



## The First Rung: The Role Of Low-paid Work In Building Success

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The Institute of Public Affairs (IPA), Australia's premier free market think tank, is dedicated to preserving and strengthening the foundations of economic and political freedom.

The Parliamentary Research Brief program is designed to provide politicians and policy makers around the country with succinct information on various policy areas.

Our new research brief outlines the importance of low-paid work in providing an entry point into the workforce and ways that government policy undermine the creation of employment opportunity.

The PRB finds that:

- There is high upward mobility from low-paid work, with 64 per cent of workers in low-paid work transitioning into higher paid work within two years.
- Some 38 per cent of 15 to 19 year olds in the workforce are underutilised.
- 250,000 young Australians aged between 15 and 24 are not engaged in work, study, or



caring for children.

Governments should reduce the barriers to employment to ensure that more Australians can enter the workforce and experience the dignity of work.

A copy of the report can be read below or downloaded [here](#).

If you require any further information or would like to discuss any of the data included, please do not hesitate to [contact me](#).