

Illinois Unemployment Insurance Experiments - Data Summary

The Illinois Unemployment Insurance Experiments public use data (1984-85) were compiled to examine whether claimant or employer incentives reduce the cost or duration of unemployment. The Illinois Department of Employment Security conducted the experiments at selected Job Search offices from mid-1984 to mid-1985. Eligible claimants were randomly assigned to the claimant experiment, employer experiment, or control group. Reemployment bonuses were available to the claimant or employer (depending on the experiment) if specified employment conditions were met. Data for each individual were obtained from a baseline survey of UI claimants, the Illinois Department of Employment Security Benefits Information System database, the Illinois Department of Employment Security Wage Records database, and Job Service office logs. The data were compiled into a single file containing quarterly earnings (second quarter 1984 through third quarter 1985), base period earnings, demographic characteristics, unemployment date and benefit information, experiment assignment and other experiment-related variables. The file contains 12,101 observations and 49 variables.