



Finance and Economics Discussion Series:
Jop-Hopping in Silicon Valley: Some
Evidence Concerning the Micro-
Foundation of a High Technology Cluster

United States Federal Reserve
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Finance and Economics Discussion Series: Jop-Hopping in Silicon Valley: Some Evidence Concerning the Micro-Foundation of a High Technology Cluster

By Bruce Fallick

Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In Silicon Valley s computer cluster, skilled employees are reported to move rapidly between competing firms. If true, this job-hopping facilitates the reallocation of resources towards firms with superior innovations, but it also creates human capital externalities that reduce incentives to invest in new knowledge. Outside of California, employers can use non-compete agreements to reduce mobility costs, but these agreements are unenforceable under California law. Until now, the claim of hyper-mobility of workers in Silicon has not been rigorously investigated. Using new data on labor mobility we find higher rates of job-hopping for college-educated men in Silicon Valley s computer industry than in computer clusters located out of the state. Mobility rates in other California computer clusters are similar to Silicon Valley s, suggesting some role for state laws restricting non-compete agreements. Outside of the computer industry, California s mobility rates are no higher than elsewhere.



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