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**Occupational transitions in Italy from 2004 to 2008.
Evidences from longitudinal data from the Labour Force Survey**

Twelve months longitudinal microdata files from the Quarterly Labour Force Survey (LFS) are being produced by the Italian National Statistical Institute (ISTAT). Four official longitudinal microfiles, from 2004Q1 to 2008Q1, will soon be released, together with the publication of transition matrices containing estimates of net flows.

Making the most of the rotational pattern of the sample, these micro files are built-up matching two records related to the same individual, interviewed in the same quarter of two subsequent years. Final weights for longitudinal data have been computed accounting for the specific longitudinal reference population, and at the same time ensuring coherency with the EU-LFS quarterly data. Specifically, the longitudinal population is defined as the population which is resident in the same municipality for the period of 12 months, thus net of deaths and internal or international migration. Preliminary analysis have already been carried out.

This paper focuses on labour market transitions between the three main categories of the labour status (employment, unemployment and inactivity) and between job characteristics. After an overview on transition and persistence probabilities for “employment” and “unemployment” we will review in detail transitions from temporary to permanent jobs and from part-time to full-time work. Differences related to age, sex, educational attainment and geographical area will be highlighted.

Main findings over the whole period of observation point at: a) an overall outstanding level of labour market mobility; b) clear segmentation between groups with very high persistence in employment and groups of individuals with high transition rates; c) for temporary and/or part-time workers the probability to be still employed after 12 months as well as the probability to move to permanent and/or full-time jobs, varies considerably across years, between gender and geographical area.