

[Bonus Question: Does Flexible Incentive Pay Dampen Unemployment Dynamics?](#)

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Meghana Gaur⁴, John Grigsby⁴, Jonathon Hazell^{1,2} and Abdoulaye Ndiaye³

¹Centre For Macroeconomics, ²London School of Economics and Political Science, ³NYU Stern, ⁴Princeton University

We introduce dynamic incentive contracts into a model of unemployment dynamics and present three results. First, wage cyclicality from incentives does not dampen unemployment dynamics: the response of unemployment to shocks is first-order equivalent in an economy with flexible incentive pay and without bargaining, vis-a-vis an economy with rigid wages. Second, wage cyclicality from bargaining dampens unemployment dynamics through the standard mechanism. Third, our calibrated model suggests 46% of wage cyclicality in the data arises from incentives. A standard model without incentives calibrated to weakly procyclical wages, matches unemployment dynamics in our incentive pay model calibrated to strongly procyclical wages.