Kaylie Tiessen (Unifor) and Iglikaivanova (Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives)

Labour Market Insecurity in Canada: a Look at Provincial Level Trends

Despite a number of studies looking at changes in the post-recession labour market at the national level (see Green and Sand, 2014; DePratto and Bartlett, 2015), relatively little is known about labour market changes at the provincial level. Given that Canadian provinces have different industrial structures and exposure to the recent resource boom and bust, it is likely that national level data conceals considerable regional variation. In this paper, we use data from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey to measure provincial level trends in labour market insecurity, defined by involuntary part-time work, temporary employment, own-account self-employment, low wages, multiple job-holders and variable hours of work. Taking a broader view of insecurity, we also look at long-term unemployment as an indicator of broader labour market dysfunction.