



# Job Mobility, Partner Relationship, Family Development. Comparative Analyses with pairfam and JobMob-Data

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- 1 Job Mobility in Europe – Developments and Current Situation
- 2 A Typology of Mobile Living in the JobMob-Project
- 3 Design of the JobMob-Study
- 4 Findings
  - 4.1 How Mobile is the European Workforce?
  - 4.2 Who are the Mobile People?
  - 4.3 Mobility and Family Development
  - 4.4 Conclusion
- 5 Discussion

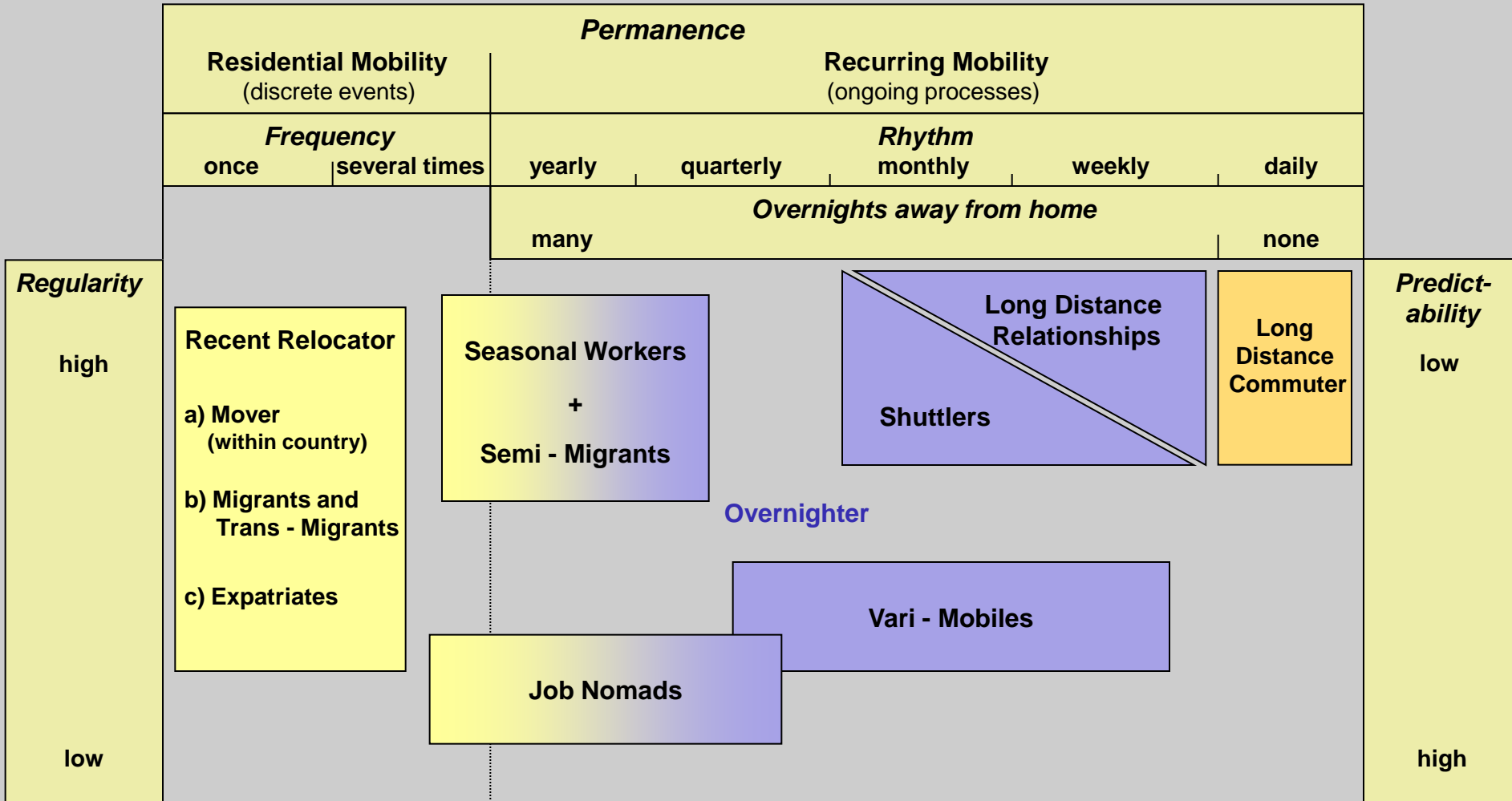


- 80 % of the Europeans (EU 25)\* live in the region in which they grew up
- 1,5 % of the Europeans (EU 25) live in another than their home country (migrants)
- Only 25 % of these people migrated for job reasons but 75 % due to private reasons, mainly love (30 %) and a better climate (24 %)
- 1 % of the Europeans (EU 25) in the employable age move for job reasons per year; the same is true for 2,3 % of the US-Americans and 2,1 % of the Canadians

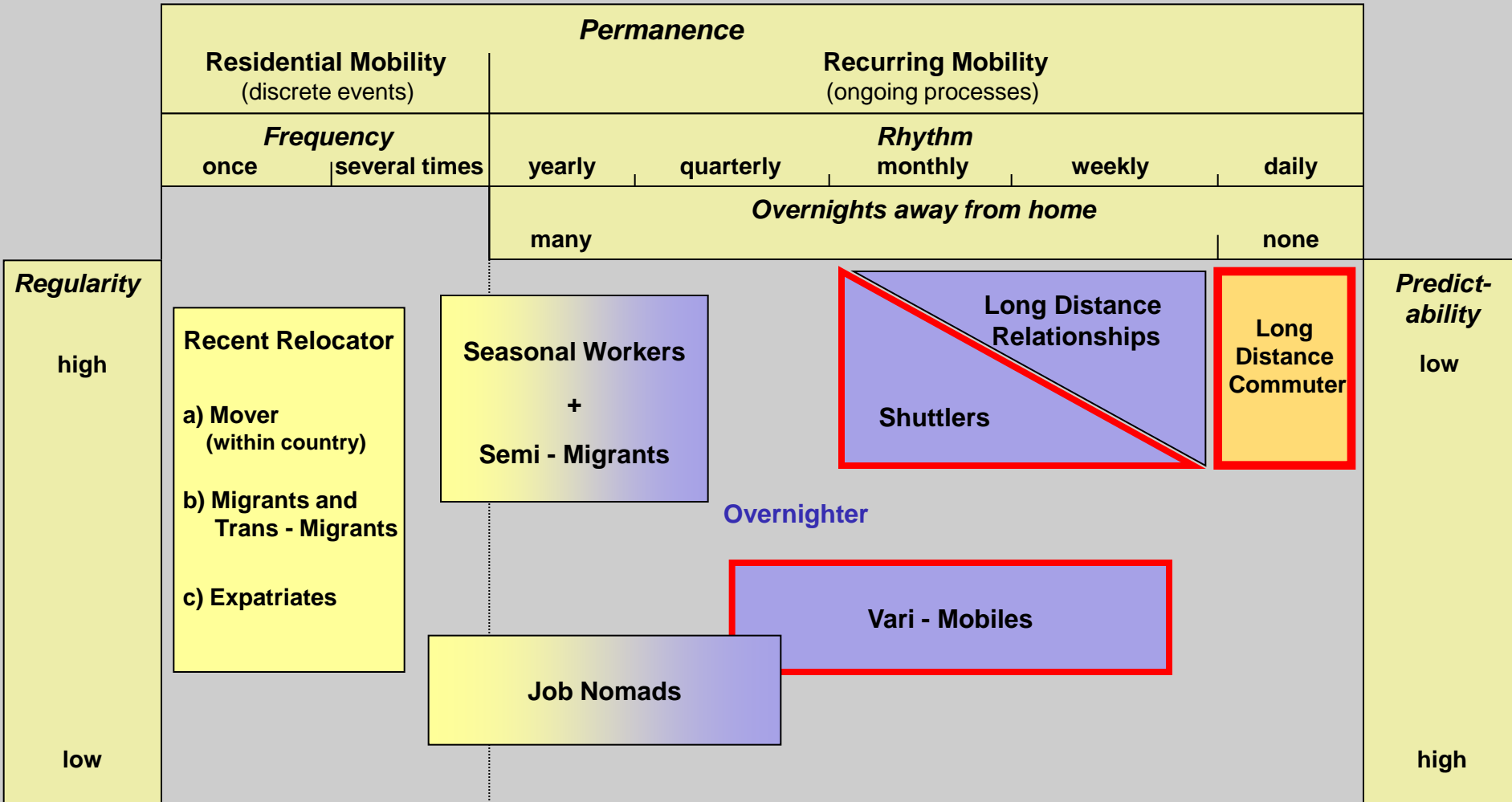
Sources: Eurostat 2006; EU Commission 2007; US Department of Labor 2002

\* 25 countries of the European Union, without Romania and Bulgaria

# A Typology of Mobile Living (JobMob-Study)



# A Typology of Mobile Living (Overlap with pairfam Marked Red)





- The red boxes show mobility forms commonly available in JobMob and pairfam (in relation to the 1st waves of the surveys):
  - Commuters (LDC: 60 Min one way daily)
  - Vari-Mobiles (Business trips with min. 60 overnights per year)
  - Shuttlers (weekend commuters, second flat at working place)
- In addition, Commuters were differentiated into:
  - Short-Distance-Commuters (max. 29 min. one way)
  - Medium-Distance-Commuters (30-59 min. one way)
  - Long-Distance-Commuters (min. 60 min. one way)
- Residential mobility (Recent Relocators) available in pairfam within the 2nd wave
- Long-Distance-Relationships (LDR) not available in pairfam



- Representative survey: 5,552 25 to 54 years old persons in six European countries (Spain, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Poland, Germany) were asked about their mobility experiences with a standardized questionnaire in summer 2007. 764 of these persons were job mobile at that time.
- Oversampling: Additionally 1,668 mobile persons were interviewed in a second part with the same questionnaire to obtain a bigger empirical basis of mobile people.
- Altogether 7,220 interviews, among 2,432 with mobile persons, have been conducted
- Three topics are in the focus of the study:
  - the **relevance and diversity** of job-related spatial mobility
  - the **causes and circumstances** of job mobility
  - the **consequences** of mobility for family, subjective well-being, career, and social relations
- In 2010 a second wave was realized in Germany, other countries will follow this year



Tab. 1: Distribution of Recurring Mobility in JobMob and pairfam,  
**active population**, age cohort 35-37 y (%)

	JobMob	pairfam
SDC	49,3	50,8
MDC	19,7	23,1
LDC	8,5	7,3
Vari-Mobiles	7,0	9,1
Shuttlers	2,1	0,5
Recurringly mobile people	17,6	16,9
Relocators	5,0	??

The distribution of mobility forms within the two samples show only small differences

Notes: JobMob 1st wave, 2007; pairfam 1st wave, 2008/2009; data weighted





- Long-Distance-Commuters (LDC):
  - Compared to Vari-Mobiles and Shuttlers: older, more frequently female, lower educated, lower occupational status
  - More often married and parents
- Vari-Mobiles:
  - Compared to LDCs and Shuttlers: middle-aged, less frequently female
- Shuttlers:
  - Compared to LDCs and Vari-Mobiles: middle-aged, higher educated, higher occupational status
- Differences between JobMob and pairfam:
  - Shuttlers in JobMob are more frequently male
  - Vari-Mobiles in pairfam are lower educated



1. Job related spatial mobility is a widespread phenomenon in Europe
2. There are empirical hints for an increase of the mobility flow during the last decades
3. The Europeans are strongly locally attached but as commuters highly mobile
4. The differences between the countries are rather small
5. There are partly important differences between social groups. Especially age, sex, education, and family situation are relevant



- Does occupational mobility constitute an important individual context factor in terms of partnership and family development?
- Does the form of mobility make a difference?
- Are there differences between men and women?



- Comparative approach: *replication* and (external) *validation* of JobMob results
- Cross-sectional analyses: using the first waves of the two surveys
- Target population: persons currently living in a partnership
  - pairfam: 76.0 %, JobMob: 78.7 %
- Outcome measures:
  - Marriage (yes/no) / level of institutionalisation of partnership
  - Childlessness (yes/no) / family development
- Regression models:
  - Comparison of different forms of occupational mobility
  - Interaction term modelling gender differences
  - Controlling for several important factors
- **Presentation of results is focused on pairfam-data**



- **Different populations covered by pairfam and JobMob:**
  - The two surveys deal with different age groups
  - Pairfam: 25-27 y and 35-37 y
  - JobMob: 25-54 y
  - Different results may be conditioned by age differences, this has to be considered when interpreting the results



Tab. 2: Chance of **being married**  
age cohorts 25-27 and 35-37 (odds ratios)

Model	1	2	3
<b>Medium-Distance-Commuter (ref.: SDC)</b>	0.97	1,06	0.97
<b>Long-Distance-Commuter (ref.: SDC)</b>	0.91	1.19	1.10
<b>Overnighther<sup>a</sup> (ref.: SDC)</b>	0.91	1.06	1.17
<b>Non-Mobile<sup>b</sup> (ref.: SDC)</b>	1.01	0.48***	0.73*
<b>Women (ref.: men)</b>	1.46***	1.17 <sup>+</sup>	1.63***
<b>MDC * sex</b>		<b>0.78</b>	<b>1.05</b>
<b>LDC * sex</b>		<b>0.46**</b>	<b>0.65</b>
<b>Overnighther * sex</b>		<b>0.38***</b>	<b>0,42**</b>
<b>Non-Mobile * sex</b>		<b>3.21***</b>	<b>2.34***</b>

Notes: pairfam-data (wave 1, 2008/2009);  
data not weighted;  
binary logistic regression,  
<sup>a</sup>Overnighther = Varimobile + Shuttler,  
<sup>b</sup> Working at home etc.;

\*\*\*p<.001, \*\*p<.01, \*p<.05, +p<.10

+ Cohort  
+ Education/ISEI  
+ East/West  
+ number partners  
+ number cohabitations  
+ Traditionalism  
+ importance  
job/partnership  
+ Duration of current  
partnership



- The unadjusted models for pairfam and JobMob reveal: the higher the intensity of mobility in the case of women, the smaller is the chance of living in a highly institutionalised partnership (marriage)
  - effects are smaller in the full models
  - relevant controls: partnership biography, traditionalism, importance of job/partnership
- In the fully adjusted model, controlling for socio-demographics, partnership attitudes, partnership biography, and duration of current partnership, the “chance” of being married for female Overnighters in relation to male Overnighters is significantly decreased by factor 2.4 compared to the same relation between female and male SDC (reference)
- Medium-Distance-Commuters and Long-Distance-Commuters do not differ from Short-Distance-Commuters (in the full model)



Tab. 3: Chance of current **childlessness**  
age cohort 35-37 (odds ratios)

Model	1	2	3	4
<b>Medium-Distance-Commuter (ref.: SDC)</b>	1,126	1,001	1,033	1,125
<b>Long-Distance-Commuter (ref.: SDC)</b>	1,184	,802	,801	,922
<b>Overnighther<sup>a</sup> (ref.: SDC)</b>	1,537**	1,173	1,146	1,197
<b>Non-Mobile<sup>b</sup> (ref.: SDC)</b>	,600***	1,120	1,081	,847
<b>Women (ref.: men)</b>	,890	,890	,731*	1,014
<b>MDC * sex</b>		<b>1,349</b>	<b>1,311</b>	<b>1,428</b>
<b>LDC * sex</b>		<b>3,062**</b>	<b>3,026**</b>	<b>2,601*</b>
<b>Overnighther * sex</b>		<b>3,731***</b>	<b>3,454**</b>	<b>4,105**</b>
<b>Non-Mobile * sex</b>		<b>,411***</b>	<b>,478**</b>	<b>,501**</b>

Notes: pairfam-data (wave 1, 2008/2009);  
data not weighted;  
binary logistic regression,  
<sup>a</sup>Overnighther = Varimobile + Shuttler,  
<sup>b</sup>Working at home etc.;  
\*\*\*p<.001, \*\*p<.01, \*p<.05, +p<.10

+ Education/ISEI	+ Education/ISEI
+ East/West	+ East/West
+ number partners	+ number partners
+ number cohabitations	+ number cohabitations
+ Traditionalism	+ Traditionalism
+ importance job/partnership	+ importance job/partnership
	<b>+ duration of partnership</b>
	<b>+ married</b>





## Results: Mobility and current childlessness in established partnerships

- The unadjusted “risk” of current childlessness for female LDCs and female Overnighters in relation to male LDCs and male Overnighters respectively is increased by 3 and 3.7 respectively compared to the same relation between female and male SDC (reference)
- The adjusted “risk” of current childlessness for female LDCs and female Overnighters in relation to male LDCs and male Overnighters respectively is also observable in the fully adjusted model controlling for socio-demographics, partnership attitudes, partnership biography, duration of current partnership, and marital status (level of institutionalisation) and increased by 2,6 and 4,1 compared to the same relation between female and male SDC (reference)
- Medium-Distance-Commuters do not differ from Short-Distance-Commuters (both forms: “small-scale mobility”)
- The effects of mobility are more robust in the pairfam-data compared to the JobMob-data, where effects lose significance in model 4



- Recurring occupational mobility in terms of Overnighters (Vari-Mobiles, Shuttlers) is associated with lower probability of being married within established partnerships in the case of women – but not in the case of men
- All forms of recurring occupational mobility studied here (LDC, Vari-Mobiles, Shuttlers) are associated with higher probability of current childlessness within established partnerships in the case of women – but not in the case of men
- The form of mobility matters: effects are more robust for Overnighters (Vari-Mobiles, Shuttlers) than for Commuters



- Results for **types of recurring mobility** can be replicated within the two surveys to a large extent. Although different populations were analysed.
- **JobMob survey** offers opportunity to study residential mobility (Recent Relocators = job-related move over more than 50 km within the last 3 y).
- Findings for **Recent Relocators** and risk of current childlessness using JobMob data (age group 37-44 y):
  - No effects in case of men
  - In case of women higher probability of current childlessness – especially when there have been mobility experiences also in the past
- Next step: Replication of results for relocators with pairfam data



- Effects are more obvious for family development (childlessness) compared to institutionalisation of partnerships (marriage)
- The mobility effect for childlessness in the case of women may partly be explained by the effect that mobile women are less likely to live in highly institutionalised partnerships which often are an important precondition for parenthood
- Therefore we assume the existence of cumulative effects
- Occupational mobility constitutes an important individual context factor with regard to partnership and family development – especially in the case of women.



- Does occupational mobility constitute an important individual context factor in terms of partnership and family development?

Yes

- Does the form of mobility make a difference?

Yes

- Are there differences between men and women?

Yes



- Findings yet based on cross-sectional data
- Important questions for future research:
  - Role of attitudes and partnership concepts (those “soft” indicators were collected within the pairfam study)
  - Synchronisation and timing of mobility and partnership/family events within the life course
- Longitudinal data available for the JobMob- and the pairfam-study to conduct causal analyses and to capture selection effects
- The work at hand represents an promising basis for (common) future research



*Thank you for your attention!*

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Schneider/Meil 2009: Job Mobilities and Family Lives in Europe (Vol 1)  
Schneider/Collet 2010: Job Mobilities and Family Lives in Europe (Vol 2)



- **Methods:**

- Age at first birth, 37-44 years old parents across six European Countries, by gender
- JobMob and FamLives 2007; OLS-regression; adjusted for education, survey-country, number of employers, age, full-time vs. part-time

- **Results:**

- Strong and consistent positive effects (“postponement”) in case of women which a) currently were Recent Relocators and have been mobile in the past and b) have been mobile only in the past and currently were non-mobile.
- Interpretation: Because mobility and parenthood is hardly compatible for women they terminate their mobility when they plan to have a child.





## Age at first birth, 37-44 years old **parents** across six European Countries, by gender, adjusted B

Current mobility	Past mobility	Men (M)	Women (W)
Unchallenged	-	Ref.	Ref.
circular	+	-0.63	0.74
circular	-	-0.17	0.13
<b>Recent Relocator</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>2.63*</b>
Recent Relocator	-	(-2.62)	(0.54)
Multi Mobile	+	<b>-1.95*</b>	2.18
Multi Mobile	-	(-2.64)	<b>(5.79*)</b>
-	<b>circular</b>	<b>-0.91</b>	<b>1.14**</b>
-	<b>Relocator</b>	<b>(-2.84)</b>	<b>1.75**</b>
-	<b>circular + Relocator</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>1.22*</b>

Notes: JobMob and FamLives 2007; OLS-regression; adjusted for education, survey-country, number of employers, age, full-time vs. part-time; \*\*\*  $p \leq .01$  \*\*  $p \leq .05$  \*  $p \leq .10$