

Leaving Work, Leaving Home: Job Loss and Socio-geographic Mobility in Canada

Motivation and Questions

- **Job loss is a persistent feature of the Canadian labour market** that is associated with earnings and income losses¹, and interruption in the educational attainment of one's children².
- To date, very little research has examined **how job loss relates to demographic processes, like internal migration**.
- **Moving is a costly and often stressful event that may bring about substantial changes in one's surroundings**. Studying mobility following job loss may provide insight into mechanisms that lead to deterioration in well-being associated with job loss.

(Q1) Is job loss associated with geographic mobility in Canada?

(Q2) Does job loss trigger entry into materially deprived neighbourhoods?

Background

Lifecycle Theory of Mobility

Moving is a response to changes in housing demand over the lifecycle, associated with changes in family composition, school completion and career mobility. **Job loss so far has been a neglected event in the housing lifecycle.**

Job loss triggers
Spatial Job Search

Income loss prompts
Decreased Housing Consumption

Migration

**Residential Mobility/
Migration**

Neighbourhood Attainment

Communities offer access to valued resources and may facilitate/constrain labor market integration through network connections or proximity to employers. In Canada, neighbourhoods are stratified by both income and employment status³. **How do life course transitions relate to transitions in neighbourhood attainment?**

Data and Methods

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics 1996-2010
(Major income earners aged 25-58)

INSPQ Neighbourhood Deprivation Index⁴

Involuntary Job Loss

Main monthly job ended due to **plant closure, plant relocation, or non-seasonal layoff**

Geographic Mobility

Residential mobility: within a census subdivision
Long-distance migration: out of economic region or province

Neighbourhood Material Deprivation

Scores reflect proportion of the population with no high school degree, the employment/population ratio, and the average income in the dissemination area

High Deprivation: Top quintile of deprivation

Low Deprivation: Bottom 2 quintiles of deprivation

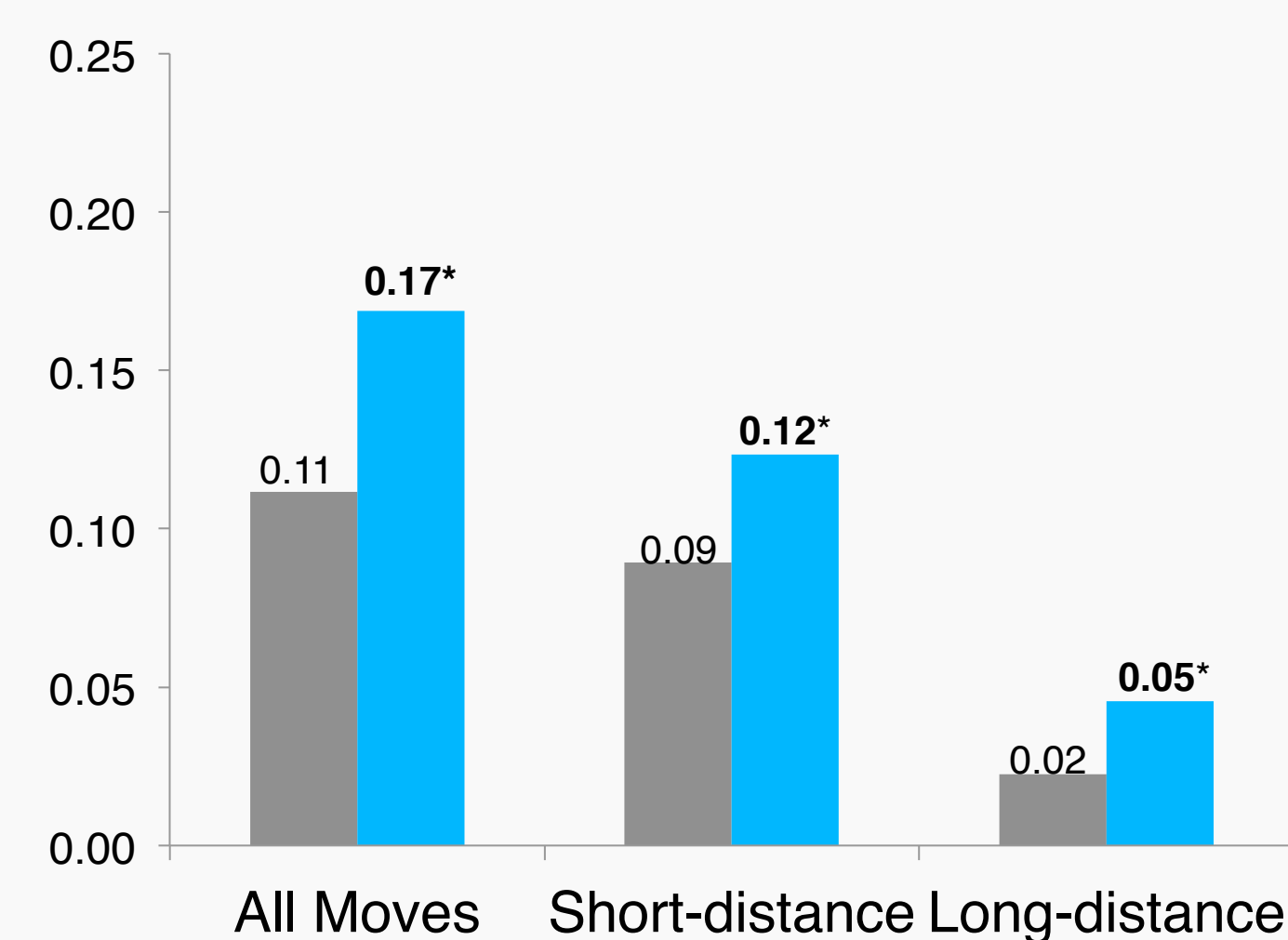
*uses regional ranking of deprivation

Methods

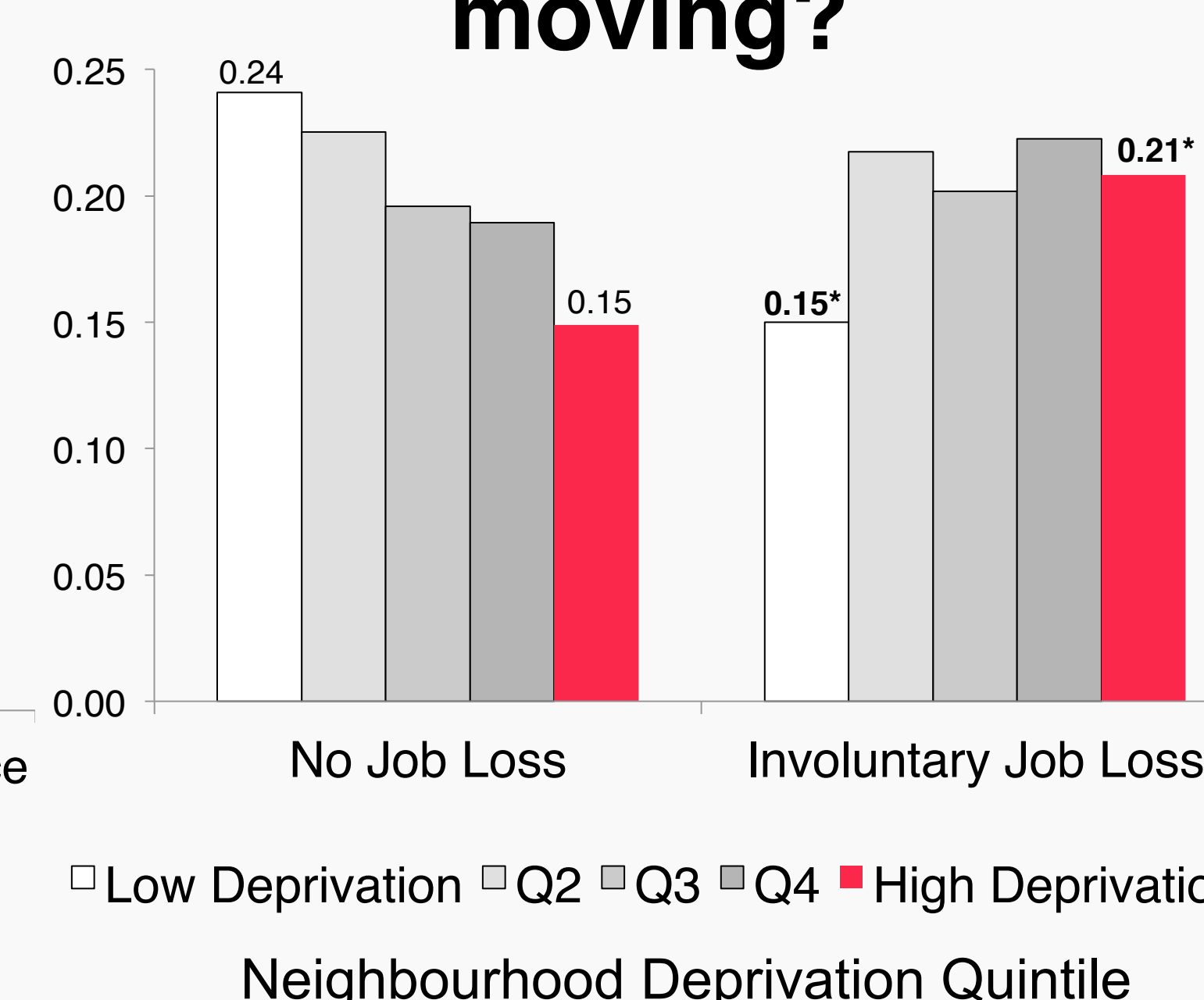
- Logistic regressions predict geographic mobility and entry/exit from high and low deprivation areas.
- Covariates: age, age squared, gender, household composition, marital status, home ownership, urban residence, province, and household income measured at time $t-1$.

Findings

Who moves?



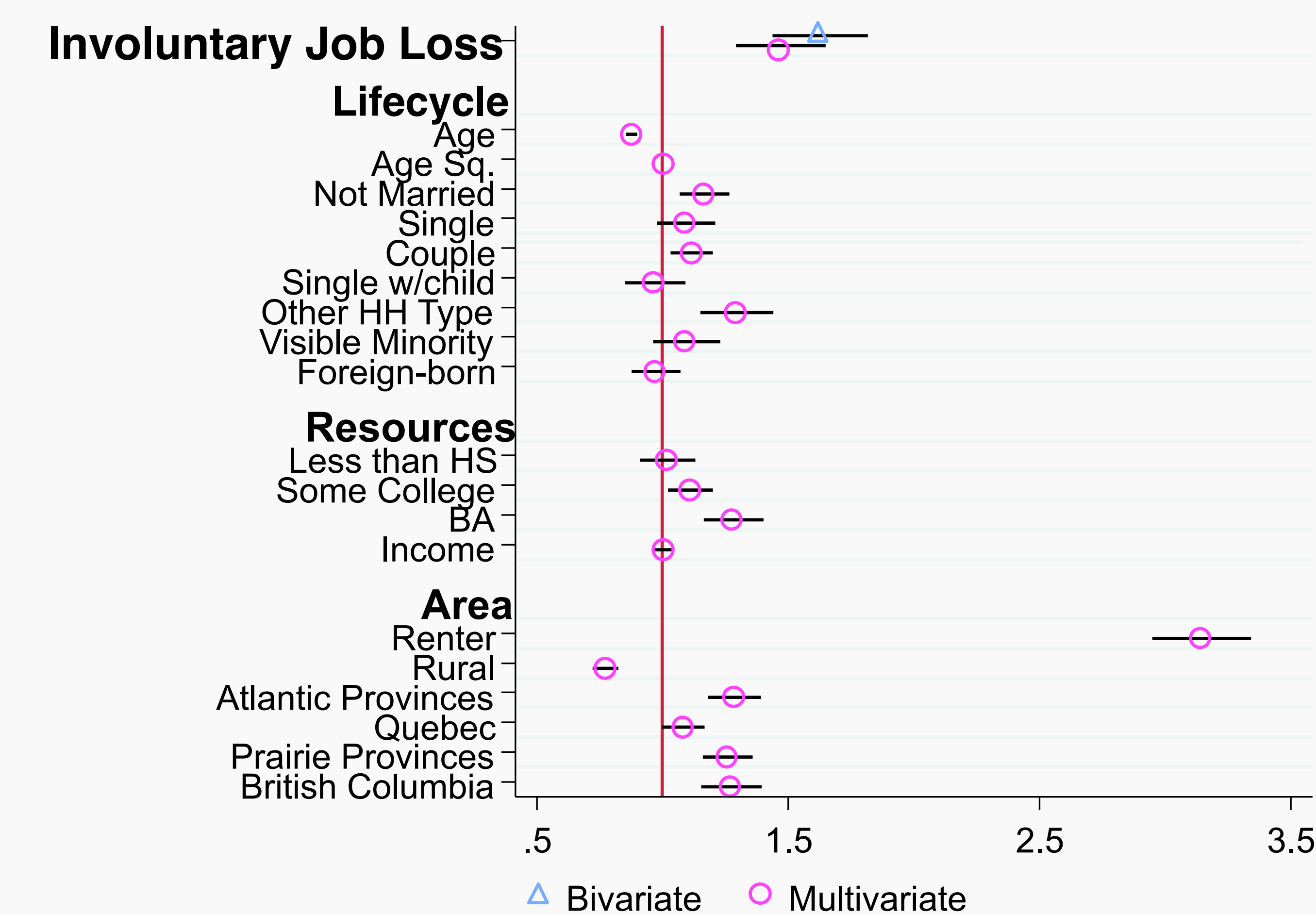
...and where are they moving?



Notes and references: *p<.05; ¹ Bernard and Galameau 2008; ² Oreopoulos, Page and Stevens 2008; ³ Chen, Myles and Picot 2012; ⁴ Gamache, Pampalon and Hamel 2010.

Findings

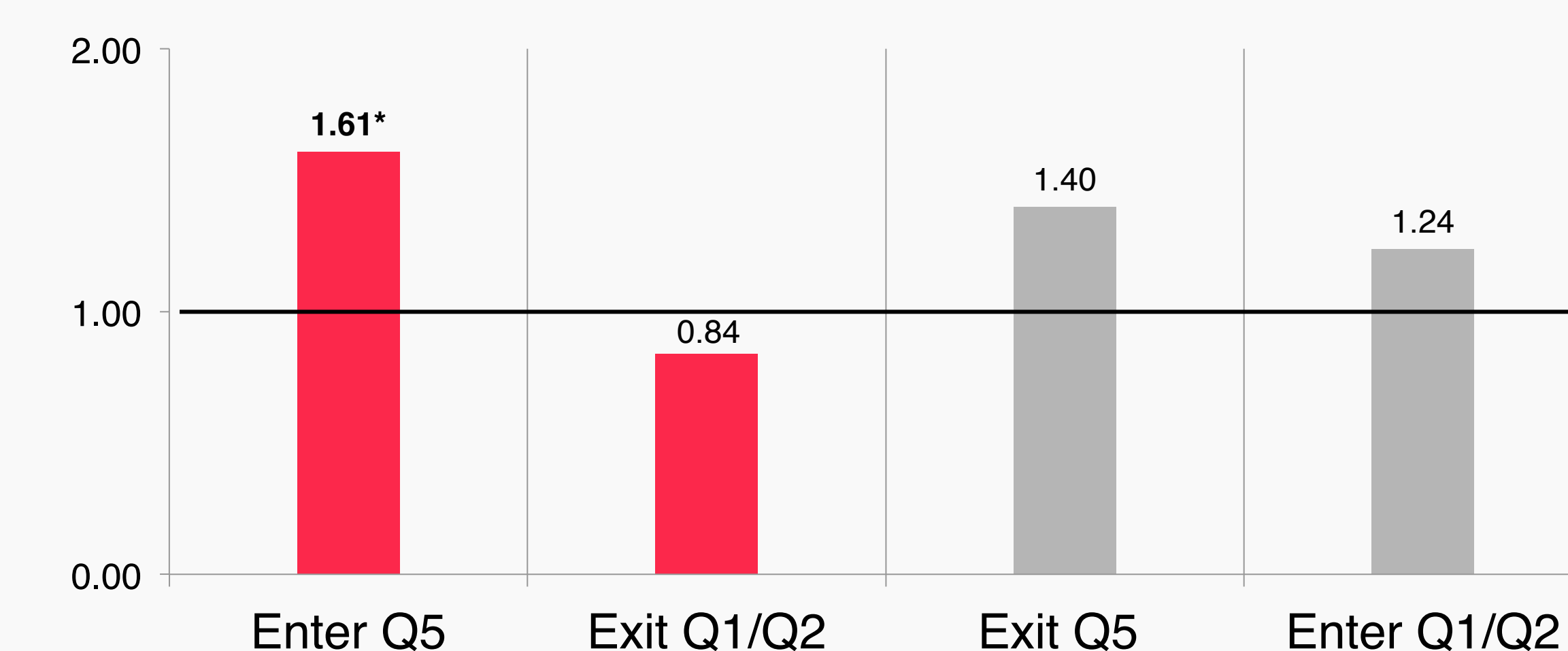
Lifecycle stage and resources do little to explain increase in mobility associated with job loss.



Odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals from logistic regression predicting mobility between $t-1$ and t .

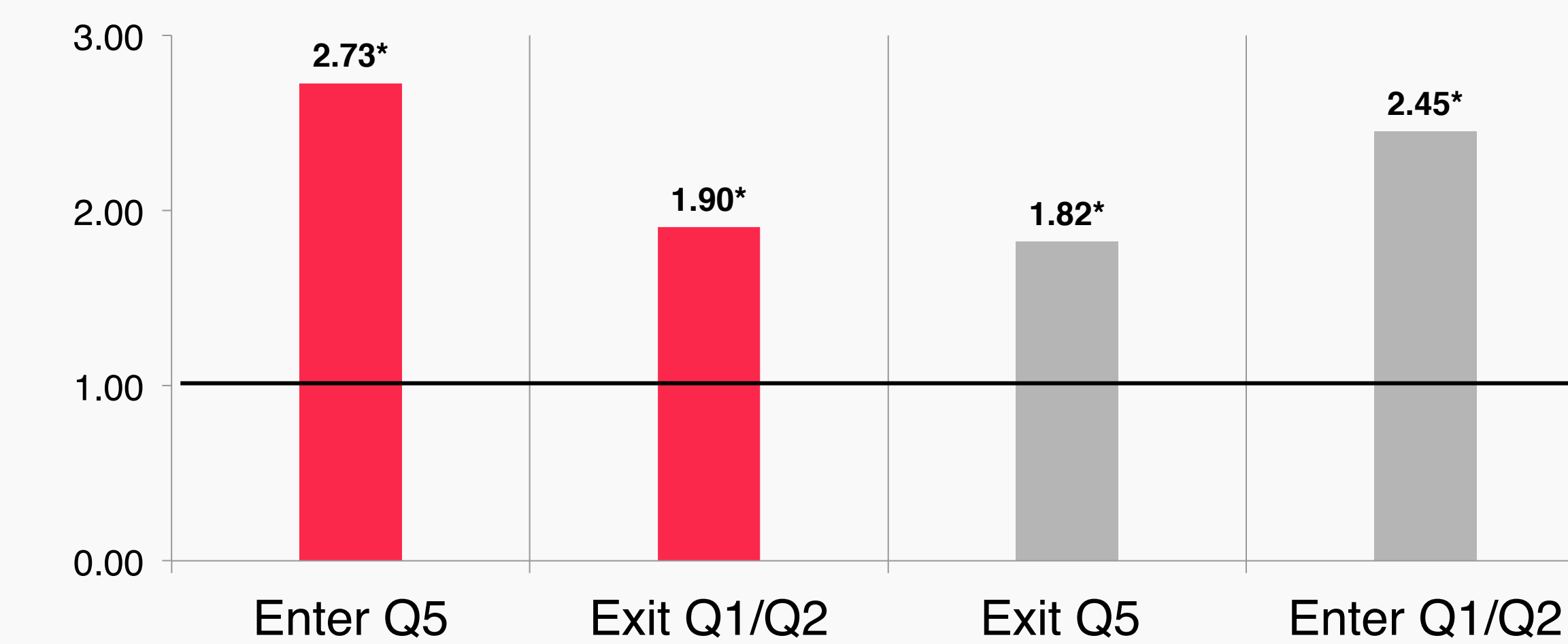
Is job loss associated with selective mobility?

...over short distances



Odds ratios from separate logistic regressions predicting change in quintile of material deprivation associated with a short-distance move between $t-1$ and t for population at risk of transition.

...over long distances



Odds ratios from separate logistic regressions predicting change in quintile of material deprivation associated with a long-distance move between $t-1$ and t for population at risk of transition.