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## Note generali

Contains revised versions of the papers presented at a National Bureau of Economic Research conference held in Monterey, California, on February 27-28, 1998.

## Nota di bibliografia

Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

## Nota di contenuto

Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. And Now for Something Completely Different: An Alternative Model of Trade, Education, and Inequality -- 2. Effort and Wages: A New Look at the Interindustry Wage Differentials -- 3. Offshore Assembly from the United States: Production Characteristics of the 9802 Program -- 4. What Are the Results of Product-Price Studies and What Can We Learn from Their Differences? -- 5. International Trade and American Wages in General Equilibrium, 1967-1995 -- 6. Does a Kick in the Pants Get You Going or Does It Just Hurt? The Impact of International Competition on Technological Change in US. Manufacturing -- 7. Understanding Increasing and Decreasing Wage Inequality -- 8. Exchange Rates and Local Labor Markets -- 9. Trade Flows and Wage Premiums: Does Who or What Matter? -- 10. Trade and Job Loss in U.S. Manufacturing, 1979-1994 -- Contributors -- Author Index -- Subject Index

## Sommario/riassunto

Since the early 1980's, the U.S. economy has experienced a growing wage differential: high-skilled workers have claimed an increasing share of available income, while low-skilled workers have seen an absolute decline in real wages. How and why this disparity has arisen is a matter of ongoing debate among policymakers and economists. Two competing theories have emerged to explain this phenomenon, one focusing on international trade and labor market globalization as the driving force behind the devaluation of low-skill jobs, and the other focusing on the role of technological change as a catalyst for the escalation of high-skill wages. This collection brings together innovative new ideas and data sources in order to provide more satisfying alternatives to the trade versus technology debate and to assess directly the specific impact of international trade on U.S. wages. This timely volume offers a thorough appraisal of the wage distribution predicament, examining the continued effects of technology and globalization on the labor market.