

THE SHIFTING GEOGRAPHY OF PRECARIOUS EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

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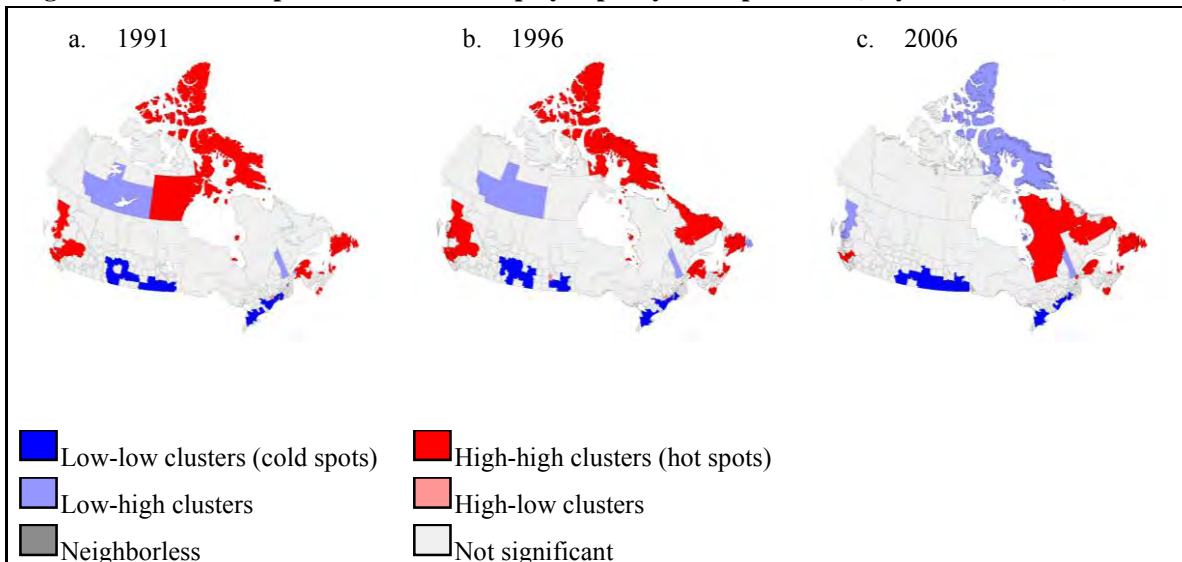
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ABSTRACT

This thesis marks an attempt to define and pinpoint a critical geography of precarious employment in Canada, which has garnered little attention thus far. In doing so, it provides the first detailed analysis of the geographic and temporal dimensions (across provinces, economic regions and census divisions) of precarious employment in Canada. To study these trends, the thesis draws on data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Canadian Census of Population. The LFS is used to determine long-term national- and provincial- level trends of precarious employment from 1976 to 2013, while the census is used to provide a clearer snapshot of the geographical dimensions of precarious employment in Canada for the years 1991 to 2011. Using the Moran's *I* test and local indicators of spatial association (LISA), I discover that different forms of precarious employment exhibit distinct spatiotemporal patterns. With special attention placed on youth employment trends, I find that shifts in the spatial clustering of precarious employment indicators for the total labour force tend to mirror shifts experienced by young workers, only they occurred several years later for the total labour force. This pattern suggests that young people are more susceptible to changes in labour market dynamics.

Figure 5.2.7 LISA maps of labour force employed part year or part time (15 years and over)



Sources: 1991, 1996 and 2006 (long-form questionnaires), Canadian Census of Population