Figure 2.5. Job Attributes: Hours per Worker

In more than half of advanced economies in 2016, hours per worker were at least 2 percent below 2007 levels. However, this appears to be a continuation of the pre-2007 pattern. Hours per worker have fallen from their 2000–07 averages, regardless of whether unemployment rates are now higher or lower than before the Great Recession. Declining hours also tend to be associated with higher shares of involuntary part-time employment.

Sources: National authorities; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; and IMF staff calculations.

Note: In panel 1, the horizontal line inside each box represents the median, the upper and lower edges of the box show the top and bottom quartiles, and the red markers denote the top and bottom deciles. In panel 2, countries in gold are those with increases in hours per worker; countries in red are those with pronounced decreases. In panel 3, countries in red display (on average) falling hours per worker and (on average) an increase in the involuntary part-time employment share for 2009–16. Data labels in the figure use International Organization for Standardization (ISO) country codes.

1Changes shown are 2016 values relative to the 2000–07 average.