

Online Appendix for: Employing the unemployed of Marienthal: Evaluation of a guaranteed job program

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1 Survey questions

This section includes the questions used to survey participants in the treatment and control groups. The questions are structured by outcomes. First-level numbered bullet points correspond to the questions that constitute the aggregate index for each outcome reported. Each question was used with equal weights for the aggregation. Second-level alphabetically numbered bullet points correspond to the answer categories provided in the survey. The questionnaire for the survey was registered at <https://www.socialscisceregistry.org/trials/6706>.

Income security

Source of questions: US-SHED (Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 2019), EU-SILC (Eurostat, 2019), and own.

1. Overall, which one of the following best describes how well you are managing financially these days:
 - (a) Living comfortably
 - (b) Doing okay
 - (c) Just getting by
 - (d) Finding it difficult to get by
2. Compared to 6 months ago before the start of MAGMA, would you say that you are better off, the same, or worse off financially?
3. How much is your monthly income? (Subsequent question if no response: Can you try to guess in which category your monthly income falls approximately?)
4. Are you in arrears with a regular payment such as rent, phone bill, loan installment or the like?
5. Are you able to make an unexpected expense such as X for a repair?

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Income

Source of questions: US-SHED (Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 2019), EU-SILC (Eurostat, 2019), and own.

1. How much is your monthly income? (Subsequent question if no response: Can you try to guess in which category your monthly income falls approximately?)

Depression symptoms

Source of questions: Fragile Families Survey (Bendheim-Thoman Center for Research on Child Wellbeing and Center, 2020).

Over the last 2 weeks, how much does the statement describe your feelings?

1. I feel I cannot shake off the blues, even with help from my family and my friends.
2. I feel sad.
3. I feel happy.
4. I feel life is not worth living.
5. I feel depressed.

Covid stress

Source of questions: Conway et al. (2020)

Please tell us whether the following statements apply to you:

1. Thinking about the coronavirus (COVID-19) makes me feel threatened.
2. I am afraid of the coronavirus (COVID-19).
3. I am stressed around other people because I worry I'll catch the coronavirus (COVID-19).
4. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) has impacted me negatively from a financial point of view.
5. I have lost job-related income due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
6. I have become depressed because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
7. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has impacted my psychological health negatively.

Social inclusion

Source of questions: Fragile Families Survey (Bendheim-Thoman Center for Research on Child Wellbeing and Center, 2020).

1. How many new people have you met in the past month? Please type the approximate number.
2. Which of the following statements best describes your current relationship status?

- (a) I am romantically involved on a steady basis. We live together.
- (b) I am romantically involved on a steady basis. We live separately.
- (c) I am involved in an on-again and off-again relationship.
- (d) I am not involved in a romantic relationship.

Preferences

Source of questions: Falk et al. (2018). Weber and Blais (2006). Mobasseri et al. (2022). Own.

Time preferences

1. Would you prefer to receive 100 € today, or 300 € in 1 month?
2. Would you prefer to receive 100 € today, or 300 € in 6 months?
3. Would you prefer to receive 100 € today, or 300 € in 12 months?
4. Suppose you have some money to do business, and you have a choice between 2 options. Which option would you choose?
5. Imagine you have saved 10'000 € from working at a job. You receive the following offer from a good bank: If you invest with them there is a chance that you will double the money you invested immediately, or lose half of the money you invested. How much do you want to invest? You only have 10'000 €.

Personality traits

6. In general terms, most people can be trusted.
7. You are willing to give up something that is beneficial for you today in order to benefit more from it in the future.
8. When someone does me a favor I am willing to return it.
9. If I am treated very unjustly, I will take revenge at the first occasion, even if there is a cost to do so.
10. I am willing to punish someone who treats me unfairly, even if there may be costs for me.
11. Imagine the following situation: Today you unexpectedly received 1'000 €. How much of this amount would you donate to a good cause?
12. Generally, I am willing to give to a good causes without expecting anything in return.

Risk preferences

We are interested in your risk taking behavior. Please select how risky you find the respective behavior.

13. Admitting that your tastes are different from those of a friend.
14. Drinking heavily at a social function.
15. Disagreeing with an authority figure on a major issue.

16. Having an affair with a married man/woman.
17. Passing off somebody else's work as your own.
18. Betting a day's income on the outcome of a sporting event.
19. Engaging in unprotected sex.
20. Revealing a friend's secret to someone else.
21. Speaking your mind about an unpopular issue in a meeting at work.
22. Not returning a wallet you found that contains 200 €.

Latent and manifest benefits

Source of questions: Kovacs et al. (2017)

Please select whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Activity

1. There is usually not enough spare time in my day.
2. I often have nothing to do.

Social interaction

3. I usually have a lot of opportunities to mix with people.
4. I seldom meet new people.

Collective purpose

5. I rarely feel that I make a meaningful contribution to society.
6. I often feel a valuable part of society.

Time structure

7. My days are usually well organized.
8. I rarely catch up with the things I need to do.

Status

9. I am usually important to my friends.
10. My friends rarely value my company.

Financial strain

11. My income usually allows me to do the things I want.
12. My income usually does not allow me to socialise as often as I like.

Physical health

Source of questions: PHQ-15 somatic symptom scale (Kroenke et al., 1998).

During the past month, how much have you been bothered by any of the following problems?

1. belly
2. back
3. limbs
4. menstruation (asked for women only)
5. sexual intercourse
6. head
7. chest
8. dizziness
9. passed out
10. heart
11. breath
12. intestine
13. digestion
14. sleep
15. energy

Anxiety symptoms

Source of questions: GAD-7 general anxiety disorder (Spitzer et al., 2006).

Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?

1. Feeling nervous, anxious or on edge.
2. Not being able to stop or control worrying.
3. Worrying too much about different things.
4. Trouble relaxing.
5. Being so restless that it is hard to sit still.
6. Becoming easily annoyed or irritable.
7. Feeling afraid as if something awful might happen.

Social network

Source of questions: Social Network Accuracy Test ("SNAT") from Mobasseri et al. (2022), and own.

1. From time to time, most people discuss work-related and job-search issues with other people. Looking back over the last 6 months, who are the people with whom you discussed work-related and job-search issues with? In the boxes below, please list the FIRST NAME and LAST NAME INITIAL of the people with whom you discuss important matters. E.g., Maria Maier would be recorded as "Maria M". Please list only one name per box. If two people on your list share the same first name and last initial, use numbers to distinguish them (e.g., "Maria M" and "Maria M2"). If you don't discuss important matters with anyone, just leave the fields blank.
2. Below is a list of the names you provided on the prior page. Please answer the questions below about each person you named. How frequently are you in contact with each person?
3. Please select whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. This person is close to you.
4. Please select whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. Compared to other people you know, this person is very valuable to you.
5. Which of the following best describes your relationship to each person?
 - (a) Spouse /Significant Other
 - (b) Other Family Member
 - (c) Friend /Social Contact
 - (d) Work / Professional Contact
 - (e) Other
6. Please select whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. This contact is someone who looks up to me.

Wellbeing scale

Source of questions: WHO-5 Well-being Index (WHO, 1998; Topp et al., 2015).

The following statements relate to your well-being in the past two weeks. For each statement, please mark the number that you think best describes how you have felt over the past two weeks. In the last two weeks ...

1. I was happy and in a good mood.
2. I felt calm and relaxed.
3. I felt energetic and active.
4. I felt fresh and rested when I woke up.
5. my everyday life was full of things that interest me.

Subjective wellbeing

Source of questions: Own questionnaire.

1. Compared to 6 months ago before the start of MAGMA, would you say that you are doing better, the same, or worse?

Social status

Source of questions: US-SHED (Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 2019), and own.

1. Imagine a ladder showing where people stand in the society. At the top are the people who are the best off — those who have the most money, the most education, and the most respected jobs. At the bottom are the people who are the worst off — those who have the least money, the least education, and the least respected jobs or no job. Where would you place yourself on this ladder? (*The questionnaire includes an annotated image of a ladder*).
2. Over the past half year did your status in society...
 - (a) improve a lot
 - (b) improve
 - (c) improve a little
 - (d) remain as it was
 - (e) worsen a little
 - (f) worsen
 - (g) worsen a lot
3. Thinking of the future, do you expect your status to...
 - (a) improve a lot
 - (b) improve
 - (c) improve a little
 - (d) remain as it was
 - (e) worsen a little
 - (f) worsen
 - (g) worsen a lot

Number of contacts

Source of questions: Social Network Accuracy Test (“SNAT”) from Mobasseri et al. (2022), and own.

1. From time to time, most people discuss work-related and job-search issues with other people. Looking back over the last 6 months, who are the people with whom you discussed work-related and job-search issues with? In the boxes below, please list the FIRST NAME and LAST NAME INITIAL of the people with whom you discuss important matters. E.g., Maria Maier would be recorded as "Maria M". Please list only one name per box. If two people on your list share the same first name and last initial, use numbers to distinguish them (e.g., "Maria M" and "Maria M2"). If you don't discuss important matters with anyone, just leave the fields blank.

Subjective health

Source of questions: Fragile Families Survey (Bendheim-Thoman Center for Research on Child Wellbeing and Center, 2020), and own.

1. Would you say your health generally is...
 - (a) excellent
 - (b) very good
 - (c) good
 - (d) fair
 - (e) poor
2. Over the past 6 months, would you say your health generally has...
 - (a) improved a lot
 - (b) improved
 - (c) improved a little
 - (d) remained stable
 - (e) worsened a little
 - (f) worsened
 - (g) worsened a lot

2 Jobs created

This section documents the type and number of jobs created by the Marienthal job guarantee scheme between its start in 2020 until November 2022 both in the market and non-market sector. This includes jobs for individuals who joined the scheme after treatment was assigned. Jobs of eligible individuals who found a job outside of the program are not included in this section. Figure 1 shows some of the program-participants at work.

Jobs created in the non-market sector

- 13 Carpenters
- 7 Tailors
- 6 Gardeners
- 5 Renovation workers
- 3 Registrars
- 3 Cleaners
- 1 Drivers
- 1 Person in counseling

Jobs created in the market sector

- 6 Office clerks
- 2 Warehouse workers
- 2 Assistant electricians
- 1 Care home assistant
- 1 Technical sales assistant
- 1 Facility manager
- 1 Construction worker
- 1 Salesperson
- 1 Construction forman
- 1 Taxi driver
- 1 Hospitality assistant
- 1 Carpenter
- 1 Marketing assistant
- 1 Municipal building yard worker
- 1 Farm worker

- 1 Nursery worker
- 1 Call centre agent
- 1 Lift technician
- 1 Assistant cook
- 1 Forklift driver
- 1 Accounting clerk
- 1 HR consultant

Figure 1: Program participants at work



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