

Working Papers &
Publications

Activities

Meetings

Data

People

About

Skilled Immigration and the Employment Structures of U.S. Firms

Sari Pekkala Kerr, William R. Kerr, William F. Lincoln

NBER Working Paper No. 19658

Issued in November 2013

NBER Program(s): [AG](#) [ITI](#) [LS](#) [PR](#)

We study the impact of skilled immigrants on the employment structures of U.S. firms using matched employer-employee data. Unlike most previous work, we use the firm as the lens of analysis to account for a greater level of heterogeneity and the fact that many skilled immigrant admissions are driven by firms themselves (e.g., the H-1B visa). OLS and IV specifications find rising overall employment of skilled workers with increased skilled immigrant employment by firm. Employment expansion is greater for younger natives than their older counterparts, and departure rates for older workers appear higher for those in STEM occupations compared to younger worker.



The NBER [Bulletin on Aging and Health](#) provides summaries of publications like this. You can sign up to receive the NBER [Bulletin on Aging and Health](#) by email.

This paper is available as [PDF \(706 K\)](#) or [via email](#).

[Acknowledgments](#)

Machine-readable bibliographic record - [MARC](#), [RIS](#), [BibTeX](#)