

Does temporary agency employment pave the way to better jobs for refugees?

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Abstract: This paper investigates whether temporary agency employment acts as a bridge to regular employment for unemployed refugees in Germany. Using rich administrative data and the timing-of-events model we find that temporary agency work reduces the duration until a regular job is found. We are also able to differentiate refugees by residency status. Refugees who have been granted asylum benefit most, particularly if they take them soon after entering the host country. In contrast, refugees who only obtain temporary protection seem to be trapped in spot market jobs.

Key words: immigrants, refugees, temporary agency employment

JEL Codes: J61, J64, J68

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