



Methods, Advancements & Interchange
open-Line of the Impact evaluation
Network Group

Bibliographical newsletter

23/12/2015

Year 1, Number 1

The next bibliographical
newsletter will occur in spring.
Please send to

milist@ircres.cnr.it

- new open source works
(reports, working papers,
papers and presentation
presented to conferences).
In this case send
 - o the full bibliographical
reference
 - o the file or the link to
download it,
 - o a short abstract (no
more than 250 words)

WITHIN
MARCH 30TH

- bibliographical references
of published works
(articles or books). In this
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 - o the full bibliographical
reference
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more than 250 words)

Please follow the format of the following pages

This newsletter circulates bibliographical information about recently issued research work concerning impact evaluation. It is fed by the contribution of the authors, who remain responsible for the correctness and completeness of information and for the quality of the work. The newsletter is managed on a volunteering basis by the editors. We hope that it will foster a reflection on the evaluation experiences so as to improve methodological tools and to ease their correct application, and that it will encourage a discussion on the latest advancements, by easing their diffusion.

By Elena Ragazzi and Lisa Sella



Full bibliographical reference: Coppola G. Destefanis, S. (2015) Structural Funds and Regional Convergence: Some Sectoral Estimates for Italy in Pastore F. Mussida C. (2015) "Geographical Labor Market Imbalances Springer AIEL Series in Labour Economics ISBN 978-3-642-55202-1	
Abstract: In this chapter, we assess the European Structural Funds' effects on the economies of the 20 Italian administrative regions for the period 1989–2006. The principal novelties of this chapter are that the empirical analysis separately considers the effects on four sectors (agriculture, energy and manufacturing, construction, and services), and we employ a non-parametric FDH-VP to calculate Malmquist productivity indexes. This allows us to distinguish the Funds' effects on factor accumulation from those on total productivity changes. Our evidence implies that the Funds had a weak, but significant, impact on total factor productivity change but virtually no effect on capital accumulation or employment. Different types of Structural Funds are found to have widely different influences, with the European Social Fund, arguably, having the strongest impact	
Link: http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-642-55203-8_14	
Type: Book chapter	Contact: glcoppola@unisa.it
Language: English	Open source: no
Keywords: Structural funds	
Notes:	

Full bibliographical reference: Coppola G. Destefanis S. Marinuzzi G. Tortorella W. (2015) Structural Funds: An Effective Redistributive Policy? Some Evidence From Italian Public Policies	
Abstract: In this paper, we focus on the European Structural Funds' effects on the economies of the 20 Italian administrative regions for 1994-2012. Our evidence implies that the Funds had a significant impact on regional GDP per capita, as well as a weaker effect on capital accumulation. We also find that (nationally-financed) subsidies to firms increase GDP per capita. Quality of government is found to have little impact on Structural Funds, but enhances the impact of subsidies to firms. Different types of Structural Funds are found to have widely different influences, with the European Regional Development Fund, arguably, having the strongest impact.	
Link: https://editorialexpress.com/cgi-bin/conference/download.cgi?db_name=SIEP2015&paper_id=66 http://formazione.fondazioneifel.it/index.php/news/item/download/952_acb71effbe52a99e3080e2fdf161059e	
Type: working paper	Contact: glcoppola@unisa.it
Language: English	Open source: Yes
Keywords: Structural funds	
Notes:	



Methods, Advancements & Interchange
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Full bibliographical reference: Coppola G., Destefanis S. (2007), "Fondi Strutturali, produttività, occupazione: uno studio sulle regioni italiane" Rivista di Economia e Statistica del Territorio: 85-113 ISSN 1971-0380	
Abstract: In this paper we consider the impact of the European Structural Funds on convergence across Italian regions across the four waves of the Funds concerning the 1989-2003 period. As is well known, the Funds represent the main instrument of the EU cohesion policy. We focus on the impact of accredited Funds on productivity and employment in the Italian regions, considering separately the Funds' effects on four sectors (agriculture, manufacturing, construction, services) of the regional economies. The analysis also allows separating the Funds' effects on capital accumulation from those on total productivity changes. Our evidence implies that the Funds had a weak, but significant, impact on capital accumulation	
Link: http://www.francoangeli.it/riviste/Scheda_Rivista.aspx?IDArticolo=32395&Tipo=ArticoloPDF	
Type: Journal paper	Contact: glcoppola@unisa.it
Language: Italian	Open source: No
Keywords: Structural funds	
Notes:	

Full bibliographical reference: Coppola G., Destefanis S. (2006), "L'impatto dei fondi strutturali europei. Un'analisi sui dati strutturali e un approfondimento per la Campania", in Di Monte P. (a cura di), Rapporto di Valutazione sulle Politiche di Lavoro, ARLAV - Agenzia della Campania per il lavoro- vol.1 pp 113-145, ISBN 88-89849-03-7	
Abstract: bbb	
Link: http://www.lavorocampania.it/ARLAS/resources/cms/documents/Volume_Arlav-06.pdf	
Type: Report / Book	Contact: glcoppola@unisa.it
Language: Italian	Open source: yes
Keywords: Labour policies, structural funds	
Notes:	



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Full bibliographical reference: Cerqua A., Di Pietro G (2015) Natural disasters and university enrolment: evidence from L'Aquila earthquake IZA discussion paper 9332	
Abstract: This paper uses the synthetic control method to look at how the L'Aquila earthquake affected subsequent enrolment at the local university. Such an issue is closely related to the economic consequences caused by this event given the large contribution made by the university to the local economy before the earthquake. The empirical results indicate that the earthquake had no statistically significant effect on first-year enrolment at the University of L'Aquila in the three academic years after the disaster. This natural disaster, however, caused a compositional change in the first-year student population, with a substantial increase in the number of students aged 21 or above. This is likely to have been driven by post-disaster measures adopted in an attempt to mitigate the expected negative effects on enrolment triggered by the earthquake. Finally, the results show also that the effect of the earthquake on enrolment varied by Faculty.	
Link: http://www.iza.org/en/webcontent/publications/papers/viewAbstract?dp_id=9332	
Type: working paper	Contact: A.Cerqua@westminster.ac.uk
Language: English	Open source: yes
Keywords: Disasters, synthetic control method	
Notes:	



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Full bibliographical reference: Cerqua A., Bernini C., Pellegrini G., (2015) <i>Public subsidies, TFP and efficiency : a tale of complex relationships</i> . Bologna, IT: Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche "Paolo Fortunati", Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna, p. 55. DOI 10.6092/unibo/amsacta/4282. In: Quaderni di Dipartimento. Serie Ricerche (2015/2). ISSN 1973-9346.	
Abstract: This paper shows that a suitable decomposition of TFP can be applied to a large sample of subsidized firms for a relevant period of time, allowing an evaluation of the impact of subsidies on either the roles of technical progress and technical efficiency change or scale and allocative efficiency change as determinants of granted firms' long-term growth. We measure and decompose TFP using a Stochastic Frontier Analysis (SFA). The impact of capital subsidies on the different components of TFP is captured by a quasi-experimental method (Multiple RDD), exploiting the conditions for a local random experiment created by Law 488/92 (L488), which has been an important policy instrument for reducing territorial disparities in Italy. The main findings from the case study are twofold. First, capital subsidies positively affect TFP growth in the medium-long term and not in the short term. The main reason is that allocative efficiency has a positive effect only after 2-3 years. Second, the positive impact comes especially through technical progress and not through scale impact change, as may have been expected.	
Link: http://amsacta.unibo.it/4282/	
Type: working paper	Contact: A.Cerqua@westminster.ac.uk
Language: English	Open source: yes
Keywords: Policy evaluation, Public subsidies, TFP decomposition, Regression discontinuity design Vautazione delle politihe, Finanziamenti Pubblici, decomposizione delle TFP, Regression discontinuity design	
Notes:	



Methods, Advancements & Interchange
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Network Group

Full bibliographical reference: Francesca Salvà-Mut, Caterina Thomás-Vanrell & Elena Quintana-Murci (2015): School-to-work transitions in times of crisis: the case of Spanish youth without qualifications, Journal of Youth Studies, DOI: 10.1080/13676261.2015.1098768	
Abstract: This article focuses on the school-to-work transitions of Spanish youth. Herein, we study the pathways followed during a 10-year period by young people who dropped out of school without achieving any qualifications and who did not achieve any at a later date. This is a population aged 26–28 years old with an educational level of ISCED 0–1. The study adopts a plurimethodological approach that includes an initial qualitative phase whose main instrument was the biographical interview and a second phase with a quantitative focus in which data were collected using a questionnaire. The results show the effect of dropping out of education without qualifications on the pathways of the youths as well as their greater vulnerability in the current period of economic crisis, which results in a high percentage of the population that has no employment, education or training. This effect is even greater among women. This study highlights the difficulties associated to returning to education, the reproduction of educational exclusion in the population that did not obtain the diploma corresponding to compulsory secondary education, and a lack of public policies to support this specific population.	
Link:	
Type:	Contact: f.salva@uib.es
Language: English	Open source: No
Keywords:	
Notes:	



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Full bibliographical reference: Salvà-Mut, F.; Melià, M.A. & Nadal, J. (2013). Évaluation de projets d'orientation, de formation et d'insertion sociale et professionnelle pour jeunes de bas niveau scolaire. XX Colóquio da AFIRSE 2013. Lisbonne, from 31th. January to 2th. February 2013. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.1.2139.5926 2015-11-17 T 11:14:08 UTC	
Abstract:	
Link: http://afirse.ie.ul.pt/xx-coloquio-da-afirse-2013/ http://afirse.ie.ul.pt/atas/AFIRSEActas2013.pdf	
Type:	Contact: f.salva@uib.es
Language: French	Open source: yes
Keywords:	
Notes:	



Methods, Advancements & Interchange
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Full bibliographical reference: Falavigna G., Ragazzi E., Sella L., "Gender inequalities and labour integration. An integrated approach to vocational training in Piedmont", 2015, <i>Journal of Economic Policy</i> ; XXXI (1), 97-120.	
Abstract: In the field of public policies there is a lot of interest in vocational training issues, because of spillovers in the labour market as well as on quality of life. Reports by the European Commission show that women are disadvantaged subjects in the labour market but, at the same time, they are more ambitious and achieve best results from an educational point of view. This paper aims to analyse Piedmont Region data on vocational training policies, focusing on the role of women in the labour market. The data refer to subjects who completed training courses in 2011 and our analysis is based on interviews, in order to evaluate the effects of training on the medium-term employment outcomes of trainees. A control sample is selected so as to evaluate the effect of training, with a specific focus on women. Probit models and average marginal effects (AMEs) allow estimating the net impact of training in the labour market. The results suggest that the employment gap between men and women is completely bridged in trainees, also when considering qualitative aspects of employment.	
Link:	
Type: Journal paper	Contact: greta.falavigna@ircres.cnr.it
Language: English	Open source: No
Keywords: Impact evaluation, gender issues, vocational training	
Notes:	



Methods, Advancements & Interchange
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Full bibliographical reference: Benati I., "Gli esiti occupazionali della formazione professionale in Piemonte. Evidenze dall'indagine di placement 2013", 2015, <i>Il Piemonte delle Autonomie, Rivista del Consiglio Regionale della Regione Piemonte</i> , 2(1)	
Abstract: Cosa accade ai formati dopo un corso di formazione? In che misura la formazione professionale ha un'effettiva valenza occupazionale? Quali formati trovano più facilmente lavoro? Questi sono alcuni dei quesiti tipici ai quali un policymaker informato deve dar risposta per valutare le attuali politiche formative e riprogrammare quelle future. Gli esercizi di valutazione che tentano di soddisfare queste domande nel nostro Paese crescono, di anno in anno, in numero ed affidabilità. La Regione Piemonte, in particolare, registra una singolare produzione di lavori in questo settore. In questa direzione, il presente articolo propone i risultati di un percorso di ricerca ormai triennale sugli esiti occupazionali della formazione professionale, condotto dall'IRCrES – CNR in qualità di valutatore indipendente del Programma Operativo Regionale 2007-2013 del Fondo Sociale Europeo. L'articolo propone una sintetica presentazione dell'oggetto e del metodo dell'indagine, delle principali evidenze emerse nell'ultima annualità, quella effettuata nel 2013 su qualificati e specializzati dell'anno 2011 ed una sintesi delle indicazioni utili alla riprogrammazione degli interventi formativi .	
Link: http://piemonteautonomie.cr.piemonte.it/cms/index.php/gli-esiti-occupazionali-della-formazione-professionale-in-piemonte-evidenza-dall-indagine-di-placement-2013	
Type: Journal paper	Contact: igor.benati@ircres.cnr.it
Language: Italian	Open source: yes
Keywords: Impact evaluation, training policies	
Notes:	



Methods, Advancements & Interchange
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Full bibliographical reference: Ragazzi, E. (Ed.), Benati, I., Lamonica, V., Santanera, E., Sella, L. (2014). Gli esiti occupazionali delle politiche formative in Piemonte – 3° rapporto annuale di placement 2013 – Indagine su qualificati e specializzati nell’anno 2012, Torino: CNR-Ceris e Regione Piemonte, ISBN 978-88-98193-08-0, e-Book ISBN 978-88-98193-09-7.	
Abstract: The third Regione Piemonte Placement report analyses the placement outcomes of 2012 trainees. It is based on a stratified representative sample, and on a counterfactual technique. It includes a chapter on the role of personal network in labour insertion.	
Link: http://www.digibess.it/fedora/repository/openbess:TO094-00293-00293	
Type: Boopk / report	Contact: elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it
Language: Italian	Open source: Yes
Keywords: Training policies, net impact evaluation.	
Notes:	



Methods, Advancements & Interchange
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Full bibliographical reference: Ragazzi E., Sella L. (2014). I dati amministrativi per la valutazione delle politiche: riscontri dall'esperienza piemontese sul FSE, <i>Rassegna Italiana di Valutazione</i> , 60: 123-146. DOI:10.3280/RIV2014-060008	
Abstract: The impact assessment of social and labour policies is mainly based on direct inquiry on their recipients. In the case of net impact assessments, one has to observe a group of untreated individuals that is very homogeneous with respect to the treated. However, the very high cost of direct surveys limits their scope, as it prevents large sample size, hindering the reliability of estimates. The access to databases created for different purposes (fiscal, administrative, monitoring) could overcome the above limitations, with much convenience in terms of cost and data quality. This paper presents a validation exercise based on a very broad and complex employment database, the <i>Comunicazioni Obbligatorie</i> (COB), that collects employers' compulsory notifications in the case of changes in a job contract. This exercise was possible thanks to an extraordinary condition, giving contemporaneous access to two different data sources, the COB database and a direct survey on recipients of vocational training policies in the Piedmont Region. The paper discusses the main differences between employment indicators evaluated on direct survey data and on COB data. Inconsistencies involve the 20% sample. In addition, such inconsistencies do distort the net impact assessment, since the key variables for placement outcomes vary significantly. Hence, whenever administrative databases are used as a source for socio-economic analyses, extreme caution and critical thinking must be used, verifying the reliability of estimates deriving from their use and comparing results with other sources. In the lack of such preliminary validation, which should be carried out in close collaboration with the regional or national authorities managing the information systems, we run the risk not only to uncritically accept information producing systematic bias, but also to prevent the development of procedures that are essential for the system development.	
Link:	
Type: Journal paper	Contact: elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it
Language: Italian	Open source: No
Keywords: impact assessment - validation - administrative data - survey - multivariate analysis	
Notes:	