

Abstract

This study uses longitudinal data to compare the education, vocational qualifications, and employment status of women in Australia and Japan from 2005 to 2009. The model controls for both state dependence and unobserved heterogeneity. The econometric analysis uses the following panel data: the Household Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey for Australia and the Japanese Panel Survey on Consumers (JPSC) for Japan. The results show that the effects of education higher than bachelor's degrees are significant for Australian women but not so for Japanese women. On the other hand, vocational licences have positive effects on Japanese women's employment at the beginning of the survey period, which suggests the need for a system in Japan to link vocational licences with university study.