

A cohort analysis of male and female labor supply in Japan

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Abstract

This article uses the repeated cross sectional data to study the cohort experience of labor force behavior of prime-aged men and women in Japan. From the late 1980s to the early 2000s, participation in regular, full-time employment fell for less educated men and women. The cohorts who finished schooling in the late 1990s and early 2000s experienced a severe decline in regular employment at young ages, although this phenomenon is concentrated for single men and women and not for the married. Part-time work has become increasingly common for cohorts of women born later. Controlling for marital status, the Equal Employment Opportunity Law for men and women in 1986 and 1999 did not advance women's regular employment.

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