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Volume 25, 2018 - Issue 1

1,715 Views | 8 CrossRef citations to date | 3 Altmetric

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Underemployment in Australia: a panel investigation






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Pages 24-28 | Received 22 Jan 2017, Accepted 29 Jan 2017, Published online: 11 Feb 2017

 Cite this article  <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504851.2017.1290770>



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ABSTRACT

This 2001–2013 panel study finds 33% of part-time employees to be underemployed, disproportionately affecting males, immigrants, youth, the blue-collared and new to our study, those on casual contracts. Within the underemployed sample, we report that the gap between preferred and actual hours (working hour tension) also varies by personal and labour characteristics, largely consistent with that found for the determinants of underemployment. The continued growth of part-time employment and casualization in recent years has been more pronounced among males, raising their rates of underemployment as they disproportionately prefer to work more hours vis-à-vis their part-time female peers.

 JEL CLASSIFICATION: [C23](#) [J21](#) [J69](#)

 KEYWORDS: [Underemployment](#) [working hours](#) [casual employment](#)

Acknowledgements

This article uses unit record data from the HILDA Survey. The HILDA Project was initiated and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and is managed by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research (Melbourne Institute). The findings and views reported in this article, however, are those of the authors and should not be attributed to either FaHCSIA or the Melbourne Institute.

Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Additional information

Funding

This article uses unit record data from the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey. The HILDA Project was initiated and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and is managed by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research (Melbourne Institute).



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