NOK using the national consumer price index. "Regionally adjusted real income" is annual income deflated by a regional price index. This index is primarily based on house price differences across regional labor markets.

The age of the worker is given in the data set. Tenure is measured in years, using the start date of the employment relationship in a given plant. Education is measured as the normalized length of the highest attained education and is not survey based, but comes from the education register where each institution reports its graduates to Statistics Norway. Educational attainment is split into three groups: primary, secondary and tertiary education.

A unique spouse code is used to merge in information on spouse's labor market status. In addition we use unique parent codes to attach information on the location of the worker's parents and siblings in each year. We also merge in information on the children's birth years from the population register. We use this information to calculate the number of school age children and the number of under school age children for each worker each year.

Urban status is defined as living in one of the tenth largest labor market regions in Norway. Almost half of the population in Norway lives in these urban regions. We calculate local unemployment

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⁹ Note that social assistance and student grants are not included.

rates using the individual level months of unemployment variable. The unemployment rate is the sum of all unemployment months in the region divided by the sum of all person-months in the region.

In order to examine the importance of family ties for mobility, we define variables describing the location of parents and siblings. The indicator variable "Parents and sibling living in the labor market region" means that a worker has a parent or sibling in the same regional labor market area in the year of the observation. Since it is well established that first-borns are more mobile than younger siblings (cf. Konrad et al., 2002), we also define a variable "Younger siblings", meaning that a worker has at least one younger sibling.

3 Sample Construction and Empirical Strategy

The objective of this study is to analyze worker mobility following job loss, and to provide evidence on how mobility relates to the earnings losses of displaced workers. We estimate separate regressions for men and women, and we look specifically at selection on both observables and unobservables.

Defining the treatment and control groups

Following the literature, we use job displacement as an exogenous shock to the individual worker's income and employment. We define displaced workers in the conventional way as (i) workers losing their job following a plant closure, (ii) workers separating from a plant that reduces employment by 30% or more, and (iii) early leavers, defined as workers who leave a plant that closes down within one year. Early leavers are added to the treatment group because they are expected to be aware of the coming close-down. The control group is constructed as a 30% random sample of non-displaced workers, and, importantly, we allow workers in the comparison group to separate for other reasons than displacement, such as sickness.

We include all sectors in the Norwegian economy, and study displacements happening in the years 1991 to 1998. We denote the year of a displacement (and a potential displacement for the control group) as b (base year). Hence, the first year after displacement is b+1, the year prior to displacement is b-1, and so on.

We restrict the sample to full time workers who are between 25 and 50 years old in the year of the displacement. We further restrict the sample to workers who have positive earnings, who have been attached to a plant with at least 10 workers and who have worked at least 20 hours per week in the displacement year, *b*, and in the three years leading up to displacement, *b-3* to *b-1*. We also drop workers, who have been displaced from their jobs in the three previous years, *b-3* to *b-1*. Hence, both the treatment and the control group consist of full time workers with a strong labor market attachment.

We include observations of the workers five years prior to the base year and seven years after. We construct separate samples for each base year and then analyze the pooled samples. Hence, the analyses are done on a panel from 1986 to 2005. Note in particular that all workers are kept in the sample in the seven years after the base year. In this way both individuals who transfer to permanent disability pension, other workers temporarily outside the labor force (for instance in education or on parental leave) and unemployed are accounted for. We include registry information on pensions because we know that a large group of displaced workers leave the labor force permanently after job loss (Rege et al., 2010, Huttunen, Møen, and Salvanes, 2011). Our upper age restriction is chosen so that workers included in the sample will not qualify for regular early pension schemes.

Our treatment group is split into movers and stayers. Movers are defined as workers who move from one local labor market to another (gross out-migration). Our sample contains 46 regional labor markets that are defined by Statistics Norway based on commuting patterns (Bhuller, 2009). Local labor markets span more than one municipality (the lowest administrative level), but are typically smaller than counties (the medium administrative level). Stayers are defined as workers who live in the same regional labor market in year b+2 as before displacement (year b). Movers have a new local labor market code by the second post displacement year b+2.

Displacement and regional mobility

We begin by estimating the effect of displacement and background factors on regional mobility separately for males and females, using the specification

$$M_{ib+2} = \delta D_{ib} + \beta X_{ib} + \gamma_b + \varepsilon_{ib}. \tag{1}$$

 M_{ib+2} is a dummy indicating whether worker i lives in a different region two years after the base year, b. D_{ib} is a dummy indicating whether worker i was displaced between years b and b+1. X_{ib} is a vector of observable pre-displacement worker, plant and labor market characteristics, measured in the base year, if nothing else is stated. We include age, age square, education (split into three categories), tenure, marital/cohabitation status, number of children, a dummy for children under age seven (preschool age), earnings in years b-4 and b-5, months of employment in years b-4 and b-5, a dummy for being in education at b-4 and b-5, years of residence in the pre-displacement region, plant size, region size, regional unemployment rate, a dummy for having younger siblings, a dummy indicating whether parents of the worker or the worker's spouse are living in the same pre-displacement region, a dummy indicating whether a sibling of the worker or the worker's spouse is living in the same pre-displacement region, and the interaction of the latter two variables (i.e. a dummy for having both parents and siblings in the region). The specification also includes base year fixed-effects, γ_b , base year two-digit NACE industry dummies, and base year region dummies.

The main variable of interest is the displacement variable D_{ib} . The parameter β gives the difference in regional mobility between displaced and non-displaced workers conditional on the pre-displacement controls.

Next, we study selection on observables into mobility. A vast literature has documented that the probability of moving is associated with observational characteristics. Females, young workers and highly educated workers are generally more mobile. In addition family ties are important as we have already discussed. We also expect that having a spouse reduces regional mobility since

spouses usually work and have their own networks. We investigate heterogeneity in the moving propensity after job loss by estimating several versions of the equation

$$M_{ib+2} = \delta D_{ib} + \delta_{g} D_{ib} * G_{ib} + \beta X_{ib} + \gamma_{b} + \varepsilon_{ib}. \tag{2}$$

 G_{ib} is an indicator variable for the group that we allow to respond differently to displacement than the rest of the sample. We investigate heterogeneity by education category, the earnings level at year b-3 before job loss, pre-displacement urban status, pre-displacement family status (married or cohabiting) and a pre-displacement family tie indicator (parent or spouse's parent living in the same pre-displacement region).

Effect of job displacement on income

Next, we examine the effect of geographic mobility on earnings and income of workers that move following the displacement incident. We estimate the following model separately for males and females using data from pre- and post-displacement years -3 to 7 of all base year samples 1991-1998:

$$Y_{itb} = \sum_{j=-3}^{7} D_{j_itb}^{mover} \delta_{j}^{mover} + \sum_{j=-3}^{7} D_{j_itb}^{stayer} \delta_{j}^{stayer} + \beta X_{ib} + \gamma_{tb} + \alpha_{ib} + \varepsilon_{itb}$$

$$\tag{3}$$

In equation (3), Y_{itb} is either annual earnings, annual income (including disability pension), or family income for worker i at time t in base year sample b. X is a vector of observable predisplacement characteristics as defined when discussing equation (1). The variables of main interest are the displacement variables $D_{j_itb}^{mover}$ and $D_{j_itb}^{stayer}$. These are dummy variables indicating whether a displaced mover or stayer i in year t is j years after a displacement happening in base year b (or before displacement if j is negative). Hence, the parameters \mathcal{S}_{j}^{mover} and \mathcal{S}_{j}^{stayer} measure

the earnings or income differential between displaced and non-displaced workers in different preand post-displacement years $j \in [-3,...,7]$. Movers are workers who move within two years after job loss, and stayers are those who do not move within two years. Note, that the comparison group is all non-displaced workers, i.e. an average over both non-displaced movers and non-displaced stayers.

The specification also includes base-year specific time dummies, γ_{bt} , to make sure we compare earnings of the displaced and non-displaced in the same base year sample and at the same distance to the base year (-3 to 7). Finally, we also include base-year specific individual fixed-effects, α_{ib} , to control for the permanent differences in earnings between displaced movers and stayers and the non-displaced (in a given base year). We cluster standard errors by individuals i to allow for correlation of the error terms, ε_{itb} , across different time periods and base years for individual i.

We estimate the model both with and without individual fixed effects. OLS without fixed effects (FE) gives us the combined selection and causal effect of moving on earnings and income. When we include individual fixed effects, we control for permanent differences in the *level* of earnings between movers and stayers. We compare the FE estimates to the OLS estimates in order to better understand who are selected into the group of movers. If the FE estimate of the post-displacement earnings loss for displaced movers is smaller than the OLS estimate, this indicates negative selection in the sense that the earnings of the displaced movers were on average at a lower level already before the job loss (and move) occurred. Likewise, if the FE estimate of the earnings loss is larger than the OLS estimate, it suggests positive selection into mobility.

We also acknowledge that earnings *growth* may differ between workers with different observational characteristics. Glaeser and Mare (2001) find e.g. that the earnings growth of highly educated workers and workers in urban areas differs from the earnings growth of less educated workers and workers in rural areas. In order to take such effects into account we let the age-earnings profiles differ between workers in urban and rural locations, and between workers in different educational categories. This is done in all earnings and income regressions.

Finally, we undertake a more descriptive regression analysis in order to understand how possible motives for moving are related to outcomes. We investigate whether workers who move to a region where they have parents (back home) have different labor market outcomes than those who most likely move for work-related reasons. In addition, we analyze whether moving to rural and urban areas makes a difference in terms of earnings. The reason for this descriptive exercise is that quite a few displaced workers leave their current labor market and move back to where they originally came from. There may be many reasons for this, cheaper housing, staying closer to the parents, wanting to go back to where they grew up, etc. To better understand selection, we also look at the full earnings distribution for movers and stayers in the base year.

4 Job Displacement and the Mobility decision

Differences in background characteristics and mobility between displaced and non-displaced workers

Table 1 reports the mean values of the pre-displacement characteristics for non-displaced workers and displaced workers. ¹⁰ It is a common finding in the displacement literature that displaced workers have slightly different characteristics than non-displaced. This is also the case in our sample. Displaced and non-displaced workers are very similar with respect to educational attainment, pre-displacement earnings, parental network, and the number of children under the age of seven. However, displaced workers are slightly younger, have less tenure, have lived a slightly shorter time in their current region, are a little less likely to be married, are slightly less attached to their current regions in terms of siblings and they are slightly more likely to be unemployed in the fourth and fifth year prior to being displaced. (The sample is constructed so that displaced and non-displaced workers are identical in terms of employment in years 1-3 prior to displacement.) Although the differences are not large, we include these variables as pre-displacement controls in our regression analyses.

¹⁰ In Appendix Table A1 we split both displaced and non-displaced workers into movers and stayers. We notice that movers are very similar across the two groups, and that the same is true for stayers.

Table 1. Sample means of selected pre-displacement characteristics

	Males		Females	
	Displaced	Non-displaced	Displaced	Non-displaced
Age	38.02**	38.26	37.55**	38.02
-	(0.03)	(0.01)	(0.04)	(0.02)
Secondary education	0.63	0.63	0.65**	0.64
•	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Tertiary education	0.21	0.21	0.18**	0.20
•	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Tenure	6.77**	7.30	6.27**	6.72
	(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.01)
Cohabiting or married	0.72**	0.74	0.66**	0.69
C	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Years in region	4.82**	4.83	4.82**	4.84
C	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
No. of school age children	0.43**	0.44	0.31**	0.32
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
No. of children under 7	0.20	0.20	0.06**	0.06
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Parent in region	0.69	0.69	0.59	0.60
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Sibling in region	0.74**	0.75	0.66**	0.67
21011116 111 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Parent and sibling in region	0.62**	0.62	0.53	0.54
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Younger siblings	0.47**	0.47	0.45*	0.44
rounger bronings	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Plant size (no. of co-workers)	247.57**	260.83	201**	249
Time one (no. of to worners)	(1.37)	(0.60)	(1.95)	(1.01)
Earnings <i>b-3</i>	292429**	289132	202811**	204098
	(469)	(172)	(432)	(168)
Earnings <i>b-4</i>	279610**	277683	190962**	193558
Lamings o 7	(517)	(164)	(437)	(167)
Earnings <i>b-5</i>	265945	265856	178036**	181970
Eurinigs 6 5	(510)	(163)	(456)	(166)
Employment months <i>b-4</i>	10.98**	11.11	9.79**	9.88
Employment months 6-4	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.02)	(0.01)
Employment months <i>b-5</i>	10.50**	10.67	9.16**	9.28
Employment months 0-5	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.03)	(0.01)
At school <i>b-4</i>	0.05**	0.06	0.05	0.05
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
At school <i>b-5</i>	0.05**	0.05	0.05	0.05
At School U-3	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Observations	79681	561892	30311	226667
Ouservations	/9081	301892	30311	ZZ000 /

The sample consists of workers who were 25-50 years old and full time employed in the base year. Displaced workers lost their job in a plant closure or downsizing between year 0 and year 1. When the mean for displaced workers is significantly different from that for non-displaced workers, it is marked with stars.

* 5% level of significance. ** 1% level of significance.

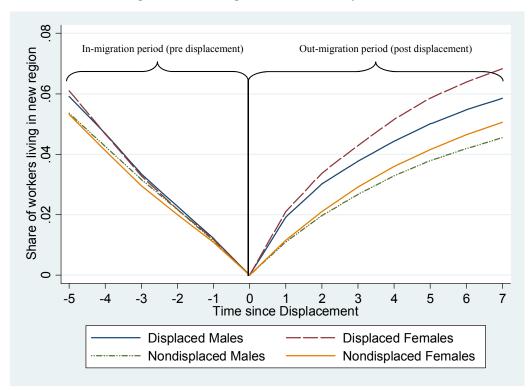


Figure 1. Share of workers living in a different region than in the base year

Moving is defined as changing labor market region. The share of movers is measured relative to where the workers live in the base year (year 0). The sample consists of workers who were 25-50 years old and full time employed in the base year. Displaced workers lost their job in a plant closure or downsizing between year 0 and year 1.

Figure 1 describes the share of movers among displaced and non-displaced workers up to seven years following displacement (out-migration from the base year region) and five years prior to displacement (in-migration to the base year region). The sample is split by gender. As expected, displaced workers of both genders have a higher probability of moving compared to non-displaced workers in the years immediately following job loss. The share of displaced males that move to a new region by the second year after job loss is 3.38%, while the share of non-displaced males that move is 1.97%. The share of displaced females that move is 3.02% while the share of non-displaced females that move is 2.10%. Hence, there is about a one percentage point difference for displaced as compared to non-displaced workers, indicating a roughly 50% unconditional increase in the

probability of moving after being displaced. From the second year onwards, the difference does not increase very much so it appears that it is the first shock of displacement that is important for moving. This result is consistent with theoretical predictions. Job loss represents a transitory shock to income and is expected to augment the migration likelihood because it changes the opportunity costs of moving.¹¹ In the rest of the paper we define movers as those who live in a different region in year 2 after displacement than in the base year.

In Table 1 we noticed that displaced and non-displaced workers differ slightly in pre-displacement characteristics. Consistent with this, we see from the in-migration part of Figure 1 that future displaced workers have a slightly higher migration probability relative to the control group. This pre-displacement difference is, however, much smaller than the difference in out-migration. Moreover, as explained above, we include pre-displacement characteristics in the regression analyses to control for this difference. Also notice that the overall share of migrants is as high or higher five years before displacement as compared to five years after displacement. This is most likely a general age effect as the migration probability falls as workers grow older.

Regression results: The effect of job loss on mobility

Now we turn to results where we condition on observable characteristics within a regression framework. We ask two questions: What factors have an impact on the mobility of displaced and non-displaced workers, and how much does job loss affect mobility.

¹¹ The figure also indicates that mobility in Norway is high. This is in line with the comparisons undertaken by geographers and economists, where Norway and other Northern European countries are ranked as countries with the highest regional mobility rates in Europe. See Rees and Kupiszewski (1999), Rees, Østby, Durham and Kupiszewski (1999) and Machin, Pelkonen, and Salvanes (2012).

Table 2. The effect of displacement on regional mobility by pre-displacement characteristics

Panel A: Males	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Displaced	0.006 (0.000)**	0.005 (0.001)**	0.005 (0.001)**	0.005 (0.001)**	0.007 (0.001)**	0.007 (0.001)**	0.006 (0.001)**
Displaced*Secondary	(*****)	0.001 (0.001)	(*****)	(*****)	(*****)	(*****)	(****)
Displaced*Tertiary		0.002 (0.001)					
Displaced*Earnings b-3		,	0.000 (0.000)				
Displaced*Rural			(*****)	0.001 (0.001)			
Displaced*Married or cohab.				,	-0.001		
Displaced*Parent in region					(0.001)	-0.002 (0.001)*	
Displaced*Sch. age children						(0.001)	0.001 (0.001)
Secondary education	0.001 (0.000)*						
Tertiary education	0.006 (0.001)**						
Married or cohabiting	-0.004 (0.000)**	-0.004 (0.000)**	-0.004 (0.000)**	-0.004 (0.000)**	-0.003 (0.000)**	-0.004 (0.000)**	-0.004 (0.000)**
Parent in region	-0.017 (0.001)**	-0.017 (0.001)**	-0.017 (0.001)**	-0.017 (0.001)**	-0.017 (0.001)**	-0.016 (0.001)**	-0.017 (0.001)**
School age children	-0.002 (0.000)**						
Age	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**
Age squared	-0.000 (0.000)**						
Tenure	-0.001 (0.000)**						
Regional unempl. rate	0.002 (0.001)**	0.002 (0.001)**	0.002 (0.001)**	0.002 (0.001)**	0.002 (0.001)**	0.002 (0.001)**	0.002 (0.001)**
Size of the region/10000	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**
Years in region	-0.005 (0.000)**						
Under school age children	0.002 (0.000)**	0.002 (0.000)**	0.002 (0.000)**	0.002 (0.000)**	0.001 (0.000)**	0.002 (0.000)**	0.002 (0.000)**
Sibling in the region	-0.007 (0.000)**						
Parent and sibling in region	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Younger siblings	(0.001) 0.000	(0.001) 0.000	(0.001) 0.000	(0.001) 0.000	(0.001) 0.000	(0.001) 0.000	(0.001) 0.000
Plant size/100	(0.000) 0.014						
Earnings <i>b-3</i>	(0.003)** 0.000 (0.000)**						
Earnings <i>b-4</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Earnings <i>b-5</i>	(0.000) 0.000						
Empl. months <i>b-4</i>	(0.000) -0.000						
Empl. months <i>b-5</i>	(0.000)** -0.000						
At school b-4	(0.000)** -0.001						
At school <i>b-5</i>	(0.001) 0.000 (0.001)						
Observations	638789	638789	638789	638789	638789	638789	638789
Panel B: Females	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Displaced	0.007 (0.001)**	0.009 (0.002)**	0.006 (0.001)**	0.006 (0.001)**	0.008 (0.001)**	0.008 (0.001)**	0.006 (0.001)**
Displaced*Secondary	(0.001)	-0.002 (0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Displaced*Tertiary		-0.001 (0.002)					
Displaced*Earnings <i>b-3</i>		(*****)	0.000 (0.000)				
Displaced*Rural			(******)	0.001 (0.001)			
Displaced*Married or cohab.				,	-0.002		
Displaced*Parent in region					(0.001)	-0.001	
Displaced*Sch. age children						(0.001)	0.001
Secondary education	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	(0.001) 0.002
Tertiary education	(0.001)** 0.006						
Married or cohabiting	(0.001)** -0.006 (0.001)**	(0.001)** -0.006 (0.001)**	(0.001)** -0.006 (0.001)**	(0.001)** -0.006 (0.001)**	(0.001)** -0.005 (0.001)**	(0.001)** -0.006 (0.001)**	(0.001)** -0.006 (0.001)**
Parent in region	-0.013 (0.001)**						
School age children	-0.005 (0.000)**	-0.005 (0.000)**	-0.005 (0.000)**	-0.005 (0.000)**	-0.005 (0.000)**	-0.005 (0.000)**	-0.005 (0.001)**
Age	0.001 (0.000)*	0.001 (0.000)*	0.001 (0.000)*	0.001 (0.000)*	0.001 (0.000)*	0.001 (0.000)*	0.001 (0.000)*
Age squared	-0.000 (0.000)**						
Tenure	-0.001 (0.000)**						
Regional unempl. rate	0.000 (0.001)	0.000 (0.001)	0.000 (0.001)	0.000 (0.001)	0.000 (0.001)	0.000 (0.001)	0.000 (0.001)
Size of the region/10000	0.001) 0.001 (0.000)**	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001) 0.001 (0.000)**	0.001	0.001
Years in region	-0.005	(0.000)** -0.005	(0.000)** -0.005	(0.000)** -0.005	-0.005	(0.000)** -0.005	(0.000)** -0.005
Under school age children	(0.000)** -0.002 (0.001)**						

Sibling in the region	-0.006	-0.006	-0.006	-0.006	-0.006	-0.006	-0.006
	(0.001)**	(0.001)**	(0.001)**	(0.001)**	(0.001)**	(0.001)**	(0.001)**
Parent and sibling in region	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000
.0	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Younger siblings	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002
2 2	(0.000)**	(0.000)**	(0.000)**	(0.000)**	(0.000)**	(0.000)**	(0.000)**
Plant size/100	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.020	0.021	0.021	0.021
	(0.005)**	(0.005)**	(0.005)**	(0.005)**	(0.005)**	(0.005)**	(0.005)**
Earnings <i>b-3</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Earnings <i>b-4</i>	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Earnings <i>b-5</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	(0.000)*	(0.000)*	(0.000)*	(0.000)*	(0.000)*	(0.000)*	*(0.000)
Empl. months <i>b-4</i>	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Empl. months <i>b-5</i>	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
At school <i>b-4</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
At school <i>b-5</i>	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Observations	256040	256040	256040	256040	256040	256040	256040

Probit marginal effects from equations (1) and (2). The dependent variable is a dummy for whether the worker moved between years b and b+2. The sample consists of workers who are aged 25–50 in year 0 (base years 1991–1998) and employed in private sector plants with at least 10 workers that year. Displacement happens between years b and b+1. The specification also includes industry dummies, base year fixed effects and base year specific region dummies. The latter imply that the variable "rural", which is used as an interaction effect, cannot be included on its own.

Column (1) in Table 2 gives marginal effects for males (Panel A) and females (Panel B) from a probit model that estimates the effect of job displacement and background variables on the probability of moving within two years after job loss. The specification is given in Section 3, equation (1). Displaced male workers have a 0.6 percentage point increase in the probability of moving to a new region within two years after job loss while displaced female workers have a 0.7 percentage point increase. Since an average non-displaced male worker has a 1.97% probability of moving to a new region by year 2, and an average non-displaced female worker has a 2.10% probability of moving to a new region by year 2 (cf. Figure 2), each of these increases represents an increase in the moving probability of approximately a 30%.

Table 2 also reports effects for the control variables. In accordance with the previous literature, we find that especially college educated workers have a much higher probability of moving than others. For a given level of education, higher earnings are also associated with higher moving probability, but this is only so for male workers. The included family characteristics; having a spouse, having school aged children, and having parents in the region, all reduce the probability of moving, as expected.

In Table 2, columns (2)-(7), we analyze selection into mobility by including interaction terms between displacement and important observable pre-displacement characteristics. The specification is given in Section 3, equation (2). Column (2) shows that displacement increases mobility more for workers with high education than for workers with low education, but the difference is not statistically significant. Column (3) shows that displacement does not affect mobility rates differently for workers that differ in earnings. Column (4) shows that displacement increases mobility more for workers in rural areas than for workers in urban areas. Although the difference is not statistically significant, this may reflect the fact that workers in rural areas have more limited employment opportunities and thus need to search wider than displaced workers in urban areas. The positive coefficient also indicates that one of the mechanisms for the strong urbanization process in Norway is that workers who lose their jobs move to more urban locations. Columns (5) and (6) show that displacement increases mobility less for workers who have a spouse or have a parent in the pre-displacement region, respectively, than for workers without such family

¹² The specification contains region fixed effects. In a model without region fixed effects the coefficient on the dummy for living in a rural area is -0.003, indicating that workers in rural areas are in general less mobile than workers in urban areas.

¹³ See Butikofer, Polovkova and Salvanes (2014), for an analysis of the urbanization process in Norway.

ties. The effects are not statistically significant, except for the effect on males of having family in the region. Column (7) shows that displacement increases mobility more for workers who have school age children than for workers without this tie. This is the opposite sign of what we expected, but the effect is not statistically significant.

In summary, even though the propensity to move varies greatly by observable pre-displacement characteristics such as education, earnings and family ties, we do not find much heterogeneity in the effect of displacement on mobility by these characteristics.

5 Labor market outcomes for movers and non-movers

Having established that displacement affects the propensity to move, we now investigate how those who move after displacement succeed in the labor market as compared to displaced workers who stay and non-displaced workers. We start by looking at how post-displacement employment rates differ between displaced and non-displaced workers, split on movers and stayers.

Re-employment by displacement and moving status

Table 3 provides the employment status at times b+2 (short run) and b+7 (long run) by gender, displacement and moving status.

Table 3 Employment status at times b+2 and b+7 by gender, displacement and moving status

Panel A: Males	Disp	laced	Non-Di	isplaced	
Two years after	Stayers	Movers	Stayers	Movers	
Employed	86.41	81.46	95.31	86.45	
Same plant	4.67	1.85	75.84	33.07	
Same firm, different plant	17.29	13.17	3.54	7.54	
Same industry, different firm	33.42	26.47	5.40	14.67	
Different private sector industry	28.60	34.61	9.78	27.55	
Public sector	2.43	5.37	0.76	3.61	
Not employed	13.59	18.54	4.69	13.55	
In school	0.81	0.92	0.29	0.84	
Unemployed	5.10	8.18	1.30	4.44	
No family in the region	1.16	3.86	0.26	2.24	
Family in region	3.94	4.32	1.04	2.20	
Outside the labor force	7.69	9.44	3.10	8.27	
No family in the region	1.46	4.24	0.56	3.77	
Family in the region	6.22	5.20	2.55	4.50	
No. of observations	76,568	2,384	547,447	10,989	
Seven years after					
Employed	86.49	82.02	89.87	85.10	
Not-employed	13.51	17.98	10.13	14.90	
No. of observations	75,776	2,331	541,534	10,756	

Panel B: Females	Displaced		Non-Di	splaced
Two years after	Stayers	Movers	Stayers	Movers
Employed	82.27	68.90	91.92	73.61
Same plant	3.82	0.79	73.98	24.54
Same firm, different plant	13.14	8.86	2.83	5.91
Same industry, different firm	32.44	19.98	4.83	13.24
Different private sector industry	27.41	29.43	8.70	23.31
Public sector	5.46	9.84	1.58	6.61
Not-employed	17.73	31.10	8.08	26.39
In school	1.09	2.07	0.47	1.94
Unemployed	6.08	14.76	1.76	9.78
No family in the region	1.62	7.68	0.43	4.31
Family in region	4.46	7.09	1.33	5.47
Outside the labor force	10.57	14.27	5.85	14.67
No family in the region	2.36	5.81	1.14	6.55
Family in the region	8.21	8.46	4.71	8.13
No. of observations	29,087	1,016	220,826	4,736
Seven years after	Stayers	Movers	Stayers	Movers
Employed	81.60	75.62	85.31	77.86
Not-employed	18.40	24.38	14.69	22.14
No. of observations	28,795	1,005	218,910	4,665

No. of observations 28,795 Family is defined as parent or sibling of the worker or the worker's spouse.

From Panel A of the table we see that displaced male workers who move to a new region two years after displacement have a significantly lower employment rate (81%) than those who stay in the same region (86%). This pattern persists seven years after displacement, but it also holds true for non-displaced male workers (86% reemployment rate for movers and 95% for stayers). From Panel B we see that the differences in employment rates between movers and stayers are even higher for females than for males. When investigating the end-states in more detail we see that about half of the workers who move to non-employment have family in the region they move to. This is true for displaced males and females as well as for non-displaced males and females. In a related analysis where we split the sample slightly differently, we also find that workers moving to regions where they have family have lower re-employment rates than workers moving to regions where they have family. Moreover, when splitting the sample according to the urban/rural-dimension, we find that workers moving to rural locations have lower employment rates than workers moving to urban locations (78% vs. 84% for males and 65% vs. 74% for females).

Unconditional post-displacement earnings by displacement and moving status

In Figure 2 we present mean annual earnings and regionally adjusted income (including disability pension) by moving and displacement status. In regression analyses to follow, we will compare displaced movers to displaced stayers – and then compare both of them to a control group of non-displaced workers. It is therefore important to check that the pre-displacement trends are similar for these various groups.

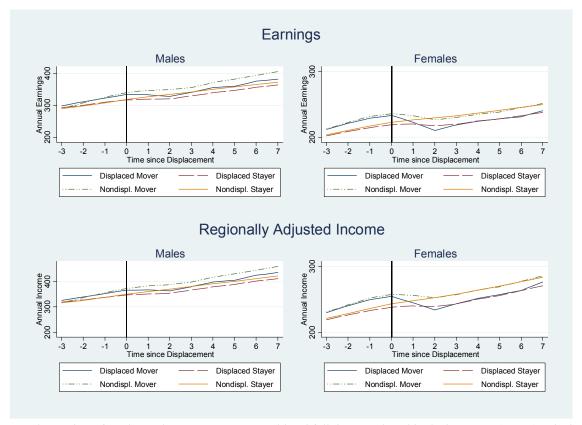


Figure 2. Annual earnings and income by job displacement and moving status

The sample consists of workers who were 25-50 years old and full time employed in the base year (year 0). Displaced workers lost their job in a plant closure or a plant downsizing between years 0 and 1. A mover is a worker who lives in a different region in year 2 than in the year before the job loss (year 0).

We see that the pre-displacement earnings differences between displaced and non-displaced workers are relatively small and that the differences are mostly level effects with close to parallel trends. ¹⁴ This is conducive to our use of fixed effects regressions which is essentially a difference-in-difference approach. Note also that the difference between movers and stayers is more evident than the difference between displaced and non-displaced workers. In both groups movers have on average higher earnings than stayers, suggesting that movers are on average positively selected.

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¹⁴ The slight difference in trends that we observe is in line with Jacobson et al. (1993) and others who show that the earnings difference between displaced and non-displaced workers begins a couple of years before the job loss occurs.

Changing outcome variable from earnings to regionally adjusted income (including disability pension) in the lower part of the figure has very little effect on the results.

The graphs in Figure 2 are consistent with job-loss being an exogenous shock to the displaced workers as job displacement opens up a significant earnings gap between displaced and non-displaced workers. This is in line with the previous literature. More interesting is the finding that the drop in earnings after job loss seems to be higher for displaced movers than for displaced stayers. In the next section we look into this in more detail by conditioning on observable characteristics and comparing OLS and fixed effect estimates.

The effect of job displacement on earnings and income by moving status

Table 4 gives the results of estimating equation (3) for men and women separately, with and without individual specific fixed effects. Note that workers are included in the sample also in years when they have zero annual earnings. This implies that we capture the joint effect of changes in employment and wage rates.

Table 4. Effect of job displacement on earnings by moving status

Earnings	Males		Females	
-	OLS	FE	OLS	FE
Displaced*stay_3	5.480		0.343	
	(0.453)**		(0.403)	
Displaced*stay_2	5.026	-0.453	0.523	0.237
	(0.686)**	(0.580)	(0.428)	(0.223)
Displaced*stay_1	4.026	-1.454	-0.524	-0.752
	(0.680)**	(0.562)**	(0.443)	(0.277)**
Displaced*stay_0	2.081	-3.402	-1.671	-1.839
	(0.773)**	(0.677)**	(0.489)**	(0.356)**
Displaced*stay1	-3.375	-8.767	-3.753	-3.836
	(0.738)**	(0.686)**	(0.558)**	(0.461)**
Displaced*stay2	-8.647	-14.043	-8.842	-8.818
	(2.614)**	(2.547)**	(0.598)**	(0.529)**
Displaced*stay3	-7.060	-12.447	-10.001	-9.961
	(2.167)**	(2.094)**	(0.643)**	(0.576)**
Displaced*stay4	-6.268	-11.668	-9.283	-9.176

	(2.220)**	(2.240)**	(0.710)**	(0 (54)**
Disc. 1 14	(2.320)**	(2.249)**	(0.718)**	(0.654)**
Displaced*stay5	-5.464	-10.883	-9.728	-9.596
D: 1 14 / C	(2.027)**	(1.939)**	(0.709)**	(0.654)**
Displaced*stay6	-4.366	-9.907	-9.313	-9.128
751 1 10 1	(1.629)**	(1.512)**	(0.758)**	(0.706)**
Displaced*stay7	-6.164	-11.740	-9.008	-8.761
	(1.174)**	(1.103)**	(0.792)**	(0.740)**
Displaced*move_3	16.413		8.659	
	(2.797)**		(1.978)**	
Displaced*move_2	18.133	0.812	9.866	1.817
	(2.985)**	(2.139)	(2.027)**	(1.092)
Displaced*move_1	18.000	-0.208	9.946	2.490
	(3.062)**	(2.326)	(2.202)**	(1.645)
Displaced*move_0	18.594	-0.481	7.600	0.725
_	(2.972)**	(2.438)	(2.690)**	(2.347)
Displaced*move1	8.174	-11.724	-6.932	-12.917
_	(3.336)*	(3.004)**	(3.064)*	(2.793)**
Displaced*move2	-5.537	-26.520	-23.111	-28.845
•	(3.348)	(3.147)**	(3.196)**	(3.173)**
Displaced*move3	-2.617	-24.112	-20.065	-25.018
1	(3.559)	(3.253)**	(3.842)**	(3.690)**
Displaced*move4	0.929	-21.170	-19.864	-24.262
1	(4.038)	(3.443)**	(3.898)**	(3.759)**
Displaced*move5	-3.267	-25.622	-21.142	-25.025
-P	(3.709)	(3.553)**	(4.283)**	(4.120)**
Displaced*move6	2.640	-20.801	-23.120	-26.590
P	(4.509)	(4.276)**	(4.306)**	(4.103)**
Displaced*move7	-1.035	-25.002	-20.213	-23.055
Displaced mover	(4.350)	(4.147)**	(4.630)**	(4.439)**
Observations	7008359	7008359	2811072	2811072
R-squared	0.08	0.02	0.24	0.07
Number of groups (id x base year)	0.00	641573	0.27	256978
Trumoer of groups (in A base year)		071373		230710

The sample consists of workers who were 25-50 years old and full time employed in base year 0. Displaced workers lost their job in a plant closure or plant downsizing between years 0 and 1. A mover is a worker who lives in a different region in year 2 after displacement than in the year before displacement (year 0). Annual earnings are total annual labor income and benefits such as parental and unemployment benefits. All models include base-year specific time dummies and age and age squared in interaction with base year education level and base year urban status. The OLS model also includes additional pre-displacement controls: Dummies for educational categories, marital status, tenure, cohabiting spouse, school age children, under school age children, parent in the region, spouse's parent in the region, sibling in the region, both parent and sibling in region, younger siblings, at school in *b-4*, at school in *b-5*, regional dummies, and industry dummies. The coefficients in the 2nd and 4th columns are graphed in Figure 3. Since the FE model includes fixed effects for each individual in a given base year sample, we cannot estimate the effect for the first time period *b-3*. This period is thus used as base-level in the FE-regressions.

The results indicate that job loss has a long-lasting negative effect on earnings, and that the effect is larger for movers than for stayers. We return to this below. For both men and women, there is a clear positive pre-displacement difference in earnings between displaced stayers and movers and the non-displaced comparison group. The pre-displacement difference is especially large for displaced male movers. Consequently, the FE results indicate a larger negative post displacement

earnings effect for movers than do the OLS results. This implies that there is on average positive selection on unobservable characteristics for movers.¹⁵ Despite this, the causal effect of moving seems to be negative. The results are similar when we use regionally adjusted total income, i.e. annual earnings and disability benefits, as dependent variable. These results are reported in Appendix Table A2.

The estimated negative earnings effect is visualized in Figure 3, which plots the FE point estimates and confidence intervals of the job displacement dummies in Table 4 separately for movers and stayers. We observe that before the displacement incident there was no significant difference in earnings growth between these groups. After displacement, however, earnings drop for both groups, and significantly more so for movers than for stayers. The average annual earnings decrease for displaced male movers in the second post displacement year is 26,500 NOK (about 4,100 US dollars). This corresponds to -7.5% when compared against counterfactual earnings of displaced movers in the period. For displaced male stayers the average decrease in the second post displacement year is -14,000 NOK, corresponding to -4.2%. We can also see that the negative effect of job displacement is very long lasting. The properties of the point of the properties of the point of the p

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¹⁵ Appendix Table A1 shows that to some degree the selection on observables is also positive.

¹⁶ Following Davis and von Wachter (2011) the counterfactual earnings in the absence of job displacement are constructed by adding the absolute value of the estimated earnings loss to the mean earnings of the group in the period.

¹⁷ To ensure comparability of our treatment and comparison groups we have as a robustness check also estimated the FE-model using a sample that was trimmed to be similar on the basis of pre-displacement characteristics. We did this by first estimating separately the propensity of being either a displaced mover or a displaced stayer. In these regressions we used a full set of year and base year interactions, regional dummies and all pre-displacement control variables reported in Appendix Table A2. Then we trimmed the comparison group sample using these estimated propensity scores. We either used the scores as weight or dropped observations for which the estimated propensity score was higher than 0.01 (as suggested in Crump et al., 2009). The regression results we obtained when following this procedure were similar to those discussed above. The difference between movers and stayers diminished a little, and the standard errors increased.

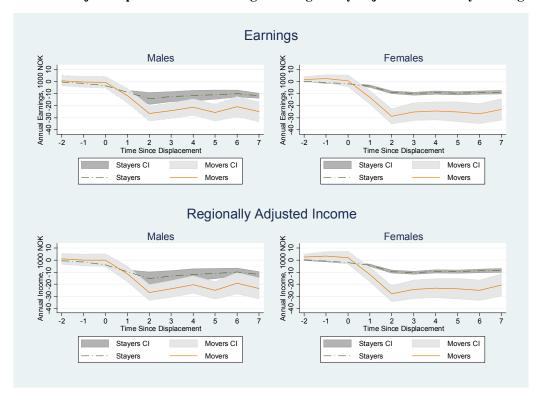


Figure 3. Effects of job displacement on earnings and regionally adjusted income by moving status

The figure displays FE-coefficients and confidence intervals from Table 4, columns (2) and (4), and from a similar set of regressions with regionally adjusted income as dependent variable. The latter income measure also includes disability pension and is deflated with regional CPIs to capture differences in living expenses between regions.

For women, the difference in the earnings loss between stayers and movers is even more pronounced. In the second post displacement year, the earnings drop for displaced female movers is on average -28,800 NOK (about 4,500 US dollars). Since average female earnings are lower than male average earnings, this corresponds to -12.0% of counterfactual earnings for displaced female movers in the period. For displaced female workers who stay in the pre-displacement region the estimated loss is only -8,800 NOK, corresponding to -3.9%.

The difference between movers and stayers may partly reflect the fact that some workers move to regions with lower living expenses. In order to take this into account we have also run the same regressions as in Table 4 with the regionally adjusted income measure (including disability

pension) as dependent variable. The results are reported in Appendix Table A2, and graphed in the lower panel of Figure 3. Again, we find that movers have larger income losses after job displacement than stayers. The short-term magnitude is about the same as for earnings, but the difference between movers and stayers diminishes somewhat more over time. The drop in annual income in the second post displacement year for male movers is -26,900 NOK (6.9%) and for male stayers -15,300 NOK (4.1%). For female workers, the effect for movers is -27,900 NOK (-10.6%) and for stayers -9,500 NOK (-3.8%).

Since Mincer (1978) it has been well established that it is the net family gain rather than the net personal gain that motivates the migration of households. The possible net loss of a tied mover must be smaller than the net gain of his or her spouse to result in a net family gain. In order to take into account the fact that many of the displaced movers may be so-called tied movers, we also estimate the effect of displacement and mobility on total family income for a sample of workers that had a spouse in the base year. Total family income is the sum of a worker's own annual real income and the annual real income of the spouse. The regression results with total family income as dependent variable are presented in the lower panel of Figure 4. For comparison, own incomeresults are presented in the upper panel.

For displaced males with a spouse in the base year, job loss has a negative effect on both own income and family income. This is to be expected. As before, we also see that movers have larger losses than stayers in the years immediately following job loss. The family income loss in year 2 for displaced male movers that have a spouse in the base year is 36,900 NOK (-7.4%) and for similar displaced male stayers it is 13,500 NOK (-2.9%). However, while the difference between

movers and stayers in own income is relatively constant over time, the difference in family income seems to fade away and is statistically insignificant by year 7.

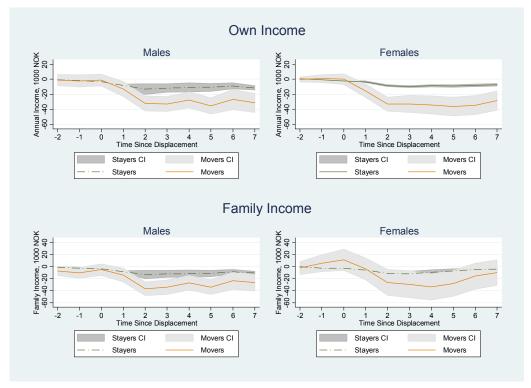


Figure 4. Effect of job displacement on own and family income for base year couples

The sample is restricted to workers that were married or had a cohabiting spouse in year 0. The dependent variable is own annual taxable real income in the upper panel, and total family income in the lower panel. Family income is income including disability pension for both the worker and the spouse (married or cohabiting partner). The regressions include individual fixed effects. See the subtext to Table 4 for further details about the specification.

For displaced female movers that have a spouse in the base year, the drop in year 2 family income is 26,500 NOK (-6.1%) and for similar female stayers it is 11,800 NOK (-2.6%). Even though these short-term losses are close to the estimates for males, there is an important contrast between female and male workers. For displaced female workers that have a spouse in the base year, it is quite evident that the difference between movers and stayers in family income is temporary, and the

estimated difference is not statistically significant at any point in time. Most likely, this is because female displaced workers to a larger extent than male displaced workers are tied movers.

To what extent does the earnings loss depend on where you move to?

In order to further understand why there seems to be a negative causal effect of mobility on own income (i.e. conditional on worker fixed effects), we cut the data by the characteristics of the locations that the displaced workers move to. More specifically, we distinguish between whether workers move to an urban or a rural location, and whether they move to a region where they or their spouse have parents. We acknowledge that this analysis is descriptive in nature, since the decision to move to a certain destination is endogenous.

Figure 5 reports the results of fixed effects regressions where we estimate how the income loss for displaced movers and stayers varies between urban and rural regions determined by the workers' location in post displacement year 2. About 60% of the displaced stayers live in an urban region in year b+2, and about 50% of the displaced movers live in an urban region in year b+2. The results show that displaced workers who move to urban regions do not suffer any significant post-displacement earnings losses at all. The negative effect of job displacement for movers is entirely driven by individuals who move to rural locations. These workers suffer severe and long-lasting income losses. Stayers in urban and rural locations also suffer some income losses after job displacement, but the drop is much smaller than the drop for workers who move to rural regions. Note also that there is no significant difference between the income losses for displaced workers who stay in an urban location and those who move to urban locations.

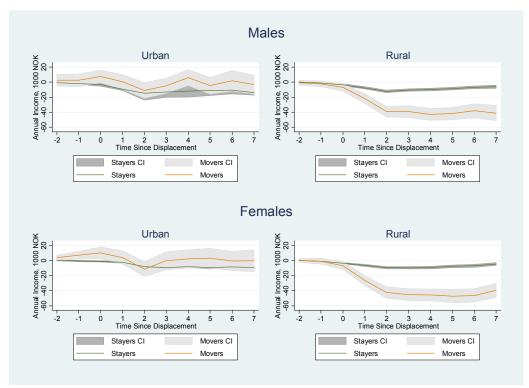


Figure 5. Effect of job displacement by mobility and urban status

A mover is a worker who lives in a different region in year 2 after displacement than in the year before displacement (year 0). The dependent variable is real annual income. Urban region means that the worker lives in one of the ten biggest commuting areas in Norway in year 2. The other regions are classified as rural. The regressions include individual fixed effects. See the subtext to Table 4 for further details about the regression and sample.

In order to examine the role played by family, we also split the sample by the parents' location in post displacement year 2. About 65% of the displaced stayers live in the same region as their parents or their spouse's parents in year b+2, and about 35% of the displaced movers live in the same region as their parents or their spouse's parents in year b+2. We estimate the same regressions as those graphed in Figure 5, but we let the effect of job displacement for movers and stayers vary between workers with and without parents (or parents of the spouse) in the region in year b+2. The results indicate that workers who move to a region where they or their spouse have parents suffer bigger earning losses than workers who move to regions where they have no family. It is striking

that for displaced male workers there is no difference between movers and stayers living in a region where they do not have family.

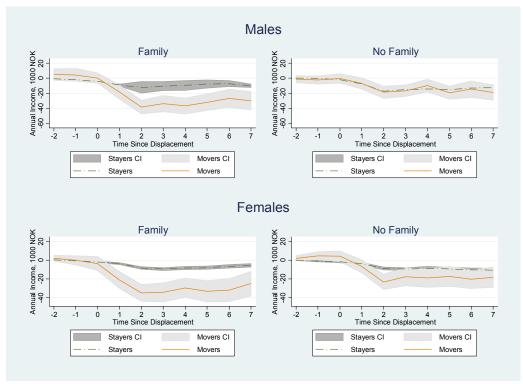


Figure 6. Effect of job displacement by mobility and family ties in the region

A mover is a worker who lives in a different region in year 2 after displacement than in the year before displacement (year 0). The dependent variable is real annual income. Family in region means that parents of the worker or the worker's spouse live in the same region as the worker in year 2 after displacement. The regressions include individual fixed effects. See the subtext to Table 4 for further details about the regression and sample.

Selection into mobility after job loss

The negative employment shock that displaced workers experience changes the incentives to migrate, but it is not clear what type of worker it is that reacts more easily to the shock. However, our results so far suggest that movers on average are positively selected and that non-economic factors matter.

In order to assess selection into mobility in more detail, we display in Figure 7 the full base year income distribution of displaced workers by gender and moving status at b+2. We see that movers tend to be more represented in both ends of the income distributions, and that this is particularly evident for male movers.

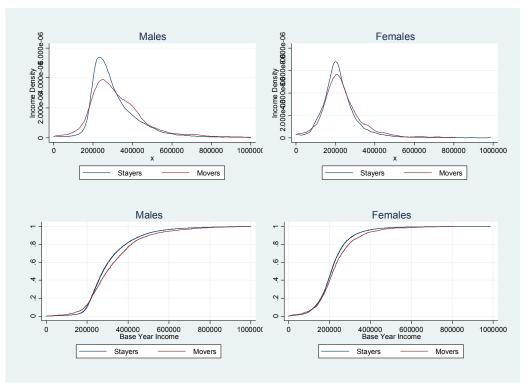


Figure 7. Pre-displacement income distribution for displaced workers by moving status

Annual income in base year 0. The sample consists of workers who were 25-50 years old and full time employed in base year 0, and who were displaced from their jobs between years 0 and 1. Workers earning more than 1000 000 NOK are excluded from the figures.

Much of the income differences between movers and stayers, however, can be explained by observable differences. Movers are younger, more educated, more likely to be single or childless, and less likely to have family members in regions as shown in Table A1. We can control for these factors by looking at the residuals from a wage regression where we control for the observable background characteristics. This is done in Figure 8. We see that even though much of the

differences in income between movers and stayers are explained by differences in observables, movers are still more represented in both ends of the distribution.

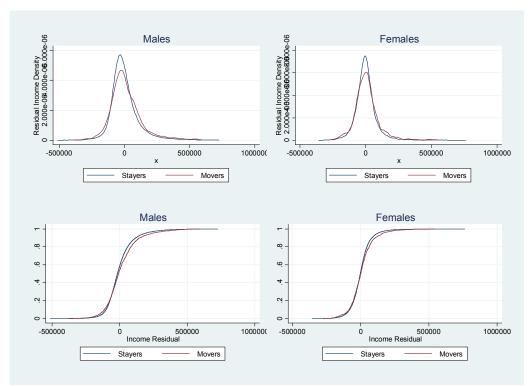


Figure 8. Pre-displacement residual income distribution for displaced workers by moving status

Annual income residuals in base year 0. The income residuals are obtained by regressing base year income on the following control variables: Dummies for educational categories, marital status, tenure, cohabiting spouse, school age children, under school age children, parent in the region, spouse's parent in the region, sibling in the region, both parent and sibling in region, younger siblings, at school in *b-4*, at school in *b-5*, regional dummies, and industry dummies. The sample consists of workers who were 25-50 years old and full time employed in base year 0, and who were displaced from their jobs between years 0 and 1. Workers earning more than 1000 000 NOK are excluded from the figures.

6 Concluding remarks

It is well-established that there are large and persistent differences in unemployment rates and economic activity across different locations. We also know that individuals that lose their jobs for exogenous reasons suffer long-lasting and permanent earnings losses. Much less is known about the reasons for these losses and why individuals with severe losses do not move to locations with

better employment opportunities. We have analyzed the geographic mobility of workers after permanent job loss, and investigated factors that influence workers' migration decision. Our rich Norwegian register data include information about the workers' characteristics, location and employment histories, as well as information about spouses, children, parents and siblings.

Our results show that family ties are very important for workers' mobility decision. Workers are less likely to move away from regions where their parents or siblings live, and some move back home after a job loss. We also provide evidence of how earnings losses after job displacement are related to migration. Our findings suggest that workers who move to a new region after job loss suffer larger income losses than stayers, although the difference between movers and stayers in total family income is smaller and tends to fade away over time. We also find that the difference in individual earnings between displaced movers and stayers is driven entirely by workers who move to rural regions or to regions where they have family members. All in all, our study provides new evidence on the importance of non-economic factors in explaining migration decisions and income losses following job displacement.

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Appendix

Table A1. Sample means of selected pre-displacement characteristics

Table A1. Sample means of selected pre-displacement characteristics Males Females									
			ıles						
	Displaced	Displaced	Non-	Non-	Displaced	Displaced	Non-	Non-	
	Movers	Stayers	displaced	displaced	Movers	Stayers	displaced	displaced	
			Movers	Stayers			Movers	Stayers	
Age	35.14**	38.11	34.71**	38.33	33.45**	37.69	33.43**	38.12	
	(0.14)	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.01)	(0.21)	(0.04)	(0.10)	(0.02)	
Secondary	0.56**	0.63	0.54**	0.63	0.60**	0.65	0.57**	0.64	
education	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.02)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	
Tertiary	0.34**	0.21	0.36**	0.21	0.30**	0.189	0.34**	0.19	
education	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	
Tenure	4.65**	6.83	4.72**	7.35	4.62**	6.33	4.69**	6.76	
	(0.08)	(0.02)	(0.04)	(0.01)	(0.12)	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.01)	
Cohabiting	0.54**	0.73	0.56**	0.74	0.40**	0.67	0.45**	0.70	
or married	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	0.01	(0.00)	
Years in	3.94**	4.85	3.85**	4.85	3.97**	4.85	3.92**	4.86	
region	(0.03)	(0.00)	(0.02)	(0.00)	(0.05)	(0.00)	(0.02)	(0.00)	
No. of			0.27**	0.44			0.15**	0.32	
school	0.29**	0.44			0.16**	0.31			
age			(0.00)	(0.00)			(0.01)	(0.00)	
children	(0.01)	(0.00)			(0.01)	(0.00)			
No. of ch.	0.27**	0.20	0.29**	0.20	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	
under 7	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	
Parent in	0.42**	0.69	0.43**	0.69	0.39**	0.60	0.40**	0.60	
region	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.02)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	
Sibling in	0.52**	0.74	0.52**	0.75	0.46**	0.67	0.49**	0.67	
region	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.02)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	
Parent and	0.36**	0.63	0.37**	0.63	0.33**	0.54	0.36**	0.63	
sibl. in reg.	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	0.01	(0.00)	
Younger	0.51**	0.47	0.53**	0.47	0.54**	0.44	0.55**	0.44	
siblings	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.02)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	
Plant size	234	248	292**	260	206	201	279**	248	
(no. of w.)	(7.60)	(1.40)	(4.85)	(0.61)	(10.58)	(1.99)	(7.67)	(1.02)	
Earnings <i>b-3</i>	298467*	292242	289263	289130	212292**	202482	212917	203910	
	(3164)	(474)	(1229)	(174)	(2445)	(439)	(1119)	(170)	
Earnings <i>b-4</i>	271697**	279853	265222**	277931	192053	190924.1	194377	193541	
	(2767)	(526)	(1304)	(166)	(2607)	(443)	(1203)	(169)	
Earnings <i>b-5</i>	249488**	266451	241569**	266338	174012	178176	174749**	182123	
	(2853)	(518)	(1349)	(164)	(2751)	(462)	(1296)	(168)	
Employment	10.08**	11.01	10.04**	11.13	9.38**	9.80	9.54**	9.89	
months b-4	(0.09)	(0.01)	(0.04)	(0.00)	(0.14)	(0.02)	(0.06)	(0.01)	
Employment	9.21**	10.53	9.13**	10.70	8.65**	9.18	8.57**	9.30	
months b-5	(0.10)	(0.01)	(0.05)	(0.00)	(0.16)	(0.03)	(0.07)	(0.01)	
At school b-	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.05	
4									
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	
At school b-	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	
5									
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	
Observations	2384	77297	10989	550903	1016	29295	4736	221931	

The sample consists of workers who were 25-50 years old and full time employed in the base year. Displaced workers lost their job in a plant closure or downsizing between year 0 and year 1. When the mean for movers is significantly different from stayers, it is marked with stars.

^{* 5%} level of significance.

^{** 1%} level of significance.

Earnings	Males		Females	
	OLS	FE	OLS	FE
Displaced*Stay_3	5.758		0.258	
	(0.481)**		(0.429)	
Displaced*Stay_2	5.245	-0.494	0.368	0.188
	(0.733)**	(0.628)	(0.455)	(0.238)
Displaced*Stay 1	4.066	-1.656	-0.754	-0.855
1 7=	(0.719)**	(0.604)**	(0.472)	(0.298)**
Displaced*Stay 0	1.835	-3.872	-2.121	-2.142
1 7=	(0.814)*	(0.721)**	(0.521)**	(0.382)**
Displaced*Stay1	-4.032	-9.631	-4.337	-4.258
	(0.784)**	(0.735)**	(0.593)**	(0.493)**
Displaced*Stay2	-9.730	-15.314	-9.738	-9.524
5.15p.1	(2.863)**	(2.791)**	(0.634)**	(0.561)**
Displaced*Stay3	-7.675	-13.227	-10.700	-10.449
Bispiacea stays	(2.382)**	(2.304)**	(0.678)**	(0.607)**
Displaced*Stay4	-6.455	-12.001	-9.708	-9.370
Displaced Stay+	(2.532)*	(2.455)**	(0.754)**	(0.684)**
Displaced*Stay5	-5.584	-11.143	-10.007	-9.615
Displaced Stays	(2.198)*	(2.105)**	(0.739)**	(0.678)**
Displaced*Stay6	-4.210	-9.866	-9.414	-8.948
Displaced Stayo				
Diamlogad*Stay7	(1.739)*	(1.618)**	(0.784)**	(0.727)**
Displaced*Stay7	-6.209 (1.227)**	-11.875	-9.109	-8.557 (0.757)**
Di11*M 2	(1.237)**	(1.166)**	(0.816)**	(0.757)**
Displaced*Move_3	17.226		9.169	
D. 1 143.4 2	(2.958)**	0.014	(2.150)**	2.520
Displaced*Move_2	19.136	0.914	11.030	2.520
D. 1 143.4 1	(3.150)**	(2.221)	(2.221)**	(1.226)*
Displaced*Move_1	19.206	0.008	11.231	3.366
	(3.236)**	(2.432)	(2.405)**	(1.827)
Displaced*Move_0	19.992	-0.161	9.246	2.012
	(3.228)**	(2.632)	(2.986)**	(2.624)
Displaced*Move1	9.535	-11.541	-5.656	-11.923
	(3.631)**	(3.253)**	(3.310)	(3.026)**
Displaced*Move2	-4.697	-26.933	-21.922	-27.906
	(3.591)	(3.335)**	(3.382)**	(3.350)**
Displaced*Move3	-1.083	-23.894	-19.037	-24.221
	(3.847)	(3.462)**	(4.044)**	(3.880)**
Displaced*Move4	3.086	-20.410	-18.710	-23.290
	(4.249)	(3.626)**	(4.088)**	(3.935)**
Displaced*Move5	-1.287	-25.130	-19.757	-23.763
	(3.951)	(3.747)**	(4.484)**	(4.298)**
Displaced*Move6	5.880	-19.166	-21.511	-25.060
	(4.783)	(4.504)**	(4.515)**	(4.282)**
Displaced*Move7	2.182	-23.516	-17.830	-20.700
-	(4.686)	(4.442)**	(4.865)**	(4.633)**
Observations	7008355	7008355	2811067	2811067
R-squared	0.08	0.02	0.22	0.09
Number of groups (id x base-year)	· -	641573		256978

The dependent variable is regionally adjusted annual income. The 2nd and 4th columns are graphed in the lower panel of Figure 3. See the subtext to Table 4 and Figure 3 for information on the sample, the specifications and the variables.

Earnings	Males		Females	
	OLS	FE	OLS	FE
Displaced*Stay_3	5.181		-0.689	
	(0.534)**		(0.882)	
Displaced*Stay_2	3.996	-1.191	-1.150	-0.506
	(0.744)**	(0.618)	(0.961)	(0.676)
Displaced*Stay_1	2.694	-2.502	-3.770	-3.174
	(0.744)**	(0.620)**	(1.041)**	(0.881)**
Displaced*Stay_0	1.011	-4.196	-3.803	-3.260
	(0.831)	(0.738)**	(1.112)**	(1.023)**
Displaced*Stay1	-4.167	-9.293	-7.756	-7.023
•	(0.803)**	(0.756)**	(1.215)**	(1.177)**
Displaced*Stay2	-9.107	-14.279	-12.336	-11.668
•	(2.634)**	(2.573)**	(1.381)**	(1.416)**
Displaced*Stay3	-7.520	-12.691	-13.857	-13.291
•	(2.189)**	(2.125)**	(1.448)**	(1.502)**
Displaced*Stay4	-7.315	-12.512	-11.806	-11.320
- -	(2.339)**	(2.277)**	(1.432)**	(1.509)**
Displaced*Stay5	-6.084	-11.335	-8.459	-8.142
1	(2.042)**	(1.968)**	(1.375)**	(1.484)**
Displaced*Stay6	-4.399	-9.730	-5.542	-5.349
1	(1.641)**	(1.546)**	(1.270)**	(1.407)**
Displaced*Stay7	-5.614	-10.997	-4.820	-4.657
1	(1.186)**	(1.147)**	(1.276)**	(1.435)**
Displaced*Move_3	17.383	(' ')	15.349	()
-F	(3.255)**		(4.168)**	
Displaced*Move_2	10.908	-7.733	5.190	-11.002
	(3.364)**	(2.338)**	(4.323)	(2.788)**
Displaced*Move 1	6.707	-13.164	-0.442	-17.451
-F	(3.409)*	(2.616)**	(4.417)	(3.569)**
Displaced*Move 0	7.031	-14.038	-7.010	-24.813
	(3.494)*	(2.923)**	(4.826)	(4.501)**
Displaced*Move1	-5.210	-27.368	-28.596	-46.654
	(3.675)	(3.446)**	(4.940)**	(4.825)**
Displaced*Move2	-15.049	-38.630	-34.310	-53.657
3.55	(3.723)**	(3.657)**	(5.093)**	(5.913)**
Displaced*Move3	-7.222	-31.538	-29.125	-48.949
	(3.980)	(3.859)**	(5.802)**	(6.330)**
Displaced*Move4	0.245	-25.080	-20.919	-41.495
515p14004 1110 to 1	(4.424)	(3.992)**	(6.053)**	(6.494)**
Displaced*Move5	0.962	-24.726	-1.605	-22.838
515p14004 1110105	(4.056)	(3.999)**	(6.133)	(6.587)**
Displaced*Move6	12.371	-14.460	11.681	-10.144
Displaced 1/10/00	(4.713)**	(4.621)**	(5.998)	(6.554)
Displaced*Move7	10.545	-17.156	24.793	(0.334) 2.494
Displaced Move/	(4.500)*	(4.454)**	(6.109)**	
Observations	7008359	7008359		(6.584) 2811072
		0.04	2811072 0.29	2811072 0.20
R-squared	0.13		0.29	
Number of groups (id x base-year)		641573		256978

The dependent variable is the annual family income. The 2nd and 4th columns are graphed in the upper panel of Figure 4. See text under Table 4 and Figure 4 for more information about the sample, the specifications and the variables.

Table A4. Effect of job displacement on family income by moving status for base year couples

Earnings	Males		Females	
-	OLS	FE	OLS	FE
Displaced*Stay_3	4.684		-1.913	
	(0.681)**		(1.182)	
Displaced*Stay_2	3.308	-1.393	-2.017	-0.119
	(0.955)**	(0.811)	(1.336)	(0.890)
Displaced*Stay_1	2.039	-2.679	-4.920	-3.040
	(0.970)*	(0.818)**	(1.464)**	(1.197)*
Displaced*Stay_0	0.950	-3.788	-4.517	-2.656
1 3=	(1.096)	(0.976)**	(1.568)**	(1.393)
Displaced*Stay1	-3.999	-8.656	-8.014	-5.835
1	(1.044)**	(0.985)**	(1.711)**	(1.583)**
Displaced*Stay2	-8.879	-13.553	-13.873	-11.825
- F	(3.666)*	(3.570)**	(1.932)**	(1.914)**
Displaced*Stay3	-7.500	-12.169	-13.923	-11.956
1	(3.011)*	(2.914)**	(1.950)**	(1.978)**
Displaced*Stay4	-7.163	-11.829	-11.308	-9.446
P	(3.179)*	(3.082)**	(1.848)**	(1.924)**
Displaced*Stay5	-6.876	-11.591	-9.152	-7.399
Bispiacea stays	(2.777)*	(2.664)**	(1.722)**	(1.853)**
Displaced*Stay6	-3.853	-8.693	-6.622	-4.904
Bispiacea stayo	(2.194)	(2.051)**	(1.450)**	(1.650)**
Displaced*Stay7	-5.872	-10.790	-6.097	-4.384
Displaced Stay	(1.536)**	(1.485)**	(1.352)**	(1.610)**
Displaced*Move_3	20.022	(1.403)	0.129	(1.010)
Displaced Move_5	(5.545)**		(8.357)	
Displaced*Move 2	13.585	-7.357	-2.181	-2.512
Displaced Move_2	(5.728)*	(4.107)	(9.299)	(5.477)
Displaced*Move_1	11.213	-10.623	6.151	5.634
Displaced Move_1	(5.875)	(4.565)*	(9.804)	(7.132)
Displaced*Move_0	17.570	-5.134	11.841	11.154
Displaced Move_0	(5.925)**	(4.892)		
Displaced*Moyel			(10.610)	(8.975)
Displaced*Move1	9.000	-14.146	-3.235	-3.829
Displaced*Move2	(6.159) -12.321	(5.732)* -36.940	(10.415) -25.404	(9.210) -26.457
Displaced Move2		(5.913)**		
Di11*M2	(5.957)*		(9.487)**	(10.929)*
Displaced*Move3	-9.413	-34.399	-28.286	-29.529
D: 1 143.6 4	(6.186)	(6.061)**	(10.404)**	(11.411)**
Displaced*Move4	-1.414	-27.062	-32.556	-33.808
D: 1 143.6 .6	(7.032)	(6.169)**	(10.085)**	(11.082)**
Displaced*Move5	-8.387	-34.268	-26.918	-28.017
D: 1 140 6	(6.270)	(6.244)**	(9.338)**	(10.955)*
Displaced*Move6	2.867	-23.597	-14.915	-15.885
	(7.620)	(7.419)**	(8.840)	(10.901)
Displaced*Move7	0.386	-26.710	-9.129	-10.218
	(7.033)	(6.953)**	(8.664)	(10.873)
Observations	5071395	5071395	1897478	1897478
R-squared	0.10	0.04	0.29	0.28
Number of groups (id x base-year)		463964		173295

The dependent variable is the annual family income. The sample includes individuals who were married or cohabiting in the base year (year 0). The 2nd and 4th columns are graphed in the lower panel of Figure 4. See text under Table 4 and Figure 4 for more information about the sample, the specifications and the variables.