Supplement to:
Decker, Viktor, Thijs Bol, and Hanno Kruse. 2023. "Life-Course Differences in Occupational Mobility Between Vocationally and Generally Trained Workers in Germany." Sociological Science 10: 857-879.

Figure S1: Frequencies of numbers of observations per case in the analytic sample


Figure S2: Simplified illustration of the German educational system


Notes: Institutions that award qualifications coded as vocational are displayed in red. Institutions that award qualifications coded as general are displayed in blue. Individuals holding a qualification from an institution marked as grey or who did not complete compulsory education are not part of the analytic sample. Tertiary degrees are presented in darker tones than secondary qualifications.

Figure S3: Age distribution in the analytic sample


Notes: Frequencies are divided by 1000 .

Figure S4: Predicted marginal probabilities to change occupations by categorical age


Notes: Predictions are obtained from multi-level linear regression with individual random intercept and random age slopes. Age is measured using 2-year interval dummies. Every dummy is interacted with type of education. Predictions are adjusted for level of education, gender, migration background, and contain year-of-birth fixed effects. Areas around prediction lines represent $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Figure S5: For different birth cohort groups: predicted marginal probabilities to change occupations by age


Notes: Predictions are obtained from a multi-level linear probability model with individual random intercept and random age slopes. Type of education is interacted with squared age and a categorical birth cohort group variable. Controls for level of education, gender and migration background are included. Areas around prediction lines represent $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Figure S6: For secondary and tertiary education separately: Predicted marginal probabilities to change occupations, voluntarily and involuntarily by age


Notes: Predictions are obtained from multi-level linear probability models with individual random intercept and random age slopes. Type of education is interacted with quartic age. Models are computed for individuals with secondary and tertiary education separately. Controls for gender, migration background, and year-of birth fixed effects are included. Areas around prediction lines represent $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Figure S7: For women and men separately: Predicted marginal probabilities to change occupations, voluntarily and involuntarily by age


Notes: Predictions are obtained from multi-level linear probability models with individual random intercept and random age slopes. Type of education is interacted with quartic age. Models are computed separately for women and men. Controls for level of education, migration background, and year-of-birth fixed effects are included. Areas around prediction lines represent $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Table S1: Analytic sample restrictions and associated change in case numbers

| Criteria | Person-years dropped |  | Persons dropped |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | N | \% | N | \% |
| Initial sample | 742,777 | 1.00 | 103,449 | 1 |
| Must be observed as employed at least once | 154,271 | 0.21 | 35,163 | 0.34 |
| Must hold at least secondary school-leaving qualification | 32,712 | 0.04 | 5,313 | 0.05 |
| Every first observation per person is dropped since measuring occupational change requires information on occupations from the previous year | 62,973 | 0.08 | 8,884 | 0.09 |
| Must be between 18 and 65 years of age | 43,197 | 0.06 | 600 | 0.01 |
| Must not be in education or retirement, besides also recorded as employed | 37,600 | 0.05 | 511 | 0.00 |
| Must not have missing values on any variable used in the analysis. | 2 | 0.00 | 2 | 0.00 |
| Sum dropped | 330,755 | 0.45 | 50,473 | 0.49 |

Table S2: Descriptive statistics for the original sample and the analytic sample

|  | Original sample |  |  | Analytic sample |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mean | SD | Valid N | Mean | SD | Valid N |
| Occupational change | 0.037 |  | 742,777 | 0.062 |  | 412,022 |
| yes (1) |  |  | 27,455 |  |  | 25,645 |
| no (0) |  |  | 715,322 |  |  | 386,377 |
| Vocational education | 0.595 |  | 90,321 | 0.652 |  | 52,976 |
| vocational (1) |  |  | 53,782 |  |  | 34,542 |
| general (0) |  |  | 36,539 |  |  | 18,434 |
| Level of education | 0.154 |  | 90,321 | 0.175 |  | 52.911 |
| tertiary (1) |  |  | 13,894 |  |  | 9,273 |
| secondary (0) |  |  | 76,427 |  |  | 43,703 |
| Voluntary occup. change | 0.014 |  | 742,777 | 0.024 |  | 412,022 |
| yes (1) |  |  | 10,470 |  |  | 9,866 |
| no (0) |  |  | 732,307 |  |  | 402,156 |
| Involuntary occup. change | 0.011 |  | 742,777 | 0.198 |  | 412,022 |
| yes (1) |  |  | 8,647 |  |  | 8,154 |
| no (0) |  |  | 734,130 |  |  | 403,868 |
| Age | 46.170 | 17.376 | 742,773 | 41.435 | 11.707 | 412,022 |
| Gender | 0.503 |  | 103,442 | 0.483 |  | 52,976 |
| female (1) |  |  | 52,015 |  |  | 25,631 |
| male (0) |  |  | 51,427 |  |  | 27,345 |
| Migration backgr. | 0.345 |  | 103,449 | 0.263 |  | 52,976 |
| mig. backgr. (1) |  |  | 35,745 |  |  | 13,974 |
| no mig. backgr. (0) |  |  | 67,704 |  |  | 39,002 |
| Year of birth | 1966 | 21 | 103,445 | 1967 | 16 | 52,976 |
| Birth cohort groups |  |  | 103,445 |  |  | 52,976 |
| < 1950 (0) |  |  | 22,630 |  |  | 7,262 |
| 1950-1959 (1) |  |  | 13,079 |  |  | 8,538 |
| 1960-1969 (2) |  |  | 19,504 |  |  | 13,098 |
| 1970-1979 (3) |  |  | 18,231 |  |  | 11,328 |
| > 1979 (4) |  |  | 30,001 |  |  | 12,750 |

Table S3: Multilevel linear probability models predicting occupational change

|  | Occupational change |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | M1 | M2 | M3 | M4 | M5 | M6 |
| Vocational educ. | -0.011* | -0.006* | -0.005* | -0.007* | -0.007* | -0.004* |
|  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.002) |
| Tertiary educ. |  | $-0.007^{*}$ | -0.000 | -0.001 | -0.001 | -0.000 |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Female |  | -0.001 | -0.000 | -0.000 | -0.000 | -0.001 |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Migration backgr. |  | -0.002 | -0.002 | -0.002 | -0.002 | -0.002 |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age/10 |  |  | -0.019* | -0.019* | -0.036* | -0.036* |
|  |  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age/10 * Voc. educ. |  |  | 0.005* | 0.006* | 0.016* | 0.016* |
|  |  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | $(0.002)$ | $(0.002)$ |
| Age2/10 |  |  |  | -0.003* | -0.002* | 0.016* |
|  |  |  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.002) |
| Age2/10 * Voc educ. |  |  |  | 0.002* | 0.001 | -0.004* |
|  |  |  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.002) |
| Age3/10 |  |  |  |  | 0.006* | $0.006^{*}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) |
| Age3/10 * Voc. educ. |  |  |  |  | -0.003* | -0.003* |
|  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) |
| Age4/10 |  |  |  |  |  | -0.004* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) |
| Age $4 / 10$ Voc. educ. |  |  |  |  |  | 0.001* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) |
| Cohort fixed effects | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Intercept | 0.072* | 0.006 | 0.038 | 0.049 | 0.029 | 0.050 |
|  | $(0.001)$ | $(0.085)$ | $(0.086)$ | $(0.086)$ | $(0.086)$ | (0.086) |
| Intercept variance | 0.004* | 0.003* | 0.000* | 0.000* | $0.000^{*}$ | 0.000* |
| Residual variance | 0.055* | 0.055* | 0.055* | 0.055* | 0.055* | 0.055* |
| Slope variance: Age |  |  | 0.003* | 0.000* | 0.000 | 0.000* |
| Slope variance: Age2 |  |  |  | 0.003* | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: Age3 |  |  |  |  | 0.003* | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: Age 4 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.003* |
| Observations | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 |
| AIC | -6709 | -9684 | -10619 | -10649 | -10901 | -11211 |
| BIC | -6665 | -8722 | -9625 | -9622 | -9841 | -10118 |

Notes: M2-M6 contain year-of-birth fixed effects. Standard errors are presented in parentheses. Level of significance: * $\mathrm{p}<0.05$.

Table S4: Multilevel linear probability models predicting voluntary occupational change

|  | Voluntary occupational change |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | M1 | M2 | M3 | M4 | M5 | M6 |
| Vocational educ. | -0.004* | -0.002* | -0.002* | -0.001 | -0.001 | -0.002 |
|  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Tertiary educ. |  | $-0.002^{*}$ | $0.001$ |  | 0.000 | 0.000 |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | $(0.001)$ | (0.001) |
| Female |  | -0.002* | -0.002* | -0.002* | -0.002* |  |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Migration backgr. |  | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.000 |  |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age/10 |  |  | $-0.007^{*}$ | $-0.007^{*}$ | -0.014* | -0.014* |
|  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age/10 * Voc. educ. |  |  | 0.002* | 0.002* | 0.003* | 0.003* |
|  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age ${ }^{2} / 10$ |  |  |  | -0.002* | -0.001* | 0.004* |
|  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) |
| $\mathrm{Age}^{2} / 10$ V Voc. educ. |  |  |  | -0.000 | -0.000 | 0.000 |
|  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) |
| Age ${ }^{3} / 10$ |  |  |  |  | 0.002* | 0.002* |
|  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) |
| Age ${ }^{3} / 10$ Voc. educ. |  |  |  |  | -0.000 | -0.000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) |
| Age ${ }^{4} / 10$ |  |  |  |  |  | $-0.001^{*}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) |
| Age ${ }^{\text {/ }} 10$ * Voc. educ. |  |  |  |  |  | -0.000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) |
| Cohort fixed effects | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Intercept | 0.027* | 0.002 | 0.015 | 0.025 | 0.013 | 0.024 |
|  | (0.001) | (0.054) | (0.054) | (0.054) | (0.054) | (0.054) |
| Intercept variance | 0.001* | 0.001* | 0.000* | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Residual variance | 0.023* | 0.023* | 0.023* | 0.023* | 0.023 | 0.023 |
| Slope variance: Age |  |  | 0.001* | $0.000^{*}$ | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: Age $^{2}$ |  |  |  | 0.001* | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: Age ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  | 0.001 | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: $\mathrm{Age}^{4}$ |  |  |  |  |  | 0.001 |
| Observations | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 |
| AIC | -380436 | -381697 | -382044 | -382125 | -3821297 | -382439 |
| BIC | -380392 | -380735 | -381049 | -381098 | -381291 | -381412 |

Notes: Limited to observations where individuals either did not change occupations or changed occupations voluntarily (identified based on type of termination of prior position). M2-M6 contain year-of-birth fixed effects. Standard errors are presented in parentheses. Level of significance: * $\mathrm{p}<0.05$.

Table S5: Multilevel linear probability models predicting involuntary occupational change

|  | Involuntary occupational change |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | M1 | M2 | M3 | M4 | M5 | M6 |
| Vocational educ. | -0.000 | -0.001 | -0.000 | -0.003* | $-0.003^{*}$ | -0.002 |
|  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Tertiary educ. |  | -0.005* | $-0.003^{*}$ | $-0.003^{*}$ | -0.003* | -0.003* |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Female |  | -0.003* | -0.003* | -0.003* | -0.003* | $-0.003^{*}$ |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Migration backgr. |  | -0.003* | $-0.003^{*}$ | $-0.003^{*}$ | -0.003* | $-0.003^{*}$ |
|  |  | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age/10 |  |  | -0.005* | -0.005* | -0.011* | -0.011* |
|  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age/10 * Voc. educ. |  |  | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.006* |  |
|  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Age ${ }^{2} / 10$ |  |  |  | -0.001* | -0.001* | 0.006* |
|  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) |
| Age $2 / 10$ * Voc. educ. |  |  |  | 0.002* | 0.001* | -0.000 |
|  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) |
| Age ${ }^{\text {/ }} 10$ |  |  |  |  | 0.002* | 0.002* |
|  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) |
| Age $3 / 10$ * Voc. educ. |  |  |  |  | -0.002* | $-0.002^{*}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) | (0.000) |
| Age ${ }^{\text {/ }} 10$ |  |  |  |  |  | -0.002* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) |
| Age $/$ /10 * Voc. educ. |  |  |  |  |  | 0.000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.000) |
| Cohort fixed effects | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Intercept | 0.020* | 0.002 | 0.013 | 0.017 | 0.013 | 0.023 |
|  | (0.000) | (0.049) | (0.049) | (0.049) | (0.049) | (0.049) |
| Intercept variance | 0.001* | 0.001* | 0.000* | 0.000* | 0.000* | 0.000 |
| Residual variance | $0.019^{*}$ | 0.019* | 0.019* | 0.019* | 0.019* | 0.019 |
| Slope variance: Age |  |  | $0.000^{*}$ | 0.000* | 0.000* | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: $\mathrm{Age}^{2}$ |  |  |  | 0.000* | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: Age ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  | 0.000* | 0.000 |
| Slope variance: Age ${ }^{4}$ |  |  |  |  |  | 0.000 |
| Observations | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 | 412022 |
| AIC | -456742 | -457328 | -457630 | -457648 | -457701 | -457883 |
| BIC | -456698 | -456367 | -456635 | -456621 | -456641 | -456855 |

Notes: Limited to observations where individuals either did not change occupations or changed occupations involuntarily (identified based on type of termination of prior position). M2-M6 contain year-of-birth fixed effects. Standard errors are presented in parentheses. Level of significance: * $\mathrm{p}<0.05$.

