Are Japanese Full-time Workers Conservative in Starting New Businesses?

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Abstract

This paper examines whether being full-time workers prevents Japanese individuals from starting new businesses by using the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor 2014. The major findings of this paper are the following four points. First, in Japan, full-time workers are less likely to start new businesses than non-full-time workers. Second, this tendency is observed even among individuals who are confident in their knowledge, skills, and experience. Third, the tendency that confident full-time workers hesitate to start new businesses may be peculiar to Japan. Finally, entrepreneurship education helps mitigate Japanese full-time workers’ fear of failure in starting the businesses and enhance their confidence in their knowledge, skills, and experience, but it is less likely to increase the probability that they start the businesses.

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