

Longitudinal datasets for Counterfactual Impact Evaluation

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Outline

- What we use for counterfactual evaluations
- Why it's better now
- An example of the improvement in one element - duration
- How we use the dataset
- What projects we're using it for at present



Jobseekers Longitudinal Database

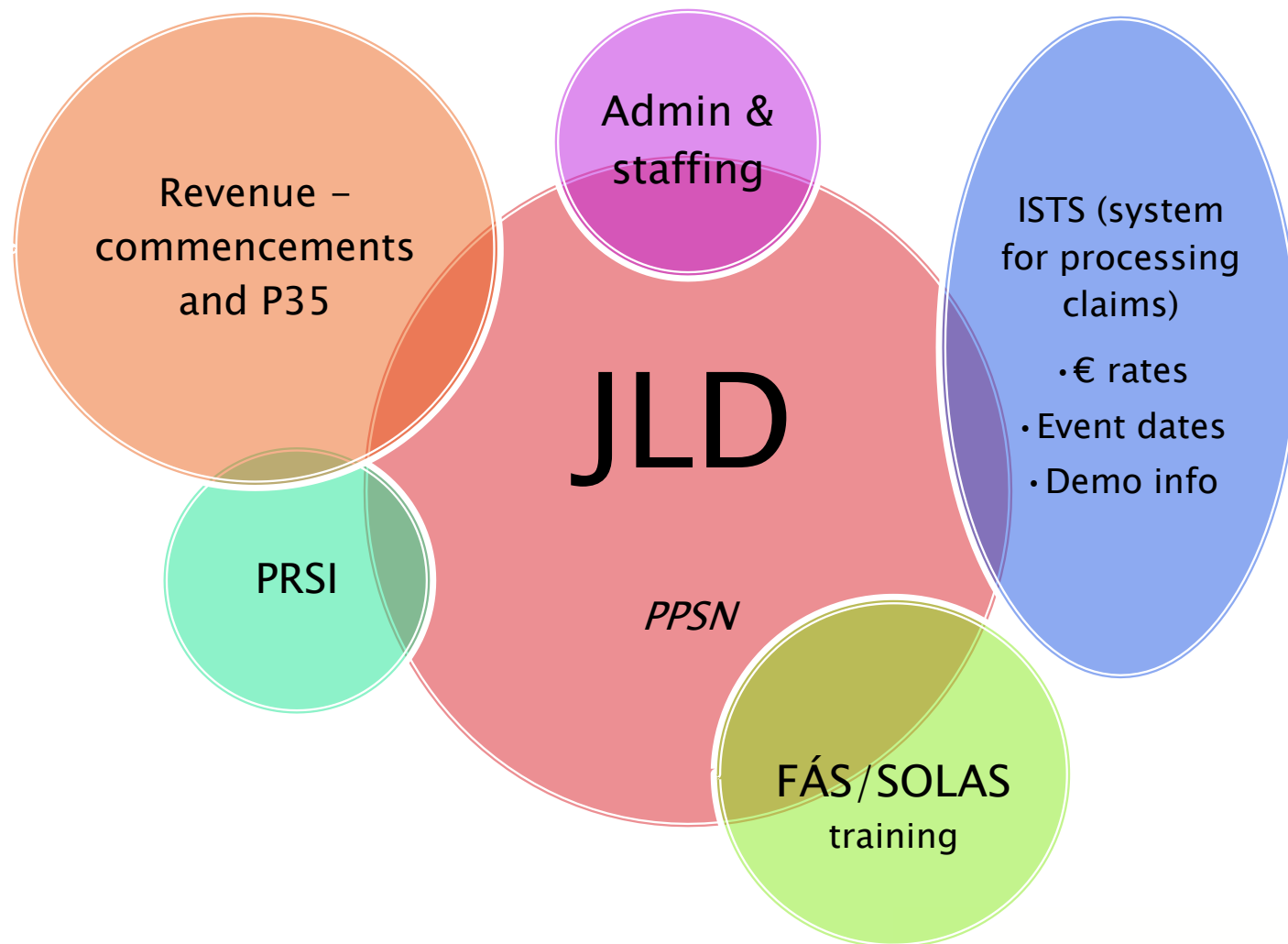
- Jobseekers Longitudinal Dataset (JLD) - data originated as point in time, instead of an episodic, longitudinal, process. Now linked by social security number (PPS number)
- Any individual who made a jobseeker or one parent family claim with the Department since 2004.



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Data sources in Jobseekers Longitudinal Dataset (JLD)



Jobseekers Longitudinal Dataset

The JLD can therefore be interrogated with respect to a claimant's:

- gender,
- age,
- marital status,
- nationality,
- educational attainment,
- previous occupation,
- employment and unemployment histories (duration and number of episodes),
- unemployment training history (type, duration and number of episodes),
- benefit type (e.g. JA, JB, etc.),
- earnings and tax,
- spousal earnings (to qualify for an adult dependent allowance),
- family payment type and number of child dependents
- geographic location.

Strengths and weaknesses

- Contains: DSP scheme history, demographic info, occupation, education
- Limitations: Qualifications; departmental records extend only to registration with educational institutes
- Additional development required (qualitative, metadata, documentation)



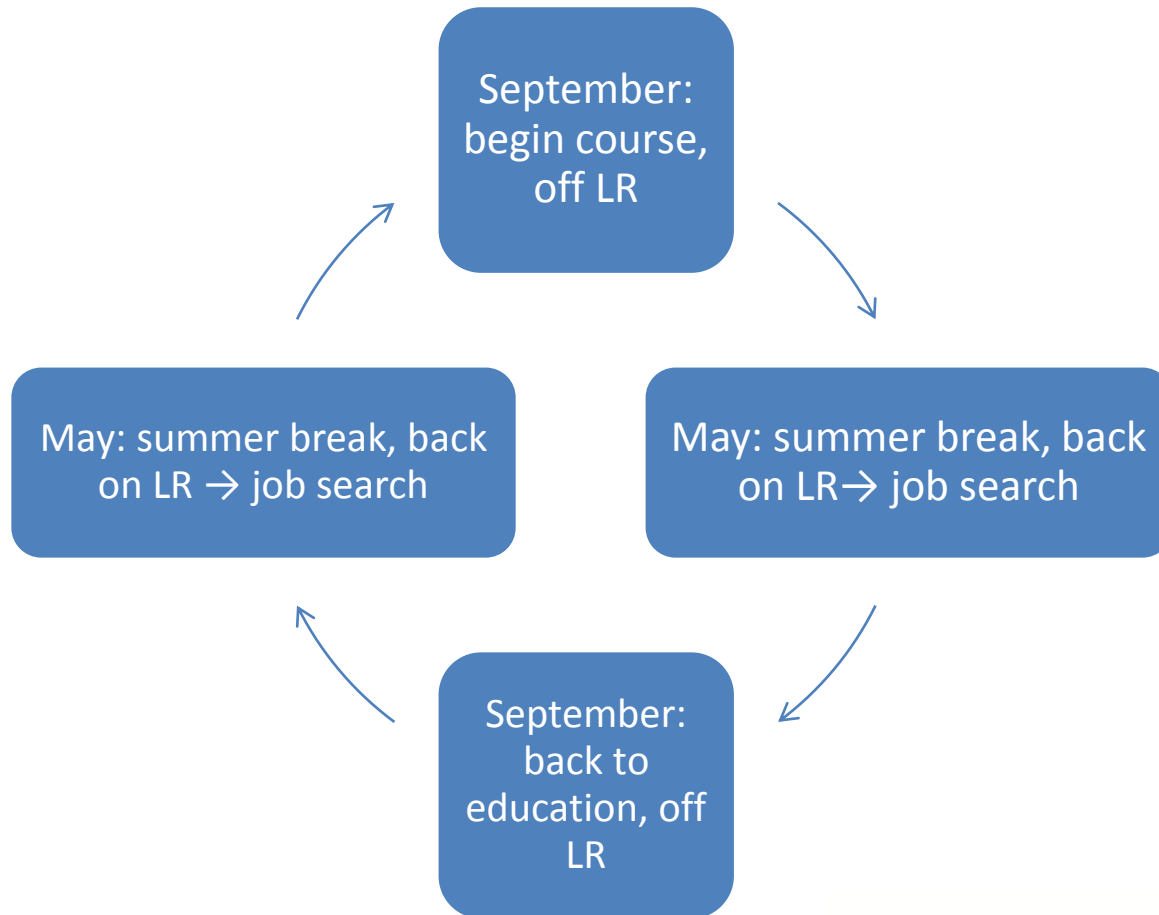
Labour market outcomes

- Elements of labour market outcomes: education, labour market history (UE and employment), demographic information
- Duration, why it's important

Example 1: JLD view of LR claims

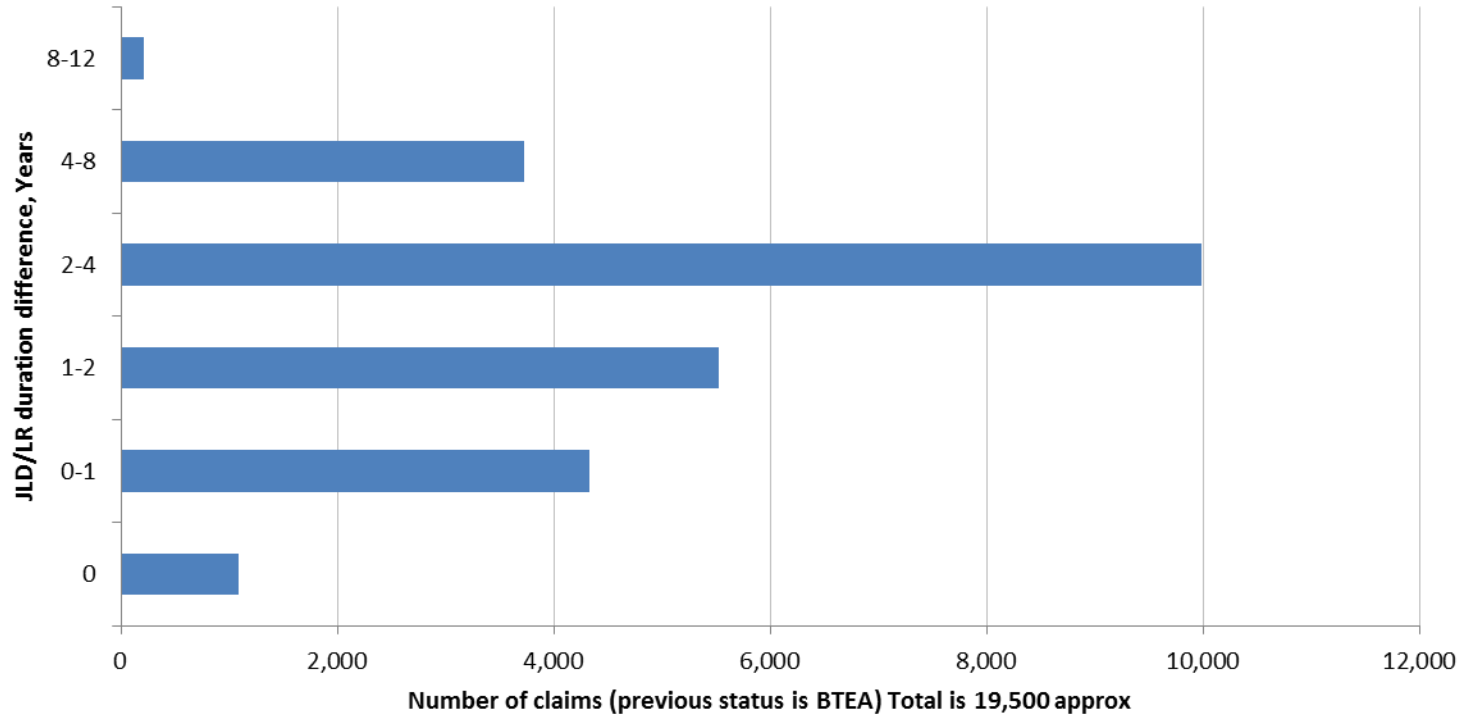
- BTEA operates from Sept to May; summer on Jobseekers Allowance
- Moving from BTEA to “new” LR claim
- New claims show up as long-term when initial date of registration used as starting point
- JLD allows for more precise view of when job search activity and availability begins

Example 1: JLD and LR view of claim duration



Example 1: JLD view of LR claims

JA/JB claims in June 2015, formerly BTEA, by duration difference



Example 2 of JLD episodic view

- Moving from JB to JA (exhaustion of credits)
- Financial incentives largely unchanged
- Episodic view, merging this scheme transition, makes sense for evaluation purposes
- Transitions from JB to JA in the Live Register and JLD

Live Register view of JA duration

Table 3 Summary of flows¹ on and off the Live Register

		Males					Females				
		Number of Weeks	Live Register	New Registrations	Outflow (derived)	Average Weekly Change	Live Register	New Registrations	Outflow (derived)	Average Weekly Change	
JB Claims											
2014	June	4	25,780	4,611	5,032	-105	28,944	7,078	4,718	+590	
	July	4	25,624	5,008	5,164	-39	33,789	9,967	5,122	+1,211	
	August	5	24,201	5,031	6,454	-285	31,093	5,978	8,674	-539	
	September	4	22,126	4,247	6,322	-519	24,160	4,714	11,657	-1,736	
	October	5	22,129	6,304	6,301	+1	23,981	6,242	6,411	-34	
	November	4	22,565	5,844	5,408	+109	23,533	6,522	6,970	-112	
	December	4	24,109	4,845	3,301	+386	25,511	5,300	3,322	+495	
2015	January	5	26,002	8,782	6,889	+379	25,488	8,840	8,863	-5	
	February	4	25,596	5,396	5,802	-102	25,249	5,977	6,216	-60	
	March	4	24,699	4,643	5,540	-224	23,874	4,191	5,566	-344	
	April	4	23,563	5,140	6,276	-284	23,356	7,592	8,110	-130	
	May	5	22,719	5,257	6,101	-169	22,815	5,225	5,766	-108	
	June	4	22,498	4,351	4,572	-55	25,296	6,555	4,074	+620	
JA Applications											
2014	June	4	204,157	10,356	7,618	+685	103,919	9,278	4,206	+1,268	
	July	4	203,043	9,496	10,610	-279	105,608	8,061	6,372	+422	
	August	5	201,263	11,339	13,119	-356	105,590	8,082	8,100	-4	
	September	4	190,338	10,456	21,381	-2,731	98,272	7,376	14,694	-1,830	
	October	5	183,349	12,585	19,574	-1,398	94,184	8,181	12,269	-818	
	November	4	179,940	10,176	13,585	-852	91,872	6,346	8,658	-578	
	December	4	179,998	7,825	7,767	+15	91,648	4,744	4,968	-56	
2015	January	5	180,500	11,066	10,564	+100	92,011	7,267	6,904	+73	
	February	4	178,077	8,889	11,312	-606	91,521	6,063	6,553	-123	
	March	4	175,224	7,923	10,776	-713	90,498	5,285	6,308	-256	
	April	4	172,662	7,680	10,242	-641	89,649	5,399	6,248	-212	
	May	5	173,867	10,473	9,268	+241	91,852	7,319	5,116	+441	
	June	4	176,901	9,374	6,340	+759	97,411	9,441	3,882	+1,390	



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JB to JA in the Live Register and JLD

No. of weeks difference in measurement using JLD and using LR	Count of cases
<50	14,598
50-100	13,377
100-150	378
150-200	215
200-250	197
250-300	132
300-350	84
350-400	49
>400	40
Total	29,070



Counterfactual impact evaluation: practical applications of the JLD

- Importance of UE duration as one of the drivers of labour market outcomes
- Example illustrates precision in measurement now available
- Hold several factors constant and vary treatment



Person A
26.5 years, single

Person B
26 years, single



3rd level education, 2 years unemployed

3rd level education, 2 years unemployed



JobBridge

Unemployment
(Jobseekers allowance)

Employment, x weeks by €y

Employment, z weeks by €y

Employment or unemployment?

Summary

- Disparate datasets combined
- Development and improvement crucial to allow for anonymised research access
- One factor in labour market outcomes
- Forthcoming evaluations: JobBridge, BTWEA, changes to processes in Intreo offices

Questions

- Thank you
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