Characteristics of six panel datasets

	Waves	Communities	Individuals	Observations	P(Rural)	P(Migrate RU)
China	4	176	50,965	143,923	.54	.026
Ghana	2	334	7,633	15,027	.64	.01
Indonesia	5	296	48,184	131,803	.63	.023
Malawi	3	204	13,969	38,165	.72	.008
South Africa	5	400	38,430	104,090	.49	.025
Tanzania	3	409	15,887	35,103	.62	.024

Note: Columns 1–4 list the number of survey waves
the number of communities (i.e. enumeration areas) surveyed
the number of individuals surveyed
and the total number of observations
for each country. Column 5 lists the fraction of adults living in a rural location in wave 1. Column 6 presents the annualized rural-urban migration rate for adults in wave 1.

Table 1: Observational Returns to Migration in Six Developing Countries.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
China	0.545***	0.161***	0.012	0.226***
	(0.005)	(0.028)	(0.064)	(0.031)
Ghana	0.410***	0.148	-0.173	0.339**
	(0.013)	(0.122)	(0.220)	(0.148)
Indonesia	0.625***	0.145***	0.039	0.167***
	(0.009)	(0.019)	(0.031)	(0.029)
Malawi	0.520***	0.048	-0.350***	0.189
	(0.012)	(0.089)	(0.123)	(0.134)
South Africa	0.737***	0.212***	0.028	0.291***
	(0.006)	(0.022)	(0.044)	(0.026)
Tanzania	0.666***	0.112***	0.101**	0.213***
	(0.032)	(0.030)	(0.045)	(0.043)
Individual_FE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year_FE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sample	Full	Full	Start Urban	Start Rural

Note: This table presents the estimated coefficients of urban dummy variables from regressions of log consumption per adult on urban dummies and other covariates in the six countries. Column (1) presents the cross-sectional estimates, with no other controls. Column (2) adds year and individual fixed effects, plus quadratic controls for age and household size. Column (3) has year and individual fixed effects, plus quadratic controls for age and household size, and restricts the sample to only those starting in an urban location. Column (4) is the same model as in column (3), but restricts the sample to only those starting from a rural location. Robust standard errors, clustered at the level of the wave 1 household, are in parenthesis. $^{*}p < .1, ^{**}p < .05, ^{***}p < .01$

Table 2: Observational Returns to Migration: Income Measures.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Indonesia	0.623***	0.169***	0.014	0.100**
	(0.011)	(0.028)	(0.042)	(0.042)
South Africa	0.649***	0.249***	0.035	0.289***
	(0.006)	(0.023)	(0.045)	(0.029)
hours_control				
Individual_FE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year_FE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sample	Full	Full	Start Urban	Start Rural

Note: This table presents the estimated coefficients of urban dummy variables from regressions of log household income per adult on urban dummies and other covariates in the six countries. Column (1) presents the cross-sectional estimates, with no other controls. Column (2) adds year and individual fixed effects, plus quadratic controls for age and household size. Column (3) has year and individual fixed effects, plus quadratic controls for age and household size, and restricts the sample to only those starting in an urban location. Column (4) is the same model as in column (3), but restricts the sample to only those starting from a rural location. Robust standard errors, clustered at the level of the wave 1 household, are in parenthesis. $^{*}p < .1, ^{**}p < .05, ^{***}p < .01$

Table 3: Results for Indonesia Under Alternative Specifications.

	(1) Cross-Section	(2) Panel	(3) Rural-Only	(4) Work Moves
City, Ind. Earnings	0.638***	0.101***	0.081	0.016
	(0.019)	(0.038)	(0.066)	(0.134)
City, HH. Earnings	0.623***	0.169***	0.100**	0.229***
	(0.011)	(0.028)	(0.042)	(0.086)
City, HH. Consumption	0.625***	0.145***	0.167***	0.263***
	(0.009)	(0.019)	(0.029)	(0.056)
City + small towns, Ind. Earnings	0.739***	0.065**	0.044	0.071
	(0.014)	(0.030)	(0.034)	(0.073)
City + small towns, HH. Earnings	0.590***	0.116***	0.100***	0.178***
	(0.008)	(0.021)	(0.023)	(0.055)
City + small towns, HH. Consumption	0.597***	0.125***	0.111***	0.156***
	(0.006)	(0.014)	(0.015)	(0.036)
Individual_FE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year_FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Initial_Location	All	All	Rural	Rural
Move_Reason	Any	Any	Any	Work
Local_Mig_Rate	All	All	All	All

Standard errors in parentheses

$^{*}\ p < .1,\ ^{**}\ p < .05,\ ^{***}\ p < .01$

Table 4: Observational Returns to Migration by Region.

	(1) log(Cons. PA)	(2) log(Cons. PA)	(3) p: C1 = C2
China	0.108**	0.233***	0.043
	(0.046)	(0.043)	
Ghana	0.240	0.428*	0.507
	(0.174)	(0.228)	
Indonesia	0.074*	0.260***	0.001
	(0.040)	(0.041)	
Malawi	0.287	0.121	0.532
	(0.199)	(0.179)	
South Africa	0.303***	0.277***	0.616
	(0.039)	(0.037)	
Tanzania	0.071	0.357***	0.000
	(0.052)	(0.061)	
Individual_FE	Yes	Yes	
Year_FE	Yes	Yes	
Sample	High Migration	Low Migration	

Note: This table presents the estimated coefficients of urban dummy variables from regressions of log consumption per adult on urban dummies. Specifications are as in Table 3 , Column (4), with year and individual fixed effects, plus quadratic controls in age and household size, and restricting the sample to only those starting from a rural location. The sample is divided by the rural-urban migration rate in the origin community, so that there are an equal number of rural-urban migrants in each group. Column (2) restricts the sample to include households from enumeration areas with rural-urban migration rates above the median rate for rural-urban migrants. Column (2) restricts the sample to include households from enumeration areas with rural-urban migration rates below the median rate for rural-urban migrants. Column (3) reports the p -value of the difference between the estimates in Column (1) and Column (2). Robust standard errors, clustered at the level of the wave 1 household, are in parenthesis. $^{*}p < .1,^{**}p < .05,^{***}p < .01$

VARIABLES	(1) Observational	(2) Experimental	(3) Difference
Seasonally Migrated	0.092*	0.357**	
	(0.053)	(0.156)	
Difference in Returns			0.265***
			(0.095)
Constant	6.739***	6.652***	
	(0.022)	(0.084)	
Observations	1,194	1,867	1,867
R-squared	0.699		
Individual FE	Yes	Yes	
Year FE	Yes	Yes	