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**Working Paper**

## Evidence on job search models from a survey of unemployed workers in Germany

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# Online Appendix

Evidence on Job Search Models from a Survey of Unemployed Workers in  
Germany

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## A Survey Design

### A.1 Sampling Population

We draw our contact sample from administrative data containing the universe of UI recipients in Germany. This data stems from the administrative process of claiming UI at the local UI agencies and is, for example, used for generating official statistics on UI recipients in Germany. Every month we extracted micro level data with a reporting date around the 15th of each month on the current stock of all UI recipients in Germany. We received this data with a time lag of about 3 weeks. It contains the exact starting date of UI-receipt, the initial eligibility of UI in days and a number of demographic variables, such as age, education, gender and nationality.

## A.2 Sample Design

We select UI-recipients with initial eligibility, i.e. the maximum eligibility duration to UI benefits at the first day of unemployment, of exactly 6, 8 and 10 months, as well as 12 and 15 months. For the 6, 8 and 10 month eligibility groups, we restrict the sample to the age between 28 and 55 at time of UI, while for the 12 and 15 month eligibility groups we restrict to age between 45 and 55 -centered around the age-cutoff 50. We further restrict to individuals with complete address information and cellphone number that are neither sanctioned nor participate in a training program at time of sampling. Each month, we draw a stratified random sample and contact a new pool of UI recipients. We call each new round of drawing and contacting a wave, of which we run 22 in total. Each strata is defined by the interaction of initial UI eligibility in month  $P \in \{6, 8, 10, 12, 15\}$  and the UI duration at the intended contact date in month  $D \in \{2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13\}$ , though we do not sample individuals for all of these interactions.<sup>1</sup>

The sampling frame -displayed in table A.2- follows an overlapping cohort-structure: In each wave and for each P-group, we sample at different D values (cohorts). With full participation -individuals were surveyed over 18 weeks-, the UI duration at the end of the earliest cohort overlaps with or is slightly higher than the start of UI duration of the next cohort. This design allows us to disentangle potential survey response biases from actual changes in search over the unemployment spell and also allows us to study the job search behavior over the full UI spell.

We oversample individuals close to UI exhaustion, but make sure that we have also some individuals at the start of their UI duration. We do sample individuals only once, the sampling design therefore takes into account that contacted individuals are out of the sampling pool in consecutive waves.

The sample is drawn using Stata’s random number generator. Each individual fulfilling the sample restrictions gets assigned a random number that is drawn from the uniform distribution. Within each strata, we select individuals in increasing order of their random draw until the number of individuals we intend to sample in each cell -the target number- is reached. In the rare cases where the target number lies above the individuals available in a particular cell, we take all individuals in that cell, without any adjustment in other cells.

The contact of the first wave started on 11/09/2017 and the survey ended for the last wave on 11/28/2019 after over 750 days. We asked the job search question on 205 days, the question on life satisfaction on 79 days, the question on reservation wages on 68 days and the question on job found on 59 days.

## A.3 Initial Contact

To each sampled individual we send a contact letter, accompanied with a more detailed flyer. In the contact letter (figure A.1) we inform individuals that we would like them to participate

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<sup>1</sup>We refer to the intended contact date as the date for which we would like to contact individuals. This can differ from the actual date for two reasons: First, in the early pilots (wave 1 - 3), we use a slightly different definition of month (i.e. we used the date the data was updated + one month) and second, at time of sampling we do not have perfect control over the time the contact takes actually place. In some cases the send-out got unexpectedly delayed, forcing us to delay the actual contact date as well. The difference from actual and intended contact date by wave is highlighted in table A.3.

in a survey related to job search and would contact them during the next weeks on their private cellphone via text message. The contact letter describes broadly the study purpose and mentions the potential social benefits (better informed policy advice) as well as the private benefits (amazon vouchers) of participation. We also mention that participation is completely voluntary, and that sending messages can induce costs, depending on the individual phone contract. The letter was printed in color and signed by the (acting) head of IAB.

The flyer (figure A.2) includes a description of the origin of the contact information and provides the legal context which allows us to use this information. We also provide a telephone number and a email address that individuals could contact for further questions or in case they don't want to be contacted via text message. We also provide more details about the job-search question we ask during the survey and clarify what we would and would not count as job search activity. As activities that count for job search we mention "looking through the internet or the daily news for suitable vacancies", "drafting and editing a CV", "drafting and send out of job applications" and "preparation for, arrival at and participation in a job interview". As activities that we do not count as job search we mention "participation in training programs" and "filing of application forms for UI benefits or related". Individuals that actively reported that they did not want to participate in the survey were taken out before the actual contact via text message took place. We also removed individuals from the survey if their letter returned due to an invalid address or for other reasons. Those take outs led to a reduction of the contacting sample by about 2-3 percent, with some mild fluctuations between waves.

The survey was conducted by MGov International, a survey institute located in Frankfurt (Main), Germany, specialized on text message based surveys. For contacting purposes, the contact information of the sampled individuals were transferred to a secure server of MGov International. MGov handled the complete technical aspect of the survey, including the programming of survey paths, the send out of questions, the purchasing and distribution of vouchers and the collecting of responses.

During the whole survey period, individuals could ask questions via a hotline managed by IAB that was active from 10am - 2pm Tuesday to Thursday, except during public holidays. At all times, individuals could leave voice messages and send emails that were answered usually within at most two business days by IAB staff.

The first contact via text message usually took place on a Tuesday afternoon at 3pm.

#### **A.4 Questionnaire**

The questionnaire consists of an initial questionnaire individuals receive at the first date of contact only and a regular questionnaire, individuals receive during the rest of the survey period. Table A.5 shows the German and English wording of the main questions of the survey and the frequency in which they are asked.

Individuals received first a welcome message introducing shortly the survey and referring to the contact letter and a homepage at IAB containing the information provided in the contact letter and the flyer. The second message then asks directly about whether individuals want to participate in the survey and whether they agree to the linkage of their information with the administrative data stored at IAB. If they consent to this question, they receive the first amazon voucher, followed by the first question on job search and additional information

on how long the survey will last. After that they receive information when the remaining amazon vouchers (one in the middle and two at the end) are sent and how to stop the survey prematurely (with replying “stop” at any time). In case individuals reply that they don’t want to participate the survey stops a message stating that the end of the survey is reached is sent. Moreover, an option to return to the survey within three days is offered. In case individuals do not reply at all they receive a first reminder after four hours, and a second and last reminder 24 hours after the start of the initial question. The first reminder already informs them that no action is required if they don’t want to participate, whereas the second reminder says that they will not be contacted again if they take no further action.

Individuals receive the job-search question twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday. As table A.5 shows, there is a short and long job search question, where the long question contains additional examples. In addition, each Tuesday (with exception of the first date of contact) we ask one of four additional questions which we rotate, such that each of these questions gets asked every fourth week. The rotating questions are in the order in which they are asked: (a) life satisfaction on a scale from 1 to 5 (b) target wage in euro (c) search intensity over the last week on a scale from 1 to 10 and (d) information on whether they found a job. If individuals said that they found a job, they were asked on which day they got the offer, on which day they accepted the offer and on which day they are starting the new job. In case individuals report that they did not have found a job yet, they were asked to assess their subjective likelihood of finding a job within the next four weeks on a scale from 1 (not likely at all) to 10 (very likely).

## A.5 Amazon vouchers

We used amazon.de vouchers to incentivize individuals to participate in the survey as well as compensating them for potential costs that might occur to them when replying. Individuals that participated fully in the survey received four vouchers, each worth 5 €, or 20 € in total. We sent the first voucher directly after individuals consented to participate in the survey, the second one in the middle of the survey after 8 weeks and two at the end of the survey. Individuals received the middle and end vouchers if they responded to at least 70 percent of the job search questions since they received the last vouchers. Every four weeks individuals received a message displaying the share of job search questions they responded to with an appreciation for their continuous replies in case they responded to at least 70 percent of the questions and otherwise with a message that informed them that in order to receive vouchers in the future they would need to reply more often.

Table A.1 lists the voucher take-up rates, conditional on receiving a voucher and conditional on that we have information on take-up status. As Amazon repeatedly changed its policy of providing information on take-up status, we only observe take-up status for a subset of individuals and the share of individuals where we observe it varies by wave. Column 1 provides take-up rates for the different vouchers without any further sample restrictions. Slightly less than 60 percent of the observed individuals take-up their initial voucher. Restricting to individuals that are non-employed at survey-start provides a similar take-up rate. Of those who participated fully in the survey we observe a slightly higher take-up rate of about 68 percent.

## A.6 (Pre-)Pilots: From Checks to Final Samples

We began the survey with extensive piloting. Before sending any messages to unemployed individuals, we tested a reduced versions of the survey with colleagues at IAB. This allowed us to detect and repair some technical problems as well as revising and shortening the questionnaires to improve readability. We then started with two pre-pilots in November 2017. Table A.3 gives an overview of the different waves and corresponding characteristics. The pre-pilots (wave one and two) consisted of 504 contacted individuals each and contained already the basic survey structure. In addition, we asked for participants age (in years) and gender during the initial survey in order to verify this information with administrative records. As responses and administrative information align in most cases, we abolished those additional questions after the two pre-pilots. We also offered the possibility for individuals to extend their survey by two more months, in which case they received another 5 € amazon.de voucher. The survey extension option was abolished after wave 4 due to low take-up in previous pilots.

Starting with the first wave, we randomized the incentives individuals received. We did three equally sized randomization arms: In the first arm, individuals could receive up to 20 € amazon.de vouchers of which they received 5 € at the begin, another 5 € in the middle and another 10 € at the end. In another arm, individuals could receive up to 30 €, of which they received 5 € at the beginning and after month one, two and three, as well as 10 € at the end of the survey. Finally, we did one randomization where individuals received a 20 € voucher in total, as in the first randomization arm, but also participated in a monthly iPad lottery with drawing probability of 1 in 100. Individuals where clearly communicated the arm specific gains from participating: Contact letter, flyer as well as the initial text messages contained information on the arm specific incentives. In the end we chose the first arm with up to 20 € amazon.de vouchers as the most cost effective.<sup>2</sup>

The survey was then scaled up to 3024 contacted individuals in wave 3, with additional randomizations of the initial survey paths. We did four equally sized randomization arms, where each arm had a different survey path of the initial questions. In version one, we first sent a general information about the scope and duration of the survey. We then asked in a second step whether individuals wanted to participate in the survey and consent to linkage with administrative records. If they did consent, they received their first job-search question and after responding to that, they received their first 5 € amazon.de voucher. Version two followed the same logic, except that the first question on job-search was asked before we asked for linkage-consent. The third version then provided only a very short info (without providing info on the duration of the survey), before individuals got a question on job-search followed by information on the duration of the survey, the consent question and the voucher. Version four is similar to the first version, but emphasized in addition the importance to participate. The randomization of the survey path was interacted with that of the incentives, such that there where 12 randomization arms in total. After wave four we decided to abolish the randomization of the versions and opted for version one.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>The participation-rate was about 1.5 percentage points lower in the 20 Euro arm in the pre-pilots as well as the first two pilots than compared to the other arems. The differences in participation rates were not always significant.

<sup>3</sup>The differences in participation rates between the versions appeared small and version one was the most cost effective. Since there where some version-specific errors in the time of send-out, it is difficult, however to interpret these differences as causal.



We implemented a final randomization in wave seven. Here we randomized with equal weights whether individuals were contacted from a regular cellphone number<sup>4</sup>, the default in all previous waves or a “short code”: a four or five digit number. The short code offered the potential of appearing more official, and is for example used in communications by phone contractors. On the other hand, apart from cellphone providers or for some pay-services, short codes are not very common in Germany and Android phones display as default a warning message that replying might induce costs. It turned out that the downside of the short code dominated: Participation rates were only about half of the size from individuals that were contacted by the short code. In addition, individuals had to pay more often when replying to the short code as common SMS flat rates usually exclude short codes. This led to an increase in complaints and we stopped the survey for individuals in the short code arm after a few weeks, with a message reporting the issue and including a final 5 € voucher.

In wave 11 individuals erroneously received instead of the consent question a message that they decided to terminate the survey, but could re-join if replying with “yes”. To those who did say yes, we sent the corrected consent question also notifying them about the error. Only those individuals who replied “yes” continued to participate in the survey. During wave 11 a lower number of individuals with different characteristics (for example, a lower share of Non-Germans) participated in the survey than during other regular waves.

## B Representativeness of Sample and Attrition

### B.1 Representativeness of Sample

As we have administrative information on individuals that participated in the survey as well as those who did not, we can examine how the characteristics of participants differed from those that did not participate in the survey. Table A.4 shows the mean for those characteristics for the contacted individuals that participate in the survey (column (1)), those who do not participate (column (2)) and the difference and p-value of this difference in column (3). Females and high educated are more likely to participate, while individuals with Non-German nationality participate less often. Age and eligibility-duration in contrast is not or only mildly related to participation behavior.

### B.2 Attrition

Figure A.5 shows attrition rates over time since survey start, where attrition is defined as never responding to any future job-search question again. Figure A.5 (a) shows the attrition, separately for all individuals participating in the survey and for individuals participating in the survey while still non-employed. Attrition for all survey participants is quite low in our setting: Almost 70 percent of the surveyed individuals stay in the survey until the end, and about 85 percent of individuals stay for at least 5 weeks. When conditioning on non-employment the attrition is somewhat higher, with about 40 percent of the individuals that participated as non-employed in the beginning are still non-employed and participating. This reflects the fact that many individuals find a job while participating in the survey. Figure A.5 (b) shows the overall attrition rate over time split up by wave. While there is some mild

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<sup>4</sup>In Germany, cellphones can be distinguished from other phone numbers by their first digit.

variation in attrition between waves, the overall pattern is quite similar for most waves. A notable exception is wave 7 where the abolition of the short code (see A.6) leads to notable attrition at week 4. Figure A.5 (c) shows as comparison the attrition rate over time for the Krueger and Mueller data. Their data exhibits a higher attrition rate, where the attrition in week 5 is comparable to attrition in week 18 in our survey. Overall, the attrition rate is quite low in our setting, especially considering the long duration of our survey.

## C Description of Expert Forecast Survey

In order to collect predictions from UI experts about some of the results of this project, we designed and conducted an online survey.

### C.1 Sample design

The sample was constructed as follows: in a first step, we selected authors of UI-related articles published in the so-called top-5 journals (AER, Econometrica, JPE, ReStud, and QJE) since 2010. We supplemented this list with a number of younger economists who have worked on unemployment insurance in recent years, economists who have worked on the German UI system and economists who have worked on models of storable offers. Using these criteria, we arrived at a sample of 47 experts on UI and job search.

### C.2 Survey Instrument

We designed a concise questionnaire that, in a first section, described the expert forecast survey and asked for consent to participate in the survey. Next we provided contextual information about the SMS survey project and the German UI system. Then, predictions were asked about our three key results: search effort at the beginning of the unemployment spell, search effort around UI exhaustion and storable job offers.

For each of these questions we gave the respondents some context. In general we provided the respondents versions of Figure 8 in the main text that omitted the respective experts forecasts that are shown in each of the three panels. In addition we provided them with the hazard rate figures shown in Figure 6c and 6d. For the initial search effort we gave our respondent the average search in month 2 of unemployment, showed them the evolution of the reemployment hazard over the first 6 months of unemployment and then asked them what they believed the search effort in month 6 would be. For the question on search effort around exhaustion, we provided the respondents with the actual search effort in the month prior to exhaustion as well as the evolution of the reemployment hazard around the exhaustion point and then asked for their predictions regarding search effort 2 months before and after exhaustion. For the question on storable offers we showed them the gap between job offer and job start for the months before and after UI exhaustion and asked for their prediction at UI exhaustion.

Finally, respondents were asked about their academic positions, main research field and previous knowledge of the German labor market. A text box for comments and feedback was also available. The average survey response time was 5 to 10 minutes.

### C.3 Distribution and data collection

The survey was sent to respondents via a personalized email. In order to ensure confidentiality in responses an anonymized link to the survey was used. Due to this distribution method, respondents were encouraged not to share the survey with other colleagues. Invitations were sent on October 29, 2019 and a week after a reminder email was sent. Response recording ended on November 9, 2019. In terms of response rates, we recorded 35 fully completed surveys, which translates into a response rate of 74.5 percent.

## D Empirical Framework for Identification and Survey Response Bias

We are interested in how search effort varies with time in unemployment and around the UI exhaustion point. Let  $y_{it}$  be search effort of individual  $i$  at time  $t$ . Furthermore let  $D_{it}^U$  denote the time since the start of the UI spell and  $D_{it}^S$  be the time how long an individual has been participating in the survey.

Furthermore define:

- $T_i^U$  the time individual  $i$  entered unemployment
- $T_i^S$  the time individual  $i$  entered the survey
- $T_i^X$  the time individual  $i$  exits unemployment (finds a job)

so that:  $D_{it}^U \equiv t - T_i^U$ ,  $D_{it}^S \equiv t - T_i^S$

Consider a very general data generating process for search effort, such that effort is a function of unemployment duration  $D_{it}^U$ , an individual specific effect  $\xi_i$  and time effects  $\pi_t$ .

$$y_{it} = f(D_{it}^U) + \xi_i + \pi_t + \varepsilon_{it} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

In the following we discuss several issues when estimating this equation.

### Issue 1 - Selection bias

The first key problem is that we only potentially observe  $y_{it}$  if  $t \leq T_i^X$ . Mechanically individuals with different  $\xi_i$  will exit at different rates and thus the composition of  $\xi_i$  will vary with  $t$ . Therefore the average search effort at time  $t$  over all observed individuals is:

$$E[y_{it}|t] = f(D_{it}^U) + E[\xi_i|T_i^X \geq t]$$

and the problem is that  $E[\xi_i|D_{it}^U \geq t] \neq 0$  and varying with  $t$ . If we estimated equation (A.1) via OLS (not controlling for individual fixed effects), this selection leads to a biased estimate of the function  $f(\cdot)$  since  $\xi_i$  will be in the error term and due to the selection we have that:  $Cov(\xi_i, D_{it}^U) \neq 0$ .

The obvious solution in that case is to estimate equation (A.1) but controlling for individual fixed effects  $\xi_i$  so that  $f(\cdot)$  is identified only off of **within** person variation.

## Issue 2 - Non-identified linear trend

There is a second fundamental problem with estimating equation (A.1). As is well known in other contexts, with cohort (or person) effects and time effects there is an unidentified linear trend in the duration effect that is not identified. This can be clearly seen if we write unemployment duration as  $D_{it}^U \equiv t - T_i^U$ , since clearly  $T_i^U$  is absorbed by the individual effect while the remaining  $t$  is collinear with the linear component of the time effects  $\pi_t$ .

The common solution is to make some assumption to pin down this linear time trend. Since in our case the macroeconomic environment is very stable we impose that there is no systematic time trend. Instead we control for seasonality by including month dummies and day of week dummies. We also show as a robustness check that controlling for local unemployment rates (at monthly frequency) makes almost no difference for our results.

## Issue 3 - Survey Response Bias

Furthermore suppose there is a reporting bias, such that individuals over- or under-report search effort the longer they have been on UI. In particular let's assume that reported search effort

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = y_{it} + \gamma D_{it}^S + \zeta_i + u_{it} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

This equation states that observed search effort is equal to the true effort plus three sources of error:  $\zeta_i$  is some person specific fixed error term,  $u_{it}$  is some mean zero error and  $\gamma D_{it}^S$  is an error component that varies with the duration of the survey.

Based on the KM results we are in particular concerned that individuals may report lower search effort over time (perhaps because they become more honest or less careful in their responses), in that case  $\gamma < 0$ . Note that  $\zeta_i$  and  $u_{it}$  are not per se problems as long as we are not interested in obtaining unbiased estimates of the level of search effort overall as opposed to changes in search effort.

Plugging equation (A.1) into equation (A.2), the observed search effort can be written as:

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = f(D_{it}^U) + \gamma D_{it}^S + \omega_i + \pi_t + \epsilon_{it} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where  $\omega_i \equiv \xi_i + \zeta_i$  and  $\epsilon_{it} = \varepsilon_{it} + u_{it}$ .

Note that:  $D_{it}^U = t - T_i^U$  and  $D_{it}^S = t - T_i^S$ , so we can write this as:

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = f(t - T_i^U) + \gamma(t - T_i^S) + \omega_i + \pi_t + \epsilon_{it} \quad (\text{A.4})$$

Therefore clearly if we control for individual fixed effect in a regression, then  $t - T_i^U$  and  $t - T_i^S$  are perfectly collinear, even if we do not control for time fixed effects.

## Testing for Survey Response Bias - Within and Between Comparison

Suppose for simplicity that  $f(\cdot)$  is a linear function, so that (A.4) can be written as:

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = \beta(t - T_i^U) + \gamma(t - T_i^S) + \omega_i + \pi_t + \epsilon_{it} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

If selection is not an issue for estimating equation (A.4), that is  $Cov(\omega_i, D_{it}^U) = 0$ , then this equation can be estimated via OLS to identify  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ . Alternatively one could compare

the within and between estimator. The within estimator essentially lumps  $T_i^U, T_i^S$  and  $\omega_i$  into one individual fixed effect ( $\tilde{\omega}_i$ ) so that the regression model becomes:

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = (\beta + \gamma)t + \left(-\beta T_i^U - \gamma T_i^S + \omega_i\right) + \pi_t + \epsilon_{it}$$

Thus the within estimator identifies  $(\beta + \gamma)$ .

The between estimator that only uses the first survey response of each individuals ( $t = T_i^S$ ) becomes:

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = \beta \left(t - T_i^U\right) + \pi_t + \epsilon_{it}$$

Since we assumed that  $Cov(\omega_i, D_{it}^U) = 0$ , this provides a consistent estimate of  $\beta$ . If the between and within estimates are the same, this implies that  $\gamma = 0$  and there is no survey response bias.

### Direct Test for Survey Response Bias

Given our sampling frame conditional on  $T_i^U$  and  $t$  it is random in whether a person is sampled by us in an earlier or later wave. Therefore:

$$Cov(\omega_i, T_i^S | T_i^U, t) = 0 \tag{A.6}$$

Furthermore conditional on  $T_i^{UI}$  and  $t$  there is also no difference in unemployment duration or calendar date. Therefore if there is no survey response bias ( $\gamma = 0$ ), then there should be no correlation between survey start date (or survey duration) and observed search effort.

$$Cov(y_{it}, T_i^S | T_i^{UI}, t) = 0$$

This is a testable prediction and we can simply estimate:

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = \gamma \left(t - T_i^S\right) + \sum_j \sum_k \delta_{jk} \mathbf{1}(T_i^U = k, t = j) + \epsilon_{it} \tag{A.7}$$

The estimate  $\hat{\gamma}$  should yield an unbiased estimate of the true survey response bias  $\gamma$ .

Note that estimating equation (A.7) may not have a lot of power. Alternatively we can impose a bit more structure and estimate:

$$\tilde{y}_{it} = \gamma \left(t - T_i^S\right) + \sum_k \delta_{jk} \mathbf{1}(D_i^U = k) + \pi_t + \epsilon_{it} \tag{A.8}$$

This is the approach we use in the paper to estimate the survey response bias  $\gamma$ .<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>In KM  $T_i^S$  is the same for everyone. Therefore  $D_i^S$  is perfectly collinear with  $t$  and the vector of fixed effects  $\pi_t$ . Therefore this test does not work in the KM data.

## Correcting for Survey Response Bias

For our main variable we do not find any evidence of survey response bias using the tests outlined above (Table 2 in the main paper). We do however find evidence for a modest bias for some of our alternative outcome variables, like search intensity or dummies for searching above a certain minutes threshold. For estimates using those variables, which are reported in Tables A.11 to A.14, we present both the direct estimates, as well as estimate of the coefficients that are adjusted for survey response bias. We estimate equation (A.8) to obtain an estimate of the survey response bias coefficient  $\hat{\gamma}$ . We then report the dummy coefficients that capture the flexible relationship  $f(t - T_i^U)$  by subtracting  $\hat{\gamma}(t - T_i^S)$  and then recentering to the same omitted category (such as the exhaustion month in the 'around UI exhaustion' regressions).

## E Appendix Tables and Figures

Table A.1: Amazon Take-Up Mean

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	All Participants	Nonemployed at Survey Start	Full Participants & Nonemployed at Survey Start
Initial Voucher	0.592 (2880)	0.587 (2564)	0.677 (1821)
Middle Voucher	0.507 (1830)	0.505 (1546)	0.520 (1466)
Final Voucher	0.671 (973)	0.662 (845)	0.662 (844)
At least one Voucher	0.758 (973)	0.757 (845)	0.758 (844)

**Notes:** This table shows voucher take-up rates for participants in the survey conditional on receiving a voucher and observing take-up status. Number of observations are in parenthesis. Since we can verify the take-up status only for a subset of cases, the number of observations are lower than the number of individuals that received a particular voucher. Column (1) shows the mean of taking-up a particular voucher until December 12th 2019. Column (2) shows results for the subset of individuals which reportedly received all vouchers and column (3) further restricts to individuals that were nonemployed at the start of the survey. The N in brackets refers to the number of observations on which the respective take-up rate is based. The N at the bottom of the table refers to the number of individuals for which we have information on take-up behavior for at least one of the vouchers.

**Source:** Own calculations.



Table A.2: Final Sampling Scheme

	P=6	P=8	P=10	P=12	P=15
D=2	312	240	240	294	210
D=3					
D=4					
D=5	780	200	80	98	70
D=6					
D=7	260	300	200		
D=8				196	140
D=9		200	280		
D=10					
D=11				392	280
D=12					
D=13				196	140
Total	1352	940	800	1176	840

**Notes:** This table shows the final sample scheme as intended from wave 12 onwards. Earlier waves had lower number of observations and slightly different weights per cell. For the D=2 groups, in wave 9 and 10 an additional 1000 number of individuals were sampled. D refers to the months since UI-Start at time of intended contact and P refers to the months of UI eligibility at UI start.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.3: Wave Specific Dates, Sample Sizes and Randomization Schemes

Wave No.	Retrieval Date	Contact Date Anticipated	Contact Date Actual	No. of Contacts	No. of Participants	Randomization Schemes
1	10/12/2017	11/09/2017	11/09/2017	504	37	incentives
2	10/12/2017	11/16/2017	11/16/2017	504	30	incentives
3	14/11/2017	12/19/2017	12/19/2017	3024	350	incentives + version
4	12/12/2017	01/23/2018	01/23/2018	3024	318	incentives + version
5	01/11/2018	02/20/2018	02/20/2018	3024	272	no
6	02/12/2018	03/20/2018	03/20/2018	3024	311	no
7	03/13/2018	04/24/2018	04/24/2018	3024	234	short vs. long number
8	04/11/2018	05/24/2018	05/24/2018	3024	272	no
9	05/14/2018	06/26/2018	06/26/2018	4024	370	no
10	06/12/2018	07/24/2018	07/24/2018	4024	369	no
11	07/12/2018	08/21/2018	08/21/2018	3024	248	no
12	08/13/2018	09/25/2018	09/25/2018	5108	493	no
13	09/11/2018	10/23/2018	11/06/2018	5108	477	no
14	10/11/2018	11/20/2018	11/27/2018	5074*	516	no
15	11/12/2018	01/08/2019	01/08/2019	5014*	459	no
16	12/11/2018	01/22/2019	01/22/2019	5069*	471	no
17	01/14/2019	02/26/2019	02/26/2019	5108	424	no
18	02/13/2019	03/26/2019	03/26/2019	5108	427	no
19	03/14/2019	04/30/2019	04/30/2019	5108	454	no
20	04/11/2019	05/28/2019	05/28/2019	5108	463	no
21	05/13/2019	07/02/2019	07/02/2019	5108	356	no
22	06/13/2019	07/30/2019	07/30/2019	5600	425	no

**Notes:** This table provides an overview of the wave-specific dates, sample-size and -if any- randomization schemes. Retrieval date refers to the date for which the information is valid, anticipated contact date the date at which individuals were thought to be contacted at time of sampling and actual contact date refers to the date the actual contact takes place. A \* refers to cases, in which the intended number of contacts (of 5108) could not be reached due to lower numbers of unemployed in some of these cells.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.4: Difference Between Participants and Non-Participants

	(1)	(2)	(3)	
	Participants	Contacted Non- Participants	Difference between (1) and (2), SE (right)	
	Month 1			
<b>Demographics</b>				
Female = 1	0.50	0.44	0.0575***	0.0059
Age	43.06	43.29	-0.2349**	0.0962
Non-German Nat.= 1	0.16	0.29	-0.1239***	0.0053
Education Missing	0.23	0.38	-0.1442***	0.0057
Low Education	0.50	0.49	0.0173***	0.0059
High Education	0.26	0.14	0.1269***	0.0042
cellphone == 1	1.00	1.00	0.0000	0.0000
<b>UI Characteristics</b>				
P at UI start = 6 months	0.23	0.24	-0.0138**	0.0051
P at UI start = 8 months	0.20	0.21	-0.0117*	0.0048
P at UI start = 10 months	0.18	0.17	0.0091*	0.0045
P at UI start = 12 months	0.22	0.21	0.0117*	0.0049
P at UI start = 15 months	0.17	0.17	0.0047	0.0045
P at UI start = 18 months	0.00	0.00	0.0000	0.0000
P at UI start = 24 months	0.00	0.00	0.0000	0.0000
P at UI start = other	0.00	0.00	0.0000	0.0000
Nonemp. Duration in months (at last contact)	6.41	6.64	-0.2269***	0.0397
<b>Survey Outcomes</b>				
Unemployed = 1		0.88		
N	7797	77968		
Krueger Mueller Data *	6025	57788		

**Notes:** This table summarizes characteristics of the participating and contacted non-participating UI recipients. Column (1) shows all individuals that participate in the survey, column (2) shows all individuals that were contacted but did not participate. Column (3) reports mean differences and corresponding standard errors between the contacted participants and the non-participants. \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote significance on 10%, 5% and 1% significance level, respectively. Survey outcomes (except job search) contain first (column 4) and last (column 5) observation of each participant.

\*Numbers retrieved from tables and text in "Krueger and Mueller (2011) Job Search, Emotional Well-Being, and Job Finding in a Period of Mass Unemployment: Evidence from High-Frequency Longitudinal Data".

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.5: Survey Questions

Question	Question English (Translation)	Question German (Original)	Frequency
<b>Panel A: Initial Contact Questions</b>			
Welcome Text	[Dear Mr/Ms XXX], we would like to ask you to participate in a survey of the institute of employment research (IAB). In the next 4 months we would like to ask you one or two short questions twice a week regarding job search activities. If you participate in the complete survey you will receive 20 Euros of amazon.de vouchers, of which you will receive 5 euros immediately after answering the first two questions. We sent you further further information via mail. You can also find it at <a href="http://www.iab.de/SMSFragen">www.iab.de/SMSFragen</a> .	[Sehr geehrte/r Herr/ Frau XXX], wir moechten Sie bitten, an einer Befragung des Instituts fuer Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung (IAB) teilzunehmen. In den kommenden 4 Monaten moechten wir Ihnen zweimal pro Woche ein bis zwei kurze Fragen zum Thema Arbeitssuche per SMS stellen. Bei Teilnahme an der gesamten Befragung erhalten Sie insgesamt 20 Euro Amazon.de Gutscheine, davon 5 Euro direkt nach Beantwortung der ersten beiden Fragen. Mehr Informationen haben wir Ihnen dazu per Post gesendet. Sie finden diese auch unter <a href="http://www.iab.de/SMS">www.iab.de/SMS</a> .	Once at beginning of survey
Consent	We would like to ask for your consent to link your responses with your employment data stored at the IAB. This includes e.g. information about your past jobs. Everything will be analysed anonymously without your name or cellphone number. Do you want to participate in this survey and do you consent to link your responses with your labor market data stored at the IAB? Please reply "Yes" if you agree.	Wir moechten Sie um Zustimmung bitten, dass wir Ihre Antworten mit Arbeitsmarktdaten verknuepfen duerfen, die beim IAB ueber Sie vorliegen. Das sind zum Beispiel Informationen ueber Ihre Beschaeftigungen. Alles wird anonym, ohne Ihren Namen und Ihre Telefonnummer, ausgewertet. Moechten Sie an der Befragung teilnehmen und stimmen Sie zu, dass Ihre Antworten mit den Daten des IAB verknuepft werden? Wenn ja, antworten Sie bitte mit "Ja".	
<b>Panel B: Search Effort and Regular Questions</b>			
First Job Search Question	Thank you for your participation! Now we would like to ask you about your job search experience. How many hours did you spend searching for a job yesterday? For example looking for job postings, sending out applications, making a CV, etc. Please reply with the number of hours, for example: 0.5 or 2. If, for whatever reason, you did not spend time with job search yesterday, please simply reply with 0.	Danke fuer Ihre Teilnahme! Wir moechten Sie nun zur Arbeitssuche befragen. Wie viele Stunden haben Sie gestern mit Arbeitssuche verbracht, also z.B. nach Jobangeboten gesucht, Bewerbungen versendet, einen Lebenslauf erstellt, usw.? Bitte antworten Sie mit der Zahl der Stunden, z.B. 0,5 oder 2. Wenn Sie aus irgendeinem Grund keine Zeit mit Arbeitssuche verbracht haben, antworten Sie einfach mit 0.	Once after consent

Job-Search long	Hello. How many hours did you spend searching for a job yesterday? For example looking for job-postings, sending out applications or designing a cv? Please reply with the number of hours, for example: 0.5 or 2. If, for whatever reason, you did not spend time with job search yesterday, please simply reply with 0.	Guten Tag. Wie viele Stunden haben Sie gestern mit Arbeitssuche verbracht, z.B. nach Jobs gesucht, Bewerbungen versendet, einen Lebenslauf erstellt? Bitte antworten Sie mit der Zahl der Stunden, z.B. 0,5 oder 2. Wenn Sie aus irgendeinem Grund keine Zeit mit Arbeitssuche verbracht haben antworten Sie 0.	Twice a week (Tuesday/Thursday); short and long version are rotated
Job-Search short	Hello. How many hours did you spend searching for a job yesterday? For example looking for job-postings, sending out applications or designing a cv?	Guten Tag. Wie viele Stunden haben Sie gestern mit Arbeitssuche verbracht, z.B. nach Jobs gesucht, Bewerbungen versendet, einen Lebenslauf erstellt?	
Life Satisfaction	Taken all together, how satisfied are you with your life? Please reply with a number between 1 (not satisfied at all) and 5 (very satisfied).	Wie zufrieden sind Sie insgesamt mit Ihrem Leben? Bitte antworten Sie mit einer Zahl zwischen 1 (ueberhaupt nicht zufrieden) und 5 (sehr zufrieden).	Questions are sent to ALL individuals and rotated between weeks
Target Wage	Please recall the last job you applied for. What do you think is the typical monthly wage for such a job in Euros?	Bitte denken Sie an die letzte Stelle, auf die Sie sich beworben haben. Was meinen Sie ist der typische Monatsverdienst (brutto) dieser Stelle in Euro?	
Search Intensity	How hard did you search for a job last week? Please reply with a number from 1 (no search) to 10 (very hard search).	Wie intensiv haben Sie letzte Woche nach Arbeit gesucht? Bitte antworten Sie mit einer Zahl zwischen 1 (keine Suche) und 10 (sehr intensive Suche).	
Job Found	We would like to know if your job search was successful. Please reply with 1 if you found a job and 2 if you are still searching for a job.	Wir wuerden gerne erfahren, ob Ihre Arbeitssuche mittlerweile erfolgreich war. Antworten Sie mit 1 falls Sie einen neuen Arbeitsplatz gefunden haben oder mit 2, falls Sie weiterhin suchen.	

### Panel C: Job Found Questions

Job-Start Date	Since when are you back in employment or when will your new employment start? Please reply with a date, e.g. 06/01/2018.	Seit wann sind Sie wieder beschaeftigt bzw. ab wann werden Sie Ihre neue Beschaeftigung aufnehmen? Antworten Sie bitte mit einem Datum, z.B. 01.06.2018.	Asked if participant replied "1" to job-found question
Job-Offer Date	Do you recall when you received the job offer from your new employer? Please reply with a date, e.g. 06/01/2018.	Wissen Sie noch, wann Sie die Zusage fuer den Arbeitsplatz von Ihrem neuen Arbeitgeber erhalten haben? Antworten Sie bitte mit einem Datum, z.B. 01.06.2018.	
Job-Acceptance Date	Did you accept the job offer right away or at a later time? Please reply with the date you accepted the job offer of your new employer. E.g. 06/01/2018.	Haben Sie das Stellenangebot sofort angenommen oder erst zu einem spaeteren Zeitpunkt? Antworten Sie bitte mit dem Datum, an dem Sie das Stellenangebot Ihres neuen Arbeitgebers angenommen haben. z.B. 01.06.2018.	

Job-Prospects	How do you assess your chances of finding a job within the next four weeks? Please reply with a number between 1 (chances are very low) and 10 (chances are very high)	Wie schätzen Sie Ihre Chance ein, in den nächsten vier Wochen einen neuen Arbeitsplatz zu finden? Bitte antworten Sie mit einer Zahl zwischen 1 (sehr geringe Chancen) und 10 (sehr hohe Chancen).	Asked if participant replied "2" to job-found question
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**Panel D: Vouchers**

First Voucher	Thank you for your participation! You hereby receive your first amazon.de voucher of 5 euros: [Voucher-Code]. You can convert it at: www.amazon.de. If you decide to keep participating in the survey you will receive another amazon.de voucher of 5 euros after completion of the first two months and one amazon.de voucher of 10 euros at the end of the survey.	Danke für Ihre Teilnahme! Hiermit erhalten Sie Ihren ersten 5 Euro Amazon.de Gutschein: [Gutschein-Code]. Sie können ihn unter www.amazon.de einlösen. Wenn Sie weiterhin an der Befragung teilnehmen, erhalten Sie einen zusätzlichen 5 Euro Amazon.de Gutschein nach Abschluss der ersten 2 Monate und einen 10 Euro Amazon.de Gutschein zum Ende der Befragung.	Once after consent was given and first job-search question was answered
Second Voucher	Month 2 out of 4 of the sms-survey is hereby completed. You have replied to X of 7 questions in the last month. Thank you for your participation! We highly appreciate your help and would be glad if you continue to participate in the survey. As a reward for your participation in the survey up until now you hereby receive your amazon.de voucher over 5 Euros: [Voucher-Code]. You can convert it at www.amazon.de	Hiermit ist Monat 2 von 4 der SMS-Befragung abgeschlossen. Sie haben im letzten Monat auf X von X Fragen geantwortet. Vielen Dank für Ihre Teilnahme! Wir wissen Ihre Bereitschaft sehr zu schätzen und würden uns freuen, wenn Sie auch weiterhin so engagiert an der Befragung teilnehmen. Als Dankeschön für Ihre bisherige Teilnahme an der Befragung erhalten Sie hiermit Ihren 5 Euro Amazon.de Gutschein: [Gutschein-Code]. Sie können ihn unter www.amazon.de einlösen.	Once after second month of survey is completed and participant replied to at least 70% of questions
Final Voucher	Thank you for your participation! This is the end of the survey. Please reply "Yes" to this message if you want to receive two final amazon.de vouchers over 5 Euros. Please note that if you do not respond to this message or only respond "Yes" after two weeks we are unable to send you the vouchers.	Vielen Dank für Ihre Mitarbeit! Die Befragung ist hiermit abgeschlossen. Wenn Sie zwei weitere 5 Euro Amazon.de Gutscheine erhalten wollen, antworten Sie bitte mit JA auf diese SMS. Bitte beachten Sie, dass wenn Sie nicht auf diese SMS bzw. erst nach zwei Wochen mit JA antworten, Ihnen die Gutscheine nicht mehr übermittelt werden können.	Once at end of survey if participant replied to at least 70% of questions.

Source: Own illustration.

Table A.6: Search Behavior and Holidays

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>Panel A: Public Holidays</b>				
Public holiday (national)	-31.79*** [3.299]	-29.65*** [4.012]	-29.12*** [4.000]	0 [.]
Public holiday (regional)	-25.00*** [6.001]	-12.47** [4.683]	-16.65*** [2.944]	-10.81*** [2.703]
Adj. $R^2$	0.003	0.038	0.490	0.000
Mean Dep. Var	85.24	85.24	85.24	
N Observations	122643	122643	122643	122643
N Individuals	6872	6872	6872	6872
<b>Panel B: School Holidays</b>				
School Holiday	-5.257*** [1.484]	-5.293*** [1.537]	-6.768*** [1.376]	-4.191*** [0.747]
Adj. $R^2$	0.001	0.036	0.488	0.000
Mean Dep. Var	85.24	85.24	85.24	85.24
N Observations	122643	122643	122643	122643
N Individuals	6872	6872	6872	6872
Individual Controls		X	X	
Individual FE			X	X
Month FE		X		
Day of Week FE		X		
Week FE			X	
Date FE				X
State FE		X	X	X

**Notes:** This table shows results from regressing job-search in minutes on dummies for public holidays (panel A) and school holidays (panel B) for nonemployed individuals. Column (1)-(4) present different specifications using different sets of controls. Individual controls contain: Gender, Education, Age (in Categories), Nationality (German/non-German), Wave, Eligibility Duration in Months at UI-Start, Nonemployment Duration at date of contact, Months since UI-exhaustion (daily info), Week of survey (relative to date of contact). Standard Errors are clustered on daily level. \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote significance on 5%, 1% and 0.1% significance level, respectively.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.7: Tests for Survey Response Bias - Different Outcomes

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<b>Panel A: Baseline Outcome Minutes Job Search</b>					
	Minutes Job Search				
Survey Duration in Months	0.8145 [0.6607]				
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.002				
Mean Dep. Var	84.896				
N Observations	121405				
N Individuals	6877				
<b>Panel B: Threshold Definitions of Job-Search</b>					
	Any Search	≥ 60 min	≥ 120 min	≥ 180 min	≥ 240 min
Survey Duration in Months	-0.0114*** [0.0028]	-0.0040 [0.0029]	0.0076*** [0.0029]	0.0076*** [0.0025]	0.0060*** [0.0020]
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.003
Mean Dep. Var	0.689	0.565	0.338	0.185	0.114
N Observations	121405	121405	121405	121405	121405
N Individuals	6877	6877	6877	6877	6877
<b>Panel C: Other Outcomes</b>					
	Search Intensity (Scale 1-10)	Log Monthly Target Wage	Life Satisfaction (Scale 1-5)		
Survey Duration in Months	-0.1825*** [0.0311]	0.0056 [0.0073]	-0.0256** [0.0103]		
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.004	0.024	0.010		
Mean Dep. Var	5.179	7.744	3.055		
N Observations	11639	8964	14892		
N Individuals	4530	3998	5217		
P-Group X Unemp. Dur. FE	X	X	X	X	X

**Notes:** Survey duration is the difference between the first contact date and the day of the interview in months (where one month consists of 4 weeks). Sample Restrictions are that respondents are still non-employed, with a current unemployment duration of at most 5 months (i.e. 20 weeks or lower). UI-Entry FE are fixed effects for the week of UI-entry. Regressions with diary data and regressions include day of the week FE. Standard errors clustered at the individual level. Significance levels: \*  $p < 0.1$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ .

**Source:** Own calculations.



Table A.8: Search Effort Since Start of UI Spell: Heterogeneity Results

	Gender		Education		Local UR	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	<b>Female</b>		<b>High Educated</b>		<b>High Local UR</b>	
[2, 3] months (omitted category)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]
on UI since [3, 4] months	-1.79	-2.04	-1.44	-1.97	1.57	1.47
	[2.12]	[2.14]	[3.48]	[3.52]	[2.35]	[2.41]
on UI since [4, 5] months	-1.59	-1.15	-1.73	-1.23	-0.35	0.35
	[2.34]	[2.35]	[3.66]	[3.67]	[2.63]	[2.64]
on UI since [5, 6] months	-0.77	-0.17	-1.34	-0.86	-0.12	0.46
	[1.97]	[1.98]	[3.20]	[3.20]	[2.16]	[2.16]
	<b>Male</b>		<b>Low Educated</b>		<b>Low Local UR</b>	
[2, 3] months (omitted category)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]
on UI since [3, 4] months	-0.47	-1.13	-1.07	-1.48	-3.38	-4.10*
	[2.45]	[2.52]	[1.75]	[1.79]	[2.19]	[2.22]
on UI since [4, 5] months	1.51	2.14	0.58	1.12	0.06	0.45
	[3.10]	[3.12]	[2.25]	[2.27]	[2.74]	[2.75]
on UI since [5, 6] months	0.06	0.71	0.02	0.70	-0.58	0.08
	[2.28]	[2.30]	[1.66]	[1.68]	[2.08]	[2.09]
Adj. R-Squared	0.469	0.471	0.469	0.471	0.469	0.471
Mean Dep. Var	86.564	86.564	86.564	86.564	86.564	86.564
N Observations	29817	29817	29817	29817	29817	29817
N Individuals	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
Individual -FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Time - FE		X		X		X

**Notes:** This table shows estimates of job-search in minutes on time since UI exhaustion. Flexible Time-FE are fixed effects, that are estimated separately in each regression, while fixed time-fe are forced to be equal to the ones retrieved from the full sample.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.9: Search Effort Around UI Exhaustion: Heterogeneity Effects

	Gender		Education		Local UR	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	<b>Female</b>		<b>High Educated</b>		<b>High Local UR</b>	
[-4, -3] months since UI exhaustion	-2.52 [2.69]	-3.22 [2.71]	-4.50 [4.36]	-4.66 [4.38]	-6.24** [2.77]	-7.09** [2.80]
[-3, -2] months since UI exhaustion	-1.62 [2.45]	-2.30 [2.47]	0.64 [4.00]	0.37 [4.01]	-6.08** [2.49]	-6.73*** [2.50]
[-2, -1] months since UI exhaustion	-1.04 [2.17]	-1.36 [2.17]	-0.19 [3.55]	-0.25 [3.54]	-4.62** [2.26]	-4.96** [2.26]
[-1, 0] months since UI exhaustion (omitted cat.)	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]
[0, 1] months since UI exhaustion	-2.47 [1.53]	-2.36 [1.53]	-1.48 [2.41]	-1.39 [2.40]	-1.59 [1.50]	-1.34 [1.50]
[1, 2] months since UI exhaustion	-3.89* [2.03]	-3.26 [2.05]	-2.75 [3.16]	-2.16 [3.18]	-4.56** [1.92]	-3.64* [1.90]
[2, 3] months since UI exhaustion	-5.15** [2.28]	-4.28* [2.30]	-5.69 [3.77]	-5.06 [3.79]	-7.39*** [2.16]	-6.27*** [2.14]
[3, 4] months since UI exhaustion	-8.81*** [2.47]	-7.47*** [2.52]	-10.52** [4.27]	-9.31** [4.28]	-8.60*** [2.37]	-6.93*** [2.37]
	<b>Male</b>		<b>Low Educated</b>		<b>Low Local UR</b>	
[-4, -3] months since UI exhaustion	-10.87*** [2.88]	-11.52*** [2.88]	-7.41*** [2.15]	-8.30*** [2.16]	-6.75** [2.80]	-7.25*** [2.80]
[-3, -2] months since UI exhaustion	-5.63** [2.66]	-6.16** [2.66]	-5.25*** [1.98]	-6.00*** [1.99]	-1.28 [2.62]	-1.84 [2.63]
[-2, -1] months since UI exhaustion	-5.73** [2.23]	-6.00*** [2.23]	-4.59*** [1.69]	-4.98*** [1.69]	-2.19 [2.15]	-2.44 [2.15]
[-1, 0] months since UI exhaustion (omitted cat.)	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]	0.00 [.]
[0, 1] months since UI exhaustion	-1.71 [1.55]	-1.53 [1.56]	-2.29* [1.21]	-2.13* [1.21]	-2.69* [1.58]	-2.68* [1.59]
[1, 2] months since UI exhaustion	-3.02 [2.14]	-2.23 [2.14]	-3.70** [1.66]	-2.93* [1.65]	-2.06 [2.30]	-1.61 [2.32]
[2, 3] months since UI exhaustion	-4.95** [2.37]	-4.00* [2.35]	-4.86*** [1.80]	-3.83** [1.79]	-2.08 [2.55]	-1.45 [2.56]
[3, 4] months since UI exhaustion	-5.85** [2.73]	-4.28 [2.71]	-6.22*** [2.02]	-4.64** [2.03]	-5.57* [2.94]	-4.41 [2.96]
Adj. R-Squared	0.498	0.499	0.498	0.499	0.498	0.499
Mean Dep. Var	84.271	84.271	84.271	84.271	84.271	84.271
N Observations	89876	89876	89876	89876	89876	89876
N Individuals	5530	5530	5530	5530	5530	5530
Individual -FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Time - FE		X		X		X

**Notes:** This table shows estimates of job-search in minutes on time since UI exhaustion. Flexible Time-FE are fixed effects, that are estimated separately in each regression, while fixed time-fe are forced to be equal to the ones retrieved from the full sample.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.10: Search Effort around UI Exhaustion by Potential Benefit Duration

	<b>P = 6</b>	<b>P = 8</b>	<b>P = 10</b>	<b>P = 12</b>	<b>P = 15</b>	<b>ALL P</b>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
[-4, -3] months since UI exhaustion	3.50	2.50	-20.05***	-15.44***	-5.97**	-7.27***
	[4.59]	[6.07]	[6.59]	[4.67]	[3.03]	[1.99]
[-3, -2] months since UI exhaustion	1.26	-2.04	-8.93**	-13.04***	2.24	-4.27**
	[4.84]	[5.01]	[3.96]	[4.43]	[3.00]	[1.83]
[-2, -1] months since UI exhaustion	3.52	-3.21	-4.87	-10.63***	-0.51	-3.76**
	[4.26]	[4.15]	[3.41]	[3.78]	[2.63]	[1.56]
[-1, 0] months since UI exhaustion (omitted cat.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]	[.]
[0, 1] months since UI exhaustion	-4.00*	-3.30	-1.68	-2.29	4.36	-1.96*
	[2.17]	[2.53]	[2.42]	[2.28]	[3.05]	[1.10]
[1, 2] months since UI exhaustion	-6.73**	-1.97	-2.12	-2.45	4.61	-2.75*
	[2.95]	[3.08]	[3.14]	[3.28]	[4.90]	[1.48]
[2, 3] months since UI exhaustion	-6.03*	-5.16	-6.63*	-5.34	14.34***	-4.16**
	[3.19]	[3.64]	[3.80]	[3.42]	[5.28]	[1.65]
[3, 4] months since UI exhaustion	-7.78**	-4.19	-7.76	-8.11**	6.42	-5.81***
	[3.53]	[3.95]	[4.74]	[3.68]	[11.96]	[1.87]
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.445	0.495	0.493	0.513	0.566	0.499
Mean Dep. Var	81.886	82.573	87.479	84.243	86.981	84.271
N Observations	23834	17439	14990	19253	14360	89876
N Individuals	1545	1175	973	1098	739	5530
Individual FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Time FE	X	X	X	X	X	X

**Notes:** This table shows estimates of job-search in minutes on time since UI exhaustion. SE (in brackets) are clustered on the individual level. Separate Regressions by P-Group. P-Values report the  $H_0$  of the performed test. \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote significance on 10%, 5% and 1% significance level, respectively.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.11: Search Effort Since Start of UI Spell - Different Thresholds

	Minutes Search (1)	Any Search (2)	$\geq 60$ min (3)	$\geq 120$ min (4)	$\geq 180$ min (5)	$\geq 240$ min (6)
<b>Panel A: Estimates</b>						
[2, 3] months (omitted category)	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]
on UI since [3, 4] months	-1.2335 [1.7211]	-0.0446*** [0.0082]	-0.0222** [0.0087]	0.0006 [0.0088]	0.0079 [0.0072]	0.0046 [0.0060]
on UI since [4, 5] months	0.8726 [2.1980]	-0.0567*** [0.0099]	-0.0168 [0.0108]	0.0076 [0.0107]	0.0094 [0.0088]	0.0158** [0.0076]
on UI since [5, 6] months	1.1114 [2.4056]	-0.0500*** [0.0115]	-0.0238** [0.0120]	0.0142 [0.0116]	0.0152 [0.0097]	0.0134 [0.0082]
on UI since [6, 7] months	1.6714 [2.8306]	-0.0692*** [0.0129]	-0.0344** [0.0138]	0.0178 [0.0131]	0.0242** [0.0111]	0.0230** [0.0094]
<b>Panel B: Coefficients Adjusted for Survey Response Bias</b>						
[2, 3] months (omitted category)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
on UI since [3, 4] months	-2.0480	-0.0332	-0.0182	-0.0070	0.0003	-0.0014
on UI since [4, 5] months	-0.7564	-0.0339	-0.0088	-0.0076	-0.0058	0.0038
on UI since [5, 6] months	-1.3321	-0.0158	-0.0118	-0.0086	-0.0076	-0.0046
on UI since [6, 7] months	-1.5866	-0.0236	-0.0184	-0.0126	-0.0062	-0.0010
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.471	0.333	0.327	0.356	0.371	0.356
Mean Dep. Var	86.578	0.707	0.579	0.341	0.186	0.115

**Notes:** This table shows estimates of job-search dummies on time since start of UI (Panel A) and coefficients from this regression after adjusting for the survey response bias estimate from table A.7 (Panel B), as explained in Online Appendix D. SE (in brackets) are clustered on the individual level. Dependent variables are dummies for whether reported job search is at or above certain values of the job search distribution. All Specifications include individual FE and Time FE (calendar months and weekday of survey dummies). \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote significance on 10%, 5% and 1% significance level, respectively.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.12: Search Effort Around UI Exhaustion - Different Thresholds

	Minutes Search (1)	Any Search (2)	$\geq 60$ min (3)	$\geq 120$ min (4)	$\geq 180$ min (5)	$\geq 240$ min (6)
<b>Panel A: Estimates</b>						
$[-4, -3]$ months since UI exhaustion	-7.2689*** [1.9887]	0.0281*** [0.0091]	-0.0105 [0.0098]	-0.0461*** [0.0096]	-0.0439*** [0.0081]	-0.0294*** [0.0068]
$[-3, -2]$ months since UI exhaustion	-4.2702** [1.8265]	0.0178** [0.0079]	-0.0076 [0.0086]	-0.0264*** [0.0086]	-0.0213*** [0.0073]	-0.0219*** [0.0063]
$[-2, -1]$ months since UI exhaustion	-3.7568** [1.5631]	-0.0071 [0.0071]	-0.0146* [0.0075]	-0.0225*** [0.0074]	-0.0157** [0.0064]	-0.0074 [0.0055]
$[-1, 0]$ months since UI exhaustion (omitted cat.)	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]
$[0, 1]$ months since UI exhaustion	-1.9578* [1.0957]	-0.0376*** [0.0054]	-0.0181*** [0.0057]	-0.0013 [0.0054]	-0.0018 [0.0045]	0.0039 [0.0039]
$[1, 2]$ months since UI exhaustion	-2.7525* [1.4835]	-0.0529*** [0.0069]	-0.0225*** [0.0074]	0.0055 [0.0073]	-0.0020 [0.0061]	0.0025 [0.0049]
$[2, 3]$ months since UI exhaustion	-4.1586** [1.6529]	-0.0710*** [0.0079]	-0.0310*** [0.0081]	0.0072 [0.0081]	-0.0001 [0.0068]	-0.0016 [0.0055]
$[3, 4]$ months since UI exhaustion	-5.8095*** [1.8668]	-0.0927*** [0.0094]	-0.0390*** [0.0099]	0.0035 [0.0096]	-0.0031 [0.0078]	0.0011 [0.0061]
<b>Panel B: Coefficients Adjusted for Survey Response Bias</b>						
$[-4, -3]$ months since UI exhaustion	-4.8254	-0.0061	-0.0225	-0.0233	-0.0211	-0.0114
$[-3, -2]$ months since UI exhaustion	-2.6412	-0.0050	-0.0156	-0.0112	-0.0061	-0.0099
$[-2, -1]$ months since UI exhaustion	-2.9423	-0.0185	-0.0186	-0.0149	-0.0081	-0.0014
$[-1, 0]$ months since UI exhaustion (omitted cat.)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
$[0, 1]$ months since UI exhaustion	-2.7723	-0.0262	-0.0141	-0.0089	-0.0094	-0.0021
$[1, 2]$ months since UI exhaustion	-4.3815	-0.0301	-0.0145	-0.0097	-0.0172	-0.0095
$[2, 3]$ months since UI exhaustion	-6.6021	-0.0368	-0.0190	-0.0156	-0.0229	-0.0196
$[3, 4]$ months since UI exhaustion	-9.0675	-0.0471	-0.0230	-0.0269	-0.0335	-0.0229
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.499	0.348	0.352	0.386	0.403	0.388
Mean Dep. Var	84.271	0.685	0.560	0.335	0.184	0.113

**Notes:** This table shows estimates of job-search dummies on time since UI exhaustion. SE (in brackets) are clustered on the individual level (Panel A) and coefficients from this regression after adjusting for the corresponding survey response bias from table A.7 (Panel B), as explained in Online Appendix D. Dependent variables are dummies for whether reported job search is at or above certain values of the job search distribution. All Specification include individual FE and Time FE (calendar months and weekday of survey dummies). \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote significance on 10%, 5% and 1% significance level, respectively.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.13: Search Effort Since Start of UI Spell - Other Outcomes

	Search Intensity (1)	Log Target Wage (2)	Life Satisfaction (3)
<b>Panel A: Estimates</b>			
[2, 3] months (omitted category)	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]
on UI since [3, 4] months	-0.0763 [0.1624]	0.0032 [0.0345]	-0.0673 [0.0525]
on UI since [4, 5] months	0.0538 [0.1820]	-0.0027 [0.0314]	-0.0813 [0.0562]
on UI since [5, 6] months	-0.0839 [0.1936]	0.0158 [0.0396]	-0.1727*** [0.0614]
on UI since [6, 7] months	-0.4422* [0.2614]	-0.0018 [0.0522]	-0.1357** [0.0654]
<b>Panel B: Coefficients Adjusted for Survey Response Bias</b>			
[2, 3] months (omitted category)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
on UI since [3, 4] months	0.1062	-0.0024	-0.0417
on UI since [4, 5] months	0.4188	-0.0139	-0.0301
on UI since [5, 6] months	0.4636	-0.0010	-0.0959
on UI since [6, 7] months	0.2878	-0.0242	-0.0333
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.508	0.803	0.597
Mean Dep. Var	5.253	7.830	3.175

**Notes:** This table shows estimates of other outcomes on time since start of UI (Panel A) and coefficients from this regression after adjusting for the corresponding survey response bias from table A.7 (Panel C), as explained in Online Appendix D. SE (in brackets) are clustered on the individual level. All Specification include individual-FE and Time-FE (calendar months and weekday of survey dummies). \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote significance on 10%, 5% and 1% significance level, respectively.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.14: Search Effort Around UI Exhaustion - Other Outcomes

	Search Intensity (1)	Log Target Wage (2)	Life Satisfaction (3)
<b>Panel A: Estimates</b>			
[-4, -3] months since UI exhaustion	0.3234** [0.1614]	0.0334 [0.0237]	0.0715 [0.0502]
[-3, -2] months since UI exhaustion	0.1079 [0.1428]	0.0415** [0.0202]	-0.0037 [0.0427]
[-2, -1] months since UI exhaustion	-0.0565 [0.1281]	0.0122 [0.0186]	-0.0105 [0.0396]
[-1, 0] months since UI exhaustion (omitted cat.)	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]	0.0000 [.]
[0, 1] months since UI exhaustion	-0.3099*** [0.0975]	-0.0084 [0.0182]	-0.0073 [0.0309]
[1, 2] months since UI exhaustion	-0.4679*** [0.1243]	0.0025 [0.0206]	-0.0152 [0.0366]
[2, 3] months since UI exhaustion	-0.5794*** [0.1386]	-0.0127 [0.0245]	-0.0380 [0.0419]
[3, 4] months since UI exhaustion	-0.8722*** [0.1846]	-0.0102 [0.0326]	-0.0423 [0.0464]
<b>Panel B: Coefficients Adjusted for Survey Response Bias</b>			
[-4, -3] months since UI exhaustion	-0.2241	0.0502	-0.0053
[-3, -2] months since UI exhaustion	-0.2571	0.0527	-0.0549
[-2, -1] months since UI exhaustion	-0.2390	0.0178	-0.0361
[-1, 0] months since UI exhaustion (omitted cat.)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
[0, 1] months since UI exhaustion	-0.1274	-0.0140	0.0183
[1, 2] months since UI exhaustion	-0.1029	-0.0087	0.0360
[2, 3] months since UI exhaustion	-0.0319	-0.0295	0.0388
[3, 4] months since UI exhaustion	-0.1422	-0.0326	0.0601
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.555	0.814	0.638
Mean Dep. Var	5.171	7.707	3.027

**Notes:** This table shows estimates of other outcomes on time since UI exhaustion. SE (in brackets) are clustered on the individual level (Panel A) and coefficients from this regression after adjusting for the survey response bias from table A.7 (Panel C), as explained in Online Appendix D. All Specifications include individual-FE and Time-FE (calendar months and weekday of survey dummies). \*, \*\* and \*\*\* denote significance on 10%, 5% and 1% significance level, respectively.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Table A.15: Summary of Self-Reported Job-Found Information

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	All Responses	Conditioning on Job Found		
		Before UI Exhaustion	Last Month of UI	After UI Exhaustion
<b>Panel A: All Responses to job-found question</b>				
Any Job Found = 1	0.25	1.00	1.00	1.00
	[0.00]	[0.00]	[0.00]	[0.00]
	(0.43)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
	12898	910	342	446
<b>Panel B: For those who found Job: Lags between Offer, Acceptance and Start</b>				
Days between Job-Offer and Start	29.17	26.48	28.37	28.63
	[0.84]	[1.39]	[2.03]	[1.87]
	(36.69)	(36.53)	(32.22)	(34.46)
	1897	687	251	341
Days between Job-Offer and Acceptance	7.75	6.37	7.23	3.13
	[0.71]	[1.08]	[1.80]	[0.80]
	(29.34)	(26.41)	(26.23)	(13.43)
	1695	595	212	285
Days between Job-Acceptance and Start	25.97	22.92	24.08	28.84
	[0.82]	[1.27]	[1.85]	[2.11]
	(34.65)	(32.54)	(28.61)	(37.54)
	1787	653	238	318

**Notes:** This table summarizes the responses to the job-found question. All Variables in Panel B are capped at 180, whereas negative values are censored. SE of mean in brackets, SD in parenthesis. The last row for each variable shows the numbers of observations for this variable. The number of observations in Panel (B) is significantly lower, as the questions on job-dates is only asked when individuals report, that they found job.

**Source:** Own calculations.



Table A.16: Expert Survey, Summary Table

	Expert Forecast	SMS Survey	Number of Respondents
<b>Question 1: Initial Search Effort</b>			
Effort in Month [2,3] since UI entry (minutes)		86.6 [1.89]	
Effort in Month [6,7] since UI entry (minutes)	71.5 [3.3]	88.3 [3.0]	35
<b>Question 2: Search Effort around UI Exhaustion</b>			
Effort [-4,-3] months since UI Exhaustion (minutes)	69.2 [2.4]	79.2 [2.0]	35
Effort last months of UI (minutes)		86.4 [1.4]	
Effort [2,3] months since UI Exhaustion (minutes)	72.5 [2.5]	82.3 [1.7]	35
Pattern of increasing search effort and then flat after UI exhaustion			6
Pattern of increasing search effort and then decreasing after UI exhaustion			24
<b>Question 3: Gap Between Job Offer and Start</b>			
Gap Between Job Offer and Start (days)	35.7 [1.8]	28.4 [2.3]	35
Gap equal or longer than 30 days			25
Gap shorter than 30 days			10

**Notes:** This table summarizes the predictions from the expert-survey and contrasts them with the actual responses in the SMS survey. Standard Errors are in brackets. The number of respondents refers to the number of participants in the expert forecast. Rows that contain only responses for the SMS survey shows mean responses that the experts received information before they made their forecast. Due to slight sample adjustments after the expert survey was conducted, the actual numbers that are provided in the table differ slightly from the number that was given in the expert survey.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Figure A.1: Letter



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**Bei Rückfragen wenden Sie sich bitte an:**

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Anschreiben-ID: 52787  
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**Wissenschaftliche Studie zur Arbeitssuche**

Sehr geehrter Frau Musterfrau,

wie können die Erfolgchancen bei der Suche nach einem neuen Arbeitsplatz erhöht werden? Zu dieser Frage führt das Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung (IAB) eine wissenschaftliche Studie durch, bei der wir Ihre Mithilfe benötigen. Wir wollen mehr über Ihre Suche nach einem Arbeitsplatz erfahren und Sie daher bitten, an einer Befragung teilzunehmen. Durch Ihre Teilnahme unterstützen Sie das IAB in der Beratung der Bundesregierung und nehmen Einfluss auf eine Verbesserung der Arbeitsmarktpolitik.

**Kurz und knapp - Wir befragen Sie per SMS**

Die Befragung erfolgt bequem per SMS und sollte jede Woche weniger als 5 Minuten in Anspruch nehmen. Insgesamt wollen wir Sie gerne über 4 Monate hinweg befragen. Wir werden Sie in Kürze per SMS auf Ihrem Mobiltelefon kontaktieren.

**Ihre Angaben sind vertraulich**

Wir garantieren Ihnen, dass Ihre Angaben streng vertraulich nach den gesetzlichen Datenschutzbestimmungen behandelt und ausschließlich zu wissenschaftlichen Zwecken verwendet werden. Ihr Name und Ihre Mobilfunknummer werden nur für die Befragung verwendet und nach Abschluss der Befragung gelöscht. Ihre Antworten werden vertraulich behandelt und nicht mit Ihrer Person in Verbindung gebracht.

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**Wir danken Ihnen für Ihre Mitwirkung und für Ihr Vertrauen!**

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Prof. Dr. rer. pol. Ulrich Walwei  
Direktor (kommissarisch) des Instituts für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung (IAB)

Figure A.2: Flyer

## DATENSCHUTZ

### Was passiert mit meinen Angaben?

Ihre Antworten werden ohne Ihren Namen und Mobilfunknummer gespeichert und ausschließlich für wissenschaftliche Auswertungen verwendet.

Um die Befragung für Sie möglichst kurz zu halten, würden wir gerne zusätzliche Daten einbeziehen, die beim IAB vorliegen. Dabei handelt es sich z. B. um Informationen zu Zeiten in Beschäftigung, in Arbeitslosigkeit oder der Teilnahme an Maßnahmen der Arbeitsagentur. Dies kann nicht ohne Ihr Einverständnis geschehen. Zu Beginn der Befragung werden wir Sie daher nach Ihrem Einverständnis fragen. Ihre Antwort übermitteln Sie uns dann einfach per SMS. Bitte beachten Sie, dass ohne dieses Einverständnis eine Teilnahme an der Befragung leider nicht möglich ist.

### Wir garantieren Ihnen, dass

- Ihr Name sowie Ihre Mobilfunknummer ausschließlich für den Zweck dieser Befragung verwendet wird. Ihre Daten werden nicht an Dritte weitergegeben!
- Ihre Antworten nur zu wissenschaftlichen Zwecken verwendet werden.
- Jede Ihrer Antworten anonym, d. h. ohne Namen und Mobilfunknummer ausgewertet wird.
- Niemand anhand der Auswertungen erkennen kann, von wem die Angaben gemacht wurden.
- Ihr Name, Ihre Mobilfunknummer, Ihre Antworten und die zusätzlichen Daten des IAB nicht an eine andere Stelle inner- oder außerhalb der Bundesagentur für Arbeit weitergegeben werden. Die für Sie zuständigen Arbeitsagenturen, Job-Center und Sachbearbeiter haben keinen Zugriff auf diese Daten!

## KONTAKT

### An wen kann ich mich mit Fragen wenden?

- **Allgemeine Fragen:**  
Servicetelefon (Dienstag bis Donnerstag 10:00 bis 14:00 Uhr):  
069 2547-2490  
E-Mail: IAB.SMS-Befragung@iab.de
- **Weitere Informationen zum Forschungsvorhaben:**  
<http://www.iab.de/SMS>
- **Kontakt zum Datenschutzbeauftragten:**  
E-Mail: Zentrale.JDC-Datenschutz@arbeitsagentur.de

Wir danken Ihnen für Ihre Mitwirkung und für Ihr Vertrauen in unsere Arbeit!

Herausgegeben: 2019, © IAB



## STUDIE „ARBEITSSUCHE“

Informationen zu einer Befragung des Instituts für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung



(a) Flyer - Frontpage

## DIE STUDIE

Wie können die Erfolgchancen bei der Suche nach einem neuen Arbeitsplatz erhöht werden? Zu dieser Frage führt das Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung (IAB) eine wissenschaftliche Studie durch, bei der wir Ihre Mühe benötigen. Wir wollen mehr über Ihre Suche nach einem Arbeitsplatz erfahren und Sie daher bitten, an einer Befragung teilzunehmen.

### Wer wird befragt?

- Für diese Studie werden ca. 10.000 Frauen und Männer bundesweit per SMS zum Thema Arbeitssuche befragt. Diese wurden durch ein wissenschaftliches Zufallsverfahren für diese Befragung ausgewählt.

### Teilnehmen lohnt sich

- Durch Ihre Teilnahme unterstützen Sie das IAB in der Beratung der Bundesregierung und nehmen Einfluss auf eine Verbesserung der Arbeitsmarktpolitik.
- Als Dankeschön für Ihre Teilnahme und um die Kosten des SMS Versands zu decken, erhalten Sie Amazon.de Gutscheine.



## BEFRAGUNGSABLAUF

In den nächsten Tagen erhalten Sie die erste Frage per SMS. Die Befragung startet dann mit Ihrer Antwort auf diese Frage.

### Was werde ich gefragt?

- Wir werden Sie zweimal pro Woche fragen, wie viel Zeit Sie am vorherigen Tag mit Aktivitäten rund um die Suche nach einem neuen Arbeitsplatz verbracht haben.
- Zusätzlich werden wir Ihnen einmal pro Woche eine Zusatzfrage stellen, z. B. zu Ihrer Lebensqualität oder zur letzten Stelle, auf die Sie sich beworben haben.

### Was meinen wir mit „Aktivitäten rund um die Suche nach einem neuen Arbeitsplatz“?

- Damit meinen wir alle Tätigkeiten, die direkt dazu beitragen einen Arbeitsplatz zu finden. Dazu zählen zum Beispiel:
- Internet- oder Zeitungssuche nach geeigneten Jobangeboten
  - Erstellen und Bearbeiten eines Lebenslaufs
  - Erstellen und Versenden von Bewerbungsschreiben
  - Vorbereitung, Anreise und Teilnahme an Bewerbungsgesprächen

### Nicht zur Arbeitssuche zählt:

- Teilnahme an Qualifizierungen und Umschulungen
- Ausfüllen von Antragsformularen zum Arbeitslosengeld oder anderen Leistungen

### Wie antworte ich auf die Fragen?

Ihre Antworten übermitteln Sie uns einfach per SMS von Ihrem Mobiltelefon aus. Alle Fragen sind so gestellt, dass Sie mit einer einfachen Zahl antworten können. Sollten Sie gerade keinen Arbeitsplatz suchen, dann antworten Sie auf unsere Fragen mit der Zahl „0“.

### Wie bekomme ich die Amazon.de Gutscheine und wie kann ich sie einlösen?

- Die Gutscheine bestehen jeweils aus einem 14-stelligen Code, der Ihnen per SMS zugeschickt wird.
- Sie können die Gutscheine bequem bei Ihrem nächsten Einkauf bei Amazon.de einlösen. Geben Sie beim Bezahlen einfach den Gutscheincode an.

### Von wem werde ich befragt?

Das IAB darf Ihren Namen und Ihre Mobilfunknummer zur Durchführung von Befragungen verwenden. Dies hat der Gesetzgeber in §203 Abs.5 SGB II geregelt. Da das IAB nicht jede Befragung selbst durchführen kann, wurde das Befragungsinstitut MGov International damit beauftragt. Dies ist unter den strengen datenschutzrechtlichen Regelungen nach §80 SGB X erlaubt. MGov International ist ein professionelles Befragungsinstitut mit Sitz in Frankfurt am Main und arbeitet für diese Befragung ausschließlich auf Weisung des IAB.

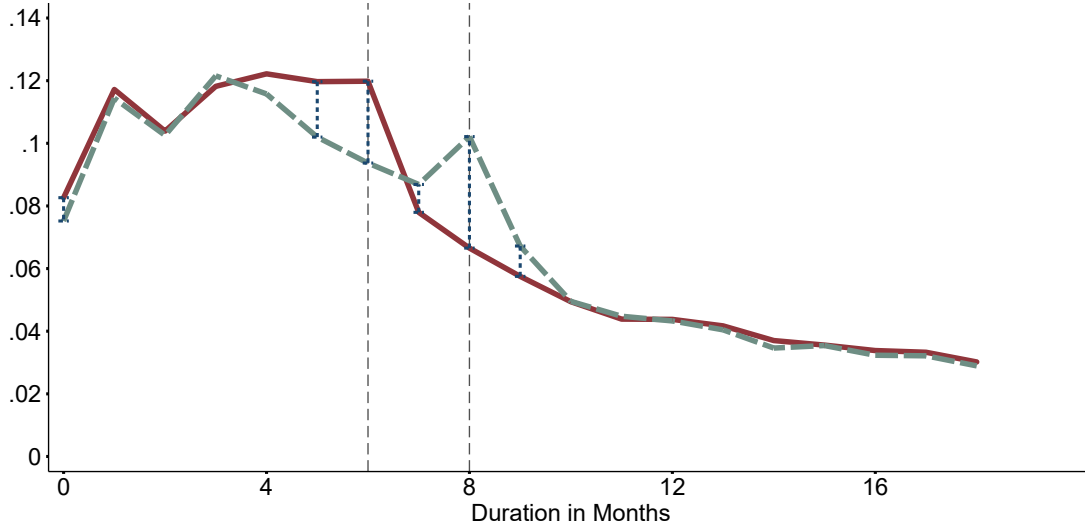
### Muss ich an der Befragung teilnehmen?

- Nein. Ihre Teilnahme an der Befragung ist vollkommen freiwillig.
- Wenn Sie nicht an der Befragung teilnehmen möchten, dann beantworten Sie die erste SMS mit „Nein“ oder ignorieren Sie diese einfach.
- Selbstverständlich können Sie Ihre Teilnahme an der Befragung jederzeit und ohne Angabe von Gründen beenden. Antworten Sie einfach mit „Stop“ auf eine der Fragen.
- Wenn Sie nicht an der Befragung teilnehmen oder die Befragung abbrechen, entstehen keinerlei Nachteile für Sie.

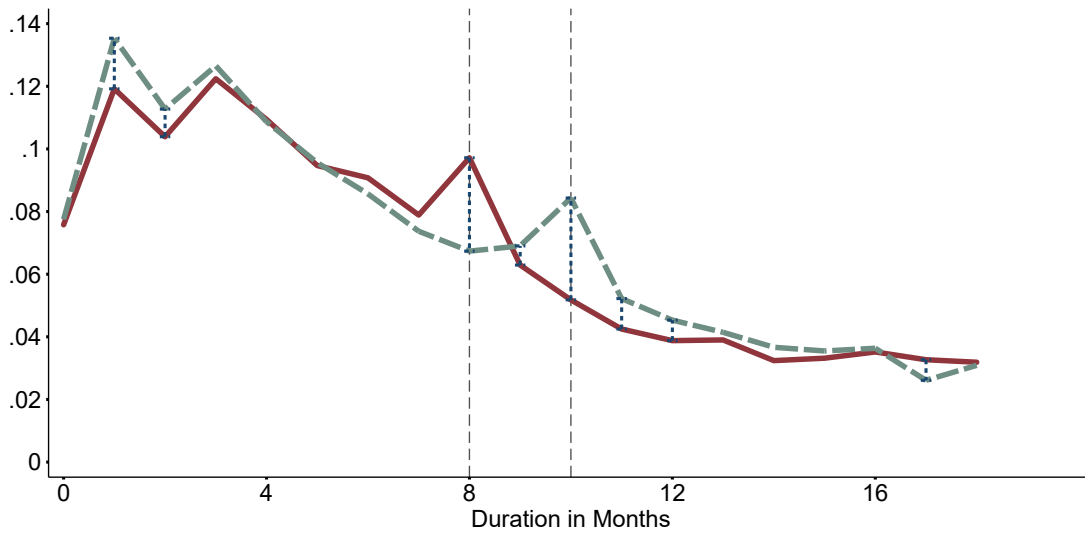
(b) Flyer - Backpage

**Notes:** This figure shows the flyer that we used for contacting individuals. It was sent together with the contact letter and contained more detailed information on the process of the survey, some facts about data privacy protection and general information about the survey-structure.

Figure A.3: Re-Employment Hazards - Short Contribution Durations



(a) 6 vs. 8 Months

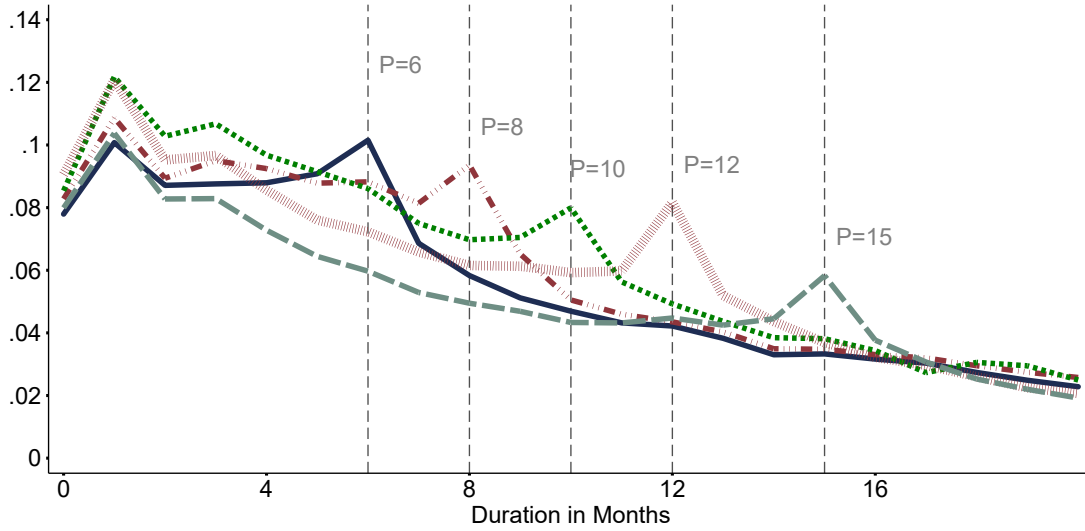


(b) 8 vs. 10 Months

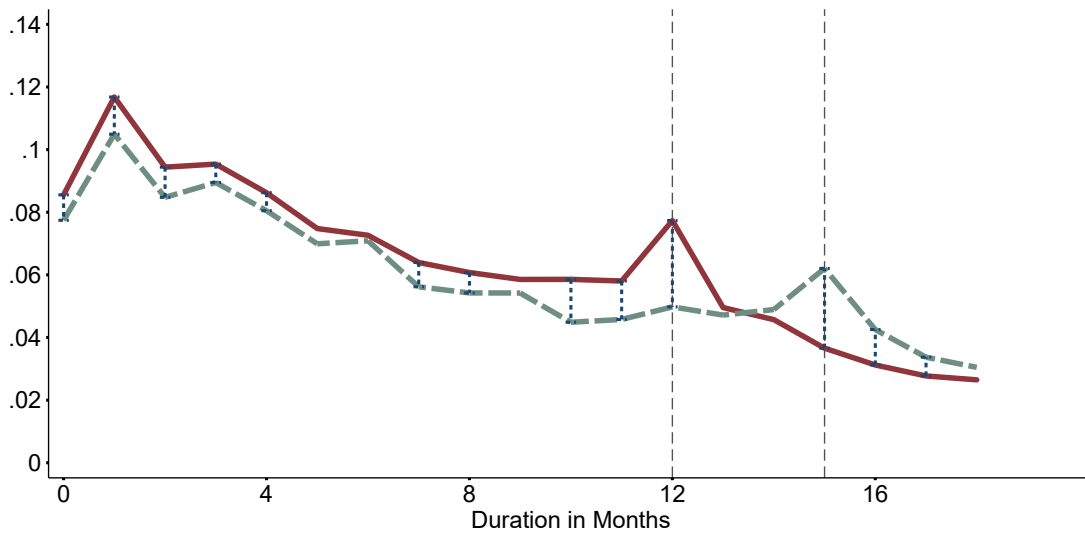
**Notes:** This figure shows estimates for reemployment hazards comparing the 6 vs. 8 and 8 vs. 10 months of eligibility groups. Estimates stem from an RD-type regression, where we perform for each point in time a separate regression, controlling linearly for the contribution duration, with different slopes on each side of the cutoff.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Figure A.4: Re-Employment Hazards - Excluding Recalls



(a) Exit Hazard - Excluding Recalls to pre-unemployment Employer

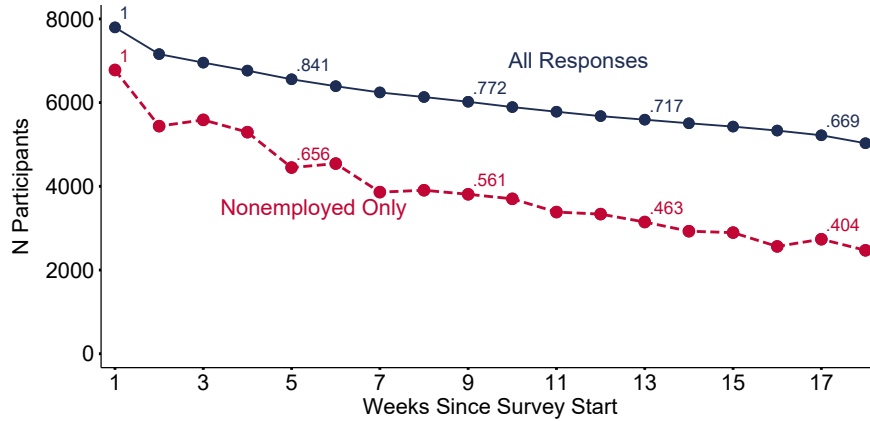


(b) RD Estimate of Effect of PBD on Reemployment Hazard (Age 50 Discontinuity) - Excluding Recalls

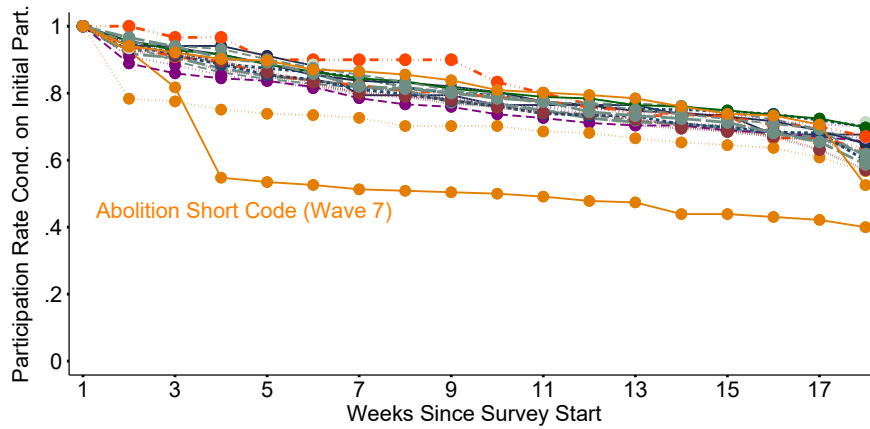
**Notes:** This figure shows reemployment hazards by PBD groups based on administrative data between January 2013 and June 2016, excluding observations that are recalled to their pre-unemployment establishment. Panel (a) shows hazard rates for all 5 PBD-groups, whereas figure (b) provides RD-estimates of the 12 vs. 15 month eligibility group around the discontinuity at age 50. The share of individuals that are recalled (and are therefore excluded from the sample) are by P=6: 14.8 %, P=8: 16.3 %, P=10: 15.0%, P=12: 11.1% and for P=15: 12.0%. The sample consists of individuals aged between 28 and 60 at time of UI entry and have exactly 6, 8, 10, 12 or 15 months of PBD at UI entry. For PBD=12 and PBD=15, we additionally restrict to age between 45 and 55 at time of UI entry and on qualifying for long UI eligibility based on working history. We also restrict to immediate UI take-up after job-loss (<2 days).

**Source:** Own calculations.

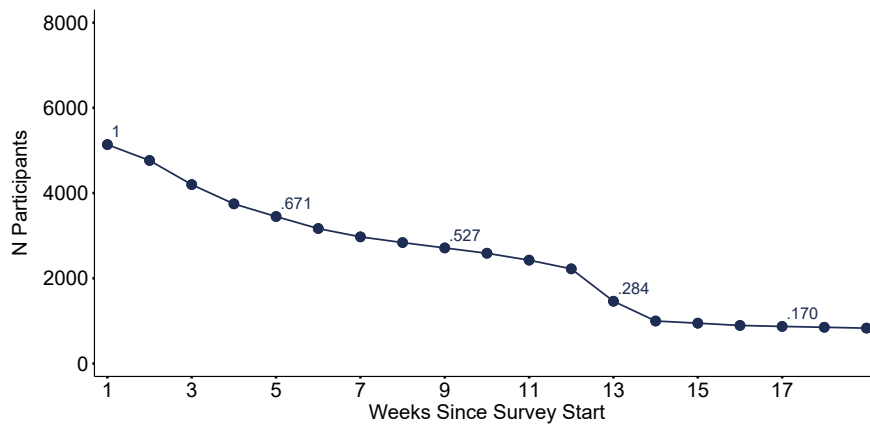
Figure A.5: Survey Attrition over Time



(a) Overall Attrition over Time



(b) Attrition by Wave over Time

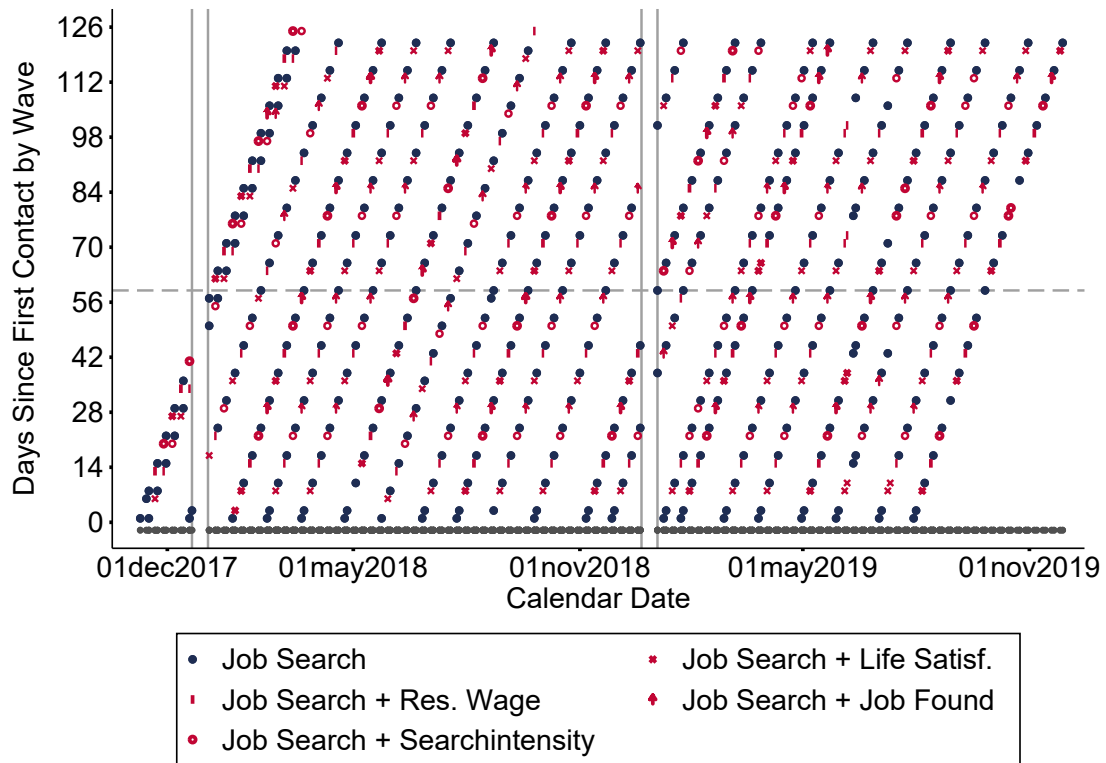


(c) Attrition over Time - K&M Analysis

**Notes:** The upper figure shows the weekly attrition rate over time (since survey start), conditioning on responding to at least one survey question for all survey participants and for nonemployed individuals. Attrition for all (solid blue line) is defined as never having a valid response to job-search again, whereas attrition from nonemployment (dashed red line) is defined as never responding to a question of job-search while nonemployed. The middle figure shows the weekly response-rate split by wave over time (since survey start) for individuals consented initially. The lower figure refers to the Krueger and Mueller data.

**Source:** Own calculations.

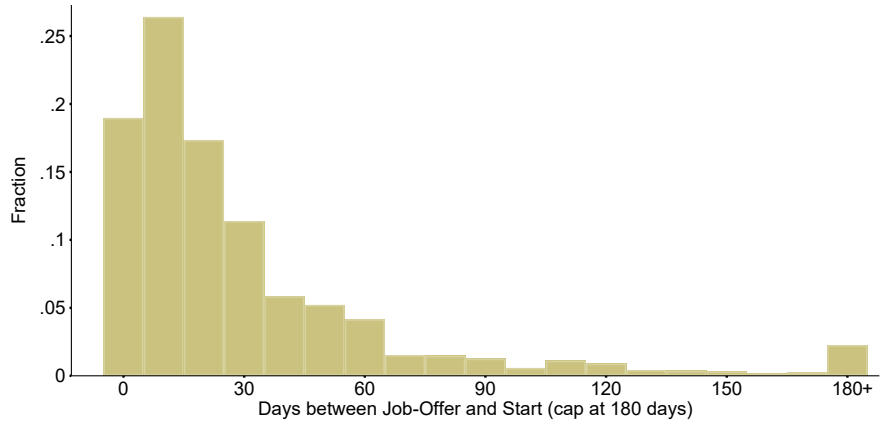
Figure A.6: Question-Day by Wave over Time



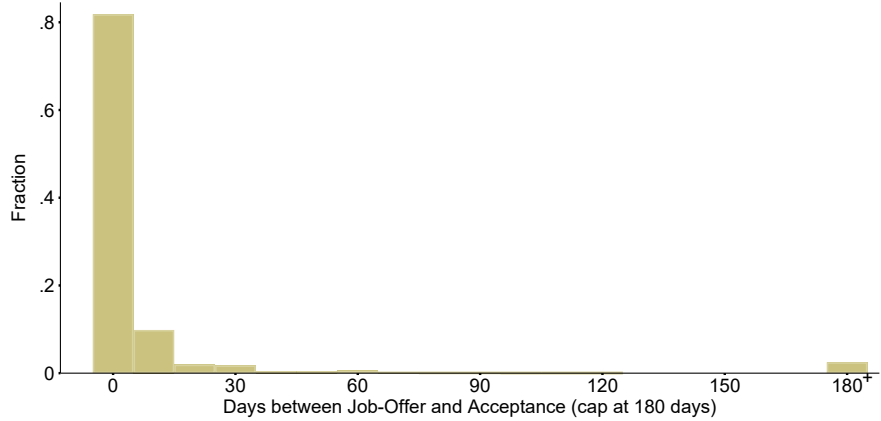
**Notes:** This figure shows the dates by wave at which individuals were asked about (and responded to) a job-search question both as calendar date and relative to the wave-specific contact date. Solid vertical lines around the year ends mark the holiday season where we do not contact. (December 25th, December 26th and January 1st are full-day holidays, December 24th and 31st are half-day holidays in Germany.)

**Source:** Own illustration.

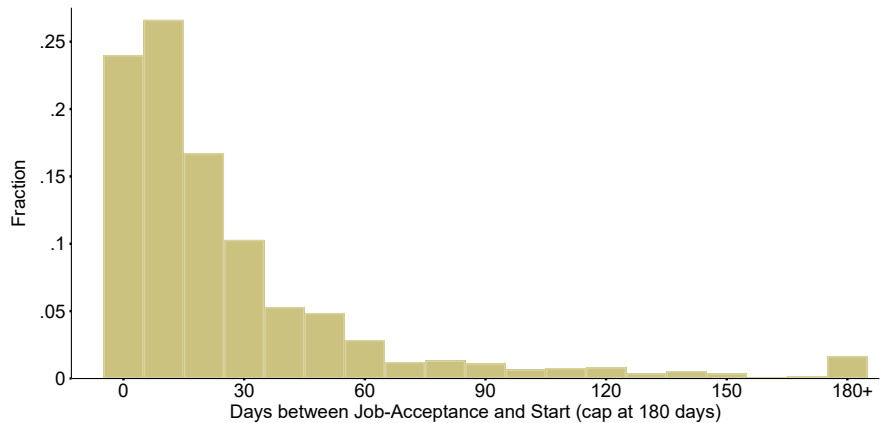
Figure A.7: Distribution of Job-Offer, Job-Acceptance, and Job-Start



(a) Job-Offer until Job-Start



(b) Job-Offer until Job-Acceptance



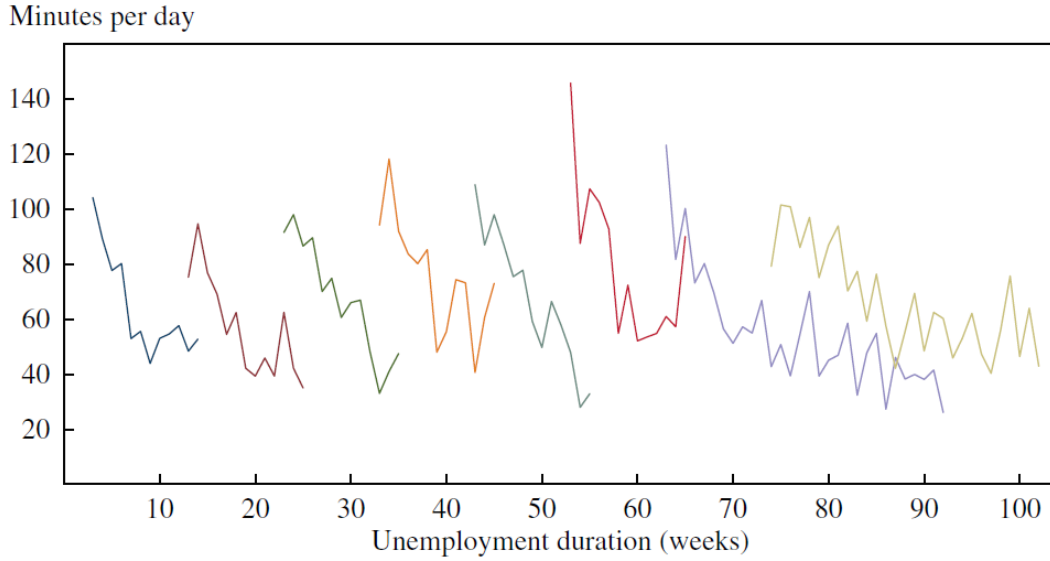
(c) Job-Acceptance until Job-Start

**Notes:** The upper figure shows the distribution of days between job-offer and job-start, the second one the days between job-offer and job-acceptance and the third one the days between job-acceptance and job-start, provided that the response to both dates used in the relevant figures are non-missing. In all graphs, negatives values are set to missing, values above 180 days are winsorized.

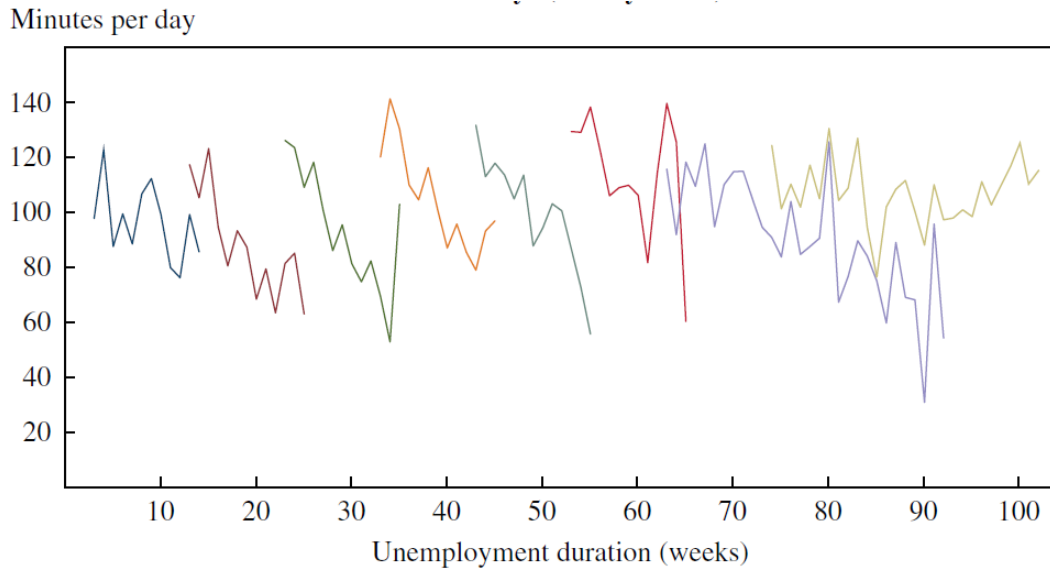
**Source:** Own calculations.



Figure A.8: Within- and Between-Person Job Search Effort in Krueger and Mueller (2011)



(a) Minutes of Job Search on Previous Day (time diary)

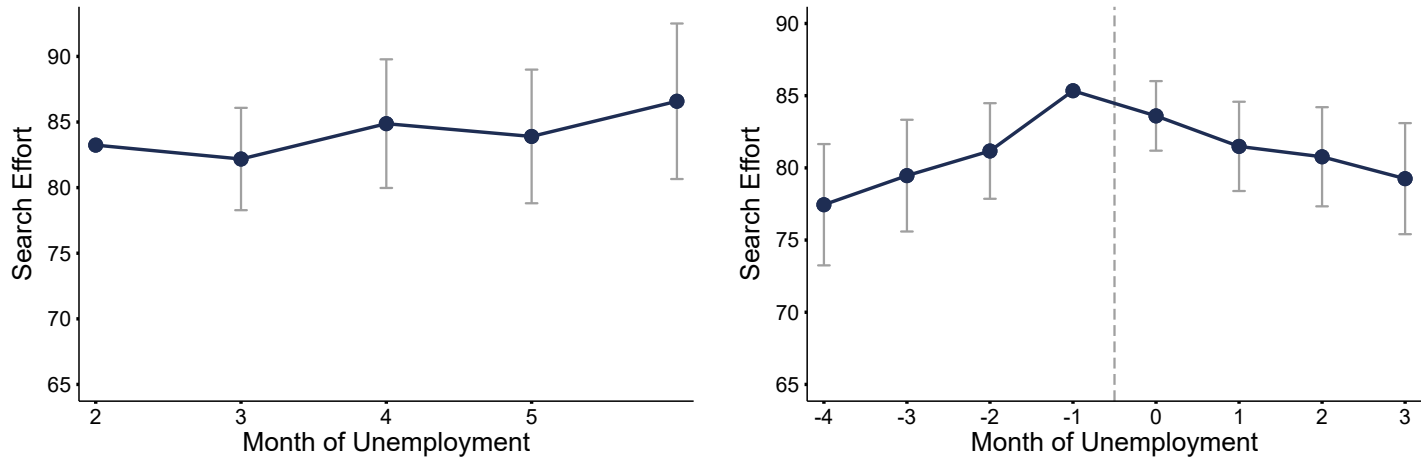


(b) Minutes of Job Search Per Day (Based on Recall of total Job Search over last 7 days)

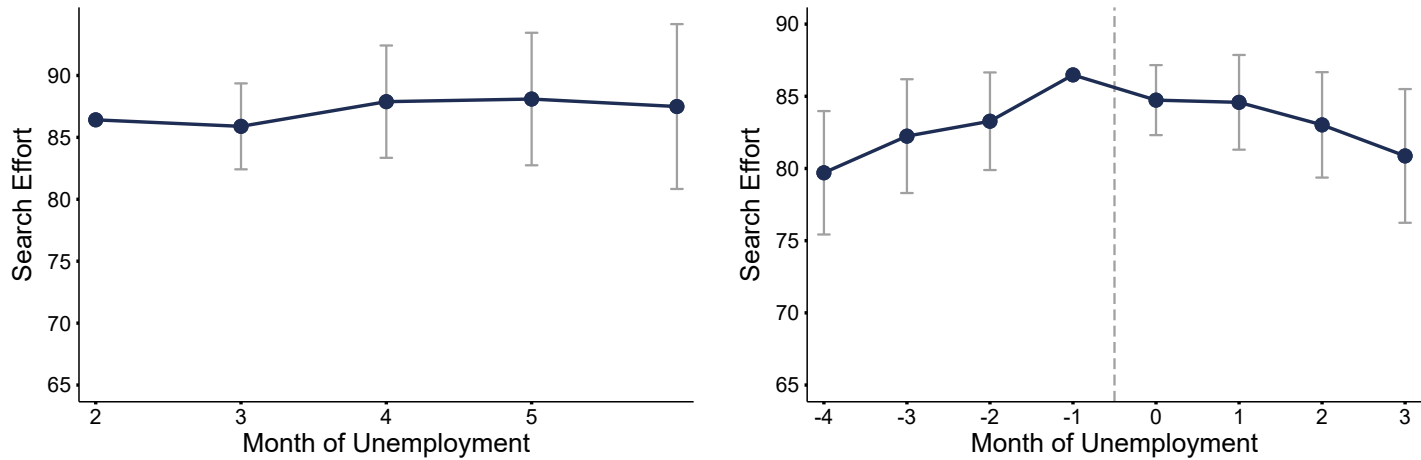
**Notes:** The figure shows Figure 3 from Krueger and Mueller (2011). Each line shows the evolution of job search for a separate cohort (that is a group of individuals who were sampled at the same time at a specific unemployment duration). The top panel is based on time diary information in the KM data, the bottom panel on a question that asked for the total hours of job search in the last 7 days rescaled to minutes per day.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Figure A.9: Search Effort At UI Start and UI Exhaustion: Different Specifications



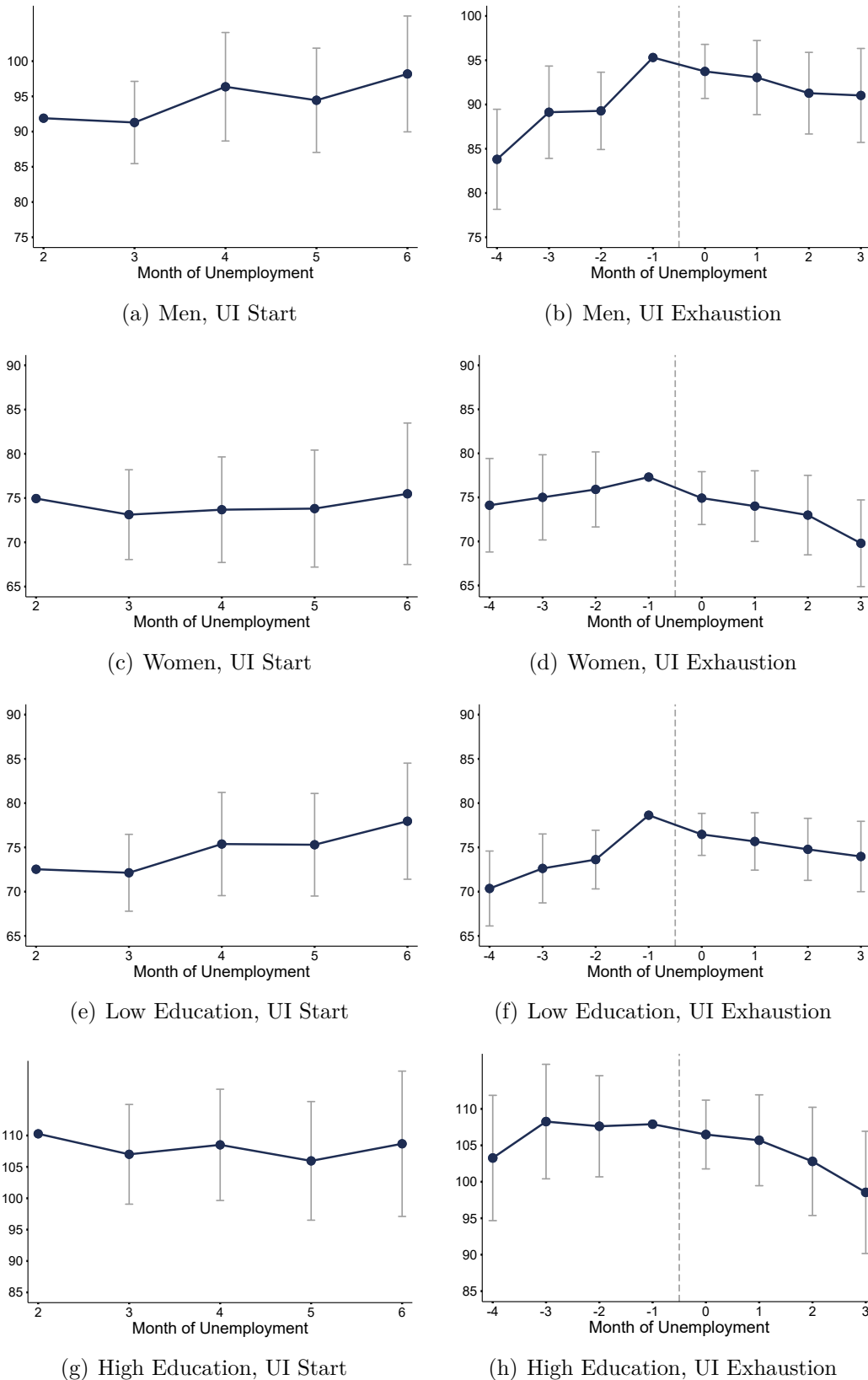
(a) Full Participants, UI Start (N ind. = 1047, N obs. = 20618) (b) Full Participants, UI Exhaustion (N ind. = 3126, N obs. = 65472)



(c) Narrow Nonemp. Definition, UI Start (N ind. = 2022, N obs. = 26244) (d) Narrow Nonemp. Definition, UI Exhaustion (N ind. = 5342, N obs. = 77847)

**Notes:** The figure shows mean job search over the initial spell of unemployment (up to 6 months) and around UI-exhaustion (between -4 and +3 months around UI exhaustion) controlling for individual, weekdate and calender-month fixed effects. Panels (a) and (b) are based on individuals who participate and remain nonemployed for the full survey duration (18 months). Panels (c) and (d) include only responses at dates where we either observe a later date of job-acceptance or individuals respond to be still nonemployed at a later date. Standard Errors are clustered on the person level.  
**Source:** Own calculations.

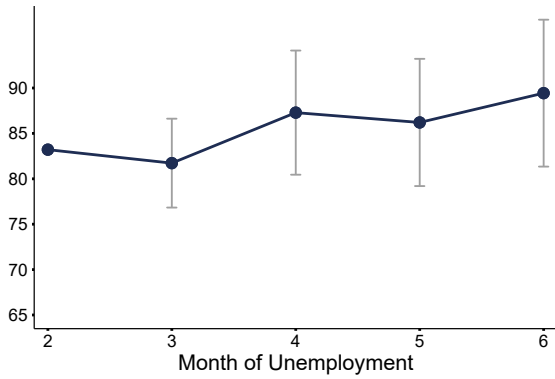
Figure A.10: Search Effort At UI Start and UI Exhaustion: Heterogeneity



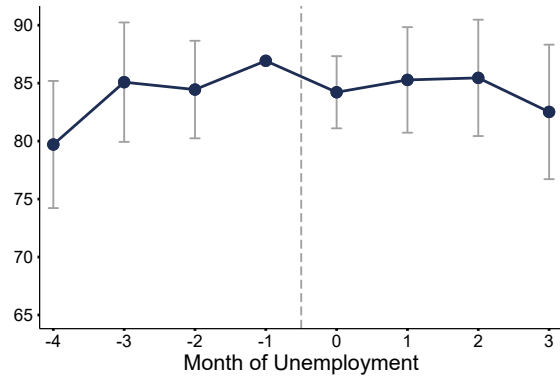
**Notes:** The figure shows mean job search over the initial spell of unemployment (< 6 months) and around UI-exhaustion (between -4 and + 3 months around UI exhaustion) for different demographic groups. All estimates control for individual, weekdate and calendar-month fixed effects. Standard Errors are clustered on the person level.

**Source:** Own calculations.

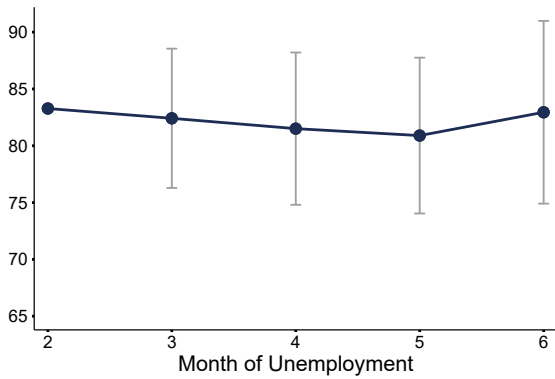
Figure A.11: Search Effort At UI Start and UI Exhaustion: Heterogeneity cont'



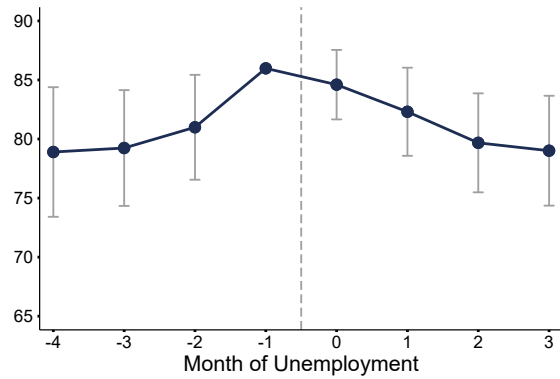
(a) Low Local UR, UI Start



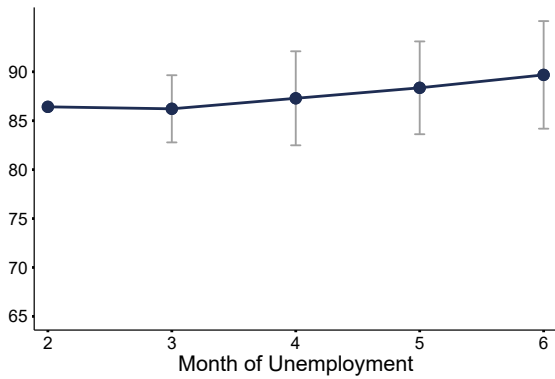
(b) Low Local UR, UI Exhaustion



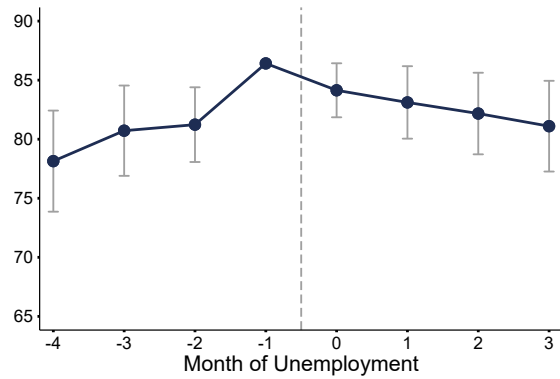
(c) High Local UR, UI Start



(d) High Local UR, UI Exhaustion



(e) Reweighted to Sample Frame, UI Start

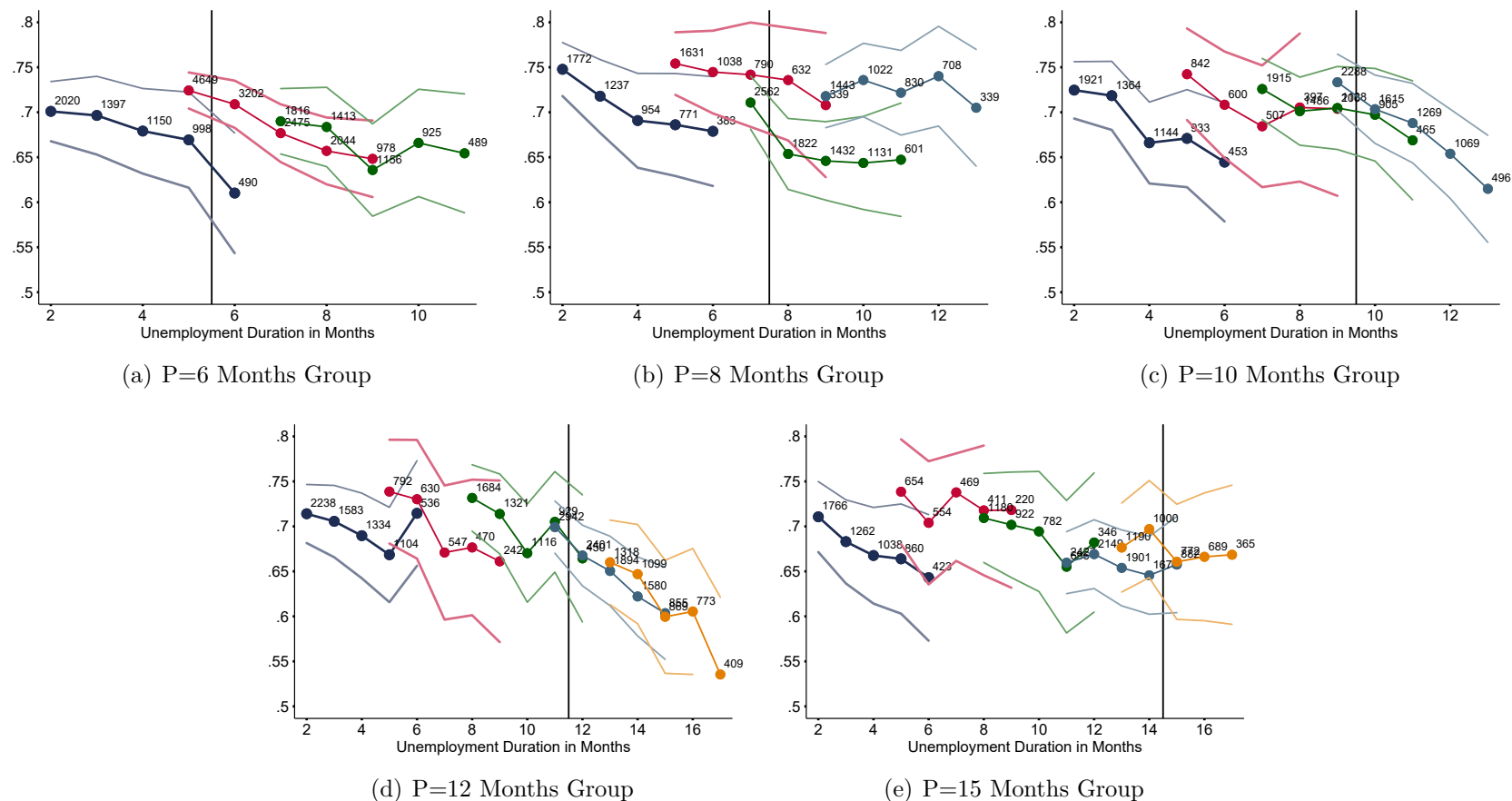


(f) Reweighted to Sample Frame, UI Exhaustion

**Notes:** The figure shows mean job search over the initial spell of unemployment (< 6 months) and around UI-exhaustion (between -4 and + 3 months around UI exhaustion) for different demographic groups. All estimates control for individual, weekdate and calendar-month fixed effects. Standard Errors are clustered on the person level.

**Source:** Own calculations.

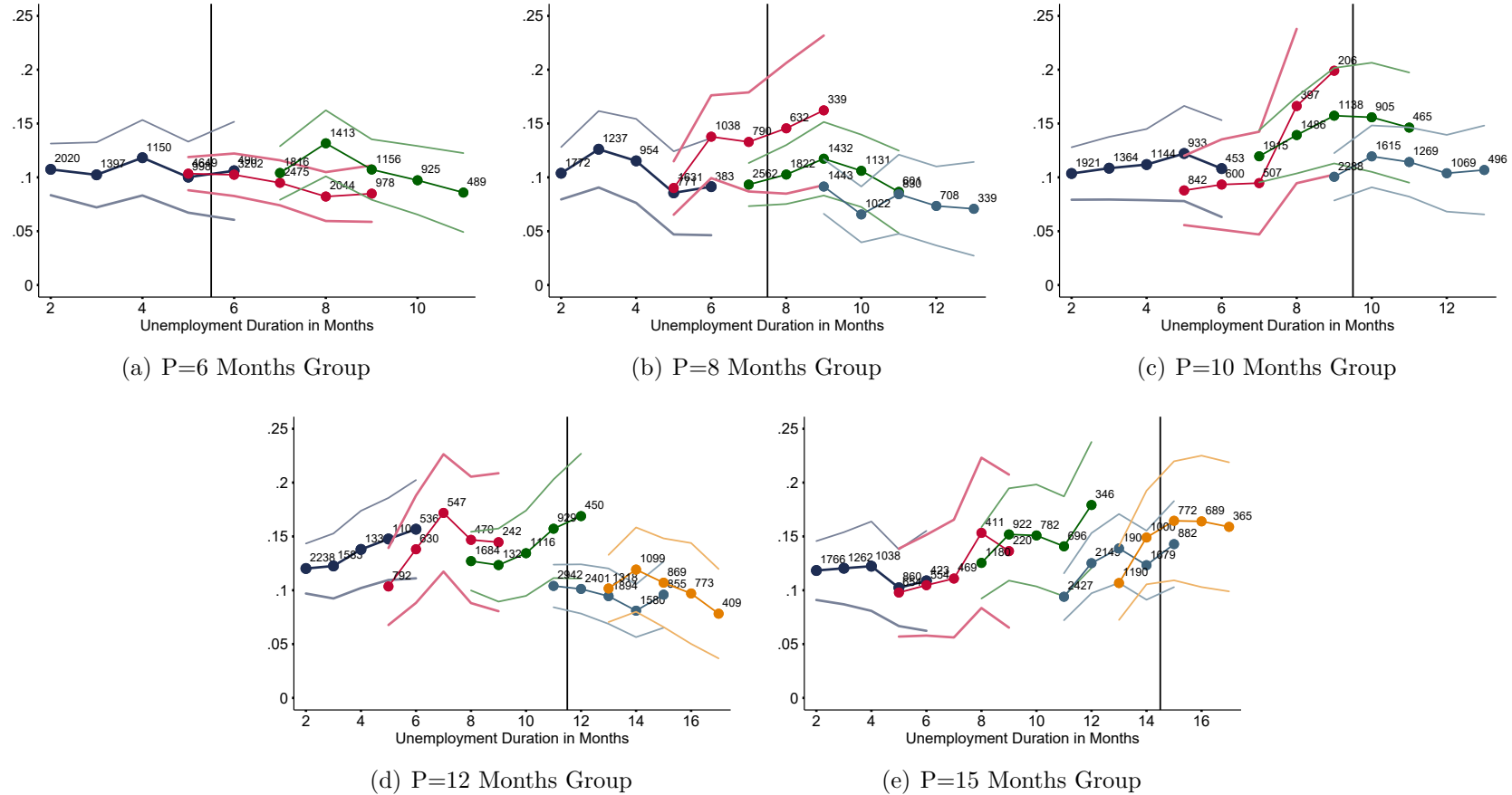
Figure A.12: Dummy: Search > 0 over the Unemployment Spell by Survey Cohort



**Notes:** This figure shows cohort plots for P=6 to P=15 months. 95% CI (SE clustered on individual level) are displayed as outer lines (CI values outside the displayed range are censored for the ease of exposition). Numbers at a dot refer to the numbers of observations on which the dot is based. A cohort is defined as the duration in months on UI at time of first contact. It contains the months 2,3,5,8,11,13. Values that are -due to slight differences in definition of cohorts in earlier waves- outside those range are increased by one months such that they are fit in the listed month range. One dot represents observations from 4 weeks. Since responses are restricted to the regular survey duration (up to 18 weeks), the last dot of each cohort contains only observations from two weeks.

**Source:** Own calculations.

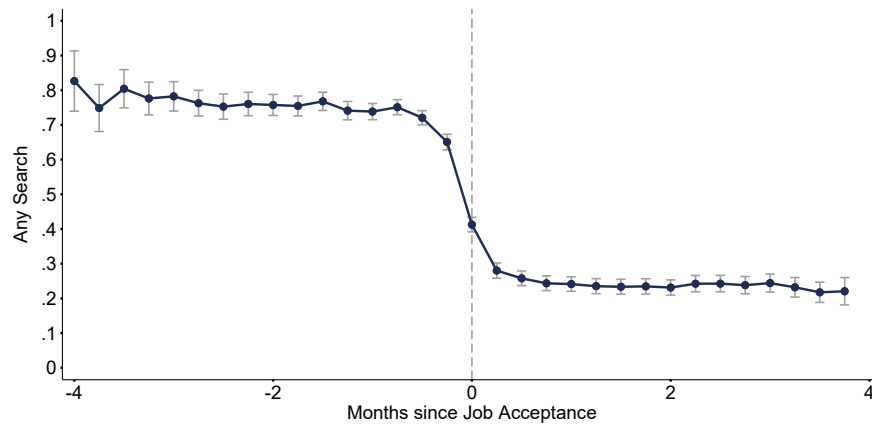
Figure A.13: Dummy: Search  $\geq 240$  Minutes over the Unemployment Spell by Survey Cohort



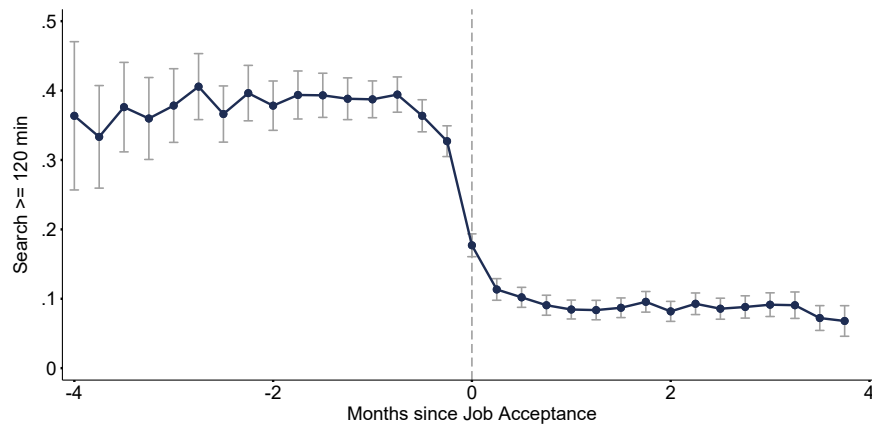
**Notes:** This figure shows cohort plots for P=6 to P=15 months. 95% CI (SE clustered on individual level) are displayed as outer lines (CI values outside the displayed range are censored for the ease of exposition). Numbers at a dot refer to the numbers of observations on which the dot is based. A cohort is defined as the duration in months on UI at time of first contact. It contains the months 2,3,5,8,11,13. Values that are -due to slight differences in definition of cohorts in earlier waves- outside those range are increased by one months such that they are fit in the listed month range. One dot represents observations from 4 weeks. Since responses are restricted to the regular survey duration (up to 18 weeks), the last dot of each cohort contains only observations from two weeks.

**Source:** Own calculations.

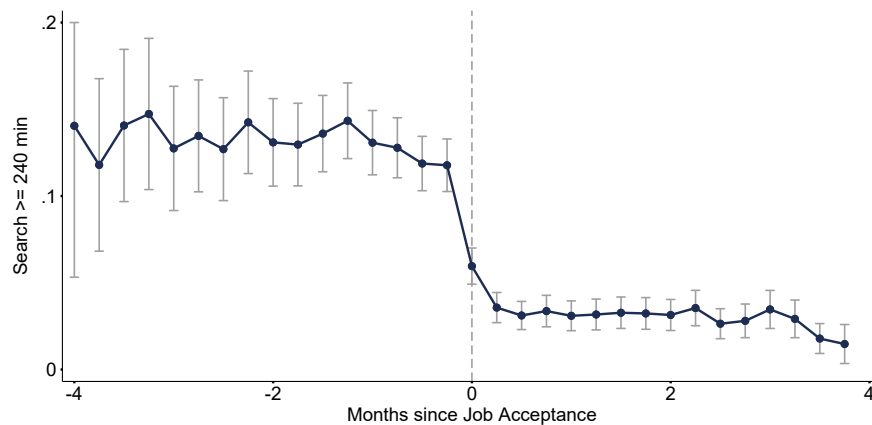
Figure A.14: Validation of Search Effort: Distribution of Search Effort around Job Acceptance



(a) Any Search Around Job Acceptance



(b) Search  $\geq$  120 min. Around Job Acceptance

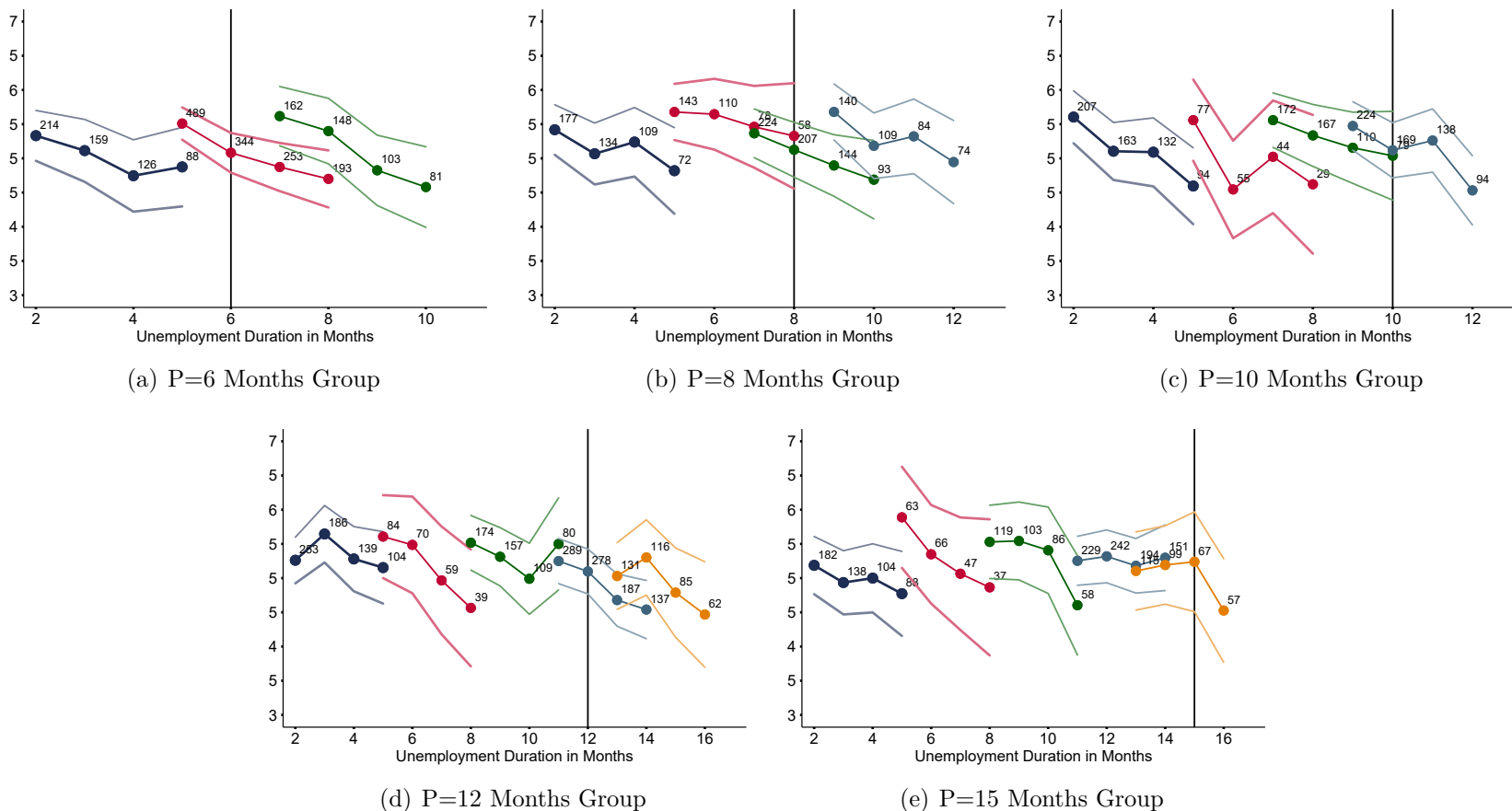


(c) Search  $\geq$  240 min. Around Job Acceptance

**Notes:** This figure shows different threshold definitions of search effort around job-acceptance. Event dates are normalized to zero. SE are clustered on individual level.

**Source:** Own calculations.

Figure A.15: Qualitative Search Intensity (Scale 1 to 10) over the Unemployment Spell by Survey Cohort

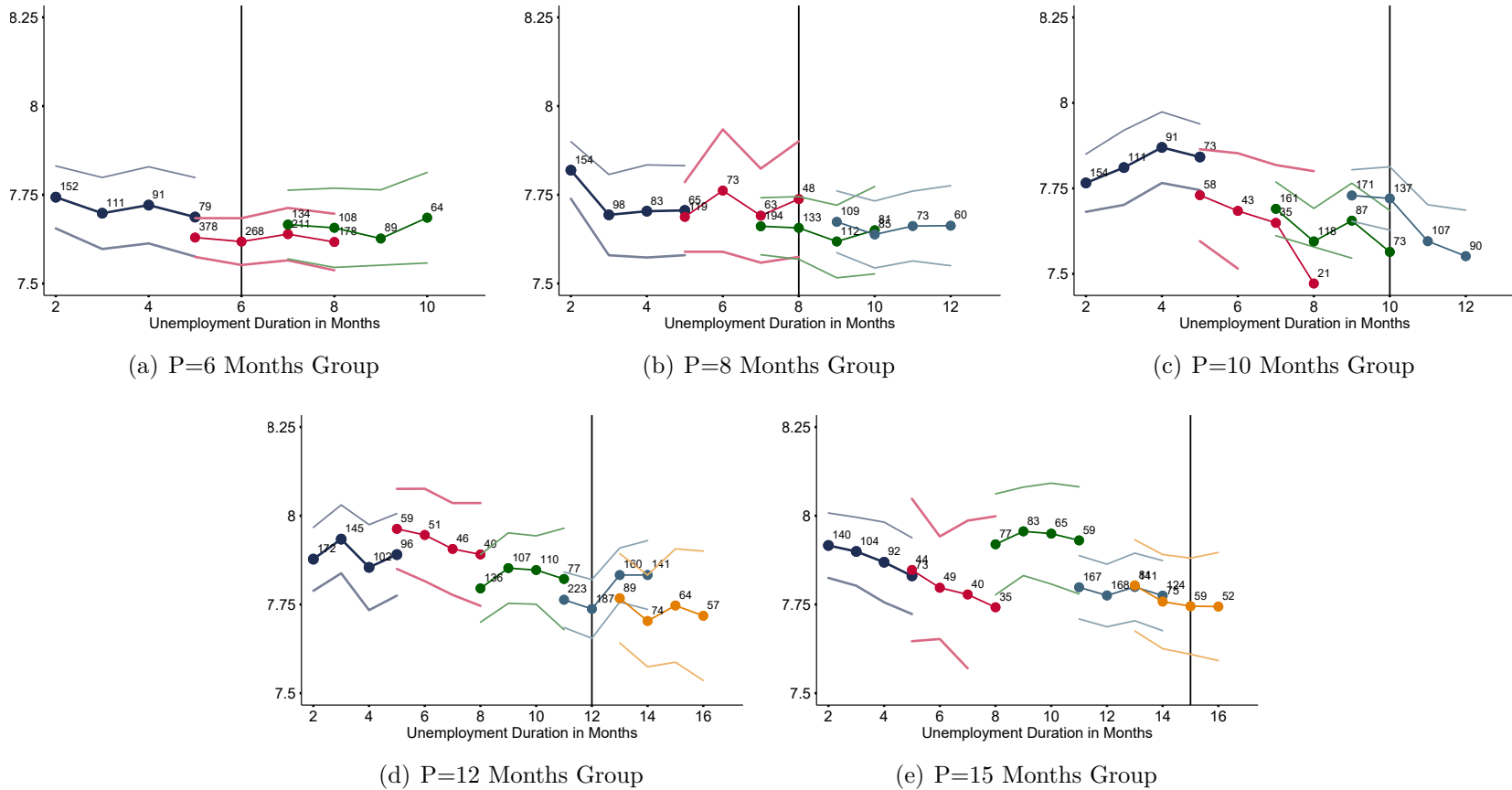


**Notes:** This figure shows cohort plots for P=6 to P=15 months. 95% CI (SE clustered on individual level) are displayed as outer lines (CI values outside the displayed range are censored for the ease of exposition). Numbers at a dot refer to the numbers of observations on which the dot is based. A cohort is defined as the duration in months on UI at time of first contact. It contains the months 2,3,5,8,11,13. Values that are -due to slight differences in definition of cohorts in earlier waves- outside those range are increased by one months such that they are fit in the listed month range. One dot represents observations from 4 weeks. Since responses are restricted to the regular survey duration (up to 18 weeks), the last dot of each cohort contains only observations from two weeks.

**Source:** Own calculations.



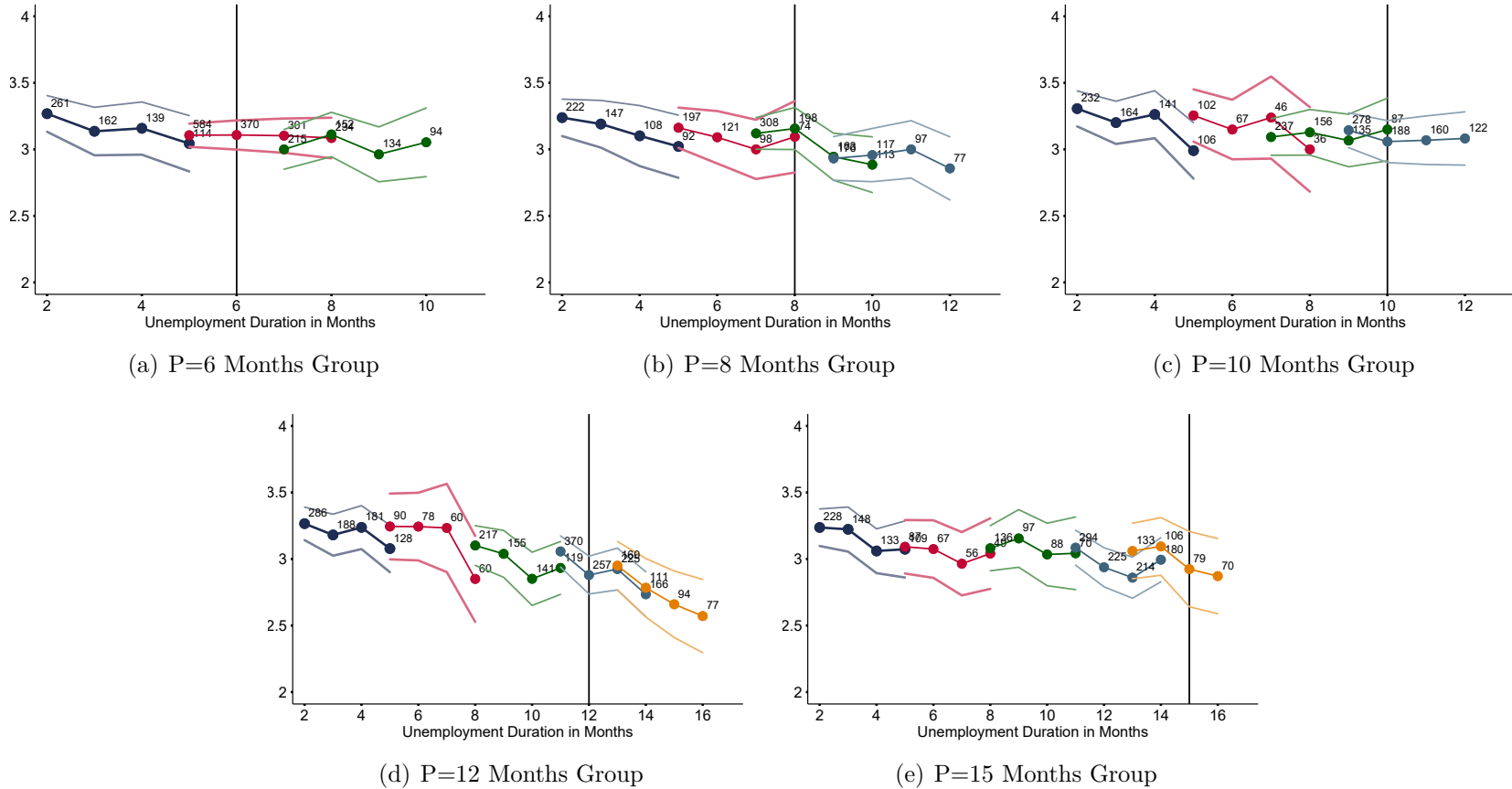
Figure A.16: Log-Target Wage over the Unemployment Spell by Survey Cohort



**Notes:** This figure shows cohort plots for P=6 to P=15 months. 95% CI (SE clustered on individual level) are displayed as outer lines (CI values outside the displayed range are censored for the ease of exposition). Numbers at a dot refer to the numbers of observations on which the dot is based. A cohort is defined as the duration in months on UI at time of first contact. It contains the months 2,3,5,8,11,13. Values that are -due to slight differences in definition of cohorts in earlier waves- outside those range are increased by one months such that they are fit in the listed month range. One dot represents observations from 4 weeks. Since responses are restricted to the regular survey duration (up to 18 weeks), the last dot of each cohort contains only observations from two weeks.

**Source:** Own calculations.

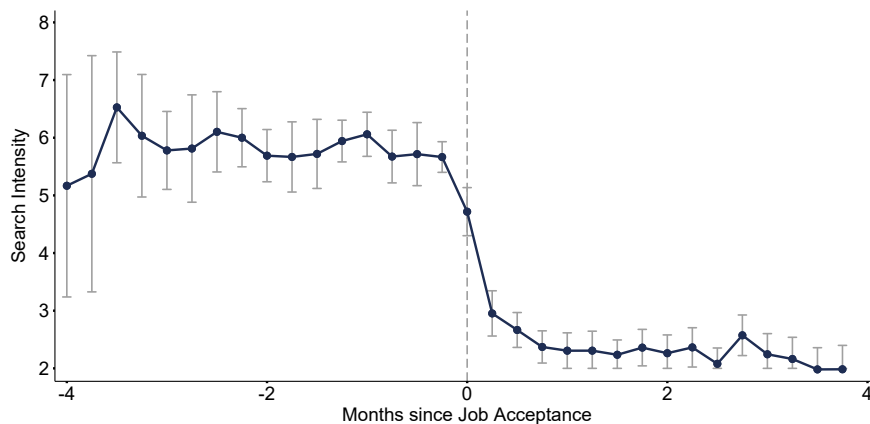
Figure A.17: Life Satisfaction (Scale 1 to 5) over the Unemployment Spell by Survey Cohort



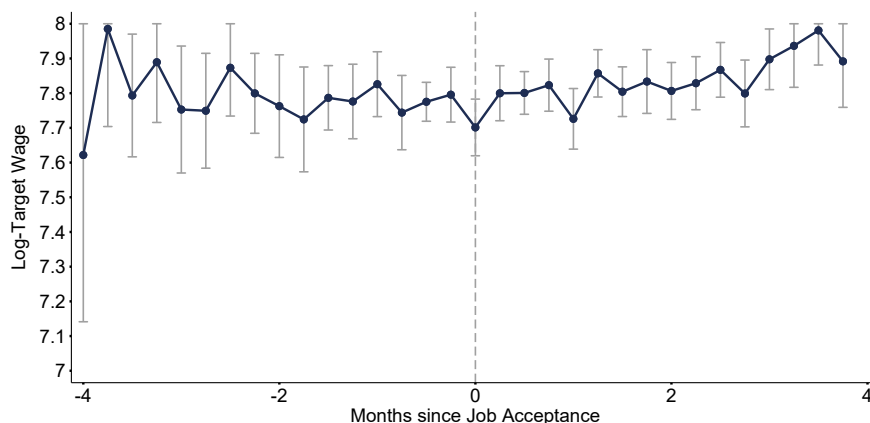
**Notes:** This figure shows cohort plots for P=6 to P=15 months. 95% CI (SE clustered on individual level) are displayed as outer lines (CI values outside the displayed range are censored for the ease of exposition). Numbers at a dot refer to the numbers of observations on which the dot is based. A cohort is defined as the duration in months on UI at time of first contact. It contains the months 2,3,5,8,11,13. Values that are -due to slight differences in definition of cohorts in earlier waves- outside those range are increased by one months such that they are fit in the listed month range. One dot represents observations from 4 weeks. Since responses are restricted to the regular survey duration (up to 18 weeks), the last dot of each cohort contains only observations from two weeks.

**Source:** Own calculations.

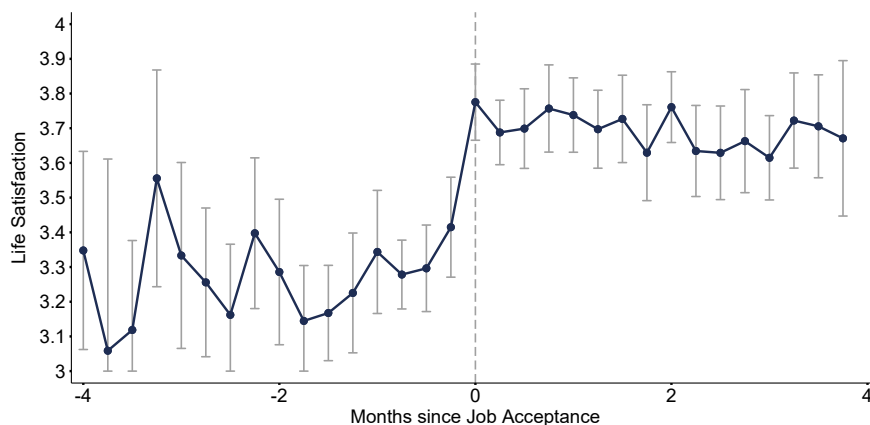
Figure A.18: Validation of Search Effort: Search Intensity, Target Wage and Life Satisfaction around Job Acceptance



(a) Search Intensity Around Job Acceptance



(b) Log Target Wage Around Job Acceptance

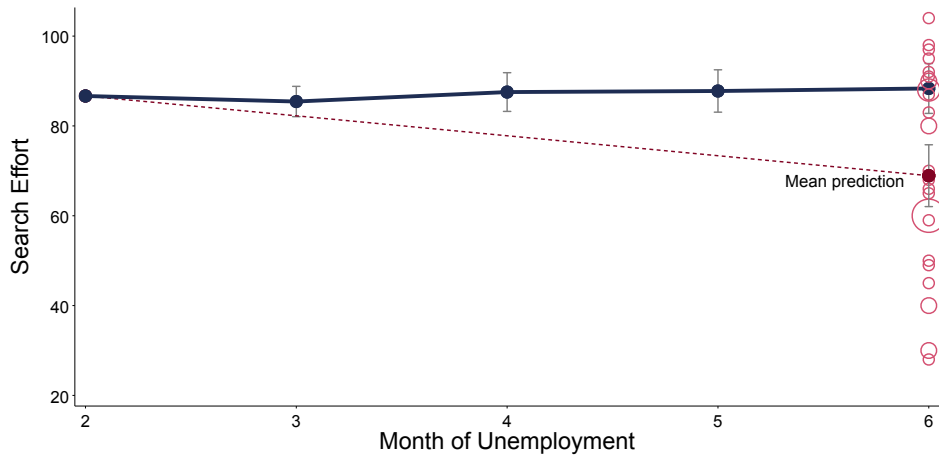


(c) Life Satisfaction Around Job Acceptance

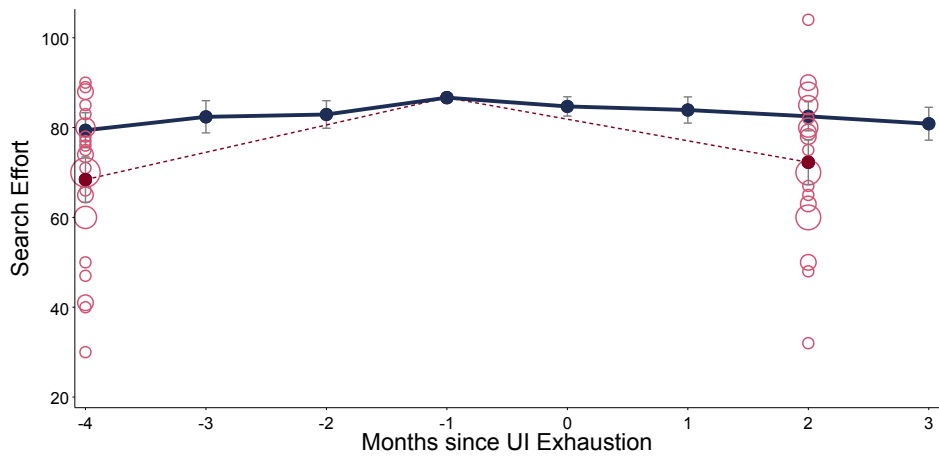
**Notes:** This figure shows other mean of outcomes around job-acceptance. Event dates are normalized to zero. SE are clustered on individual level.

**Source:** Own calculations.

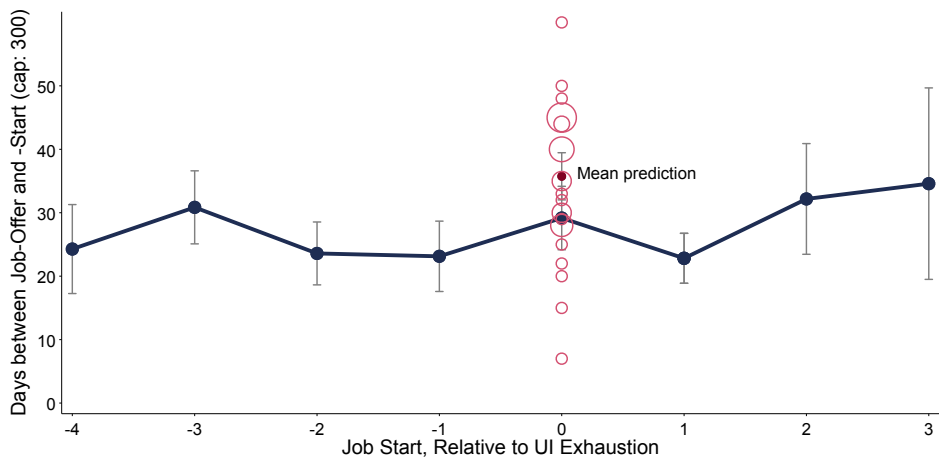
Figure A.19: Expert Forecasts vs. Survey Results - Distribution of Individual Responses



(a) Search Effort Early In Spell



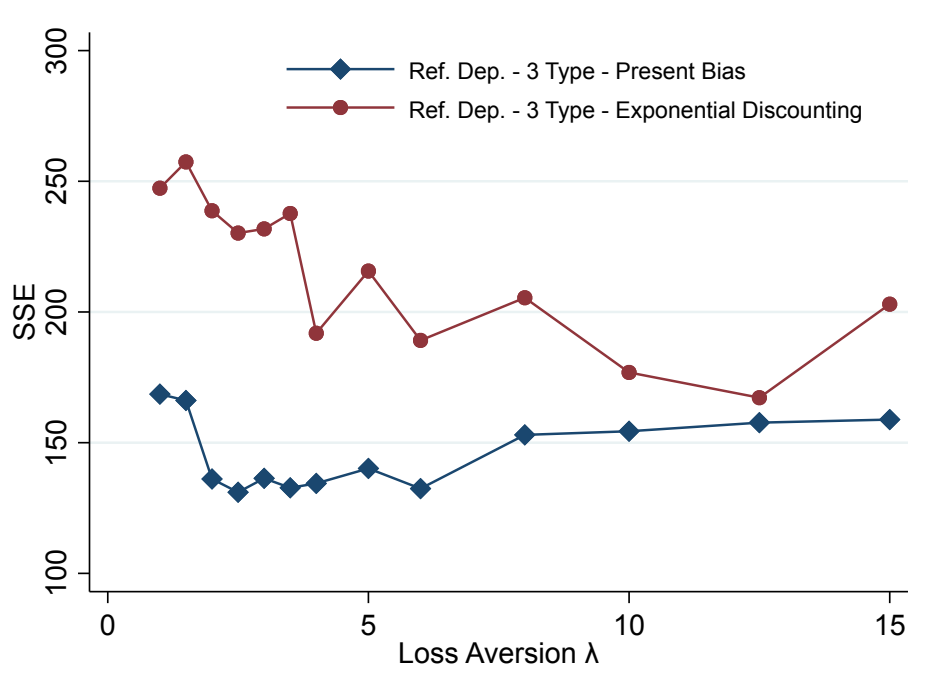
(b) Search Effort Around UI Exhaustion



(c) Storable Offers Evidence Around UI Exhaustion

**Notes:** This figure contrasts the expert forecasts with the empirical results of the survey for the three main findings. The circles indicate individual responses were larger circles indicate multiple identical responses.  
**Source:** Own calculations.

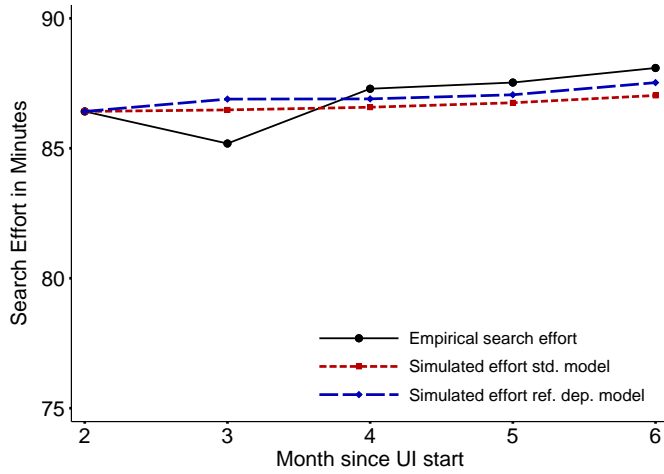
Figure A.20: Goodness of Fit Statistic (SSE) of Reference Dependent Model for fixed Loss Aversion  $\lambda$



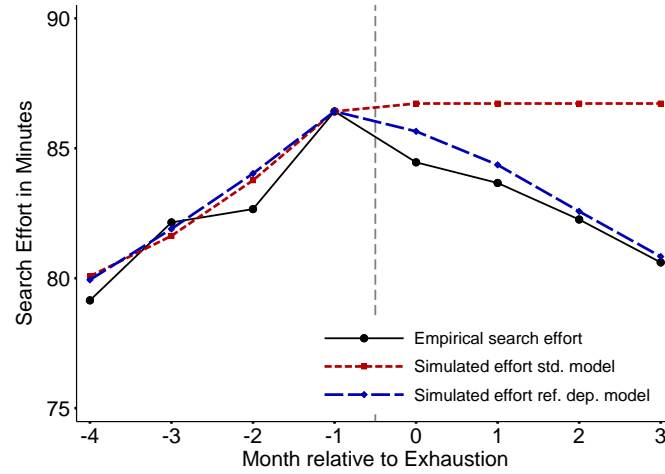
**Notes:** The figure shows the resulting SSE when estimating the RD models (exponential and  $\beta\delta$ ) while holding the loss aversion parameter  $\lambda$  fixed.

**Source:** Own calculations.

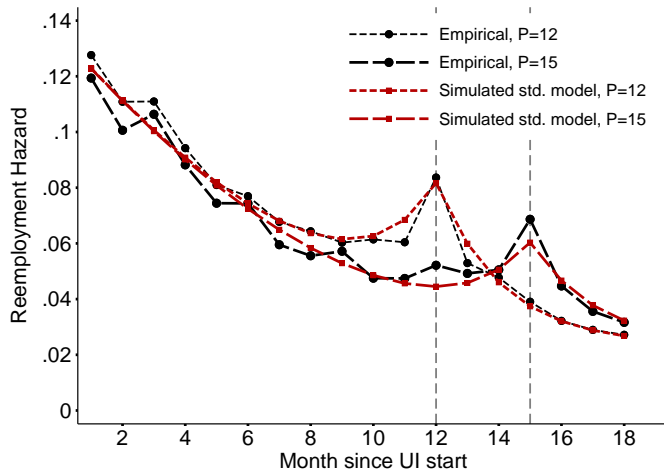
Figure A.21: Predicted Moments of the Standard and Reference-Dependent Models - Exponential Discounting - 3 Type RD Model



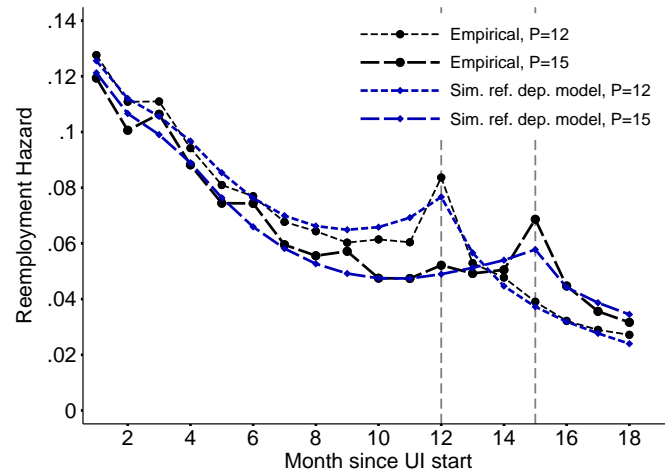
(a) Search effort at beginning of UI spell



(b) Search effort around UI exhaustion



(c) Hazard rate for standard model



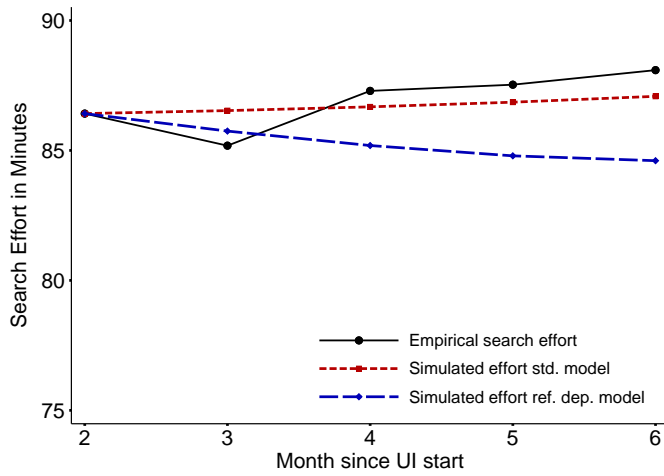
(d) Hazard rate for ref.-dep. model

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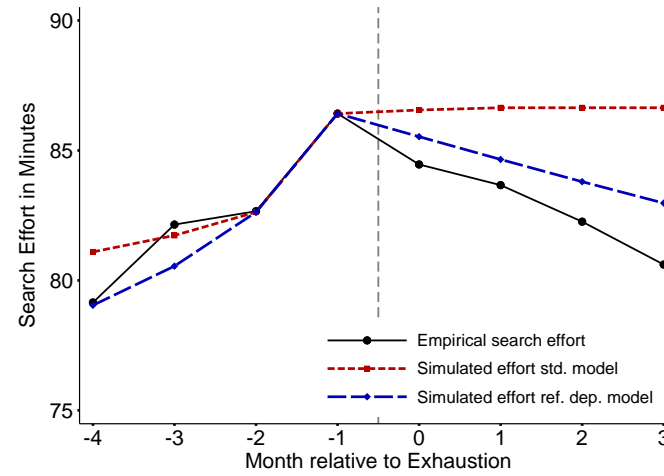
**Notes:** The figure shows the empirical moments that we use in the structural estimation and the predicted moments from the estimated standard and reference-dependent models.

**Source:** Own calculations.

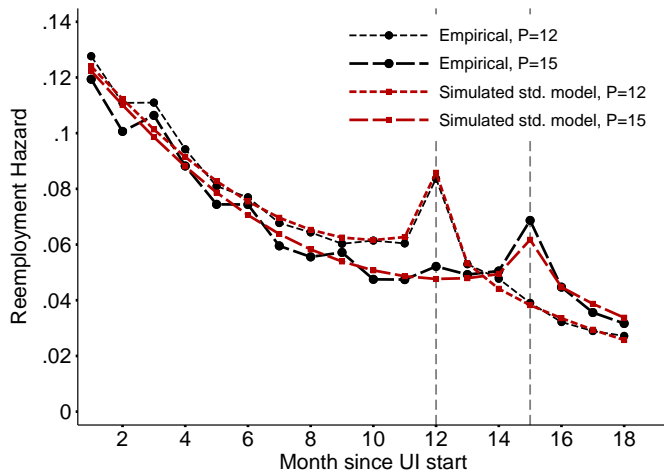
Figure A.22: Predicted Moments of the Standard and Reference-Dependent Models - Present Bias ( $\beta\delta$ ) Discounting - 2 Type RD Model, 3 Types Standard



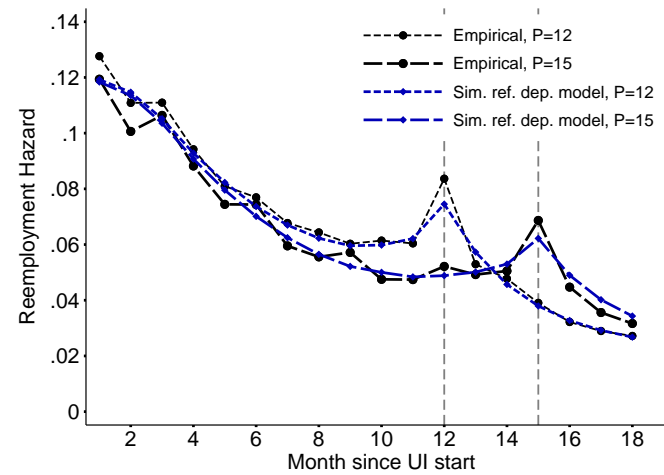
(a) Search effort at beginning of UI spell



(b) Search effort around UI exhaustion



(c) Hazard rate for standard model

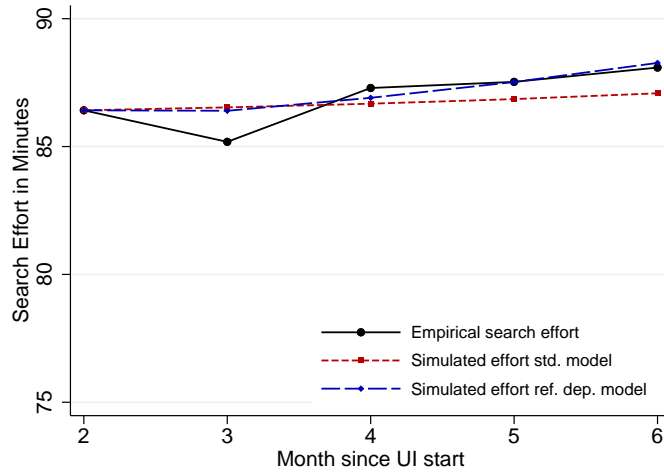


(d) Hazard rate for ref.-dep. model

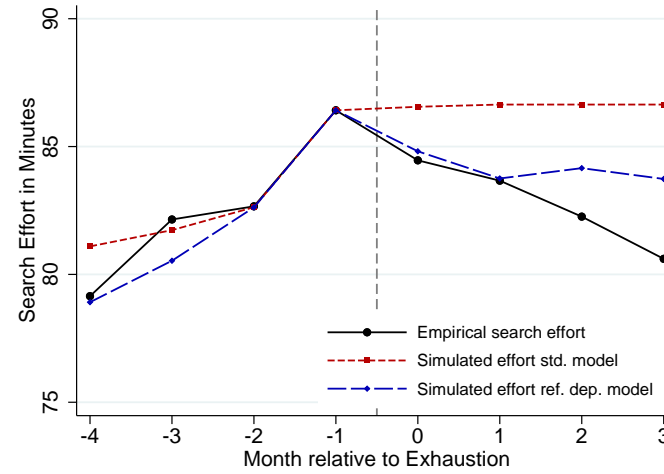
**Notes:** The figure shows the empirical moments that we use in the structural estimation and the predicted moments from the estimated standard and reference-dependent models.

**Source:** Own calculations.

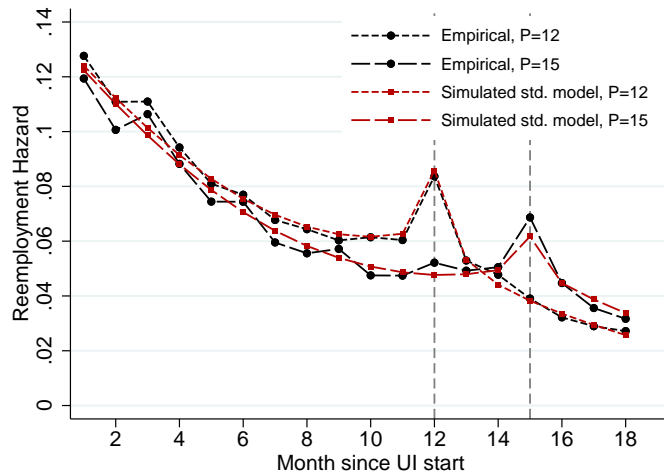
Figure A.23: Predicted Moments of the Standard and Reference-Dependent Models - Estimates fixing  $\lambda = 1$  and estimating  $\eta - \beta\delta$ -discounting



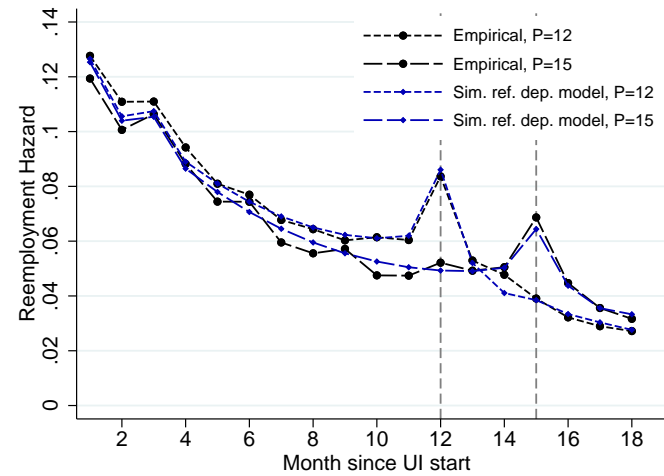
(a) Search effort at beginning of UI spell



(b) Search effort around UI exhaustion



(c) Hazard rate for standard model



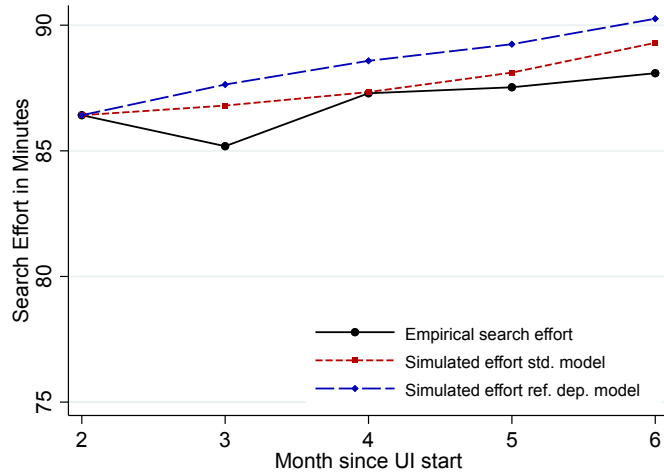
(d) Hazard rate for ref.-dep. model

**Notes:** The figure shows the empirical moments that we use in the structural estimation and the predicted moments from the estimated standard and reference-dependent models.

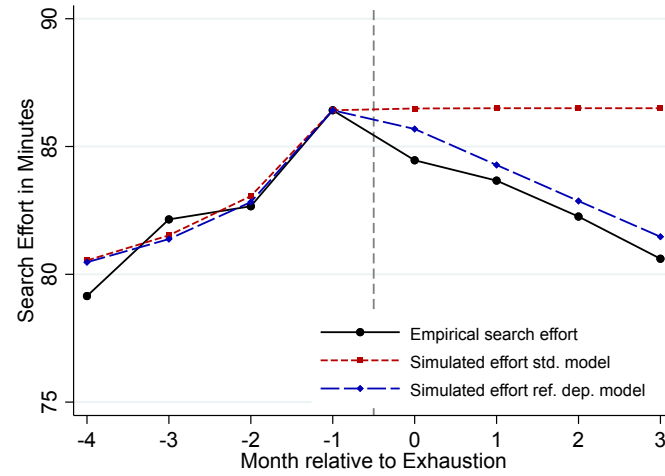
**Source:** Own calculations.



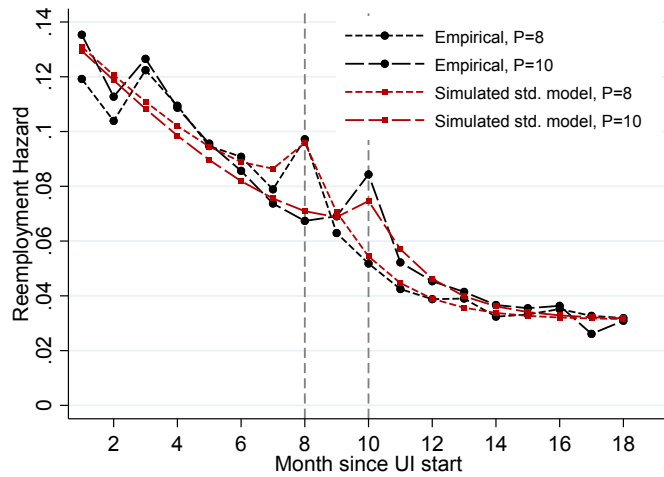
Figure A.24: Predicted Moments of the Standard and Reference-Dependent Models - Estimates based on PBD=8 and PBD=10 Hazard Moments -  $\beta\delta$ -discounting



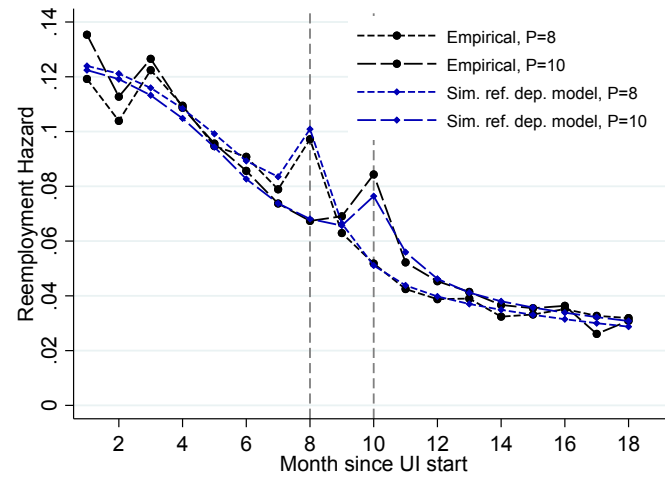
(a) Search effort at beginning of UI spell



(b) Search effort around UI exhaustion



(c) Hazard rate for standard model



(d) Hazard rate for ref.-dep. model

**Notes:** The figure shows the empirical moments that we use in the structural estimation and the predicted moments from the estimated standard and reference-dependent models.

**Source:** Own calculations.