

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: Immigration, Household Production, and Native Women's Labor Market Outcomes: A Survey of a Global Phenomenon

Article Link: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w31234>

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Tweet: A review of relevant research suggests increased availability of immigrant household workers has had large positive effects on the labor supply of highly educated female workers and on the gender wage gap. @cortespatico

Summary: Overall, the existing research suggests that migrant domestic workers have large positive effects on the labor supply of highly educated women’s labor supply and on the gender pay gap for high-powered occupations. These migrants have contributed to the narrowing of persistent gender inequalities in the labor market, particularly for the highly-skilled native women in many countries around the world. The mechanism studied in this paper should be considered when analyzing the benefits and costs of immigration policies. Overall, the magnitude of the effects suggests that the low-skilled immigration flow to the United States between 1980 and 2000 increased the probability that affected native women at the top quartile of the wage distribution work more than 50 or 60 hours a week by 1.8 and 0.5 percentage points, respectively. Compared to the standard 40-hour work week, these higher hours at the higher end of the earning distribution, suggest that these women had jobs requiring long hours, which is typical of some high-powered occupations.

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Primary Topic: Gender Pay Gap

Topics: Academic paper, Gender Pay Gap, Immigration, Workforce

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