



**An Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta  
agus Coimirce Sóisialaí**  
Department of Employment Affairs  
and Social Protection

# Sustained employment following Live Register episodes

Hugh Cronin  
2018 IGEES Annual Conference  
14 June 2018



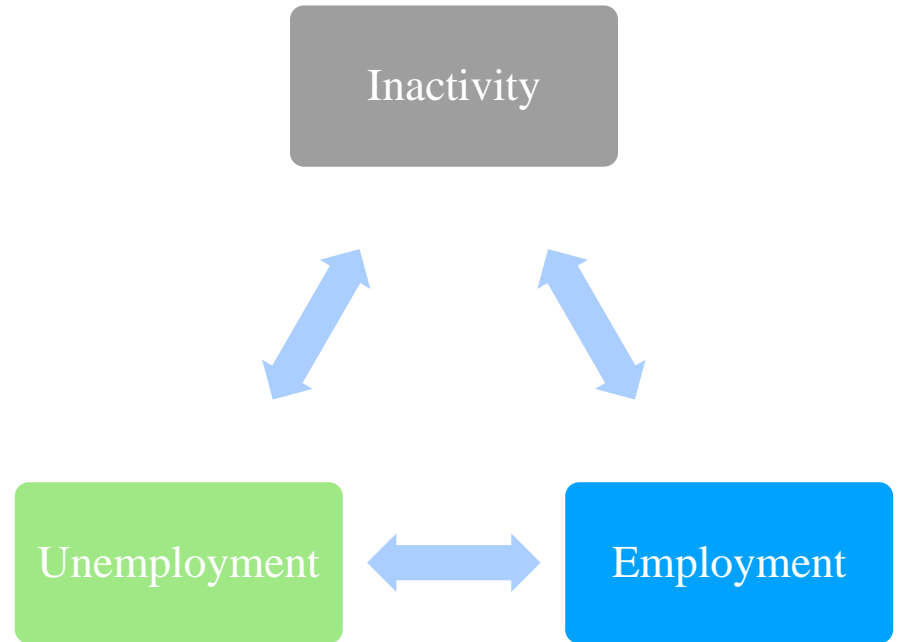
- Motivation
- Links with other research
- Distinguishing other effects
- Policy relevance
- Initial descriptive analysis
- Next steps



- Re-employment probability → duration of UE
- What happens when people move from unemployment to employment – do they remain employed?
- What are the characteristics of people who move from unemployment to employment and remain in employment?



- Transitions literature typically examines all three movements
- DEASP has good coverage of unemployment ↔ employment, but inactivity is less clear
- This focusses on unemployment to employment





- Transitions between statuses for people with unemployment claims open on 31 December 2015.
- Complements existing Irish literature on transitions that is largely based on survey data (ie the QNHS or LFS datasets)
- Focus on claim status (ie whether an unemployment benefit claim has been opened and its status subsequently) rather than ILO status as measured in survey data.



- Source dataset differs in several ways from survey datasets prepared for research purposes:
- Advantage: population rather than relying on samples and correct weighting
- Reporting the reality of the processed claim rather than an ILO status derived from subjective answers to a series of questions.
- Disadvantage: lacks the holistic view of the household information data, and education variables. Approach to analysis must take account of data quality of administrative data



- Distinguish high and low pay among those intermittently unemployed; and between temporary /permanent contracts
- Is return to UE due to individual characteristics or a function of low-paid work? Association between low-paid employment and a higher risk of unemployment significant only among women. Weak evidence that low-wage employment is a conduit for repeat unemployment. (Buddelmeyer, 2010)



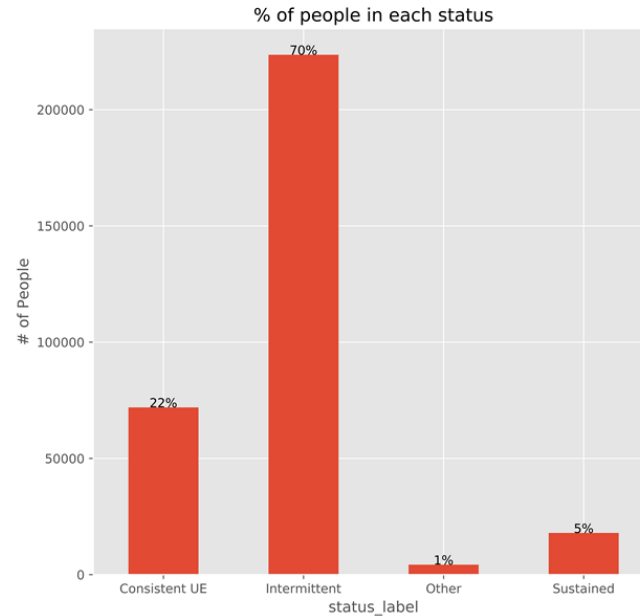
- Policy relevance: account for influence of business cycle, sector, occupation, labour market institutions and individual characteristics
- Flexible labour market institutions and insider-outsider dynamic
- To what extent are exits to employment a future inflow to unemployment claims?





Defining terms – share in each category dependent on definition:

- *Sustained*: once employed after the unemployment spell, consistently in employment
- *Consistent unemployment*: full jobseeker claim across all time periods
- *Intermittent*: at least some employment but not across all periods





Claim open on 31 Dec 2015

— Subsequent status check at

- *6 months (June 2016)*
- *9 months (September 2016)*
- *12 months (December 2016)*
- *15 months (March 2017)*
- *18 months (June 2017) \**

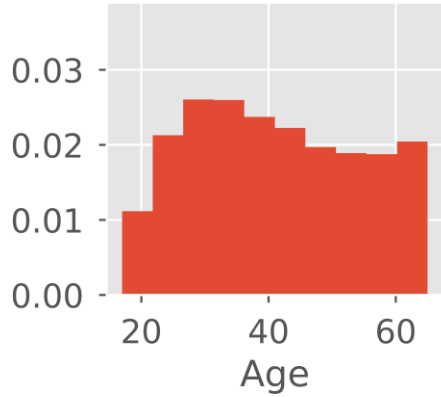
\*Status “In Employment” provisional at this stage

*Outcomes include:*

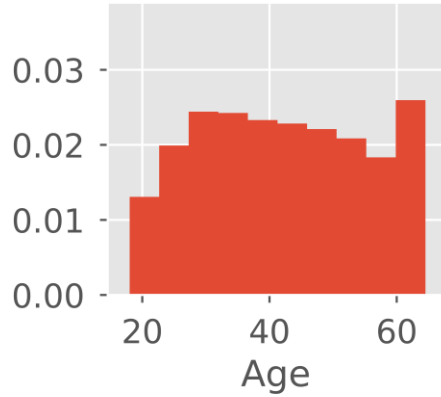
- Illness/Disability
- On Live Register
- In employment
- 'On Live Register (casual worker)
- On Live Register – Credits
- Closed off the Live Register for other reasons
- In Education/Training



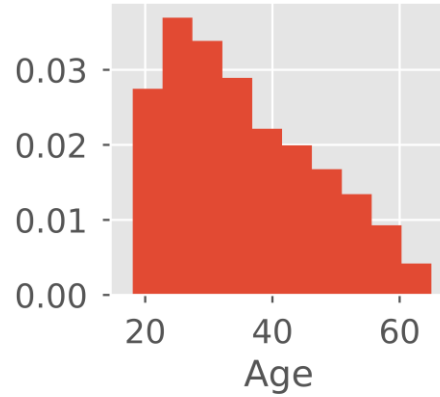
Intermittent



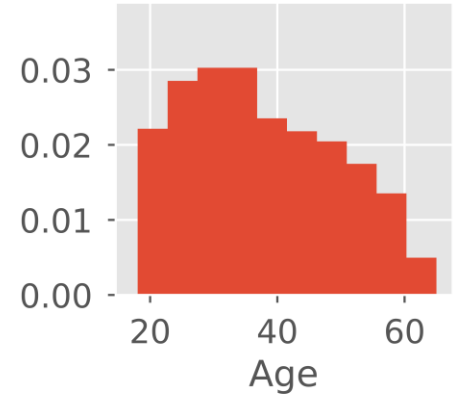
Consistent UE

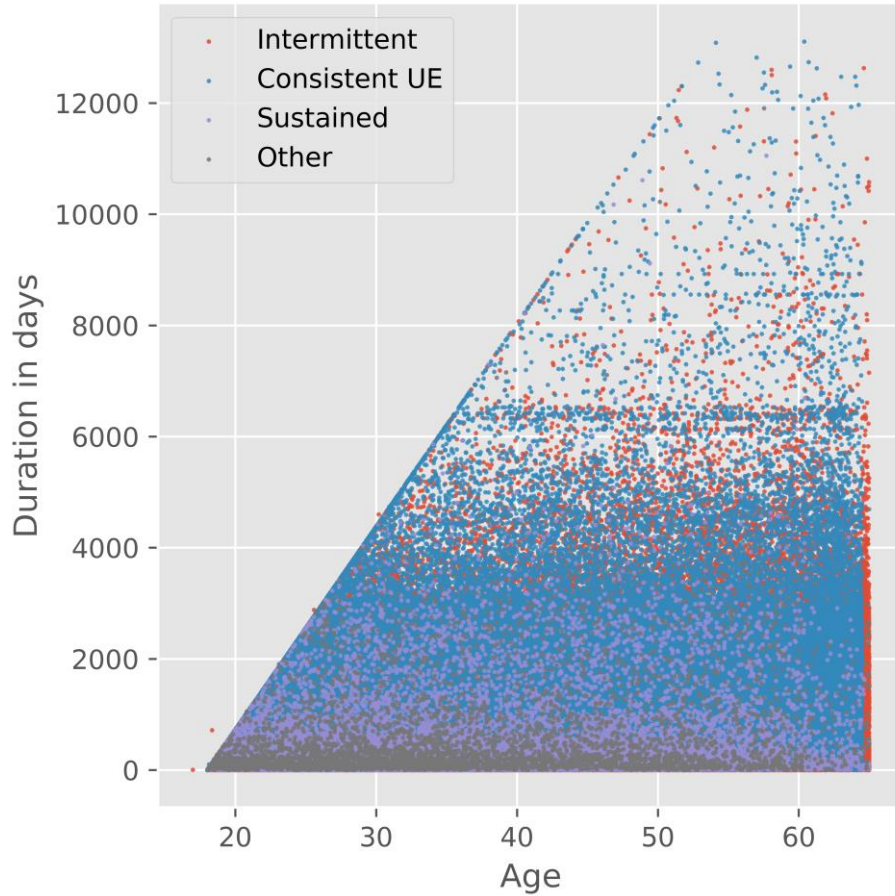


Sustained

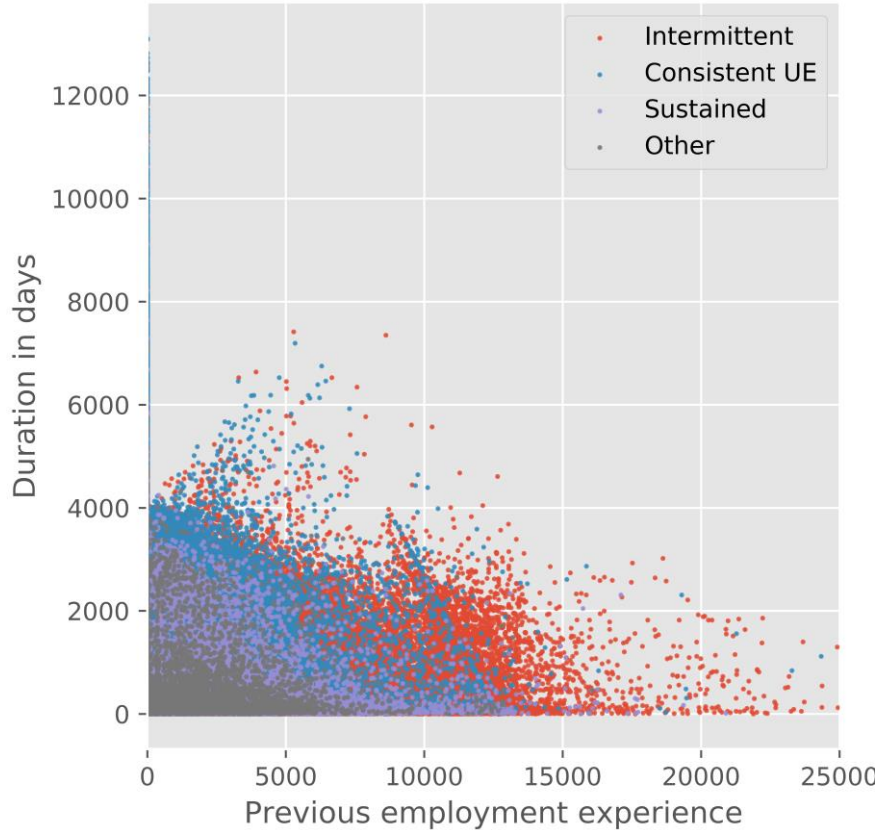


Other





Preliminary analysis:  
correlation between  
longer unemployment  
durations and returns  
to employment that  
prove to be intermittent



Preliminary analysis:  
substantial  
employment  
experience among  
those in the  
intermittent category  
(but older, normalising  
experience by age  
would be useful)



- Preliminary analysis suggests minor differences among nationality groups, previous occupation, previous known status (exception: employment); age difference outlined earlier holds true when examined by casual/full status.



## Next steps:-

- Examine exits (to employment & training/activation) as well as stock (less heterogeneity)
- Regression controlling for other factors, with exit to sustained employment dependent variable