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8 The Effects of Immigration on Household Services,  
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11 Labour Supply and Fertility  
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21 **Abstract**

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23 Fertility and female labour force participation are no longer negatively correlated in  
24 developed countries. At the same time, increased immigration affects supply and prices  
25 of household services, which are relevant for fertility and employment decisions. This  
26 paper analyses the effect of immigration on labour supply and fertility of native women  
27 in the UK. Adopting an instrumental variable approach, I find that immigration in-  
28 creases female labour supply without affecting fertility. My results show that immigra-  
29 tion increases the size of the childcare sector, and reduces its prices, suggesting that  
30 immigrants may ease the trade-off between working and child rearing among native  
31 women.  
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# 1 Introduction

After the mid-1980s the negative relationship between fertility and female labour force participation has reversed across developed countries (Ahn and Mira, 2002; Rindfuss et al., 2003). Among rich countries, those with higher female labour force participation also enjoy higher total fertility rate (TFR). This trend seems to be explained by country-specific factors, and by country-heterogeneity in the magnitude of the negative within-country correlation (Kögel, 2004). Institutional factors, labour market rigidities, and unemployment have been considered responsible for this reversal (Adserà, 2004).

More recently, Furtado and Hock (2010) pointed to an additional potential explanation: the role played by low skilled immigrants in the childcare sector. Household services, in particular childcare, provided by immigrants can be more flexible in terms of opening hours and more convenient in terms of proximity with respect to existing services provided by natives, thus more compatible with full-time jobs or a long working schedule.<sup>1</sup> Higher availability translates into an indirect reduction in the costs of these services, including search costs. In addition, inflows of immigrants can directly reduce their market cost, pushing down the wages of those employed in this sector. Given the broad evidence that reduced childcare costs have a positive effect on both fertility and labour force participation, immigration can ultimately have an impact on their correlation, thereby easing the trade-off between labour supply and fertility.

This paper analyses the effect of immigration on labour supply and fertility decisions of native women in the UK in the years 2000-2007, with a focus on the role of immigration on household services, and in particular on childcare. In order to identify the effect of immigration I use panel data in addition to an instrumental variable approach based

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<sup>1</sup>The higher flexibility provided by immigrants is evident comparing the difference in weekly hours worked between immigrants and natives in the household services sector. Immigrants work 3.57 hours per week more than natives (Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS), 2000-2007), whereas the gap in other sectors is much lower (+1.29 hrs).

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3 on the past country-specific distribution of immigrants across regions. This instrumental  
4  
5 variable strategy allows me to isolate the causal effect of immigration on labour supply and  
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7 fertility. The individual fixed effects control for potential omitted variables related to unob-  
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9 served individual characteristics and the presence of immigrants, not controlled for by my  
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11 instrumental variable strategy. I look at native women of reproductive age, and, thanks to  
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13 the longitudinal dimension of the data, I can construct an appropriate measure of fertility,  
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15 identifying the timing of the decision. In order to learn whether the mechanism driving my  
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17 results is due to an immigrant-induced reduction in childcare costs, I complement the main  
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19 analysis by looking at the effect of immigration on the labour market structure of household  
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21 services.  
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28 My results show that immigrants increase the labour supply of women at the intensive  
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30 margin, without affecting fertility decisions. The effect is driven by more educated women,  
31  
32 and women with young children. The results seem to be driven by the contribution of  
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34 immigrants to household production, since higher shares of immigrants in the local labour  
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36 force raise the market size of childcare services, and reduce their market costs. Overall, I  
37  
38 interpret these effects as producing a weakening of the negative correlation between fertility  
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40 and labour supply, driven by the immigrant-induced reduction in the cost of childcare.<sup>2</sup>  
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45 This paper contributes to the literature on the impact of immigration on the host country  
46  
47 labour market. Despite the broad evidence on the effect of immigration on labour supply,  
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49 the evidence on fertility is still scarce. To my knowledge, only Furtado (2016) recently anal-  
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51 ysed the effect of low-skilled immigration on fertility decisions for highly educated women in  
52  
53 the US at the individual level. Due to the lack of longitudinal data, the author models the  
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55 fertility decision by an indicator of having a child of age zero, and then links this indicator  
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57 to the current immigration. By exploiting the same instrumental variable approach as I do,  
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<sup>2</sup>My results are robust to potential omitted factors which can be linked to the production side of the economy, such as complementarity effects as well as to endogenous mobility of natives, or regional shocks.

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3 the main findings of Furtado (2016) show that low-skilled immigration raises the probability  
4  
5 of having a recently born child, as well as the joint probability of working long hours and  
6  
7 having a recently born child. In this paper I look at the UK, which has a different and more  
8  
9 generous childcare system than the US.<sup>3</sup>  
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12  
13 The UK seems to be particularly suitable for my question. First of all, it is one of the  
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15 countries experiencing, over the last two decades, a positive correlation between fertility and  
16  
17 female labour force participation in the aggregate data.<sup>4</sup> My descriptive evidence based on  
18  
19 individual data supports the trend from aggregate data and suggests that the weakening  
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21 of the negative correlation between labour supply and fertility seems to be driven by more  
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23 educated women. Over the period of my analysis, the unconditional correlation coefficient  
24  
25 between labour force participation and fertility (defined as having a child of age zero) de-  
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27 creases by 14.6 percent, as opposed to 23.67 percent for high educated women (see Figure  
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29 1). In addition, over the same period, the country has witnessed a steady increase in the  
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31 number of immigrants. In the mid 1990s, immigrants represented 6 percent of the working  
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33 age population (QLFS), and they reached 12 percent in 2008.  
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40 The effect of a reduction in childcare cost on fertility and labour supply decisions is  
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42 ambiguous, depending on which mechanism prevails between substitution and income effect  
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44 (Willis, 1973; Blau and Robins, 1989). In addition, the income elasticity of demand for chil-  
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46 dren can be small compared to the income elasticity of “quality” of children (Becker, 1965):  
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48 women may react by increasing the quality of childcare instead of having an additional child.  
49  
50 On the other hand, if immigrants reduce the cost of household services, high-wage women  
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52 react by increasing their labour supply (Cortès and Tessada, 2011). Given the time con-  
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54 straint, this may come at a cost of reducing fertility. An increase in fertility or an absence  
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59 <sup>3</sup>Starting from April 2004 all Local Education Authority in the UK have been mandated to provide free nursery places for  
60 all 3- and 4-years old children for 12.5 hours a week and for 33 weeks per year.

<sup>4</sup>Between 1995 and 2008 both TFR and female labour force participation followed an upward trend. The TFR was equal to 1.7 in 1995 and reached 1.96 in 2008 (Office for National Statistics, ONS), a value only slightly below the replacement level (2.1). Over the same time-span, the labour force participation for women increased from 71 percent to 74 percent (QLFS).

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3 of reduction thereof would occur only if immigrants, in addition to reducing the cost of  
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5 childcare, also reduce the negative correlation between child-rearing and work.  
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8 This paper is closely related to the literature on the impact of immigration on the  
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10 host country labour market. Different studies show that immigration contributes to the  
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12 household production by either increasing the availability of household services, or by re-  
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14 ducing their market cost as well as by increasing the intensive margin of the labour supply  
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16 for highly educated native women (Barone and Mocetti, 2011; Cortès and Tessada, 2011;  
17  
18 Farrè et al., 2011; Cortès and Pan, 2013; Forlani et al., 2015). This paper is also close to  
19  
20 the literature on the impact of childcare costs on female labour supply and fertility de-  
21  
22 cisions. Several studies exploiting policy variation show that lower costs of childcare in-  
23  
24 crease female labour supply (Cascio, 2009; Baker et al., 2008; Lefebvre and Merrigan, 2008;  
25  
26 Bauernschuster and Schlotter, 2015)<sup>5</sup> and raise fertility (Milligan, 2005; Cohen et al., 2013  
27  
28 Mörk et al., 2013; Bauernschuster et al., 2015).<sup>6</sup>  
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35 The rest of the paper is organised as follows: Section 2 presents the identification strat-  
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37 egy. First I start describing the aggregate analysis in Section 3: Section 3.1 defines the  
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39 empirical specification, Section 3.2 describes the data, and Section 3.3 the relevant results.  
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41 Then I move to the individual analysis in Section 4, by describing the empirical specifica-  
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43 tion in Section 4.1, moving to the data in Section 4.2, and to the results in Section 4.3.  
44  
45 Sections 4.4 and 4.5 refer to the heterogeneity of the results by education, and by presence  
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47 of young children, respectively, whereas Section 4.6 presents the robustness checks. I close  
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49 with Section 5 with few concluding remarks and a discussion.  
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54 <sup>5</sup>To my knowledge, the only two examples finding a null effect are Lundin et al. (2008) and Havnes and Mogstad (2011).

55 <sup>6</sup>Other studies using different identification strategies not based on exogenous policy variations find positive effects of child-  
56 care availability on female labour supply or fertility decisions (Del Boca, 2002; Hank and Kreyenfeld, 2003; Del Boca and Vuri,  
57 2007; Del Boca et al., 2009; Rindfuss et al., 2007, 2010).  
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## 2 Identification Strategy

In order to detect whether the immigration-induced reduction in the cost of childcare has an impact on labour supply and fertility decisions of women, the empirical strategy develops in two steps, with an analysis at regional level followed by individual level estimates. First, I estimate the effect of the share of immigrants in the regional labour force on the market structure of childcare, such as cost and size. I do so by looking at employment and log of median hourly wages in each local labour market. The labour market is defined at the region-year level. I start by considering the entire household services sector, and then I focus on childcare services. Second, I analyse the effect of the same share of immigrants on individual labour supply and fertility decisions.

In both steps of my analysis, in order to identify the impact of immigration I need to isolate the exogenous component of the share of immigrants in local areas. Since immigrants tend to settle in areas characterized by favourable labour demand conditions, which are in turn correlated with the dependent variables I consider, the correlation between immigrant shares and labour market outcomes is unlikely to be a reliable measure of the causal effect I try to analyse. Therefore I adopt an instrumental variable strategy that predicts the current regional share of immigrants using the past immigrants distribution across regions (see Altonji and Card, 1991; Card, 2001; Cortès, 2008; Cortès and Tessada, 2011). The rationale behind the instrument rests on the use of the historical country-specific settlement of immigrants across regions as an exogenous determinant of the current regional distribution. The current stock of immigrants from each country is then distributed into regions according to this past distribution. The instrument predicting the current share of immigrants,  $Im_{rt}$ , in region  $r$  at time  $t$ , is denoted by the variable  $IV_{rt}$  and it is computed according to the following formula:

$$IV_{rt} = \sum_c \frac{Im_{crt_0}}{Im_{ct_0}} \frac{Im_{ct}}{Pop_{t_0}} \quad (1)$$

where  $Im_{crt_0}$  represents the stock of immigrants in the labour force from country  $c$  residing in region  $r$  at time  $t = t_0$ . The selected past distribution refers to the year  $t_0=1991$  and it is computed from the 1991 UK Census data.  $Im_{ct}$  is the stock of immigrants from country  $c$  at time  $t$  (with  $t=2000,..,2007$ ). In order to work with shares, I divide by the regional labour force of the first year of the analysis (year 2000), denoted by  $Pop_{t_0}$ . By doing so (rather than using time-varying labour force) endogenous changes in the native population do not affect the instrument.

The first stage equation is the following:

$$Im_{rt} = \mu_0 IV_{rt} + \mu_1 X_{rt} + D_r + D_t + \psi_{rt} \quad (2)$$

where  $X_{rt}$  is a vector including the share of high skilled women aged 20-44, the log of the median monthly labour income of high skilled men, the share of families with children under age two, and regional unemployment rate. The first three regressors are meant to control for potential demand-factors for childcare services, whereas the unemployment rate controls for local demand shocks.  $D_r$  denotes region fixed effects,  $D_t$  refers to time fixed effects. Regressions are estimated using the size of the regional labour force in the first year of the analysis as weight. In order to account for the serial correlation within region across years, the standard errors are clustered at the regional level.

The validity of the IV strategy relies upon two main requirements: relevance and exogeneity (or exclusion restriction). The first requirement is that past and current regional distributions are correlated. This requirement is strongly supported by the broad empir-

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3 ical evidence about the tendency of newly-arrived immigrants to cluster in areas highly  
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5 populated by immigrants from the same country to take advantage of the pre-established  
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7 networks. Bartel (1989) represents one of the first papers reporting this evidence for the  
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9 US, later confirmed by Cutler and Glaeser (1997), whereas Åslund (2005) and Damm (2009)  
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11 provide two recent examples for Sweden. Unlike the exogeneity assumption, this require-  
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13 ment can be tested: I report the results of the first stage regression (Table A.1) as well as  
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15 the graph of the correlation between the endogenous variable and the instrument both first  
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17 residualized from the vector of the explanatory variables used in the first stage equation  
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19 (Figure A.1). Table A.1 shows that, despite the small sample size and the clustering of  
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21 the standard errors at regional level, the cluster robust F-statistics is always close to the  
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23 threshold typically considered for the test of weak instruments.<sup>7</sup> For the second require-  
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25 ment for the instrument validity to be fulfilled, the past regional distribution as well as the  
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27 aggregate stock of immigrants from each country must be unrelated to current local pulling  
28  
29 demand factors. I take a sufficient time-lag between the past distribution and the time of  
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31 the analysis, and I include region fixed effects, which should account for time invariant re-  
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33 gional factors. Additionally, the local unemployment rate should control for demand-driven  
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35 omitted factors still remaining.<sup>8</sup> In order to rule out that my results are driven by com-  
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37 plementarity in production, I additionally run a falsification exercise (see Section 4.6) and  
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39 I check that the exclusion restriction holds to a potential confounding factor. It might be  
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41 that immigrants affect both wages and employment through channels other than the cost  
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43 of household services, for instance if natives move away from areas receiving large waves of  
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45 immigrants. My results suggest that increasing the share of immigrants in a region does not  
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<sup>7</sup>Stock and Yogo (2005) consider the value 16.38. The instrument has a mean value of 0.76, and ranges between 0.01 and 0.48. The magnitude of the coefficient suggests that by increasing the predicted share of immigrants based on the past distribution by one percentage point the actual regional share rises by 0.57 percentage points (Columns 2-4). For comparison, other papers using a similar formulation of the instrument find values ranging between 0.19 in case of variation at city level (Cortès and Tessada, 2011), or between 0.29 and 0.61, in case of variation at regional level (Farrè et al., 2011; Peri et al., 2015).

<sup>8</sup>In the robustness check section, I also replicate the analysis by excluding from the national aggregate stock of immigrants, those of the region itself, so as to minimise the role of potential local shocks in the instrument.



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2  
3 affect the probability that natives move out.<sup>9</sup>  
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5 In the second step of my analysis, where I estimate individual regressions, I also add  
6 individual fixed effects, so as to control for remaining spurious correlation between unob-  
7 served individual characteristics and the share of immigrants. Let us imagine the case in  
8 which some past shocks affect the characteristics of a region, such as shocks to the labour  
9 demand, which may attract additional workers, and as a consequence housing prices start  
10 growing. Immigrants, especially if low skilled, might start moving out of these areas. On  
11 the other hand, natives may be more likely to stay, because of higher mobility costs, be-  
12 cause they have more established networks, they are more often home owners, or they have  
13 high labour market attachment. Another example would be if natives with anti-immigrants  
14 preferences start moving away from areas that experience a shock of immigrants coming  
15 from certain countries. In both of these cases, specifications that exclude individual fixed  
16 effects would deliver estimates suffering from omitted variable bias. The first case would  
17 be a source of downward bias if natives staying have also strong preferences for working,  
18 whereas the direction of the bias is less clear in the second case. Although these mechanisms  
19 are likely to operate at finer geographical levels, a bias is possible also at the geographical  
20 level I consider.<sup>10</sup>  
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### 47 **3 Aggregate Analysis**

#### 48 **3.1 Specification**

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54 As previously mentioned, immigration can have an impact on household services through  
55 two channels; they can have an impact on their availability or on their market cost. Immi-  
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58  
59 <sup>9</sup>I use the same specification that I describe in Section 4.1. The results are available upon request. Hatton and Tani (2005) find also no substantive evidence that immigration in UK has any displacement effect at regional level on natives.

60 <sup>10</sup>In the Appendix (Table A.2) I compare the results of the estimation with and without individual fixed effects, and indeed the specification without individual fixed effects has point estimates substantially lower in magnitude than the corresponding ones with individual fixed effects. The difference is particularly high for hours worked.

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3 grants can enlarge the size of the household services sector, that represents itself an indirect  
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5 reduction in the cost, due to lower search costs, or they can have a direct impact on the prices  
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7 of these services. As common in the literature, I use the wages of workers in the household  
8  
9 services as a proxy for their cost (see Furtado and Hock, 2010; Barone and Mocetti, 2011;  
10  
11 Farrè et al., 2011; Furtado, 2016). This is likely to provide a reasonable approximation,  
12  
13 given that it has been estimated that both in standard and home-based childcare centres  
14  
15 the wage bill accounts for around 70 percent of all expenses in the US (Blau and Mocan,  
16  
17 2002).<sup>11</sup>

18  
19 My identification strategy exploits the within-region variation in the share of immigrants.  
20  
21 I estimate the effect of immigrants on the size and the market cost of household services  
22  
23 separately, using the following two equations  
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$$32 \quad EmplHS_{rt} = \alpha_0 X_{rt} + \alpha_1 Im_{rt} + D_r + D_t + \eta_{rt} \quad (3)$$

$$33 \quad LogWageHS_{rt} = \beta_0 X_{rt} + \beta_1 Im_{rt} + D_r + D_t + \epsilon_{rt} \quad (4)$$

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42 where  $EmplHS_{rt}$  is the share of the labour force in region  $r$  at time  $t$  employed in  
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44 household services, and where  $LogWageHS_{rt}$  represents the log median real hourly wages  
45  
46 of those employed in this sector. The vector  $X_{rt}$  includes additional controls capturing  
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48 omitted time varying factors as described for equation (2). The vectors  $D_r$  and  $D_t$  are  
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50 region and time fixed effects, respectively and  $\eta_{rt}$  (and similarly  $\epsilon_{rt}$ ) is a standard zero-  
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52 mean error term. Since the dependent variables represent aggregates, I allow and control for  
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54 heteroskedasticity by weighting each observation with the size of the regional labour force  
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56 of the first year of my analysis. In all aggregate regressions, standard errors are clustered at  
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<sup>11</sup>Which likely represents a lower bound in case of more informal childcare, such as nannies.

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3 the regional level, so as to allow for serial correlation of the residuals within a region over  
4  
5 time. The coefficients of interest are  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$ . If the share of immigrants at regional level  
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7 reduces the market cost of household services, I expect  $\alpha_1 > 0$  and  $\beta_1 < 0$ .  
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9

### 10 11 12 **3.2 Aggregate Data** 13

14  
15 For the aggregate analysis as well as for computing the immigration related variables I use  
16  
17 the QLFS (Quarterly Labour Force Survey). For the past regional distribution of immigrants  
18  
19 as described in equation (1) I use the 1991 UK Census data. The QLFS is a quarterly survey  
20  
21 conducted in UK every year starting in 1992, in which each sampled address is called on five  
22  
23 times at quarterly intervals, and yields about 60,000 responding households in each quarter.  
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26  
27 I pool together all quarters relevant to the period between 2000 and 2007.  
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30  
31 Immigrants are defined as those who were born outside the UK and Ireland. This choice  
32  
33 is motivated by the fact that British and Irish people are a fairly homogeneous group, both  
34  
35 in terms of their language and the proximity of their culture. In order to implement my  
36  
37 instrumental variable strategy with sufficient cell sizes, immigrants are categorised according  
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39 to 8 macro-areas of origin, which I consider might represent enclaves, in terms of sharing  
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41 similar cultures: Western Europe, Eastern Europe, US and Canada, Central and South  
42  
43 America, Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Others.  
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48  
49 The household services sector consists of the following occupations according to the 2000  
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51 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC): cleaning and housekeeping, food preparation  
52  
53 services, childcare, care for adult people, gardeners, and other personal services occupations  
54  
55 such as dry-cleaning, laundering, barbers, and shoe repairing. Table A.3 in the Appendix  
56  
57 shows the distribution of occupations of immigrants. The household services sector rep-  
58  
59 resents the top fourth most common occupational group (13.07 percent). The first three  
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occupations require relatively high skill level. In fact, 39.61 percent of immigrants have left

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3 full time education at age 21 or older, as opposed to only 16.83 percent of natives. Within  
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5 the household services sector, even if the percentage of high skilled immigrants is lower than  
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7 in the full sample, the gap with natives is much higher (21.35 percent versus 4.33 percent),  
8  
9 which could be explained by the substantial downgrading immigrants experience once in  
10  
11 the host country (Dustmann et al., 2005).<sup>12</sup> Among immigrants employed in the household  
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13 services sector, 33.4 percent work in food-preparation-related occupations, 22.28 percent in  
14  
15 cleaning activities, 20.37 as caretakers for elderly people, 15.56 percent in child-care related  
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17 occupations, and 8.39 percent in personal services occupations. These sub-sectors are also  
18  
19 heterogeneous in terms of their skill distribution: while the share of high skilled immigrants  
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21 in all household services is 21.35, this share is the highest in the childcare sector, where  
22  
23 28.36 percent are high skilled.<sup>13</sup> Given that my analysis focuses primarily on the childcare  
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25 sector, I decide not to restrict the sample to low skilled immigrants, since a substantial share  
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27 of the immigrants' sample working in this sector would be excluded.<sup>14</sup>  
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35 In Panel A of Table A.4 of the Appendix I report the main descriptive statistics of the  
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37 aggregate data: the labour force share of immigrants is eight percent, it ranges between six  
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39 percent in 2000, and rises up to ten percent in 2007.<sup>15</sup> Among immigrants in the labour  
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41 force, whereas 2.2 percent work in the childcare sector, 10.3 percent have a job in services  
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43 such as cleaning, food preparation, or personal care services. The childcare sector has a  
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45 relatively high median wage compared to all other jobs in the household services sector (six  
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47 percent higher).  
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52 <sup>12</sup>The definition of skill for immigrants is based on the age when the respondent has left full-time education. By doing so  
53 I follow Manacorda et al. (2012) because the definition of the educational level based on the highest qualification attained  
54 according to the UK system is misleading. Most of the immigrants in fact tend to answer "other qualifications".

55 <sup>13</sup>If I consider a less restrictive definition of high skilled, as those who left full time education at 19 or older, 41 percent of  
56 immigrants working in the childcare sector are high skilled.

57 <sup>14</sup>High skilled immigrants might be less exogenous to the labour supply of (high skilled) natives. For example my identification  
58 strategy does not control for potential past skill-specific shocks to the regional labour market, which are persistent in the long  
59 term. However, in a robustness check, I include as additional regressors the interaction of unemployment rate with the three  
60 education categories, and the main results are unaffected. Results available upon request.

<sup>15</sup>The regional units are the 19 regions reported in the BHPS: Inner London, Outer London, Rest of South East, South West,  
East Anglia, East Midlands, West Midlands Conurbation, Rest of West Midlands, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Rest of  
North West, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Rest of Yorks and Humberside, Tyne and Wear, Rest of North, Wales, Scotland,  
Northern Ireland.

### 3.3 Aggregate Results

Table 1 reports the OLS and 2SLS estimates of Equations (3) and (4): Panel A refers to Equation (3), whereas Panel B refers to Equation (4). The first four columns show the results where I pool together all occupations belonging to the household services sector. Since my focus is mainly on the effect on childcare services, Columns (5) and (6) consider all household services excluding childcare (food preparation, housekeeping, caretakers, and other personal services occupations), whereas Columns (7) and (8) report only the childcare sector. Starting from the results on employment (Panel A), the first two columns show the baseline specification where I only control for year and region fixed effects, whereas all other columns include all controls. According to my preferred estimates, the 2SLS, increasing the immigrant share in the regional labour force has a positive impact on the size of the childcare sector (Column 8). Increasing the immigrant share in the region by one percentage point enlarges the size of the childcare sector by 0.06 percentage points, corresponding to a three-percent rise of the baseline dependent variable. Similarly, there is a positive effect on the entire household services sector (Column 4), the point estimate is less precisely estimated and slightly higher but not statistically different from the results on childcare. The labour force share in the household services sector rises by 0.09 percentage points by letting the share of immigrants in the regional labour force rise by one percentage point. This increase corresponds to a 0.9 percent rise of the baseline dependent variable.

The results on wages (Panel B) show that the regional share of immigrants reduces the costs of household services overall (Column 4) as well as of the childcare sector (Column 8), with point estimates very precisely estimated. Similarly to the effect on employment, the point estimate is slightly lower for the childcare sector. Rising the immigrant share at the regional level by one percentage point brings about a reduction in the cost of household

services by 1.48 percent. The same increase in the regional immigrant share reduces by 1.08 percent the hourly wages of workers in the childcare sector.

My results are qualitatively similar to the results for the US by Furtado (2016).<sup>16</sup> In particular, as in her paper, I also find a much lower effect on employment than on wages. As pointed out by Furtado (2016), this can be motivated by the fact that immigrants displace higher-wage native workers of the childcare sector, therefore it is the composition of the workforces in the sector that is changing as opposed to its size. I also replicate the analysis on all low skilled occupations other than household services, defined as the bottom fourth categories in terms of the ten-category wage distribution. The results show that immigration has no effect, thus supporting the interpretation that the effect on household services is not simply driven by a general shift affecting the entire low-skilled sector.<sup>17</sup>

## 4 Individual Analysis

### 4.1 Specification

In this section I look at how immigration affects individual fertility and labour supply decisions of native women, by estimating the following regressions:

$$Work_{irt} = c_i + \gamma_0 X_{irt} + \gamma_1 Im_{rt} + D_r + D_t + \eta_{irt} \quad (5)$$

$$Birth_{irt+1} = d_i + \delta_0 X_{irt} + \delta_1 Im_{rt} + D_r + D_t + \epsilon_{irt} \quad (6)$$

Equation (5) refers to the labour supply decision, whereas equation (6) refers to the fertility decision of individual  $i$  living in region  $r$  at time  $t$ . I use three different measures of

<sup>16</sup>By using a similar estimation strategy and only low skilled immigrants Furtado (2016) reports an effect on employment corresponding to 0.04 percentage points, whereas the effect on hourly wages is -4.28 percent.

<sup>17</sup>The median hourly wage for this selected group is equal to 1.81, and they represent 25.66 percent of the total workforce. Results available upon request.

1  
2  
3 labour supply for the dependent variable  $Work_{irt}$ : a dummy for working, and two indicators  
4  
5 for the intensive margin, the log of weekly hours worked, and a dummy for working full-time  
6  
7 versus part-time. The vector  $c_i$  (and similarly  $d_i$ ) are individual fixed effects. The vector  
8  
9  
10  $X_{irt}$  includes individual characteristics: age, age squared, education,<sup>18</sup> a dummy for being  
11  
12 married or having a partner, number of dependent children in different age brackets (0-2, 3-4,  
13  
14 5-11), a dummy for having co-resident father, a dummy for having co-resident mother, total  
15  
16 household income minus total individual income (in log) and its squared value, a dummy  
17  
18 for the intensity of care activities towards people inside or outside the family (set equal to  
19  
20 one if the weekly hours are higher than 20), and regional unemployment rate. Region fixed  
21  
22 effects are captured by  $D_r$ , and time fixed effects are captured by  $D_t$ .  
23  
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28 The dependent variable  $Birth_{irt+1}$  denotes the fertility decision, corresponding to having  
29  
30 a child born in year  $t + 1$ . Similar definitions are quite standard in the fertility literature,  
31  
32 which motivates this choice in order to take into account the nine-month gestation pe-  
33  
34 riod, and the average birth occurring in the middle of the calendar year (Del Boca, 2002;  
35  
36 Rindfuss et al., 2007, 2010). The variable  $Im_{rt}$  denotes the regional share of immigrants in  
37  
38 the labour force, and  $\eta_{irt}$  (and analogously  $\epsilon_{irt}$ ) is a standard mean-zero error term. My  
39  
40 coefficients of interest are  $\gamma_1$  and  $\delta_1$ . In case immigrants bring about a reduction in the  
41  
42 negative correlation between fertility and labour supply, I would expect that one of the  
43  
44 following cases occur:  $\gamma_1 > 0$  and  $\delta_1 \geq 0$  (or not significant), or, alternatively,  $\delta_1 > 0$  and  
45  
46  $\gamma_1 \geq 0$  (or not significant).<sup>19</sup>  
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52 <sup>18</sup>I consider the following categories according to the ISCED classification: at most secondary education, vocational education  
53 corresponding to post secondary non tertiary education, and college or higher education.

54 <sup>19</sup>For a discussion about the choice of the estimation of two independent equations see the Appendix.  
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## 4.2 Individual Data

For the individual analysis I use the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS), and I import the share of immigrants as well as the instrument described in Section 2 from the QLFS. The BHPS is an annual longitudinal survey, and it consists of a nationally representative sample of about 5,500 households recruited in 1991. All individuals living at the sampled address are interviewed each year, if the individual split-offs from the original family, he/she is followed and re-interviewed at the new address. Since 2001 the sample is representative of the UK and each year around 10,000 households are interviewed. The survey has been run for 18 years until 2008. All members of the household aged 16 or over are interviewed and the survey covers a broad range of topics, among which: household composition, education, health, employment status, and income from employment. The most important reason for the choice of this dataset is that I am able to follow the same individuals over time, which is crucial for the reliability of my estimates.

I select the period between 2000 and 2007 primarily due to data restrictions. First, I need to exclude the year 2008, which is the last available from the BHPS, because the definition of the decision about fertility is based on the one-year lead of the variable about birth spell.<sup>20</sup> This definition of fertility is not possible with other datasets, such as the QLFS. Second, I need to leave a sufficient time lag between the first year of the analysis and the reference year I use for the past regional distribution of immigrants, which is year 1991.

The final sample, after excluding all observations with missing information about the variables included in the empirical analysis, consists of 5,069 women aged 20-44 born outside UK and Ireland,<sup>21</sup> corresponding to 26,045 person-year observations.<sup>22</sup> Panel B of Table A.4

<sup>20</sup>The question refers only to biological mothers, therefore step children as well as adopted children are excluded from this measure.

<sup>21</sup>Hereafter I refer to this group as native.

<sup>22</sup>I do not restrict the sample only to individuals that have no missing information in all dependent variables because that would reduce the sampled individuals by 13 percent. However, the main results are robust to this restriction, suggesting that the missing are at random.



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2  
3 in the Appendix reports the summary statistics of the individual sample. The definition of  
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5 employment is based on either having worked the week prior to the interview or having not  
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7 worked but having a job that the person was away from. Maternity leave is considered as  
8  
9 non employment since the variables hours and full time would refer to the job previous to  
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11 potentially re-entering the labour force after a birth. The employment rate is relatively high  
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13 (73.5), and, among women working, the average number of hours worked per week is 32.98,  
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15 whereas 65.9 percent works full time. The average educational level is also high with 37.7  
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17 percent having completed tertiary education.  
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22  
23 Table 2 reports the variation in labour supply over time for women with and without  
24  
25 a birth spell, where a birth spell refers to a child of age zero. I consider the three labour  
26  
27 supply measures that I use as dependent variables. Although the share of women working  
28  
29 rises only by 1.2 percentage points, it increases substantially more for women with a recently  
30  
31 born child (5.4 percentage points). The same trend applies to the intensive margin. The  
32  
33 average weekly hours worked increase by 5.1 percent for those with a recently born child (an  
34  
35 absolute increase of 1.21 hour), as opposed to only 1.2 percent (an absolute increase of 0.4  
36  
37 hour) for those without. Similarly, the share of women in the former group working full time  
38  
39 increases by 8.2 percentage points, and by only 1.6 percentage points for those in the latter  
40  
41 group. This descriptive evidence is overall in line with a general reduction in the negative  
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43 correlation between fertility and labour supply, as reported in Figure 1, where I look at labour  
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45 force participation. However, before attributing any role to immigration, I need to rule out  
46  
47 that this evidence is driven by spurious correlation linked to areas with specific labour  
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49 market conditions and other unobserved pulling factors attracting immigrants. Therefore,  
50  
51 in order to isolate the causal effect brought about by immigration, I rely on the results of  
52  
53 the empirical analysis.  
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### 4.3 Individual Results

I describe now the results of regressions (5) and (6), focusing on the 2SLS estimation. The regressor share of immigrants has variation at the regional level and at the same time I have repeated observations for the same individual. Therefore I use a double clustering, with the two clusters defined at the regional and individual level, allowing for any type of correlation between individuals belonging to the same region, in addition to any serial correlation within individual.<sup>23</sup>

I start from commenting the 2SLS results relevant to the impact of immigration on the three different measures of labour supply as well as on fertility decision and the joint probability of working and having a new born child (bottom panel of Table 3).<sup>24</sup> The point estimate of the effect of immigration on the probability of working is negative. Its magnitude, however, is very small and not statistically significant (Column 1). Other papers also found a negative effect on the extensive margin. For comparison the closest paper is by Farrè et al. (2011), who use the regional share of female immigrants in Spain and find also a negative effect on employment probability of all women.

Results for the intensive margin are different: a higher share of immigrants exerts a positive effect on both hours worked and probability of switching from a part time to a full time job, and both point estimates are highly significant. An increase by one percentage point in the regional share of immigrants brings about an increase in hours worked by 2.49 percent (Column 2). This translates into an increase of 49 minutes per week. At the same time, the corresponding increase in the probability of switching to a full time job is equivalent to 1.72

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<sup>23</sup>I have 19 regions, therefore the number of cluster is rather small. Having few clusters can produce downward biased standard errors (Cameron et al., 2008). To date there is no such an ideal approach to deal with the problem of few clusters in case of multi-way clustering (Cameron et al., 2015). I used a method typically used in case of few clusters, which bases the inference on a  $T$  distribution with degrees of freedom at most the number of clusters,  $G$ . In my case I consider the distribution  $T(18)$ . All estimates turn equally significant, with almost always the same significance level as when using the  $T$  distribution.

<sup>24</sup>As for the impact of the other regressors (not shown but available upon request), as expected, having children exerts a negative effect on labour supply decisions, a signal of the trade-off between labour force participation and fertility. The highest negative effect comes from having children in the age bracket between 0 and 2, and between 3 and 4. This effect is much lower and not significant for the male sample, suggesting that the burden of childcare is lower for them.

percentage points (Column 3).

Column 4 reports the results on fertility. Immigration does not seem to have any significant impact on the decision of giving birth. Despite the point estimate being positive and relative high with respect to the baseline dependent variable, it is imprecisely estimated.<sup>25</sup>

Having established that immigration fosters the intensive margin of the labour supply, without at the same time having any effect on the decision about having a child, I look at the effect of immigration on the joint probability of working and having a recently born child (Columns 5 and 6).<sup>26</sup> An increase by one percentage point in the share of immigrants at regional level raises the joint probability of working and having a recently born child by 0.38 percentage point, which corresponds to a 19 percent increase at the baseline and it is precisely estimated. Once I restrict the sample to women without any informal childcare, given by the presence of at least one parent of the woman living in the same house,<sup>27</sup> the effect on the joint likelihood becomes higher (Column 6). By letting the labour force share of immigrants rise by one percentage point, the joint probability of working and having a recently-born baby rises by 0.67 percentage points for women without access to informal childcare.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>25</sup>The results are still not significant, once I distinguish between first, second or third child. In addition, in a robustness check I analyse potential heterogeneity by age, and I find that the highest effect in terms of labour supply occurs for women below age 36, again with no effect on fertility. Below age 36 both the intensive margin of the labour supply and the fertility rate are at their highest level, at age 36 they start declining and are below the average level.

<sup>26</sup>A recently born child refers to a child of age zero.

<sup>27</sup>See, among others, Maurer-Fazio et al. (2011), Posadas and Vidal-Fernández (2013), and Compton and Pollak (2014) for evidence about the positive effect of grandparents, as provider of informal childcare, on female labour force participation.

<sup>28</sup>Breaking down the sample by couple versus single, the results on hours worked are driven by singles, whereas the ones on full time are not significant in both samples, and the point estimates very close. The effect on fertility is for both samples null. I argue that the effect of immigration operates by reducing the cost of childcare. Therefore, the higher results on labour supply for singles could be explained, provided that single women outsource childcare, and are those with no support from the partner. According to the descriptive evidence from the BHPS, even if to a lesser extent than mothers in couples, a substantial share of single mothers outsources childcare, in fact 38 percent of them rely on paid childcare as opposed to 45 percent of mothers in couple. These results are also in line with evidence for the US that subsidized public childcare affects the employment decisions only of single mothers (Casco, 2009).

#### 4.4 Heterogeneity Analysis: Results by Education

The theoretical mechanism underpinning my reduced-form specification is well described by Cortès and Tessada (2011). One of the predictions of their model is that the group reacting more to an immigration-induced reduction in the price of household services are higher-wage women, those with a higher opportunity cost of time and higher labour market attachment. Their model predicts that, within the group of women reacting more to the price change, who are those with higher wages, women with relatively lower wages have a more elastic labour supply. In order to test whether there is a differential effect between women with different earnings potentials, I now break down the sample according to different education categories. By classifying women according to the three education categories, the median hourly wage is 6.09 for the lowest education group, 7.39 for the medium educated, and 11.00 for the highest educated.

In Table 4 I report the results for labour supply broken down by education. As for the extensive margin the effect is not significant overall, and weakly significant only for the highest educated. It is unlikely that this effect is due to competition in the labour market, given that the majority of immigrants are low skilled. Despite only looking at low skilled immigrants, Cortès and Tessada (2011) and Furtado (2016) also find a negative effect on the probability of working of high skilled women in the US. Furtado (2016) suggests that mothers with very young children may temporarily stop working to take care of them, but work more hours once they re-enter the labour force.

The overall effect of immigration on the intensive margin is driven by medium and high skilled, with the highest point estimate for medium skilled women. By letting the share of immigrants in the labour force increase by one percentage point, hours worked rise by 3 percent for the medium skilled, whereas the effect is slightly lower for the highest educated

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3 (2.15). I find the same trend also for the full time indicator. The effect of one-percentage-  
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5 point increase in the labour force share of immigrants corresponds to 2.88 percentage points  
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7 for the medium educated, whereas it is 1.19 percentage point for the highest educated. My  
8  
9 results overall are qualitatively in line with the theoretical predictions of Cortès and Tessada  
10  
11 (2011).  
12  
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15 Table 5 reports the results on fertility (Columns 1-3) and on the probability of working  
16  
17 and having a recently born child (Columns 4-6). The effect on fertility is still null regardless  
18  
19 of the education level, whereas the only group where immigrants exert a positive effect on  
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21 the joint probability is the group of high skilled (Column 6): for this group raising the  
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23 labour force share of immigrants by one percentage point brings about an increase of 0.74  
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25 percentage points in the likelihood of working with a recently born child.  
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## 32 4.5 Young Children in the Household

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35 Next, I allow effects to differ between women with young children (children aged 0-4), and  
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37 women with either old or no children. From Table 3 emerges that having children under age  
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39 three and between three and four exerts a very negative effect on labour supply. By doing so  
40  
41 I want to isolate the group using childcare services the most, and more subject to the trade-  
42  
43 off of participating in the labour market and taking care of the children. Table 6 reports the  
44  
45 results for different measures of intensive margin of the labour supply: hours worked, and full  
46  
47 time as before, and I add an indicator for working longer than 50 hours,<sup>29</sup> which corresponds  
48  
49 to the top five percentile of the hours worked distribution. For all dependent variables, the  
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51 effect of immigration is higher for women with young children, as opposed to women with  
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53 older children or women with no children, despite for the indicator of working longer than  
54  
55 50 hours the point estimates are not precisely estimated. If immigration is helping women  
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<sup>29</sup>A similar indicator has been used by Cortès and Tessada (2011) and Furtado (2016).

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3 with young children disproportionately more to work longer hours, the mechanism through  
4  
5 which immigration operates is via the reduction in the trade-off between child rearing and  
6  
7 participation in the labour market. Among other studies estimating similar specifications,  
8  
9 the results by Farrè et al. (2011) and Cortès and Pan (2013) are qualitatively in line with  
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11 ours, whereas Cortès and Tessada (2011) find that mothers with young children, if anything,  
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13 react less to immigration than women with older children.  
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## 19 4.6 Robustness

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22 Although my identification is based on a 2SLS strategy that should exploit the exogenous  
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24 variation in immigration, potential unobserved factors linked to the share of immigrants as  
25  
26 well as to the dependent variables could still linger and drive part of my results. Therefore  
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28 in this section I try to verify how my effects hold to a series of robustness checks. First, I  
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30 start with a falsification exercise by considering the sample of men as a control group. If the  
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32 mechanism driving my results is due to the contribution of immigrants to household produc-  
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34 tion, I expect the labour supply of men to be less responsive, given men's lower contribution  
35  
36 to the household production compared to women.<sup>30</sup> In addition, if the past distribution I  
37  
38 used was not sufficiently lagged so that, for instance, past positive country-specific shocks  
39  
40 to the regional labour market still persist in the period of my analysis affecting also natives,  
41  
42 my identification strategy would not be able to control for this. As a consequence, the effect  
43  
44 that I am observing would rather be due to complementarity effects in production. The  
45  
46 supply shift brought about by immigration would shift the labour demand curve for natives  
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48 as well, especially if high skilled, given their higher complementarity, and I would observe  
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50 positive effects on wages potentially for both men and women.  
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59  
60 <sup>30</sup>In a BHPS module each couple is asked about which member of the couple is in charge of several family commitments. It turns out that only 4 percent of working women in couple report that the partner does the cleaning activities, 21 percent report that it is shared, and 72.5 percent report that it is entirely on women's shoulders.

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2  
3 Table 7 reports both the results of the main labour supply regressions for men (Columns  
4 1-3), and the results for log hourly wages of men and women, respectively (Columns 4-5).  
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6  
7 The point estimates in the labour supply regressions are either negative or much lower, when  
8 positive, compared to those I found for women, and never significant. Even though I fail to  
9 detect any reaction in the labour supply of men - despite their complementarity with immi-  
10 grants - just because the elasticity of labour supply of men is very small and lower than the  
11 one for women (Blundell and MaCurdy, 1999), the results on wages would unveil whether  
12 this effect through complementarity in production is at work. When I look at wages, how-  
13 ever, if anything the point estimate for men is higher than the one for women, even though  
14 they are both imprecisely estimated and not significant. Therefore complementarity effects  
15 do not seem to explain my results.  
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30 An additional concern is related to the possible endogenous mobility of native women.  
31 Women willing to work long hours can move to areas characterized by better job oppor-  
32 tunities and favourable labour demand conditions. These same areas may also attract im-  
33 migrants moving towards thriving labour markets. In this case I would observe a spurious  
34 positive correlation between immigration and labour supply. In order to control for such a  
35 mechanism, I replicate the main analysis excluding people who change region between two  
36 consecutive years and the results are almost unchanged (Table A.5 in the Appendix).  
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47 My estimates provide, for each regression, the total effect of immigration on labour sup-  
48 ply and fertility, without taking into account the correlation in the cross-equation error  
49 terms, given the extremely low conditional correlation found (see the discussion in the Ap-  
50 pendix). However, the results are unaffected by the correlation in the cross-equation error  
51 terms. This is reported in the Appendix (Table A.6), where I additionally control for the  
52 fertility spell in the labour supply equations (Columns 1-4), and for current labour supply  
53 in the regressions on fertility (Columns 5-6).  
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3 Finally, I check that the aggregate (national) contemporaneous stock of immigrants used  
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5 for the instrument is not correlated with potential regional shocks. The standard instrument  
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7 assumes that the geographical unit is small enough relatively to the country. This assump-  
8  
9 tion is necessary to be able to consider the national stock of immigrants in computing the  
10  
11 instrument as exogenous to local shocks. For some of the regions I use, and for London in  
12  
13 particular, this is a relatively strong assumption. In order to address this concern I construct  
14  
15 a version of the instrument, where, for each region, I exclude from the national aggregate  
16  
17 stock of immigrants those of the region itself. Reassuringly, all results (reported in Tables  
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19 A.7 and A.8 of the Appendix) are very similar to the baseline.  
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## 27 **5 Discussion**

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30 Although other studies have already provided robust evidence that immigrants foster female  
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32 native labour supply, in particular for highly educated women, the evidence on the impact  
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34 on fertility is still scarce, with the exception of Furtado (2016), who uses cross-sectional data  
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36 for the US.  
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41 This paper contributes to the literature by providing evidence for the UK, a country  
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43 with a different childcare system than the US. I look at the role played by immigration on  
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45 individual decisions about fertility and labour supply of young native women, controlling for  
46  
47 unobserved individual heterogeneity, and endogeneity of immigrants' location. My results  
48  
49 first show that immigration affects the market structure of childcare services by increasing  
50  
51 their size and reducing their market cost. In addition, I confirm previous findings about  
52  
53 the positive impact of immigration on labour supply of more educated women. Immigrants  
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55 positively affect hours worked and the probability of shifting from a part time to a full time  
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57 job without reducing fertility, and at the same time increase the probability of working with  
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59 a recently born child.  
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3 As for labour supply, my results are qualitatively in line with the results for the US  
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5 (Cortès and Tessada, 2011; Furtado, 2016), and for other European countries (Barone and Mocetti,  
6  
7 2011; Farrè et al., 2011). On the other hand, if fertility adjusts slowly to price changes, the  
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9 relatively short time span I consider can be one of the reasons whereby I do not detect a  
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11 significant positive effect on fertility decisions, as opposed to Furtado (2016), who is able to  
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13 look at a longer time horizon. An alternative explanation could be due to the substantially  
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15 lower effect that in my results immigrants have on the price of childcare with respect to what  
16  
17 Furtado (2016) finds. In addition, it might be that the elasticity of demand for children to  
18  
19 the price of childcare is small, in particular for high-earning women, therefore women may  
20  
21 react to the lower price by increasing the intensive margin of the childcare outsourced so  
22  
23 as to being able to work longer hours, instead of having an additional child. This is in line  
24  
25 with my findings that women with young children receive more help from immigration than  
26  
27 other women, and this allows the former group to be able to work longer hours.<sup>31</sup> Overall,  
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29 I interpret my results by arguing that immigrants may represent one additional factor re-  
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31 sponsible for the observed reduction in the negative correlation between fertility and labour  
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33 supply in the UK.  
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42 I believe that further research in this direction is needed to extend the current evidence.  
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44 First, looking at a longer time horizon could unveil different results on fertility. Second, the  
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46 literature so far has extensively looked at the price effect of immigration. However, mainly  
47  
48 due to data limitation, not much is known about the potential immigrant-induced change  
49  
50 in the quality of the services provided. Given that they substitute parental time or other  
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52 forms of childcare, this would be relevant in light of the importance of inputs in the children  
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54 skill formation and the consequences on later labour market outcomes (Cunha et al., 2006).  
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<sup>31</sup>Unfortunately I do not have access to data on the quantity of childcare outsourced to verify this mechanism.

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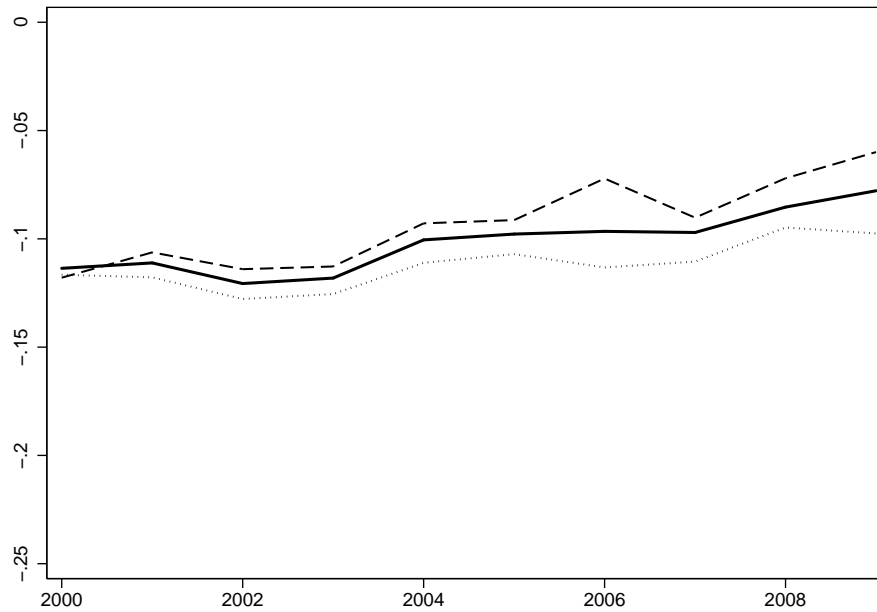
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## Figures and Tables

Figure 1: Correlation between Fertility and Labour Force Participation



Source: QLFS (2000-2009). Note: Each point represents the unconditional correlation between labour force participation and fertility spell. The solid line refers to the full sample of women, the dashed line refers to women with college or higher education, and the dotted line refers to women without college. A fertility spell refers to having a child of age zero. Sample: native women, 20-44 year old.

Table 1: Effect of Immigration on Household Services

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Base		Exclude Child Care		Child Care			
	OLS	2SLS	OLS	2SLS	OLS	2SLS	OLS	2SLS
Panel A								
	Employment							
$Im_{rt}$	-0.034 (0.078)	0.034 (0.076)	0.035 (0.054)	0.094* (0.051)	0.016 (0.043)	0.032 (0.045)	0.019 (0.028)	0.061*** (0.022)
Mean Dep. Var.	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.080	0.080	0.022	0.022
F-stats		11.816		14.607		14.607		14.607
N	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
Panel B								
	Log Median Wages							
$Im_{rt}$	-0.601*** (0.165)	-1.426*** (0.413)	-0.442* (0.219)	-1.481*** (0.350)	-0.585*** (0.176)	-1.489*** (0.370)	-0.445 (0.564)	-1.078*** (0.307)
Mean Dep. Var.	1.705	1.705	1.705	1.705	1.682	1.682	1.810	1.810
F-stats		11.816		14.607		14.607		14.607
N	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
Controls	no		yes		yes		yes	

Source: QLFS (2000-2007). Note: The estimation method is OLS or 2SLS, according to the heading. Panel A reports the coefficient from regression (3), where the dependent variable is the share of the labour force working in the household services sector (Columns 1-4), in the household services sector excluding the childcare sector (Columns 5-6) and in the childcare sector (Columns 7-8). Panel B reports the coefficients from regression (4) and the dependent variable is the log of the median hourly wage. All regressions include year and region fixed effects, whereas Columns 3-8 include the following additional controls: log of the median monthly labour income of high skilled men by region-year, share of high skilled women in the labour force of 20-44 age by region-year, share of families with children under age two by region-year, and regional unemployment rate. Sample: native women, 20-44 year old. All regressions are weighted using the size of the regional labour force in the first year of the analysis as weight. F-stats refers to cluster robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

Table 2: Labour Supply with and without a Fertility Spell

	Work (Share)		Hours Worked		Full time	
	Without Fertility Spell	With Fertility Spell	Without Fertility Spell	With Fertility Spell	Without Fertility Spell	With Fertility Spell
2000	0.749	0.556	31.262	23.440	0.598	0.431
2001	0.750	0.549	31.448	23.913	0.601	0.453
2002	0.751	0.535	31.435	23.009	0.603	0.439
2003	0.751	0.551	31.330	22.213	0.603	0.422
2004	0.754	0.588	31.235	23.849	0.602	0.489
2005	0.756	0.600	31.569	23.894	0.613	0.483
2006	0.757	0.612	31.602	24.256	0.613	0.503
2007	0.758	0.610	31.662	24.648	0.614	0.513

Source: QLFS (2000-2007). Note: The heading "With Fertility Spell" refers to women with a child of age zero. Sample: native women, 20-44 year old.

Table 3: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply and Fertility

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Work <sub>t</sub>	Log Hours <sub>t</sub>	Full Time <sub>t</sub>	Birth <sub>t+1</sub>	Birth <sub>t</sub> and Work <sub>t</sub>	
OLS						
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.627** (0.285)	0.594 (0.390)	1.037*** (0.370)	0.524 (0.438)	0.495** (0.211)	0.731*** (0.214)
Individuals	5069	3970	3977	4422	5069	4507
Observations	26045	18553	18648	24081	26045	23057
2SLS						
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.520 (0.465)	2.492*** (0.693)	1.716*** (0.464)	1.016 (1.167)	0.378*** (0.146)	0.667*** (0.177)
F-stats	14.516	12.843	13.284	15.025	14.544	14.806
Individuals	5069	3970	3977	4422	5069	4507
Observations	26045	18553	18648	24081	26045	23057
					w/o Coresident Grandparents	

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is OLS or 2SLS, according to the heading. All columns include individual fixed effects. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, a dummy for having a child of age zero the following year, and a dummy for the former interacted with working. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, education, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, regional unemployment rate, region and year fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01.

Table 4: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply by Education

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Education	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
	Work <sub>t</sub>			Log Hours <sub>t</sub>			Full Time <sub>t</sub>		
Im <sub>rt</sub>	1.973 (3.162)	1.016 (1.589)	-1.777* (0.922)	1.181 (5.895)	2.998*** (0.965)	2.154** (0.927)	-5.434 (4.444)	2.877** (1.163)	1.191** (0.581)
F-stats	12.290	9.151	19.876	7.802	7.471	19.546	8.045	7.278	20.045
Individuals	793	2486	1862	407	1932	1660	404	1934	1670
Observations	3773	12328	9744	1712	8810	7893	1693	8856	7959

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. All columns include individual fixed effects. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, and a dummy for working full time. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, regional unemployment rate, region and year fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01.



Table 5: Effect of Immigration on Fertility by Education

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Education	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
	Birth <sub>t+1</sub>			Birth <sub>t</sub> and Work <sub>t</sub>		
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.447 (1.756)	0.185 (0.652)	1.385 (1.825)	0.533 (0.706)	-0.319 (0.422)	0.737*** (0.278)
F-stats	11.690	8.754	21.492	12.289	9.133	19.940
Individuals	663	2163	1663	793	2486	1862
Observations	3405	11384	9108	3773	12328	9744

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. All columns include individual fixed effects. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are a dummy for having a child of age zero the following year, and a dummy for having a child of age zero interacted working. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, regional unemployment rate, region and year fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01.

Table 6: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply and Fertility for Women with or without Young Children

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	With Young Children	Without Young Children	With Young Children	Without Young Children	With Young Children	Without Young Children
	Log Hours <sub>t</sub>		Full Time <sub>t</sub>		Hours Worked <sub>&gt;50</sub>	
Im <sub>rt</sub>	6.183* (3.652)	2.048** (0.902)	9.262** (4.421)	0.908* (0.515)	0.580 (0.989)	0.319 (0.533)
F-stats	3.408	14.645	3.633	15.338	3.408	14.645
Individuals	863	3554	870	3561	863	3554
Observations	2841	15146	2863	15221	2841	15146

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. All columns include individual fixed effects. The heading "With Young Children" refers to having at least one child under age five, the heading "Without Young Children" refers to having at least one child older than four, or not having children. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, and a dummy for working and having a child of age zero. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, education, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, regional unemployment rate, region and year fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01.

Table 7: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply of Men and Log Hourly Wages

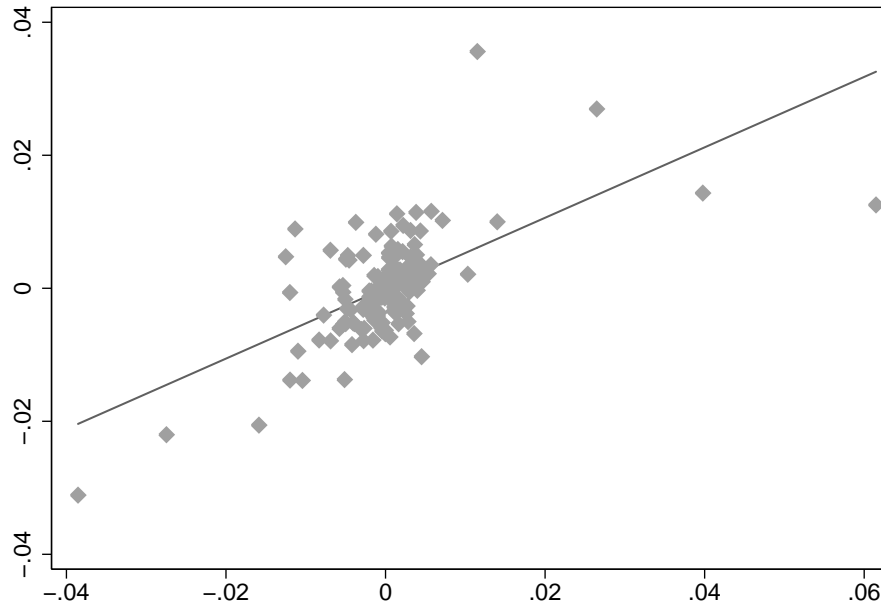
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Men			Women	
	Work <sub>t</sub>	Log Hours <sub>t</sub>	Full Time <sub>t</sub>	Log Hourly Wages	
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.085 (0.515)	0.286 (0.380)	-0.790 (0.684)	3.085 (3.923)	2.010 (1.967)
F-stats	16.826	13.493	13.785	1.489	2.047
Individuals	4435	3915	3934	2819	2479
Observations	22246	19117	19289	10467	9353

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. All columns include individual fixed effects. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, or the log of hourly wages. Controls for Columns 1-3 are the same as in Table 3. Controls for Columns 4-5 are: education, age and its squared value, a dummy for working in the public sector, regional unemployment rate, region and year fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01.



## Appendix A: Additional Figures and Tables

Figure A.1: Residualized First Stage



Source: QLFS (2000-2007). Note: The graph reports the scatter plot of the residuals from regressing the variable share of immigrants (vertical axis) and the instrument (horizontal axis), respectively, on all regressors included in regression (2).

Table A.1: First Stage

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Base		Exclude Child Care	Child Care
$IV_{rt}$	0.603*** (0.175)	0.572*** (0.150)	0.572*** (0.150)	0.572*** (0.150)
F-stats	11.816	14.607	14.607	14.607
Observations	152	152	152	152
Controls	no	yes	yes	yes

Source: QLFS (2000-2007). Note: The dependent variable is the share of immigrants at the region-year level and the instrument is defined in equation (1). Each column corresponds to the first stage of the corresponding specification in Table 1. All regressions include year and region fixed effects, whereas Columns 2-4 include the following additional controls: log of the median monthly labour income of high skilled men by region-year, share of high skilled women in the labour force of 20-44 age by region-year, share of families with children under age two by region-year, and regional unemployment rate. All regressions are weighted using the size of the regional labour force in the first year of the analysis as weight. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

Table A.2: Effect of Immigrants on Labour Supply and Fertility. Results with or without Individual Fixed Effects

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Work <sub>t</sub>		Log Hours <sub>t</sub>		Full Time <sub>t</sub>		Birth <sub>t+1</sub>	
$Im_{rt}$	-0.917*** (0.233)	-0.520 (0.465)	1.295*** (0.362)	2.492*** (0.693)	1.200** (0.582)	1.716*** (0.464)	-0.342 (0.559)	1.016 (1.167)
F-stats	20.469	14.516	20.884	12.843	21.258	13.284	18.992	15.025
Individuals	6358	5069	5204	3970	5220	3977	5576	4422
Observations	27334	26045	19787	18553	19891	18648	25235	24081
Individual FE	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, a dummy for having a child of age zero the following year. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, education, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, unemployment rate, regional and time fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*  $p < .1$ , \*\*  $p < .05$ , \*\*\*  $p < .01$ .

Table A.3: Distribution of Immigrants by Occupation (Share)

Professionals	0.168
Manager	0.154
Associate Professionals	0.147
Household Services	0.131
Administrative	0.102
Elementary Occupations	0.081
Sales and Costumer Services	0.065
Skilled Trades	0.052
Other Personal Services	0.022

Source: QLFS, 2000-2007

Table A.4: Summary Statistics

Variable	Mean	St. Dev.
Panel A		
Aggregate Data		
$Im_{rt}$	0.08	0.089
Employment Household Service	0.103	0.014
Employment Household Service excl. Child Care	0.08	0.013
Employment in Child Care	0.022	0.005
Log Median Wage in Household Services	1.705	0.097
Log Median Wage in Household Services excl. Child Care	1.682	0.094
Log Median Wage in Child Care	1.81	0.112
Panel B		
Individual Data		
Working	0.735	0.441
Log of Weekly Hours Worked	3.398	0.495
Weekly Hours Worked	32.975	12.477
Full Time	0.659	0.474
$Birth_{t+1}$	0.069	0.253
$Birth_t$ & $Work_t$	0.028	0.164
Low Education	0.145	0.352
Medium Education	0.478	0.5
High Education	0.377	0.485
Father lives in Household	0.076	0.265
Mother lives in Household	0.104	0.305
More than 20 Hours Spent Caring People	0.036	0.186
Age	32.949	6.92
Number of Children 0-2 Age	0.144	0.371
Number of Children 3-4 Age	0.145	0.37
Number of Children 5-11 Age	0.502	0.721
Couple	0.707	0.455
Log of Household Income-Individual Income	8.352	3.629

Source: QLFS (top Panel); BHPS (bottom Panel).

Table A.5: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply and Fertility. Full Sample versus never Movers

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Work <sub>t</sub>		Log Hours <sub>t</sub>		Full Time <sub>t</sub>		Birth <sub>t+1</sub>	
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.520 (0.465)	-0.691 (0.557)	2.492*** (0.693)	2.263*** (0.726)	1.716*** (0.464)	1.687*** (0.491)	1.016 (1.167)	1.125 (1.142)
F-stats	14.516	14.176	12.843	12.887	13.284	13.393	15.025	14.812
Individuals	5069	5027	3970	3936	3977	3943	4422	4390
Observations	26045	25514	18553	18186	18648	18276	24081	23598
Mover	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. All columns include individual fixed effects. I define as movers those who change region of residence across two consecutive years in the data. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, a dummy for having a child of age zero the following year. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), an indicator for couple, an indicator for co-resident father, and one for co-resident mother, and indicator for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, unemployment rate, regional and time fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01.

Table A.6: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply and Fertility. Control for Cross-Equation Correlation

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Work <sub>t</sub>		Log Hours <sub>t</sub>		Full Time <sub>t</sub>		Birth <sub>t+1</sub>	
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.520 (0.465)	-0.626 (0.423)	2.492*** (0.693)	2.482*** (0.687)	1.716*** (0.464)	1.711*** (0.459)	1.016 (1.167)	0.986 (1.155)
Birth <sub>t+1</sub>		-0.245*** (0.015)		-0.069*** (0.019)		-0.060*** (0.016)		
Work <sub>t</sub>								-0.061*** (0.010)
F-stats	14.516	14.516	12.843	12.844	13.284	13.286	15.025	15.023
Individuals	5069	5069	3970	3970	3977	3977	4422	4422
Observations	26045	26045	18553	18553	18648	18648	24081	24078

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. All columns include individual fixed effects. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, a dummy for having a child of age zero the following year. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, education, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, and a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, unemployment rate, regional and time fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01.

Table A.7: Effect of Immigration on Household Services. Standard Instrument vs Instrument Computed Excluding Region - Specific Immigrants

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Base		Exclude Child Care		Child Care			
Panel A	Employment							
$Im_{rt}$	0.034 (0.076)	0.051 (0.076)	0.094* (0.051)	0.107** (0.051)	0.032 (0.045)	0.038 (0.044)	0.061*** (0.022)	0.069*** (0.022)
F-stats	11.816	10.469	14.607	13.257	14.607	13.257	14.607	13.257
Panel B	Log Median Wages							
$Im_{rt}$	-1.426*** (0.413)	-1.459*** (0.438)	-1.481*** (0.350)	-1.528*** (0.379)	-1.489*** (0.370)	-1.538*** (0.399)	-1.078*** (0.307)	-1.069*** (0.313)
F-stats	11.816	10.469	14.607	13.257	14.607	13.257	14.607	13.257
N	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
Controls	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
IV	standard	modified	standard	modified	standard	modified	standard	modified

Source: QLFS (2000-2007). Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. Odd columns report the results obtained by using the instrument computed as in equation (1), whereas even columns refer to the modified instrument, where for each given region I use the aggregate (national) immigrants' stock excluding immigrants from the region itself. Panel A reports the coefficient from regression (3), where the dependent variable is the share of the labour force working in the household services sector (Columns 1-4), in the household services sector excluding the childcare sector (Columns 5-6) and in the childcare sector (Columns 7-8). Panel B reports the coefficients from regression (4) and the dependent variable is the log of the median hourly wage. All regressions include year and region fixed effects, whereas Columns 3-8 include the following additional controls: log of the median monthly labour income of high skilled men by region-year, share of high skilled women in the labour force of 20-44 age by region-year, share of families with children under age two by region-year, and regional unemployment rate. Sample: native women, 20-44 year old. All regressions are weighted using the size of the regional labour force in the first year of the analysis as weight. F-stats refers to cluster robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

Table A.8: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply and Fertility. Standard Instrument vs Instrument Computed Excluding Region - Specific Immigrants

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Work <sub>t</sub>	Log Hours <sub>t</sub>	Full Time <sub>t</sub>	Birth <sub>t+1</sub>	Birth <sub>t</sub> and Work <sub>t</sub>	
Panel A	Standard Instrument					
$Im_{rt}$	-0.520 (0.465)	2.492*** (0.693)	1.716*** (0.464)	1.016 (1.167)	0.378*** (0.146)	0.667*** (0.177)
F-stats	14.516	12.843	13.284	15.025	14.544	14.806
Panel B	Modified Instrument					
$Im_{rt}$	-0.540 (0.513)	2.632*** (0.729)	1.809*** (0.508)	1.054 (1.261)	0.329* (0.171)	0.616*** (0.213)
F-stats	12.524	10.843	11.236	12.879	12.548	12.734
Individuals	5069	3970	3977	4422	5069	4507
Observations	26045	18553	18648	24081	26045	23057

w/o Coresident  
Grandparents

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is 2SLS. All columns include individual fixed effects. Panel A report the results obtained by using the instrument computed as in equation (1), whereas Panel B refers to the modified instrument, where for each given region I use the aggregate (national) immigrants' stocks excluding the region. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, a dummy for having a child of age zero the following year, and a dummy for the former interacted with working. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, education, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, unemployment rate, regional and time fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \* $p < .1$ , \*\*  $p < .05$ , \*\*\*  $p < .01$ .

## Appendix B: Estimation of Two Independent Equations

Labour supply and fertility decisions are individually negatively correlated (Angrist and Evans, 1998; Francesconi, 2002; Kögel, 2004), suggesting a simultaneous equation framework as preferred estimation strategy. However, there are a number of concerns about the joint estimation of the system of equations.<sup>32</sup> First of all, in case of finite samples it is not clear what the real advantage of a joint estimation with respect to a single equation estimation is. Comparing the single equation 2SLS approach with the 3SLS strategy allowing for the correlation in the error terms (Mikhail, 1975; Belsley, 1988) the relative advantage of the joint estimation holds true only when the cross-equation correlation is sufficiently high, especially in a two-equation system. In my case, the cross-equation correlation between labour supply and fertility, estimated as residual from equation (5), where the dependent variable is a dummy for working, and equation (6), is zero (0.000), thus not justifying the use of a joint estimation.<sup>33</sup> In addition, 3SLS techniques that account for the panel dimension (EC3SLS) are random effect estimators which assume the individual fixed effects uncorrelated to the other regressors, unlikely to be a realistic assumption. The alternative estimation strategy would be a Full Information Maximum Likelihood estimator, which has the drawback of not accounting for the endogeneity of my main variable of interest unless I rely on a control function approach and include the first stage residuals. Therefore I decide to use a single equation estimation strategy.<sup>34</sup> With my strategy I first evaluate the total effect on each decision and then I try to infer the effect on their correlation.

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<sup>32</sup>Studies using a simultaneous estimation strategy include, among others, Francesconi (2002), and Del Boca et al. (2009).

<sup>33</sup>The cross-equation correlation between the log of weekly hours worked and fertility is also very low (-0.019)

<sup>34</sup>As further support of the validity of this strategy, I run a series of robustness checks in order to quantify the potential effect of the cross equation correlation on my results - by controlling for fertility in the labour supply equation and vice-versa. Ideally I would like to include these regressors and instrument for them. However, it is difficult to find an instrument providing exogenous variation for fertility (labour supply) and not being correlated with labour supply (fertility).

1  
2  
3 Dear Professor Debopam Bhattacharya,  
4

5 I have now finished revising my paper following your suggestions.  
6

7 All points you raised were very valuable, please find my answers below. I included, for  
8 your convenience, all questions (in bold) followed by my answers.  
9

10 A quick note on a point that was not raised. You will find that the regressions results are  
11 slightly different in this version of the paper. This is due to an inconsistency in the  
12 previous version of the paper that I corrected (see point 3 below of the major points).  
13  
14

15 Thanks again to the very useful comments, my feeling is that the paper has improved  
16 further.  
17

18 I hope you enjoy reading the revision of the paper, and I would like to thank you again  
19 and the referees for your comments and suggestions, which helped to improve the  
20 paper very much.  
21  
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23  
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26 I am looking forward to your response.  
27

28 Yours sincerely,  
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32 Agnese Romiti  
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## Major Points

**1. The discussion of previous literature and the author's contribution could use some tightening up. For example, Furtado (2016) is discussed several times. There is also a digression into a theoretical discussion on pp. 4-5.**

I tried to tighten up the text, by first eliminating the double reference to Furtado (2016). Then I shortened the paragraph on the theoretical background as much as possible. I hope this addresses your comment.

**2. p.7: there is mention of dividing equation (1) by "the sample labour force corresponding to the first year of the analysis (2000)." I think it would be advisable to add this denominator term to equation (1). Technically speaking, all subsequent equations would then be correct - the model is in shares/rates, not levels.**

Thanks for this remark. I corrected the equation.

**3. I would strongly advise using a fixed (rather than time-varying) labor force measure as the regression weight (mentioned first on p. 7), since (potentially endogenous?) immigration flows otherwise affect the weight.**

Indeed it might be possible that a time-varying weight suffers from endogeneity due to endogenous mobility of natives. My estimates, as I mention in the text at the bottom of page 8, show that letting the share of immigrants in a region increase does not affect the probability of natives to move. However, I followed your suggestion and I used as weight the regional labour force corresponding to the first year of the analysis.

In the previous version of the paper I was using weights based on the region-year labour force also for the individual analysis, as I wrote in the main text as well as in each Table. Thanks to your suggestion I realised that that was not correct because the BHPS is already sampled taking into account the size of the regions. Therefore I replicated the entire analysis using the new fixed weights only for the aggregate analysis, whereas I replicated the individual analysis without weights.

The aggregate results are very close to the ones obtained using time-varying weights; only the first stage loses power slightly. The individual results are almost unchanged as well, only the first stage loses a little power in some specifications (in particular in Table 6).

**4. Was the number of regions (19?) anywhere mentioned in the text. It should be, along with some discussion of the implications of having a small number of clusters. (See work by Cameron, Gelbach, and Miller.)**



1  
2  
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4  
5 Thank you very much for this remark. Indeed having few clusters can produce  
6 downward biased standard errors (Cameron Gelbach and Miller, 2008). To date there is  
7 no such an ideal approach to deal with the problem of few clusters in case of multi-way  
8 clustering (Cameron Gelbach and Miller, 2015), which is the case in my paper. I tried to  
9 use a method typically used in case of few clusters and conservative in terms of critical  
10 values, which consists in basing the inference on a  $T$  distribution, rather than the  
11 standard normal, with degrees of freedom at most the number of clusters,  $G$ . In my case,  
12 I consider the distribution  $T(18)$ .  
13  
14

15  
16 In the table attached I show the results obtained by running the main aggregate and  
17 individual regressions using the critical values of the  $T(18)$  distribution. All estimates  
18 are equally significant, with almost always the same significance level.  
19  
20

21 I mention first the number of regions in footnote 17 in the text. I explain the issue  
22 related to small clustering in detail in the paper in footnote 25. I have not included in the  
23 paper the results in the table attached but I am happy to add them to the draft or to  
24 make them available in an online appendix, if you think that it is necessary.  
25  
26

## 27 28 **Minor Points**

### 29 30 **1. QLFS is mentioned in footnote 1 without reference to what it stands for.**

31  
32 I included the description of the acronym in the footnote.  
33  
34

### 35 36 **2. p. 3, continuing paragraph: “native women of” (not in) “reproductive age”**

### 37 38 **3. p. 3, first full paragraph: “higher shares of immigrants in the local labour force** 39 **raise” (not rise) “the market size of childcare services”** 40 41

42  
43 I corrected both imprecisions in the text.  
44  
45

### 46 47 **4. p. 3, last sentence of first full paragraph is confusing. Why would the effects be** 48 **“operating through” a reduction in the negative correlation between fertility and** 49 **labor supply? Instead, wouldn’t these effects contribute to or effectuate a** 50 **weakening of that correlation?** 51

52  
53 Thank you for this point. I modified the sentence as follows:

54  
55 “Overall, I interpret these effects as producing a weakening of the negative correlation  
56 between fertility and labour supply, driven by the immigrant-induced reduction in the  
57 cost of childcare.”  
58

### 59 60 **5. Top of p. 4: Some might find this paragraph confusing, since it discusses two** **different (but related) correlations: that between fertility rates and female labour** **force participation where country-year is the unit of observation, and that**

1  
2  
3 **between fertility and female labour force participation at the individual level,**  
4 **within a country and possibly at a given point in time. Some clarification might be**  
5 **helpful.**  
6

7  
8 I slightly rephrased the paragraph stressing the fact that the evidence from aggregate  
9 data is also confirmed by my own descriptive evidence based on individual data. Here I  
10 report the text for your convenience:  
11

12 “The UK seems to be particularly suitable for my question. First of all, it is one of the  
13 countries experiencing, over the last two decades, a positive correlation between  
14 fertility and female labour force participation in the aggregate data. My descriptive  
15 evidence based on individual data supports the trend from aggregate data and suggests  
16 that the weakening of the negative correlation between labour supply and fertility  
17 seems to be driven by more educated women.”  
18  
19

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21  
22 **6. p.11: do the data on the UK only include England? If Scotland and Wales are also**  
23 **in there, it might be more correct to say “British” rather than “English”**  
24

25  
26 Sorry for the imprecision, which I corrected; indeed Scotland and Wales are included as  
27 well.  
28

29  
30 **7. Middle of p. 12: “manly” should be “mainly”**  
31

32 Thanks, this was a typo, which I corrected.  
33  
34

35  
36 **8. End of Pg 12: there seems to be a missing word between “Furtado (2016),” and**  
37 **“we also”**  
38

39 Indeed, I corrected the statement as follows:  
40

41 “My results are qualitatively similar to the results for the US by Furtado (2016), in  
42 particular, as in her paper, I also find a much lower effect on employment than on  
43 wages.”  
44  
45

46  
47 **9. Is Table 2 discussed before Table 1? If so, this is awkward.**  
48

49 Table 2 was discussed before Table 1 because the structure of the paper is such that it  
50 starts first with the aggregate analysis (Table 2) and then moves to the individual  
51 analysis (Table 1). I then changed the order of the tables and moved Table 2 up.  
52  
53

54  
55  
56  
57 **10. Footnote 25: “men sample” should be “male sample”**  
58

59 This was an imprecision, which I corrected.  
60

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2  
3 **References**  
4

5 Cameron, A. C., Gelbach, J. B., and Miller, D. L. (2008). "Bootstrap-Based Improvements  
6 for Inference with Clustered Errors. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 90(3):414–427.  
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9 Cameron, A. C., Gelbach, J. B., and Miller, D. L. (2015), "A Practitioner's Guide to Cluster-  
10 Robust Inference", *Journal of Human Resources*, 50(2):317-373.  
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For Peer Review

## Additional Tables for Review

Table 1R: Effect of Immigration on Household Services

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Base		Exclude Child Care		Child Care			
	OLS	2SLS	OLS	2SLS	OLS	2SLS	OLS	2SLS
Panel A	Employment							
$Im_{rt}$	-0.034 (0.078)	0.034 (0.076)	0.035 (0.054)	0.094* (0.051)	0.016 (0.043)	0.032 (0.045)	0.019 (0.028)	0.061** (0.022)
Mean Dep. Var.	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.080	0.080	0.022	0.022
F-stats		11.816		14.607		14.607		14.607
N	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
Panel B	Log Median Wages							
$Im_{rt}$	-0.601*** (0.165)	-1.426*** (0.413)	-0.442* (0.219)	-1.481*** (0.350)	-0.585*** (0.176)	-1.489*** (0.370)	-0.445 (0.564)	-1.078*** (0.307)
Mean Dep. Var.	1.705	1.705	1.705	1.705	1.682	1.682	1.810	1.810
F-stats		11.816		14.607		14.607		14.607
N	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
Controls	no		yes		yes		yes	

Source: QLFS (2000-2007). Note: The estimation method is OLS or 2SLS, according to the heading. Panel A reports the coefficient from regression (3), where the dependent variable is the share of the labour force working in the household services sector (Columns 1-4), in the household services sector excluding the childcare sector (Columns 5-6) and in the childcare sector (Columns 7-8). Panel B reports the coefficients from regression (4) and the dependent variable is the log of the median hourly wages. All regressions include year and region fixed effects, whereas Columns 3-8 include the following additional controls: log of the median monthly labour income of high skilled men by region-year, share of high skilled women in the labour force of 20-44 age, share of families with children under age two, and unemployment rate. Sample: native women, 20-44 year old. All regressions are weighted using the size of the labour force by region in the first year as weight. F-stats refers to cluster robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ . The reported statistical significance is based on the critical values of a T distribution with  $G-1$  degrees of freedom, where  $G=19$ .

Table 2R: Effect of Immigration on Labour Supply and Fertility

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Work <sub>t</sub>	Log Hours <sub>t</sub>	Full Time <sub>t</sub>	Birth <sub>t+1</sub>	Birth <sub>t</sub> and Work <sub>t</sub>	
OLS						
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.627** (0.285)	0.594 (0.390)	1.037*** (0.370)	0.524 (0.438)	0.495** (0.211)	0.731*** (0.214)
Individuals	5069	3970	3977	4422	5069	4507
Observations	26045	18553	18648	24081	26045	23057
2SLS						
Im <sub>rt</sub>	-0.520 (0.465)	2.492*** (0.693)	1.716*** (0.464)	1.016 (1.167)	0.378*** (0.146)	0.667*** (0.177)
F-stats	14.516	12.843	13.284	15.025	14.544	14.806
Individuals	5069	3970	3977	4422	5069	4507
Observations	26045	18553	18648	24081	26045	23057
					w/o Coresident Grandparents	

Source: BHPS and QLFS (2000-2007), 1991 Census data for the computation of the instrument. Note: The estimation method is OLS or 2S LS, according to the heading. All columns include individual fixed effects. The dependent variables, reported in the heading, are: a dummy for working, the log of weekly hours worked, a dummy for working full time, a dummy for having a child of age zero the following year, and a dummy for the former interacted with working. Additional controls: the log of household income (- individual income) and its squared value, education, age and its squared value, three variables for the number of children by age brackets (0-2, 3-4, 5-9), a dummy for couple, a dummy for co-resident father, a dummy for co-resident mother, a dummy for the intensity of care duties towards persons inside or outside the household, unemployment rate, regional and time fixed effects. F-stats refers to cluster-robust first stage F statistics. Standard errors clustered at region level are reported in parentheses: \*p<.1, \*\* p<.05, \*\*\* p<.01. The reported statistical significance is based on the critical values of a T distribution with G-1 degrees of freedom, where G=19.