

Braschke, Franziska; Puhani, Patrick A.

**Working Paper**

## Population Adjustment to Asymmetric Labour Market Shocks in India: A Comparison to Europe and the United States at Two Different Regional Levels

IZA Discussion Papers, No. 15355

**Provided in Cooperation with:**

IZA – Institute of Labor Economics

*Suggested Citation:* Braschke, Franziska; Puhani, Patrick A. (2022) : Population Adjustment to Asymmetric Labour Market Shocks in India: A Comparison to Europe and the United States at Two Different Regional Levels, IZA Discussion Papers, No. 15355, Institute of Labor Economics (IZA), Bonn

This Version is available at:

<https://hdl.handle.net/10419/263571>

**Standard-Nutzungsbedingungen:**

Die Dokumente auf EconStor dürfen zu eigenen wissenschaftlichen Zwecken und zum Privatgebrauch gespeichert und kopiert werden.

Sie dürfen die Dokumente nicht für öffentliche oder kommerzielle Zwecke vervielfältigen, öffentlich ausstellen, öffentlich zugänglich machen, vertreiben oder anderweitig nutzen.

Sofern die Verfasser die Dokumente unter Open-Content-Lizenzen (insbesondere CC-Lizenzen) zur Verfügung gestellt haben sollten, gelten abweichend von diesen Nutzungsbedingungen die in der dort genannten Lizenz gewährten Nutzungsrechte.

**Terms of use:**

*Documents in EconStor may be saved and copied for your personal and scholarly purposes.*

*You are not to copy documents for public or commercial purposes, to exhibit the documents publicly, to make them publicly available on the internet, or to distribute or otherwise use the documents in public.*

*If the documents have been made available under an Open Content Licence (especially Creative Commons Licences), you may exercise further usage rights as specified in the indicated licence.*

DISCUSSION PAPER SERIES

IZA DP No. 15355

**Population Adjustment to Asymmetric  
Labour Market Shocks in India:  
A Comparison to Europe and the United  
States at Two Different Regional Levels**

Franziska Braschke  
Patrick A. Puhani

JUNE 2022

## DISCUSSION PAPER SERIES

IZA DP No. 15355

# **Population Adjustment to Asymmetric Labour Market Shocks in India: A Comparison to Europe and the United States at Two Different Regional Levels**

**Franziska Braschke**

*Leibniz Universität Hannover*

**Patrick A. Puhani**

*Leibniz Universität Hannover, CReAM, UCL, University of St. Gallen and IZA*

JUNE 2022

Any opinions expressed in this paper are those of the author(s) and not those of IZA. Research published in this series may include views on policy, but IZA takes no institutional policy positions. The IZA research network is committed to the IZA Guiding Principles of Research Integrity.

The IZA Institute of Labor Economics is an independent economic research institute that conducts research in labor economics and offers evidence-based policy advice on labor market issues. Supported by the Deutsche Post Foundation, IZA runs the world's largest network of economists, whose research aims to provide answers to the global labor market challenges of our time. Our key objective is to build bridges between academic research, policymakers and society.

IZA Discussion Papers often represent preliminary work and are circulated to encourage discussion. Citation of such a paper should account for its provisional character. A revised version may be available directly from the author.

ISSN: 2365-9793

**IZA – Institute of Labor Economics**

Schaumburg-Lippe-Straße 5–9  
53113 Bonn, Germany

Phone: +49-228-3894-0  
Email: [publications@iza.org](mailto:publications@iza.org)

[www.iza.org](http://www.iza.org)

## ABSTRACT

---

# Population Adjustment to Asymmetric Labour Market Shocks in India: A Comparison to Europe and the United States at Two Different Regional Levels\*

This paper uses Indian EUS-NSSO data on 32 states/union territories and 570 districts for a bi-annual panel with 5 waves to estimate how regional population reacts to asymmetric shocks. These shocks are measured by non-employment rates, unemployment rates, and wages in fixed-effects regressions which effectively use changes in these indicators over time within regions as identifying information. Because we include region and time effects, we interpret regression-adjusted population changes as proxies for regional migration. Comparing the results with those for the United States and the European Union, the most striking difference is that, in India, we do not find any significant reactions to asymmetric non-employment shocks at the state level, only at the district level, whereas the estimates are statistically significant and of similar size for the state/NUTS-1 and district level in both the United States and Europe. We find that Indian workers react to asymmetric regional shocks by adjusting up to a third of a regional non-employment shock through migration within two years. This is somewhat higher than the response to non-employment shocks in the United States and the European Union but somewhat lower than the response to unemployment shocks in these economies. In India, the unemployment rate does not seem to be a reliable measure of regional shocks, at least we find no significant effects for it. However, we find a significant population response to regional wage differentials in India at both the state and district level.

**JEL Classification:** J61

**Keywords:** migration, population, regional convergence, non-employment, unemployment, wages

**Corresponding author:**

Patrick A. Puhani  
Leibniz Universität Hannover  
Institut für Arbeitsökonomik  
Königsworther Platz 1  
D-30167 Hannover  
Germany  
E-mail: [puhani@aoek.uni-hannover.de](mailto:puhani@aoek.uni-hannover.de)

---

\* We thank Himanshu, Balwant Mehta, Priyanka Tyagi, employees of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and participants at the 2022 Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economists for helpful comments.

## 1 Introduction

Internal migration can be an important component for adjusting asymmetric regional labour market shocks. For a fast-developing economy like India, which is also experiencing rapid population growth, efficient internal migration of labour may be even more important (Lagakos, 2020). Still, in a large country such as India with different language groups, internal migration may also face political and administrative barriers as documented in Aggarwal et al. (2020), Bhagat (2012), Borhade (2012) or Kone et al. (2018).

In this paper, we estimate how net migration, proxied by regression-controlled population change in a region, reacts to regional labour market shocks in India. We measure asymmetric regional labour market shocks by changes in the ratio of the regional non-employment rate to the average non-employment rate of all Indian regions as well as by changes in the ratio of the average full-time wage in a region to the average wage of all Indian regions. We use both states/union territories and districts as regional units.<sup>1</sup> Based on regressions using regional and year fixed effects, we find that Indian workers respond to asymmetric regional labour market conditions. Indeed, when comparing our results to those obtained for the United States and the European Union applying the same methodology as in Jauer et al. (2019), we find that regional adjustment in India occurs primarily at the district but not at the state level, whereas it occurs at both of these levels in the United States and in Europe. This finding is not inconsistent with concerns raised in the literature on barriers to mobility: maybe the dynamics of the Indian economy requires much more labour mobility for India to unleash its economic potential.

During the last two decades, India has seen significant macroeconomic and labour market changes: India has seen larger population growth since the year 2000 than the United States, the European Union, or China, but its GDP growth has been below the one of China since the late 2000s (see Figures 1 and 2). This raises the question whether India is making full use of its labour market potential. Indeed, the employment to population ratio for people older than 15 years of age has been decreasing for the last two decades in India and is now below the one of the United States, the European Union and China (Figure 3), see also Verick (2014). The unemployment rate has increased recently (Figure 4), although—given the lack of a European or U.S. style unemployment benefit system—we have doubts whether it is as meaningful as a statistic here as the non-employment rate, which will be our preferred statistic to measure (the inverse of) labour market tightness. For the employed, there have been significant structural shifts: India has experienced a decrease in the (still high) share of agricultural employment. This is not only reflected in an increase in the share of service employment: in striking contrast to the United States and the European Union, India and China have experienced industrialisation of their workforces in the first decade of the 21st century and slightly beyond

---

<sup>1</sup>In the following, when we refer to states this is supposed to include the union territories.

(Figures 5 to 7). India may thus experience a form of development similar to the Lewis (1954) model, for which internal migration is a crucial component.

The paper is structured as follows. Section 2 describes our data set and presents descriptive statistics in the form of graphs. Section 3 presents the regression results. Section 4 concludes.

## 2 Data and Descriptive Statistics

We use individual-level survey data from the Employment and Unemployment Survey (EUS) by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of India, rounds 60 (collected from January 2004 to June 2004), 62 (collected from July 2005 to June 2006), 64 (collected from July 2007 to June 2008), 66 (collected from July 2009 to June 2010), and 68 (latest available, collected from July 2011 to June 2012). Because round 60 was only collected during 6 instead of 12 months, we will check the sensitivity of our results with respect to exclusion or inclusion of round 60. Round 61 is excluded because our estimating equation will contain a lag structure and we want to maintain a similar (two-year) lag throughout the sample.

Using sampling weights, we build regional-level data (at the state/union territory or district level) for the population growth factor, the non-employment rate (1 minus the employment-population ratio) and the unemployment rate. In doing that, we only consider people of working age (15-64). Using sampling weights, we also generate the average wage per region as a proxy for earnings potential. Because we do not have information on hours of work, we only use full-time workers who usually work at least 5 days per week full-time.

We exclude the following small union territories: Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep (both islands), and Pondicherry (set of geographically disconnected territories). Because of changes to districts and inconsistencies in the data, Delhi and Goa are treated as a single entity in the district data. The following districts are excluded due to lack of wage information: Lakhisarai (Bihar), Upper Siang (Arunachal Pradesh), and Tamenglong (Manipur). We also excluded Leh Ladakh, Kargil, and Punch (all Jammu and Kashmir), because data for these districts are only available in round 68 (collected from July 2011 to June 2012) of the EUS survey. This leaves us with 32 states/union territories and 570 districts, which we observe bi-annually in 5 different years over a time period of about 8 years.<sup>2</sup>

The size of the population is heterogeneous across states and districts as exhibited in Figure 8 and Figure 9. Average wages increased in virtually all states after 2008 (Figure 10). However, the increase in wages was also accompanied by regional diversion from 2008 to 2012, whereas there seems to have

---

<sup>2</sup>District-level territorial reforms in the period under consideration were taken into account as follows: we used the districts from round 60 of the EUS-NSSO as a basis. In most cases, it was clear from which district the new district had been created and we assigned it to the original district. Exceptions are the district of Mewat (state: Haryana) and the district of Baksa (state: Assam), where the district of origin was not clearly identifiable. Here we have merged the new districts and all the original districts. A detailed list can be requested from the authors.

been regional wage conversion between 2004 and 2008, see the corresponding coefficients of variation in Figure 20. When considering wages by district, there also seems to be increasing diversion together with wage increases after 2008 (even when ignoring the outlier, see Figure 11 and the corresponding coefficients of variation in Figure 21). Himanshu (2017) also reports a “rapid acceleration” of wages “during 2008-2013” (p. 309).

On the other hand, there seems to be a convergence in the non-employment rates by both states and districts, despite of rising non-employment rates (Figures 12 and 13, for the corresponding coefficients of variation, see Figures 18 and 19). The dispersion of the regional unemployment rate seems to move more erratically over time, especially when plotted by district (Figure 14 and Figure 15). There appears to be an increase in the dispersion when plotted by state (Figure 14), but we consider the non-employment statistic to be more reliable than the unemployment statistic. Indeed, as Figures 16 and 17 show, there is a clear increase in the non-employment rate over time (when averaged over states and districts), whereas there is no such clear trend for the unemployment rate.

### 3 Methodology and Results

Following Jauer et al. (2019), we estimate the following regression with the regional population growth factor on the left hand side and the region’s ratio of its unemployment/non-employment rate ( $ur$ ) to the national average as well as the ratio of the region’s wage rate ( $y$ ) to the national average on the right hand side. The estimating equation is:

$$\ln\left(\frac{pop_{it}}{pop_{it-2}}\right) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \ln\left(\frac{ur_{it-2}}{ur_{nt-2}}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{y_{it-2}}{y_{nt-2}}\right) + \eta_t + \mu_i + \varepsilon_{it} \quad (1)$$

Because we have bi-annual regional panel data, we include both region and time fixed effects (FE),  $\mu_i$  and  $\eta_t$ , respectively. Because the national averages in the denominators on the right hand side are constant between regions, they are taken account of by the year fixed effects. If the region and time fixed effects take account of natural population growth, using the population growth factor on the left hand side—regression-adjusted by region and time effects—will effectively measure population change due to net migration.

$$\begin{aligned} \ln\left(\frac{pop_{it}}{pop_{it-2}}\right) - \eta_t - \mu_i &= \ln\left(\frac{\Delta_{t-2}^t pop_{it} + pop_{it-2}}{pop_{it-2}}\right) - \eta_t - \mu_i \\ &\approx \ln\left(\frac{mig_{it,t-2} + pop_{it-2}}{pop_{it-2}}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Under these assumptions, we follow Jauer et al. (2019) and interpret the coefficients on the unemployment/non-employment rate and on the wage as

the reactions of net migration to regional labour market shocks. Because of the log-log specification, the coefficient on the wage can be interpreted as an elasticity. Similarly, the coefficient on the unemployment/non-employment rate is an elasticity, but here we are more interested in how much of an increase in non-employment in a region can possibly be adjusted by net migration (discussed below).

Table 1 shows ordinary least squares (OLS, first two columns, the latter restricted to the population up to age 50) and fixed-effects (FE, last two columns, the latter restricted to the population up to age 50) regression results at the state level. The upper panel of the table presents the specifications with lagged relative unemployment and the lower panel the specifications with lagged relative non-employment as measure of labour market tightness. Within these panels the upper (lower) block refers to rounds 62 (60) to 68 of the EUS, hence years 2005 (2004) to 2012. In the OLS results without region fixed effects, which exploit both within- and between-state variation in the impact variables, none of the unemployment, non-employment nor wage variables are statistically significant. Still, the coefficients have the expected signs. In the fixed-effects regressions, the coefficients for state unemployment and non-employment are still statistically insignificant, but the wage rate is statistically significant. The interpretation for the FE coefficients in the third column of Table 1 is that a one percent increase in the wage of a region increases the population growth factor by approximately 0.45 percent (coefficients are rather similar across the panels in the third column). This estimate is larger than the estimates reported by Jauer et al. (2019) for the United States and the European Union, which are statistically insignificant in many cases. However, these authors have a one-year time lag. Hence, in order to produce comparable results for the United States and the European Union, in Appendix Table A1 we use the data of Jauer et al. (2019) and re-estimate their main models with a two-year lag. Still, the wage effect estimates for the United States and the European Union remain smaller than the ones for India. When we add round 62 and the lagged variables from round 60 to the sample as a robustness check (the second blocks in the panels of Table 1), we mostly obtain similar results for both OLS and FE estimates.

Using Indian districts instead of states as units of analysis (Table 2), the coefficient of the non-employment rate becomes statistically significant, although the coefficient of the unemployment rate is still statistically insignificant with a point estimate close to zero. Again, results are qualitatively robust to the inclusion of round 62 and the lagged variables from round 60.

Results in general are also qualitatively and quantitatively similar when restricting the sample to the population up to age 50 (Table 1, columns 2 and 4 at the state level and Table 2 columns 2 and 4 at the district level), which might be more mobile. The coefficients are only a bit larger in most cases. This might be explained by India being a young country, so that the cohorts above



age 50 are comparatively small, which lessens their influence on the estimates for the total working age population.<sup>3</sup>

How can we interpret the size of the estimate for the unemployment or non-employment rate? In order to simulate how much of an increase in non-employment in a region can possibly be adjusted by net migration, Tables 3 and 4 show what a one percent increase in unemployment or non-employment amounts to in absolute numbers and set this in relation to the migration-induced population change of  $\alpha_1$  percent. The inverse ratio between these two is the fraction of the unemployment or non-employment change that can at most be adjusted by migration (population change). This upper bound would only be reached if all migration (population change) were labour market related and actually offset the asymmetric shock. Tables 5 and 6 present the corresponding results for the United States and the European Union based on the data used in Jauer et al. (2019), but with a two-year lag structure, as we have in the data for India. The regression results on which these simulations are based are reported in Table A1.

In Table 3, which reports simulations at the state level, none of the coefficients underlying the simulations is statistically significant and the simulated percent of the shock adjusted due to migration changes sign. However, when considering the district level, the simulated adjustments based on the statistically significant coefficients, which are exclusively the coefficients of non-employment, are consistently between 28 and 37 percent. When comparing the results for India with those for the United States and the European Union in Tables 5 and 6, we make two key observations. First, whereas none of the estimates at the state level are statistically significant for India, for the United States and Europe, all the estimates both at the state/NUTS-1 and the district level are statistically significant and the adjustments are of similar size, even larger at the state than at the district level. This is consistent with limited adjustment to non-employment disparities across state boundaries in India when compared to the United States and the European Union. Second, whereas we only observe an adjustment to non-employment, but not to unemployment disparities in India, in the United States and in Europe, the adjustment is larger with respect to unemployment than with respect to non-employment.

---

<sup>3</sup>At the district level, we also conducted the analysis by gender. Results can be found in Appendix B, Tables B1 and B2. Again, only coefficients of the fixed-effects regressions for non-employment are significant. Comparing men and women, point estimates for women are somewhat lower in absolute terms than for men using the whole sample (Table B1), but for non-employment (but not for the wage) slightly larger when restricting the sample to the population up to age 50 (Table B2). In Appendix C, we also report separate estimates for population changes by social background, where disadvantaged “classes” (abbreviated OBC in the EUS-NSSO), “scheduled tribes” (ST) and “scheduled castes” (SC), again as defined in the EUS-NSSO, all together form the disadvantaged group, which amounts to about two thirds of the Indian population according to unweighted survey statistics, and “others”, as defined in the EUS-NSSO, form the alternative group. The point estimates shown in Table C1 show that although both groups react to district non-employment and wage differentials, the point estimates for the disadvantaged groups are larger than for the “other” group.

## 4 Conclusion

In this paper, we have used the EUS-NSSO data to create regional panel data sets for both Indian states and districts. Based on this panel, we have estimated how the population in these regions adjusts to asymmetric labour market shocks within a two-year time period. These asymmetric labour market shocks have been proxied from the same data source using the average wage and unemployment or non-employment rate in the state or district, lagged by two years.

Based on fixed-effects models, we find that Indian workers migrate (proxied by regression-adjusted population change) in response to wage and non-employment shocks. However, the unemployment rate does not seem to be a very reliable statistic in this context. When compared with results applying the same methodology using data for the United States and the European Union for a similar time period (Jauer et al., 2019), we find no significant response of Indian workers to non-employment disparities across Indian states, but only to Indian districts, whereas the response to disparities is similar across states/NUTS-1 regions and districts in the United States and in Europe.

## References

- Aggarwal, V., G. Solano, P. Singh, and S. Singh. 2020. The Integration of Interstate Migrants in India: A 7 State Policy Evaluation. *International Migration* 58: 144–163.
- Bhagat, R.B. 2012. Migrants' (Denied) Right to the City. *UNESCO and UNICEF: National Workshop on Internal Migration and Human Development in India, Workshop Compendium* Workshop Papers, New Delhi Vol. II.
- Borhade, A. 2012. Migrants' (Denied) Access to Health Care in India. *UNESCO and UNICEF: National Workshop on Internal Migration and Human Development in India, Workshop Compendium* Workshop Papers, New Delhi Vol. II.
- Himanshu. 2017. Growth, Structural Change and Wages in India: Recent Trends. *Indian Journal of Labour Economics* 60: 309–331.
- Jauer, J., T. Liebig, J.P. Martin, and P.A. Puhani. 2019. Migration as an Adjustment Mechanism in the Crisis? A Comparison of Europe and the United States 2006-2016. *Journal of Population Economics* 32: 1–22.
- Kone, Z.L., M.Y. Liu, A. Mattoo, C. Ozden, and S. Sharma. 2018. Internal Borders and Migration in India. *Journal of Economic Geography* 18: 729–759.
- Lagakos, D. 2020. Urban-Rural Gaps in the Developing World: Does Internal Migration Offer Opportunities? *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 34: 174–92.
- Lewis, W.A. 1954. Economic Development with Unlimited Supplies of Labour. *The Manchester School* 22: 139–191.
- Verick, S. 2014. Women's Labour Force Participation in India: Why is It So Low? *International Labour Organization (ILO), Policy Brief*, ILO DWT for South Asia and Country Office for India, New Delhi.

## **Tables**

**Table 1** Regressions at the State Level

	OLS	OLS U50	FE	FE U50
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Unemployment</b>				
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.011	-0.010	0.008	0.013
(s.e.)	(0.010)	(0.011)	(0.020)	(0.019)
log rel. wage	0.007	0.008	0.449***	0.502***
(s.e.)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.126)	(0.120)
Constant	0.072***	0.064***	-0.412***	-0.472***
(s.e.)	(0.021)	(0.022)	(0.139)	(0.131)
R2 / R2 within	0.065	0.054	0.398	0.466
No. regions	32	32	32	32
No. observations	96	96	96	96
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.010	-0.007	0.003	0.010
(s.e.)	(0.013)	(0.013)	(0.023)	(0.021)
log rel. wage	0.003	0.003	0.456***	0.510***
(s.e.)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.099)	(0.101)
Constant	0.077***	0.070***	-0.421***	-0.482***
(s.e.)	(0.022)	(0.023)	(0.102)	(0.102)
R2 / R2 within	0.059	0.041	0.349	0.400
No. regions	32	32	32	32
No. observations	128	128	128	128
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Non-Employment</b>				
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	-0.018	-0.019	-0.096	-0.069
(s.e.)	(0.053)	(0.051)	(0.130)	(0.124)
log rel. wage	0.007	0.008	0.441***	0.496***
(s.e.)	(0.005)	(0.006)	(0.131)	(0.124)
Constant	0.074***	0.066***	-0.408***	-0.471***
(s.e.)	(0.022)	(0.023)	(0.143)	(0.134)
R2 / R2 within	0.058	0.049	0.406	0.465
No. regions	32	32	32	32
No. observations	96	96	96	96
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	0.001	0.024	-0.033	0.009
(s.e.)	(0.048)	(0.048)	(0.138)	(0.128)
log rel. wage	0.003	0.003	0.456***	0.506***
(s.e.)	(0.005)	(0.006)	(0.101)	(0.103)
Constant	0.079***	0.073***	-0.422***	-0.478***
(s.e.)	(0.022)	(0.024)	(0.107)	(0.106)
R2 / R2 within	0.054	0.041	0.350	0.398
No. regions	32	32	32	32
No. observations	128	128	128	128

Note: Regressions are estimated by pooled ordinary least squares (OLS) and fixed effects (FE). U50 refers to a sub-sample not older than 50 years of age. Standard errors clustered at the state level appear in parentheses. All regressions include year fixed effects. \*\*\*, \*\* and \* denote significance at the 1%, 5% and 10% level, respectively. Data Source: Indian EUS-NSSO.

**Table 2** Regressions at the District Level

	OLS	OLS U50	FE	FE U50
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Unemployment</b>				
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.002	-0.001	-0.001	0.001
(s.e.)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.005)	(0.005)
log rel. wage	0.013***	0.013***	0.229***	0.259***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.022)	(0.022)
Constant	0.037***	0.029***	-0.005	-0.021**
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.008)
R2 / R2 within	0.013	0.013	0.132	0.151
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	1,590	1,587	1,590	1,587
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.004	-0.003	-0.002	0.001
(s.e.)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.005)
log rel. wage	0.026***	0.027***	0.351***	0.373***
(s.e.)	(0.006)	(0.006)	(0.035)	(0.036)
Constant	0.049***	0.057***	-0.034***	-0.027**
(s.e.)	(0.014)	(0.015)	(0.011)	(0.011)
R2 / R2 within	0.024	0.025	0.252	0.266
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	2,081	2,078	2,081	2,078
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Non-Employment</b>				
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	-0.019	-0.025*	-0.126***	-0.138***
(s.e.)	(0.014)	(0.015)	(0.030)	(0.032)
log rel. wage	0.014***	0.014***	0.235***	0.266***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.022)	(0.023)
Constant	0.039***	0.028***	-0.024***	-0.042***
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.009)
R2 / R2 within	0.016	0.015	0.151	0.169
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	1,708	1,707	1,708	1,707
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	-0.021	-0.020	-0.162***	-0.153***
(s.e.)	(0.017)	(0.017)	(0.026)	(0.026)
log rel. wage	0.028***	0.029***	0.360***	0.388***
(s.e.)	(0.006)	(0.006)	(0.031)	(0.033)
Constant	0.064***	0.070***	-0.049***	-0.048***
(s.e.)	(0.014)	(0.014)	(0.012)	(0.012)
R2 / R2 within	0.031	0.032	0.271	0.292
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	2,273	2,272	2,273	2,272

Note: Regressions are estimated by pooled ordinary least squares (OLS) and fixed effects (FE). U50 refers to a sub-sample not older than 50 years of age. Standard errors clustered at the district level appear in parentheses. All regressions include year fixed effects. \*\*\*, \*\* and \* denote significance at the 1%, 5% and 10% level, respectively. Data Source: Indian EUS-NSSO.

**Table 3** Simulated Unemployment/Non-Employment Adjustment due to Migration at the State Level (Based on Fixed-Effect Estimates)

Specification	Coefficient	Standard Error	Average Number of Unemp./Non-Emp.	Average Population	1 % Change in Unemp./Non-Emp.	Migration Induced Pop. Change	UE/NON-E Adj. due to Mig (%)
<b>Unemployment</b>							
Rounds 60-68	(0.003)	0.023	319,437	20,416,288	3,194	(-524)	(-16)
Rounds 60-68, U50	(0.010)	0.021	314,671	17,721,014	3,147	(-1,711)	(-54)
Rounds 62-68	(0.008)	0.020	312,383	20,877,478	3,124	(-1,745)	(-56)
Rounds 62-68, U50	(0.013)	0.019	308,319	18,084,318	3,083	(-2,424)	(-79)
<b>Non-Employment</b>							
Rounds 60-68	(-0.033)	0.138	9,073,555	20,416,288	90,736	(6,649)	(7)
Rounds, 60-68, U50	(-0.009)	0.128	8,017,520	17,721,014	80,175	(-1,611)	(-2)
Rounds 62-68	(-0.096)	0.130	9,426,386	20,877,478	94,264	(19,997)	(21)
Rounds 62-68, U50	(-0.069)	0.124	8,319,259	18,084,318	83,193	(12,462)	(15)

Note: The rows contain results based on regressions using either the unemployment (Unemp., UE) or non-employment (Non-Emp., NON-E) rate as explanatory variable. Rounds 60-68 and Rounds 62-68 stand for results based on using the EUS-NSSO rounds 60-68 and 62-68, respectively (including lagged variables). U50 refers to samples of individuals aged 15-50, whereas the default sample uses the working-age population aged 15-64. Because none of the coefficients is significant, the simulated changes/adjustments appear in parentheses. Data Source: EUS-NSSO.

Table 4 Simulated Unemployment/Non-Employment Adjustment due to Migration at the District Level (Based on Fixed-Effect Estimates)

Specification	Coefficient	Standard Error	Average Number of Unemp./Non-Emp.	Average Population	1 % Change in Unemp./Non-Emp.	Migration Induced Pop. Change	UE/NON-E Adj. due to Mig (%)
<b>Unemployment</b>							
Rounds 60-68	(-0.002)	0.004	19,102	1,190,959	191	(29)	(15)
Rounds 60-68, U50	(0.001)	0.005	18,844	1,033,651	188	(-11)	(-6)
Rounds 62-68	(-0.001)	0.005	18,361	1,201,157	184	(14)	(7)
Rounds 62-68, U50	(0.001)	0.005	18,145	1,040,755	181	(-10)	(-5)
<b>Non-Employment</b>							
Rounds 60-68	-0.162	0.026	510,440	1,148,707	5,104	1,864	37
Rounds 60-68, U50	-0.153	0.026	451,154	997,302	4,512	1,527	34
Rounds 62-68	-0.126	0.030	529,332	1,172,602	5,293	1,482	28
Rounds 62-68, U50	-0.138	0.032	467,347	1,016,076	4,673	1,400	30

Note: The rows contain results based on regressions using either the unemployment (Unemp., UE) or non-employment (Non-Emp., NON-E) rate as explanatory variable. Rounds 60-68 and Rounds 62-68 stand for results based on using the EUS-NSSO rounds 60-68 and 62-68, respectively (including lagged variables). U50 refers to samples of individuals aged 15-50, whereas the default sample uses the working-age population aged 15-64. Results based on insignificant coefficients are presented in parentheses. Data Source: EUS-NSSO.



**Table 5** Simulated Unemployment/Non-Employment Adjustment due to Migration at the District Level (Based on Fixed-Effect Estimates), EU-27, Eurozone, and USA, Larger Regions 2006-2016

Specification	Coefficient	Average Number of Unemp./Non-Emp.	Average Population	1 % Change in Unemp./Non-Emp.	Migration Induced Pop. Change	UE/NON-E Adj. due to Mig (%)
<b>Unemployment</b>						
EU-27/EFTA NUTS-1	-0.030	222,675	3,423,717	2,227	1,027	46
Eurozone NUTS-1	-0.028	253,040	3,512,915	2,530	984	39
USA States	-0.021	242,253	4,034,056	2,423	847	35
<b>Non-Employment</b>						
EU-27/EFTA NUTS-1	-0.058	1,383,131	4,091,638	13,831	2,373	17
Eurozone NUTS-1	-0.095	1,199,681	3,492,804	11,997	3,318	28
USA States	-0.077	1,358,869	4,034,056	13,589	3,095	23

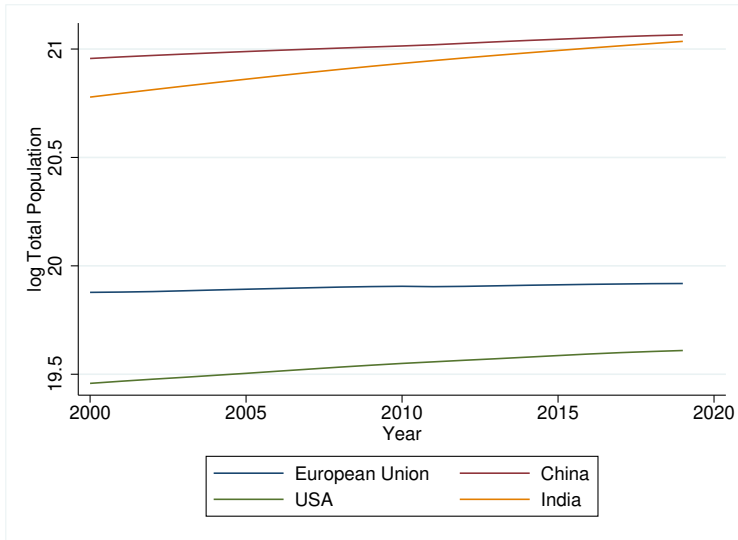
Note: The rows contain results based on regressions using either the unemployment (Unemp., UE) or non-employment (Non-Emp., NON-E) rate as explanatory variable. All coefficients presented in this table are statistically significant.  
 Data Source: European Labour Force Survey, Eurostat Regional Database, American Community Survey.

**Table 6** Simulated Unemployment/Non-Employment Adjustment due to Migration at the District Level (Based on Fixed-Effect Estimates), EU-27, Eurozone, and USA, Smaller Regions 2006-2016

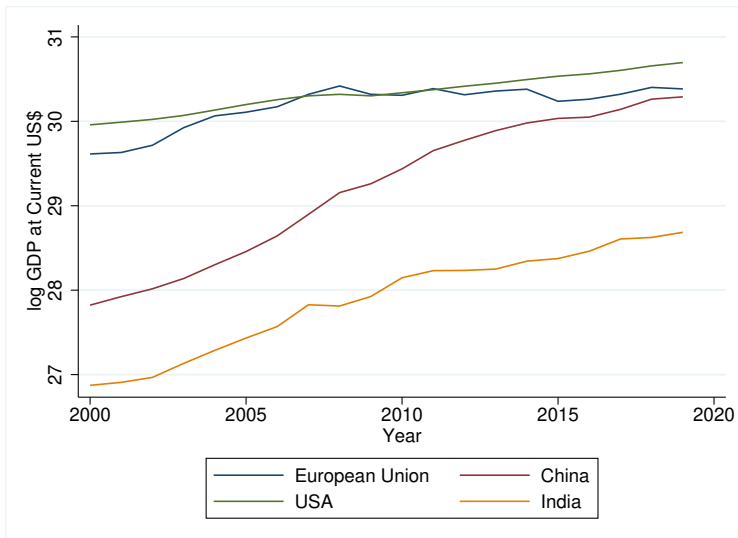
Specification	Coefficient	Average Number of Unemp./Non-Emp.	Average Population	1 % Change in Unemp./Non-Emp.	Migration Induced Pop. Change	UE/NON-E Adj. due to Mig (%)
<b>Unemployment</b>						
EU-27/EFTA NUTS-2	-0.027	83,125	1,277,951	831	345	42
Eurozone NUTS-2	-0.026	92,067	1,277,911	921	332	36
USA SuperPUMA	-0.015	53,717	907,276	537	136	25
<b>Non-Employment</b>						
EU-27/EFTA NUTS-2	-0.096	427,119	1,274,914	4,271	1,224	29
Eurozone NUTS-2	-0.088	437,531	1,273,134	4,375	1,120	26
USA SuperPUMA	-0.034	306,694	907,276	3,067	308	10

Note: The rows contain results based on regressions using either the unemployment (Unemp., UE) or non-employment (Non-Emp., NON-E) rate as explanatory variable. All coefficients presented in this table are statistically significant.  
Data Source: European Labour Force Survey, Eurostat Regional Database, American Community Survey.

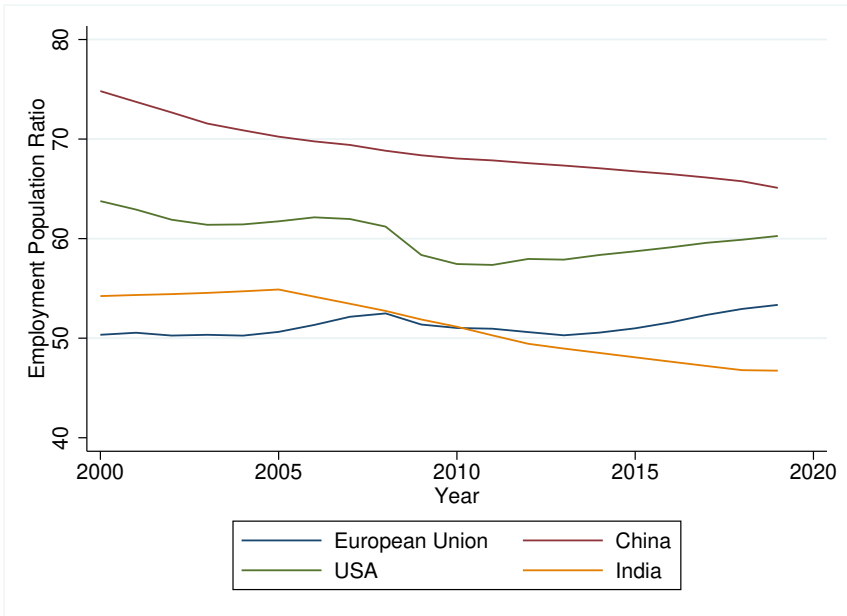
## 5 Graphs



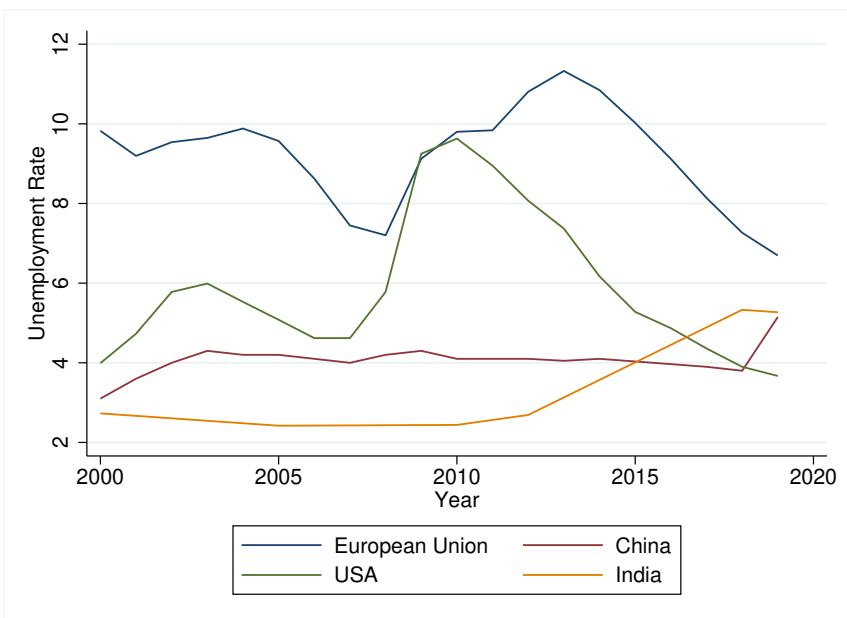
**Fig. 1** Population by Country. Data Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>.



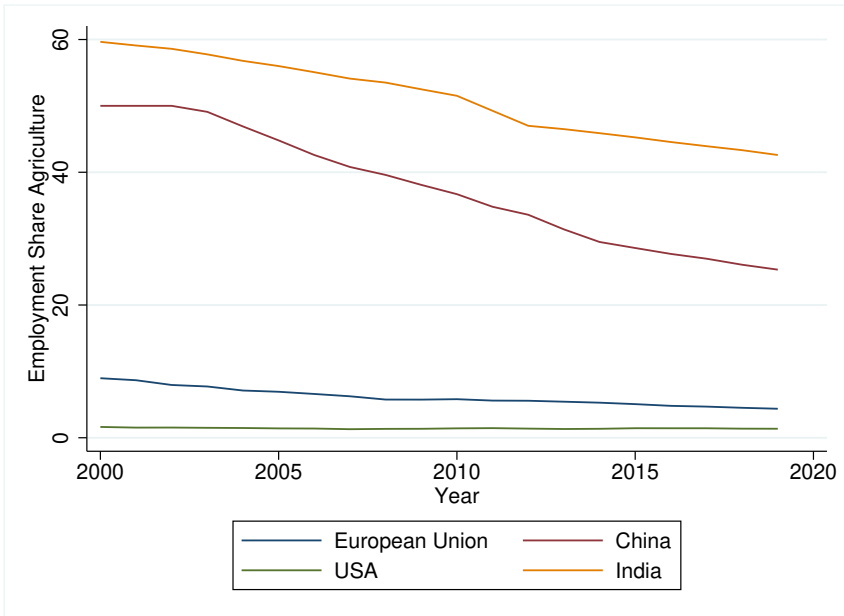
**Fig. 2** GDP by Country. Data Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>.



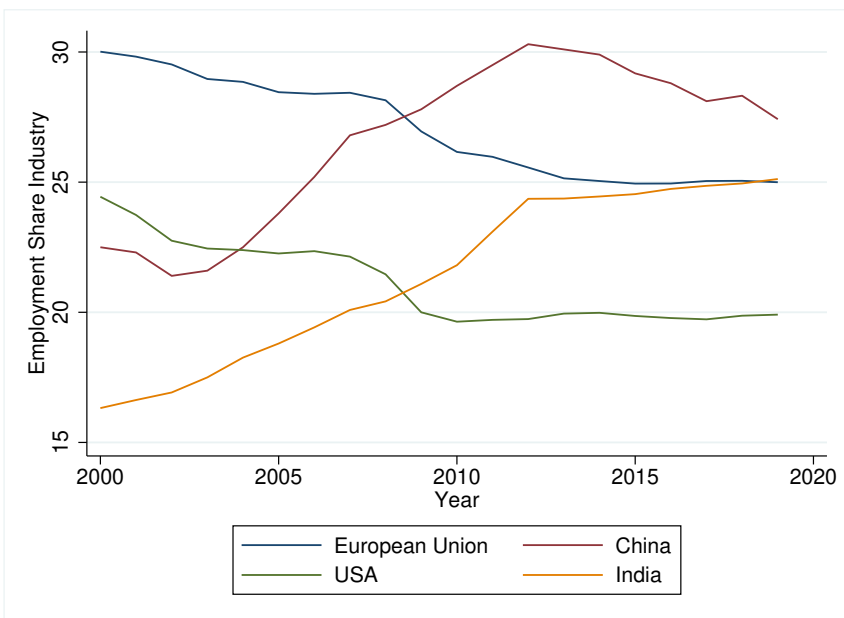
**Fig. 3** Employment to Population Ratio by Country. Data Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>.



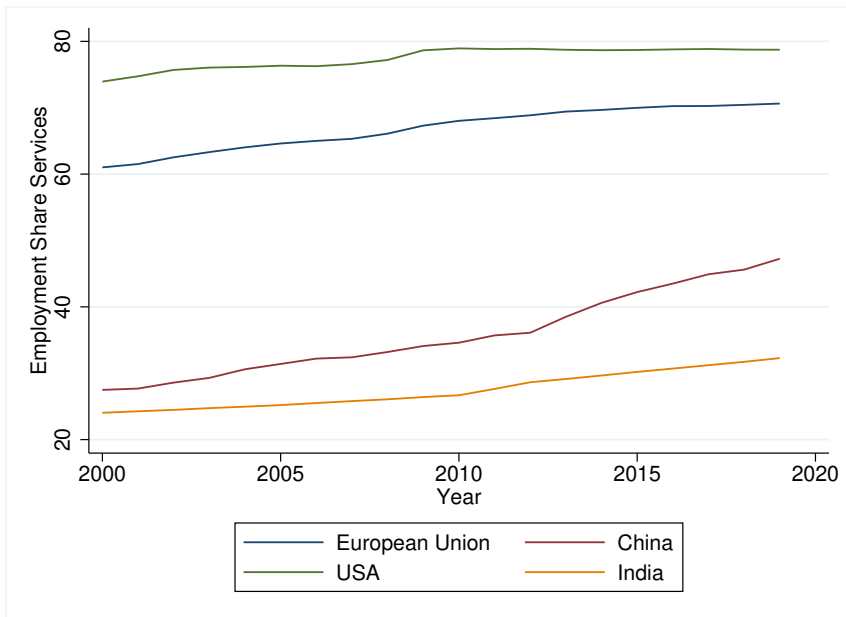
**Fig. 4** Unemployment Rates by Country. Data Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>.



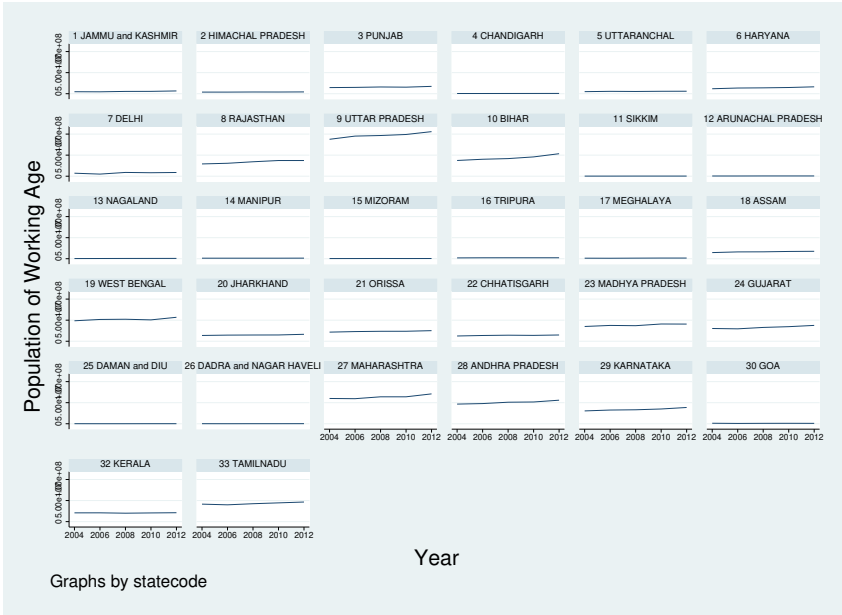
**Fig. 5** Employment Share Agriculture by Country. Data Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>.



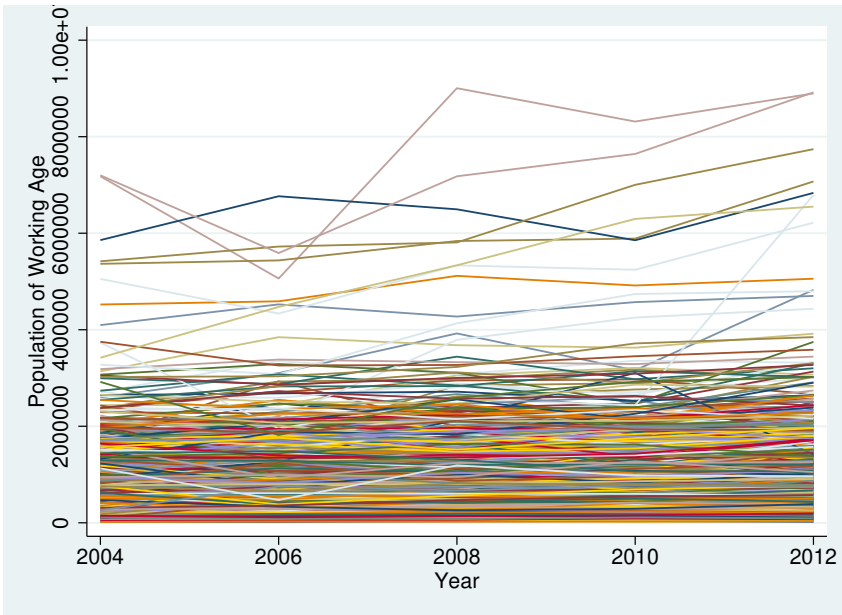
**Fig. 6** Employment Share Industry by Country. Data Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>.



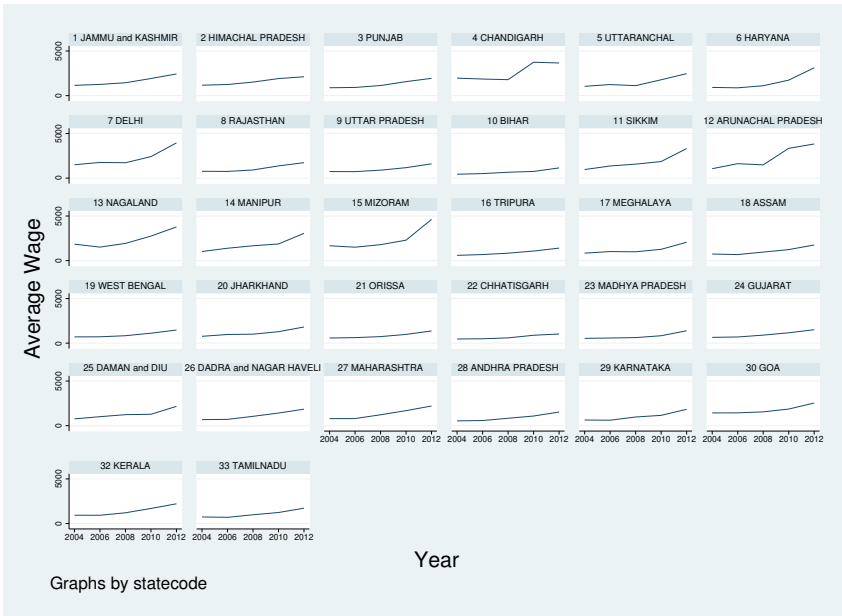
**Fig. 7** Employment Share Services by Country. Data Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>.



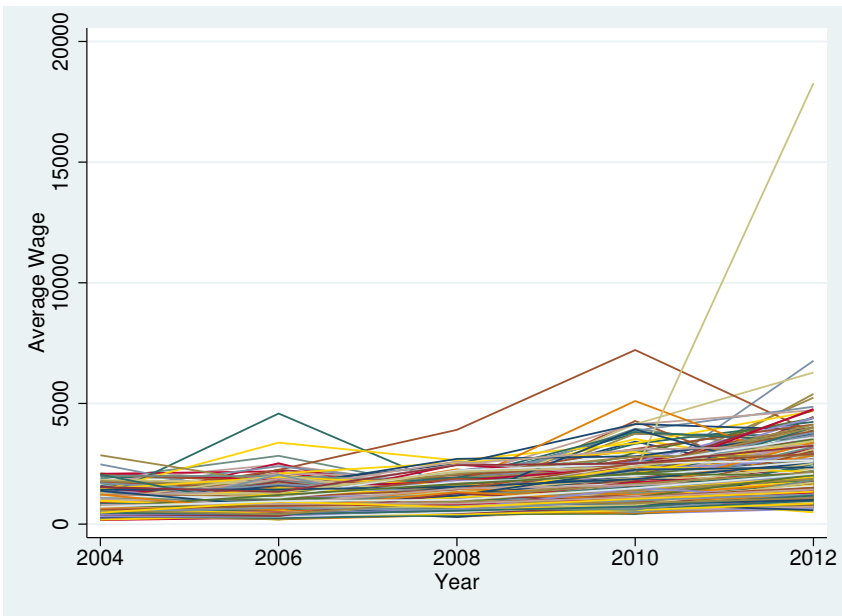
**Fig. 8** Population By State. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



**Fig. 9** Population By District. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.

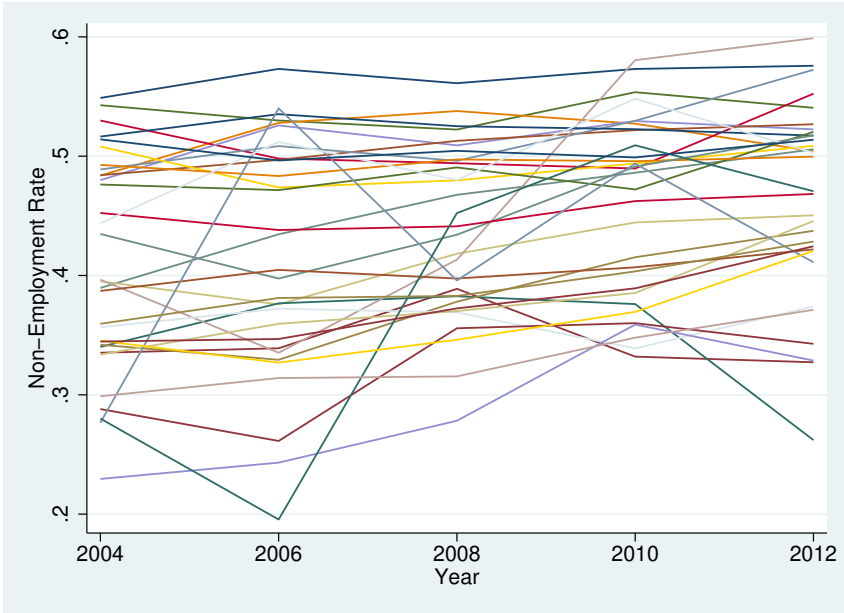


**Fig. 10** Average Wage by State. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.

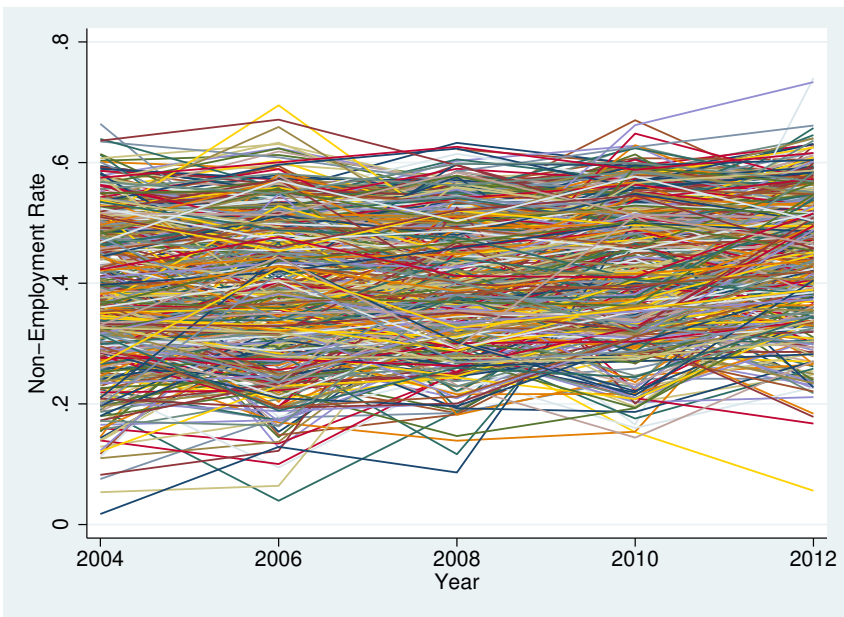


**Fig. 11** Average Wage by District. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, rounds 60 and 62-68.

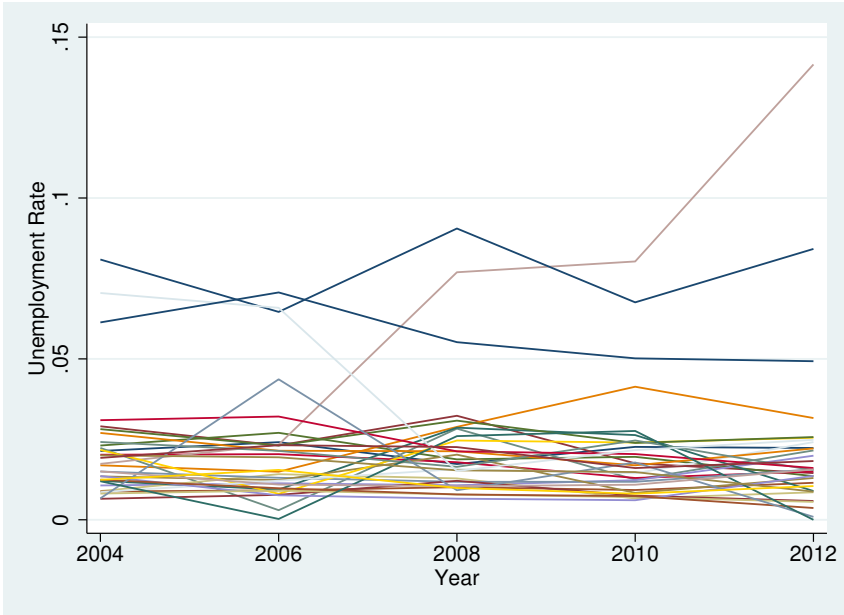




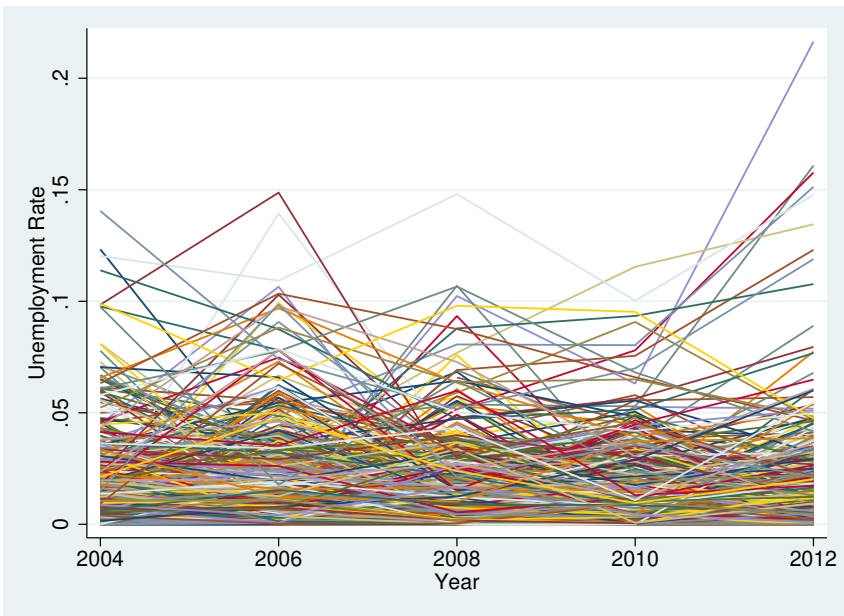
**Fig. 12** Non-Employment Rate by State. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



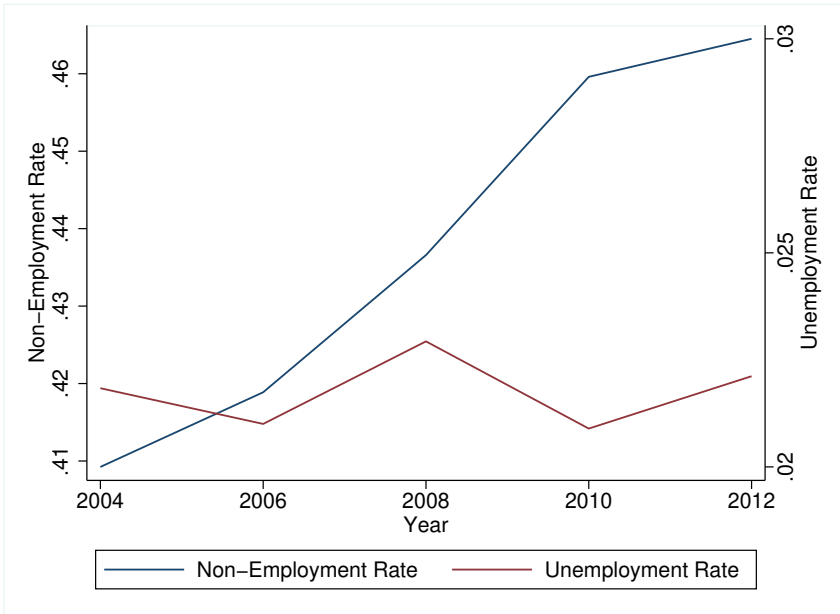
**Fig. 13** Non-Employment Rate by District. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



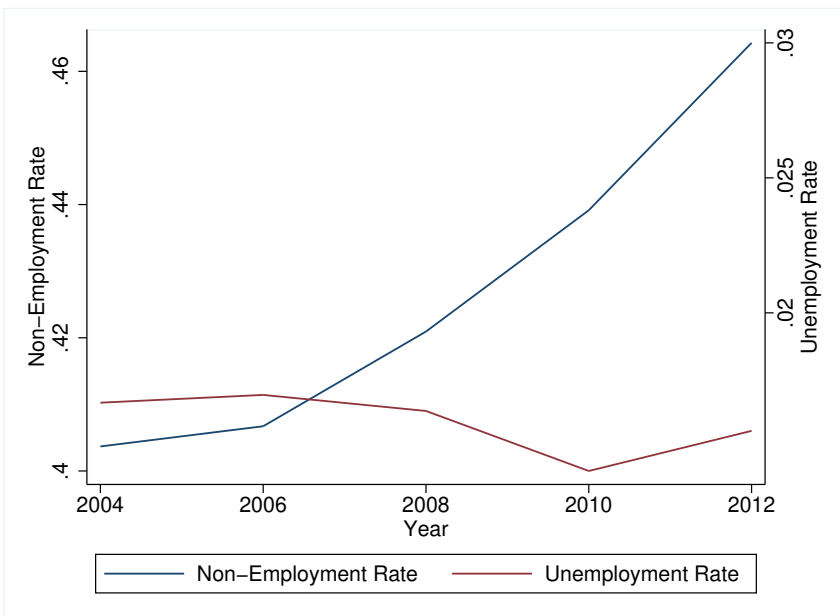
**Fig. 14** Unemployment Rate by State. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



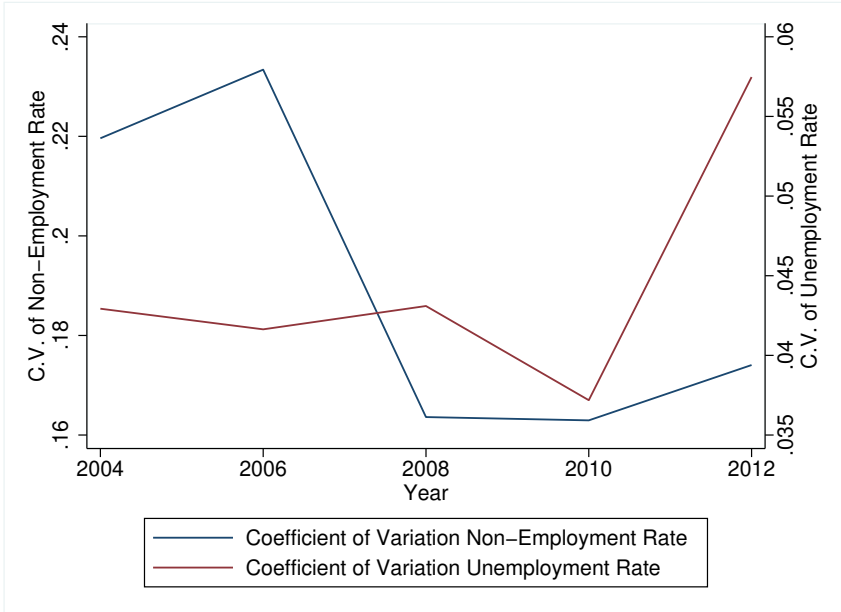
**Fig. 15** Unemployment Rate by District. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



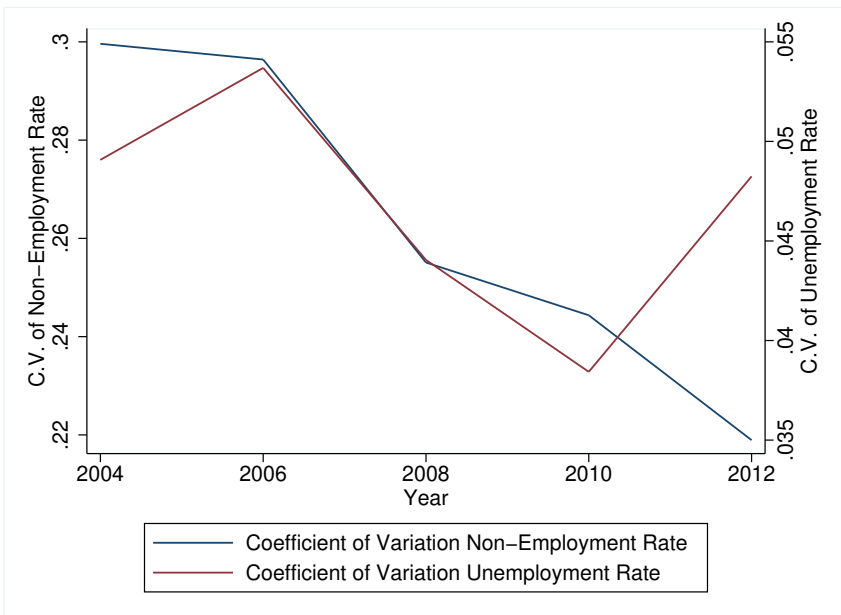
**Fig. 16** Unemployment Rate and Non-Employment Rate Averaged over States. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



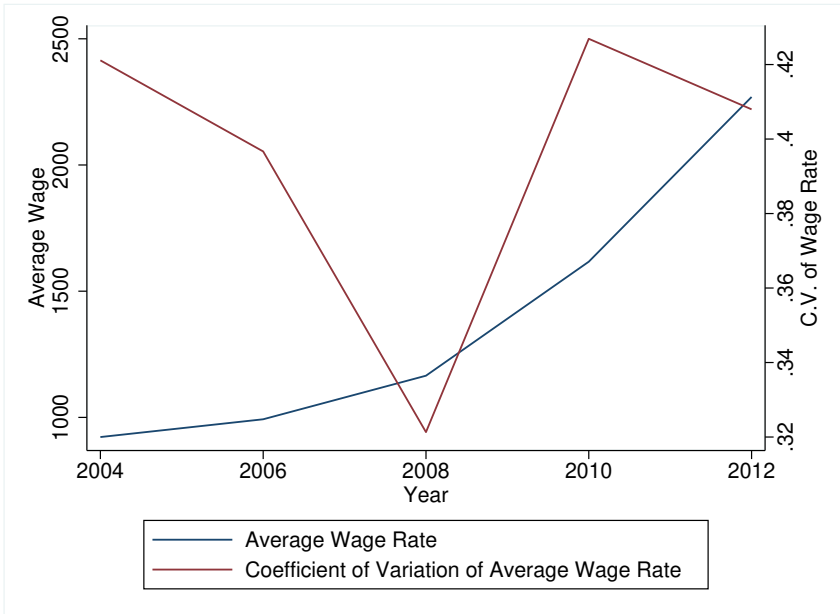
**Fig. 17** Unemployment Rate and Non-Employment Rate Averaged over Districts. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



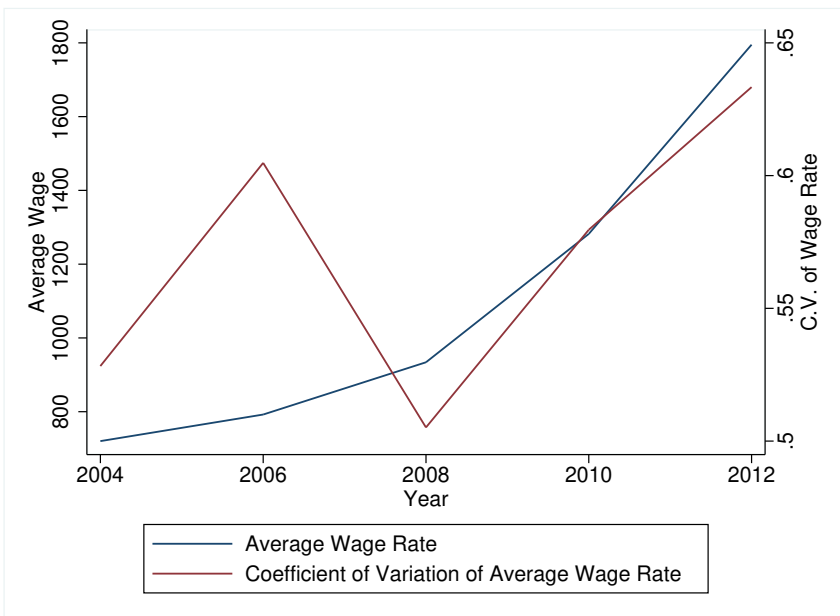
**Fig. 18** Coefficient of Variation of the Non-Employment and Unemployment Rates by States. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



**Fig. 19** Coefficient of Variation of the Non-Employment and Unemployment Rates by Districts. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



**Fig. 20** Average Wage and Coefficient of Variation of the Average Wage over States. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.



**Fig. 21** Average Wage and Coefficient of Variation of the Average Wage over Districts. Data Source: EUS by NSSO, Rounds 60 and 62-68.

## **A Appendix**

**Table A1** Unemployment, Non-Employment, and Population Change, EU-27, Eurozone, and USA, 2006-2016

	OLS EU- 27/EFTA	OLS Eurozone	OLS USA	FE EU- 27/EFTA	FE Eurozone	FE USA
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Unemployment</b>						
<b>NUTS-1/States</b>						
log rel. unemp. (s.e.)	-0.010*** (0.003)	-0.011** (0.005)	-0.005 (0.007)	-0.030*** (0.003)	-0.028*** (0.004)	-0.021*** (0.007)
log rel. income (s.e.)	0.013*** (0.002)	0.010 (0.007)	0.021*** (0.007)	-0.017** (0.009)	0.036* (0.021)	0.023 (0.014)
R2 / R2 within	0.200	0.124	0.430	0.162	0.195	0.559
No. regions	98	61	51	98	61	51
No. time periods	11	11	11	11	11	11
No. observations	1'068	661	510	1'068	661	510
<b>NUTS-2/SuperPUMA</b>						
log rel. unemp. (s.e.)	-0.005** (0.002)	-0.006** (0.003)	-0.007** (0.003)	-0.027*** (0.002)	-0.026*** (0.002)	-0.015*** (0.005)
log rel. income (s.e.)	0.012*** (0.001)	0.006 (0.004)	0.010 (0.007)	-0.025*** (0.006)	0.014 (0.010)	0.005 (0.016)
R2 / R2 within	0.144	0.102	0.170	0.125	0.195	0.214
No. regions	263	168	230	263	168	230
No. time periods	11	11	11	11	11	11
No. observations	2'856	1'813	2'300	2'856	1'813	2'300
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Non-Employment</b>						
<b>NUTS-1/States</b>						
log rel. non-emp. (s.e.)	-0.001 (0.003)	0.001 (0.007)	0.012 (0.008)	-0.109*** (0.012)	-0.095*** (0.016)	-0.058** (0.023)
log rel. income (s.e.)	0.008*** (0.001)	0.016*** (0.002)	0.019*** (0.006)	-0.013 (0.009)	0.043** (0.021)	0.036*** (0.013)
R2 / R2 within	0.177	0.102	0.432	0.162	0.186	0.556
No. regions	98	61	51	98	61	51
No. time periods	11	11	11	11	11	11
No. observations	1'072	665	510	1'072	665	510
<b>NUTS-2/SuperPUMA</b>						
log rel. non-emp. (s.e.)	0.000 (0.005)	0.008 (0.006)	-0.000 (0.007)	-0.096*** (0.008)	-0.088*** (0.009)	-0.034** (0.015)
log rel. income (s.e.)	0.014*** (0.002)	0.013*** (0.004)	0.011* (0.006)	-0.020*** (0.006)	0.018* (0.009)	0.014 (0.016)
R2 / R2 within	0.135	0.090	0.165	0.119	0.167	0.212
No. regions	263	168	230	263	168	230
No. time periods	11	11	11	11	11	11
No. observations	2'864	1'821	2'300	2'864	1'821	2'300

Note: Pooled ordinary least squares (OLS) and region fixed effects (FE) regressions. Standard errors clustered at the regional level appear in parentheses. All regressions include year fixed effects. \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*  $p < 0.1$ .

Source: European Labour Force Survey, Eurostat Regional Database, American Community Survey.

## **B Appendix**



**Table B1** Regressions at the District Level by Gender

	OLS (w)	OLS (m)	FE (w)	FE (m)
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Unemployment</b>				
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.001	-0.001	-0.002	0.000
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.003)
log rel. wage	0.006***	0.007***	0.098***	0.135***
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.012)	(0.013)
Constant	0.028***	0.016***	0.009*	-0.008*
(s.e.)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.004)	(0.005)
R2 / R2 within	0.016	0.012	0.094	0.129
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	1,590	1,590	1,590	1,590
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.002	-0.002	-0.000	-0.000
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.003)
log rel. wage	0.015***	0.016***	0.187***	0.208***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.028)	(0.027)
Constant	0.034***	0.037***	-0.009	-0.012*
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.006)	(0.006)
R2 / R2 within	0.028	0.028	0.231	0.248
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	2,081	2,081	2,081	2,081
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Non-Employment</b>				
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	-0.007	-0.011	-0.057***	-0.070***
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.016)	(0.018)
log rel. wage	0.008***	0.007***	0.105***	0.134***
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.012)	(0.013)
Constant	0.029***	0.017***	0.001	-0.019***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.005)
R2 / R2 within	0.020	0.012	0.114	0.136
No. regions	1,708	1,708	1,708	1,708
No. observations	570	570	570	570
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	-0.008	-0.008	-0.082***	-0.085***
(s.e.)	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.017)	(0.015)
log rel. wage	0.017***	0.018***	0.197***	0.211***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.024)	(0.024)
Constant	0.041***	0.048***	-0.020***	-0.017**
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.007)	(0.007)
R2 / R2 within	0.037	0.036	0.254	0.258
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	2,273	2,273	2,273	2,273

Note: Regressions are estimated by pooled ordinary least squares (OLS) and fixed effects (FE). (w) and (m) denote the female and male population, respectively. Standard errors clustered at the district level appear in parentheses. All regressions include year fixed effects. \*\*\*, \*\* and \* denote significance at the 1%, 5% and 10% level, respectively. Data Source: Indian EUS-NSSO.

**Table B2** Regressions at the District Level by Gender, Working Age Population Younger than 50

	OLS (w)	OLS (m)	FE (w)	FE (m)
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Unemployment</b>				
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	0.002
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.003)
log rel. wage	0.007***	0.008***	0.110***	0.155***
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.012)	(0.013)
Constant	0.024***	0.011**	0.002	-0.018***
(s.e.)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.005)
R2 / R2 within	0.013	0.014	0.102	0.150
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	1,587	1,587	1,587	1,587
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	-0.001	-0.001	0.001	0.002
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.003)
log rel. wage	0.016***	0.017***	0.198***	0.222***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.030)	(0.028)
Constant	0.040***	0.041***	-0.004	-0.009
(s.e.)	(0.009)	(0.009)	(0.006)	(0.006)
R2 / R2 within	0.029	0.030	0.237	0.261
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	2,078	2,078	2,078	2,078
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Non-Employment</b>				
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	-0.012	-0.013	-0.070***	-0.069***
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.017)	(0.019)
log rel. wage	0.008***	0.008***	0.118***	0.154***
(s.e.)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.012)	(0.014)
Constant	0.025***	0.011**	-0.007	-0.029***
(s.e.)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.005)
R2 / R2 within	0.017	0.014	0.127	0.154
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	1,707	1,707	1,707	1,707
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	-0.009	-0.007	-0.080***	-0.078***
(s.e.)	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.017)	(0.015)
log rel. wage	0.018***	0.018***	0.213***	0.228***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.027)	(0.025)
Constant	0.045***	0.051***	-0.019**	-0.018**
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.007)	(0.007)
R2 / R2 within	0.037	0.037	0.272	0.278
No. regions	570	570	570	570
No. observations	2,272	2,272	2,272	2,272

Note: Regressions are estimated by pooled ordinary least squares (OLS) and fixed effects (FE). (w) and (m) denote the female and male population, respectively. Standard errors clustered at the district level appear in parentheses. All regressions include year fixed effects. \*\*\*, \*\* and \* denote significance at the 1%, 5% and 10% level, respectively. Data Source: Indian EUS-NSSO.

## **C Appendix**

**Table C1** Regressions at the District Level for (1) “Disadvantaged Groups” and (2) “Others”

	OLS (1)	OLS (2)	FE (1)	FE (2)
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Unemployment</b>				
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	0.019***	-0.017***	0.001	-0.003
(s.e.)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.002)	(0.003)
log rel. wage	-0.002	0.005	0.038***	0.103***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.009)	(0.011)
Constant	0.259***	0.540***	0.240***	0.537***
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.007)	(0.003)	(0.004)
R2 / R2 within	0.026	0.027	0.020	0.109
No. regions	565	565	565	565
No. observations	1,548	1,548	1,548	1,548
<b>Unemployment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. unemp.	0.021***	-0.020***	0.002	-0.004*
(s.e.)	(0.003)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.002)
log rel. wage	-0.001	0.010**	0.055***	0.156***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.009)	(0.019)
Constant	0.261***	0.537***	0.239***	0.534***
(s.e.)	(0.008)	(0.007)	(0.003)	(0.004)
R2 / R2 within	0.029	0.031	0.042	0.190
No. regions	566	566	566	566
No. observations	2,016	2,016	2,016	2,016
<b>Specifications with Lagged Relative Non-Employment</b>				
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 62-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	0.145***	-0.118***	-0.035***	-0.045***
(s.e.)	(0.012)	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.016)
log rel. wage	0.001	0.003	0.040***	0.103***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.008)	(0.012)
Constant	0.257***	0.545***	0.232***	0.535***
(s.e.)	(0.007)	(0.007)	(0.003)	(0.004)
R2 / R2 within	0.073	0.062	0.030	0.113
No. regions	566	566	566	566
No. observations	1,660	1,660	1,660	1,660
<b>Non-Employment, Rounds 60-68</b>				
log rel. non-emp.	0.132***	-0.116***	-0.042***	-0.069***
(s.e.)	(0.011)	(0.012)	(0.013)	(0.016)
log rel. wage	0.006	0.008**	0.067***	0.164***
(s.e.)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.011)	(0.018)
Constant	0.256***	0.544***	0.228***	0.525***
(s.e.)	(0.007)	(0.007)	(0.004)	(0.005)
R2 / R2 within	0.064	0.055	0.068	0.205
No. regions	567	567	567	567
No. observations	2,194	2,194	2,194	2,194

Note: Regressions are estimated by pooled ordinary least squares (OLS) and fixed effects (FE). (1) denotes the disadvantaged groups as defined by the EUS-NSSO data (“ST”, “SC”, “OBC”) and (2) denotes “Others”. Standard errors clustered at the district level appear in parentheses. All regressions include year fixed effects. \*\*\*, \*\* and \* denote significance at the 1%, 5% and 10% level, respectively. Data Source: Indian EUS-NSSO.