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Assessing the Effects of Reducing Standard Hours: Regression Discontinuity Evidence from Japan

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Highlights

- We explore the effect of Japans reduction in standard hours on labor outcomes.
- The average treatment effect of standard hours on hours worked is insignificant.
- Policy treatment effects are significantly heterogeneous.
- Even in firms whose hours worked were reduced, wages and bonuses did not decrease.
- Labor costs per hour increased, and the policy change did not lead to job creation.

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