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The Incidence and Costs of Job Loss in Russia

In this paper we study, for the first time in the literature, the incidence and consequences of job loss in Russia using data from the RLMS Displaced Workers' Supplement 2008. Using the retrospective questions on the timing of job separations and unemployment spells we calculate the rates of involuntary job displacements and voluntary quits over 2003-2008. We also explore to what extent individual characteristics, such as human capital, job tenure or gender, and job characteristics, such as occupation, industry or firm size, determine the likelihood of involuntary and voluntary job separations. We then turn to the analysis of the costs of job displacement in terms of subsequent reemployment probabilities and earnings for the reemployed individuals.