

# Unstable Employment Careers and Completed Fertility before and after the Labour Market Deregulation in Italy

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## Data Background and motivation

- **Instability** has spread in the European labour markets because of the Dual-Employment Protection Legislation reform
- Reforms in Italy hit particularly the **labour market entrants**. No positive effects on employment rates but **entrapment in unstable jobs**.
- **Limitation of existing studies:**
  - Mainly transition to **1st child**;
  - Cohorts affected by the LM deregulation were **too young**;
  - Focus on “atypical” **work episodes** vs. “precarious” **life course careers**;
  - **Timing & probability** effects mixed.

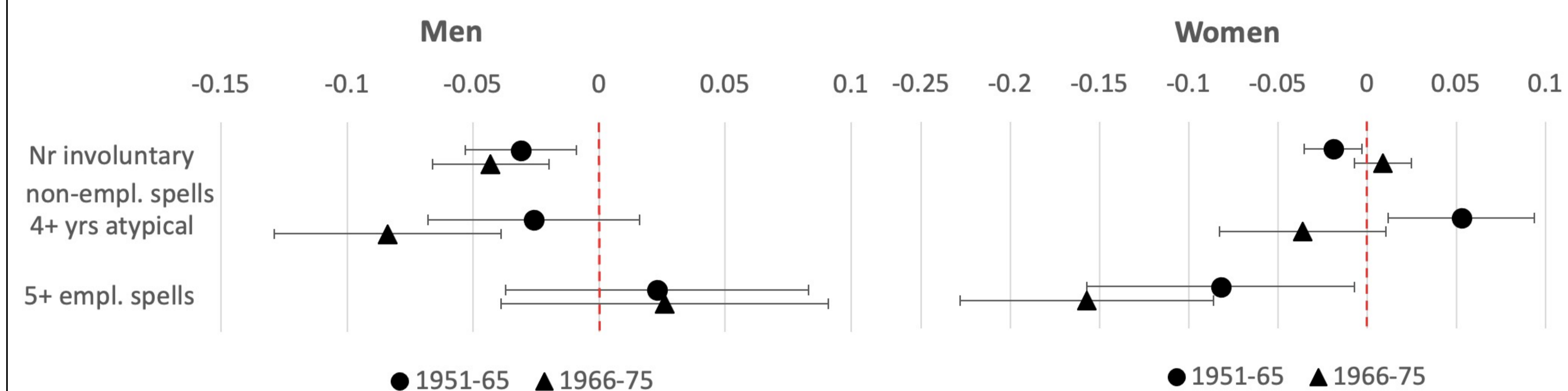
**Our contribution:** as the first cohorts affected by deregulation policies reach the **end of the reproductive age**, we can assess the consequences of **unstable employment careers** on (quasi-)completed fertility.

**Data:** Retrospective data from Family & Social Subjects (2016). Cohorts: 1951-75.

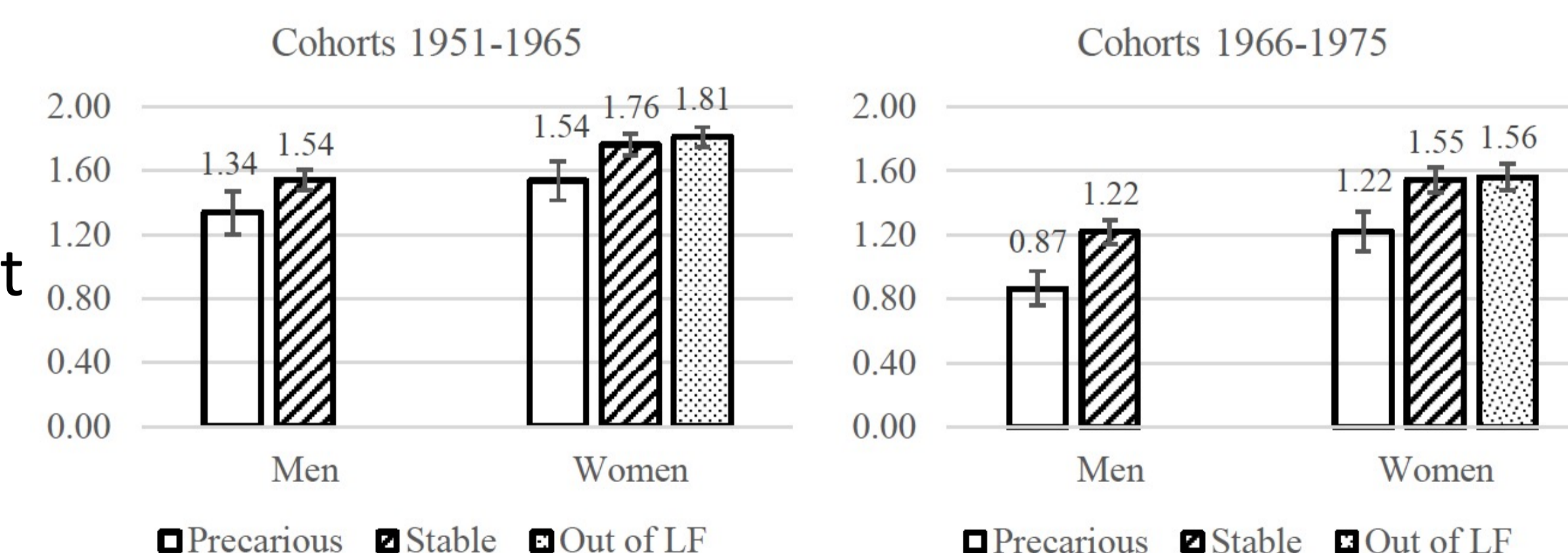
**Methods:** Multi-logit on the **nr of children at 41** separately by gender and cohorts.

**Indicators of career instability:** nr of **employment spells**, nr of **atypical employment spells**, nr of voluntary and involuntary **non-employment spells** (>3 months).

**Results:** AMEs of selected explanatory variables on the prob of having 2+ children at 41



**Results II:** Predicted nr of children by age 41 for different employment profiles (precarious vs. stable)



**Discussion:** employment instability reduces **overall** fertility (not only postponement).

The negative effect of instability worsen for the **younger** cohorts (affected by LM reforms). We see only the tip of the iceberg: effects will be stronger on next cohorts.

