

Job Polarization and Jobless Recoveries in Japan

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Abstract

In this paper, we investigate jobless recoveries and job polarization in Japan using data from Labor Force Survey from April 1984 to December 2010. First, we present evidence on jobless recoveries and job polarization in Japan. Then, we examine the relationship between occupational employment and the business cycle, and find that employment and working hour in the high-skill and low-skill occupations are not so influenced by the business cycle, while those of the middle-skill occupations are closely related to the business cycle. Specifically, the job loss in the middle-skill occupations is concentrated in recessions. Finally, we find that there is a lag between the adjustment of working hour and that of employment.

JEL Classification: E24, E32, J23, J24

Keywords: Jobless recoveries, job polarization, business cycles

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