



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

Bibliographical newsletter

07/08/2019

Year 5, Number 1

In the following pages you'll find bibliographical news on recently published papers and on open source works in the field of policy evaluation.

Information has been organized by Author, following a first-in, first-served criterion. Nevertheless, here are some previews of the methods applied in the research works presented:

- ⌚ Dif-in-dif
- ⌚ Random trial
- ⌚ Non parametric decomposition
- ⌚ (Spatial) Regression discontinuity design
- ⌚ Cost benefit analysis
- ⌚ Structural equation modelling (SEM)
- ⌚ Heterogeneous treatment effect

... and much more

In this number, you'll find works analysing a great variety of topics:

- Migrant inclusion
- Training policies
- The relation between tax increases and tax evasion
- The link between job insecurity and wage distribution
- Does it exist a viable common path towards sustainability and growth for local systems?
- Effects of the orphan drug regulation
- Security standards and cybersecurity of critical infrastructures

By Elena Ragazzi and Lisa Sella





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 editors manage the newsletter on a volunteering basis. 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.

The next bibliographical newsletter will occur in SPRING.

Please send to mlist@ircres.cnr.it

- ⇒ new open source works (reports, working papers, papers and presentations discussed at conferences). In this case send
 - the full bibliographical reference
 - the link to download it,
 - a short abstract (no more than 250 words)
- ⇒ bibliographical references of published works (articles or books). In this case send
 - the full bibliographical reference
 - a short abstract (no more than 250 words)

WITHIN March 15th

Please follow the format of the following pages that can be downloaded [here](#)



Full bibliographical reference Scicchitano, S., Biagetti, M., Chirumbolo, A. and Leonida, L. (2008): *More insecure and less paid? The effect of perceived job insecurity on wage distribution*, paper presented at the Counterfactual Methods for Policy Impact Evaluation (COMPIE) Conference 2018

Abstract: Using the 2015 INAPP Survey on Quality of Work, this article employs both a semi-parametric and a fully non-parametric decomposition method to examine the pay gap due to perceived job insecurity over the entire wage distribution of dependent workforce in Italy. Results from counterfactual estimations make it clear that a mirror J-shaped pattern is present for the pay gap between secure and insecure workers, with a significant sticky floor effect, i.e. a greater effect of job insecurity at the lowest quantiles. This pattern is mainly due to the characteristics effect, while the relative incidence of the coefficient component accounts roughly for 22 up to 36% of the total difference, being more relevant at the bottom of the wage distribution

Link:

https://editoralexpress.com/cgi-bin/conference/download.cgi?db_name=COMPIE2018&paper_id=54

Type: conference paper

Contact: s.scicchitano@inapp.org

Language: EN

Open source: (yes)

Keywords: Job (in)security, Counterfactual distribution, Semi-parametric methodology,

Non-parametric methodology, Wage gap, Blinder/Oaxaca, Quantile regression, Italy,

Notes:

Full bibliographical reference: Conti, M., Ferrara, A. R., & Ferraresi, M. (2019). Did the EU Airport Charges Directive lead to lower aeronautical charges? Empirical evidence from a diff-in-diff research design. *Economics of Transportation*, 17, 24-39.

Abstract: In this study we analyse the impact of the EU Airport Charges Directive on the level of aeronautical charges for EU airports serving between 2 and 20 million passengers, over the period 2008–2017, using a difference-in-differences research design. We find that the transposition of the Airport Charges Directive into national legislation has led to a statistically significant reduction in the level of airport charges, but only after a few years. We also find the existence of heterogeneous treatment effects that depend on the quality of transposition of the Directive.

Link: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2212012218300686>

Type: journal article	Contact: Antonella.ferrara@ec.europa.eu
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Language: English	Open source: yes
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Keywords: Airports Regulation; Buyer-power; Market power; Differences-in-Differences

Notes:

Full bibliographical reference: Cerqua, A. (2018). "What happens when the income tax increases?", MPRA Paper No. 89857, 2018.

Abstract: This paper exploits a sudden income tax rate increase in a large Italian region to examine whether this induced taxpayers to change their tax-related behavior. By using a spatial regression discontinuity design and a detailed dataset at the municipality level, we find a sizable and persistent decrease in declared income only for the self-employed and entrepreneurs.

Link: https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/89857/1/MPRA_paper_89857.pdf

Type: working paper	Contact: augusto.cerqua@uniroma1.it
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Language: English	Open source: yes
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Keywords: Income tax; tax evasion; spatial regression discontinuity design

Notes:

Full bibliographical reference: Bernini, C. & Cerqua, A. (2019). "Do sustainability policies finance local economies?", MPRA Paper No. 91882, 2019.

Abstract: We evaluate whether adopting a well-known transition management instrument in the tourism industry can support a combined goal of sustainability and economic growth. We create a detailed dataset at the municipality level and use a recently developed policy evaluation technique to investigate the causal impact of the Blue Flag program on the local economies of coastal destinations. Estimates show that this eco-label is not effective at enhancing the local economy; findings are homogeneous across destinations. This empirical result is in line with the recent theoretical literature arguing that the transition towards growing a sustainable economy is particularly complex and a single policy does not suffice.

Link: https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/91882/1/MPRA_paper_91882.pdf

Type: working paper	Contact: augusto.cerqua@uniroma1.it
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Language: English	Open source: yes
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Keywords: sustainability policy; eco-label; transition management; policy evaluation method

Notes:

Full bibliographical reference: "R&D and market size: who benefits from orphan drug regulation?" (with L. Magazzini and P. Pertile), Department of Economics University of Verona Working Paper 9, 2019

Abstract: Since the early 80s, orphan drug regulations have been introduced to stimulate R&D for rare diseases. We develop a theoretical model to study the heterogeneous impact on optimal R&D decisions of the incentives for diseases with different levels of prevalence. We show the mechanisms through which the type of incentives deployed by orphan drug regulations may stimulate R&D more for orphan diseases with comparatively high prevalence, thus increasing inequality within the class of orphan diseases. Using data from the Food and Drug Administration on the number of orphan designations, our empirical analysis shows that, while R&D has increased over time for all orphan diseases, the increase has been much greater for the less rare. According to our baseline specification, the difference between the predicted number of orphan designations for a disease belonging to the highest and the lowest class of prevalence is 5.6 times larger after 2008 than it was in 1983. Our findings support the idea that the type of incentives in place may be responsible for this increase in inequality within orphan diseases.

Link: <http://dse.univr.it/home/workingpapers/wp2019n9.pdf>

Type: working paper	Contact: gamba.simona@gmail.com
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Language: English	Open source: yes
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Keywords: pharmaceuticals, innovation, orphan regulations, market size, inequality

Notes:



Full bibliographical reference: Ragazzi E., Stefanini A. (2019), "Are security standards for electricity infrastructure a good choice for Europe? Evidence on cost and benefits from two case studies" in International journal of critical infrastructures, Vol. 15, No. 3, 206-228.

Abstract: Power system controls are vulnerable to cyber-attacks that can seriously affect and even inhibit their operation. Such attacks may affect large portions of the power system, make repair difficult and cause huge societal impact, so pressure to ensure cyber-security of control and communication systems is now strong worldwide. Several cyber-security frameworks were developed, but it is rather difficult to anticipate adoption costs and benefits, and this hampers their generalised adoption. This paper focuses on the outcome of a cost-benefit analysis applied in two case studies (concerning the Italian power generation and the Polish transmission systems. The socio-economic impact of failures and the costs of standard adoption are estimated on an objective basis. It is up to public authorities to decide whether to require the adoption of security standards to operators in the electric system. The nature of public good of security underlines the necessity of public support for this operation, but we discuss the extent and the management of this support.

Link: <https://www.inderscience.com/info/inarticletoc.php?jcode=ijcis&year=2019&vol=15&issue=3>

Type: journal article	Contact: elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it alberto.stefanini@virgilio.it
Language: English	Open source: No. Preprint (author's submitted manuscript) available at https://www.academia.edu/38606042/Ragazzi_E._Stefanini_A._2019_Are_security_standards_for_electricity_infrastructure_a_good_choice_for_Europe_Evidence_on_cost_and_benefits_from_two_case_studies._International_Journal_of_Critical_Infrastructures_Vol._15_No._3_p._206-226

Keywords: security standards; electricity systems; cybersecurity; cost-benefit analysis; impact evaluation; network security plans; security policies; regulations; power system controls; countermeasures.

Notes: The paper is mainly based on the results of the ESSENCE project, whose reports may be downloaded at <http://essence.ceris.cnr.it/index.php/documents/reports>



Full bibliographical reference: Benati I., Lamonica, V., Ragazzi, E., & Sella, L. (2018). *Gli esiti occupazionali delle politiche formative in Piemonte. 4° rapporto annuale di placement 2014 - Indagine su qualificati e specializzati nell'anno 2013*. Moncalieri: IRCrES CNR. ISBN: 978-88-981-9315-8

Abstract: The book presents the 4th analysis of placement devoted to the outcomes and effects of Piedmont training policies. In addition to chapters analysing gross effects and net impacts, the report contains in-depth thematic analyses on:

- training-to-work transition;
- a retrospective analysis on the impact of training policies in Piedmont in the time span 2010-2013 ;
- a structural equation model (SEM) applied to the evaluation of vocational training.

Link: <http://www ircres cnr it/index php/it/produzione-scientifica/pubblicazioni?id=115>

Type: Monography	Contact: lisa.sella@ircres.cnr.it
Language: Italian	Open source: Yes
Keywords: evaluation; quasi-experimental; structural equation modeling; VET	
Notes:	



Full bibliographical reference: Battuello M., Dinocca R., Strano C., Ragazzi E., Lamonica V., Sella L., Pillitu M., Traversa G. (2018) *Beyond walls, models of integration. Building a transnational community of educators to welcome young foreigners into the school system*, Piazza dei Mestieri, Torino. (English version)

Battuello M., Dinocca R., Strano C., Ragazzi E., Lamonica V., Sella L., Pillitu M., Traversa G. (2018) *Oltre i Muri. Modelli di integrazione. Costruire una comunità transnazionale di educatori per l'accoglienza dei giovani stranieri nella scuola*, Piazza dei Mestieri, Torino. (Italian version)

Abstract: This book overviews the Oltre i Muri project, aimed at enhancing the educational inclusion of young migrants attending compulsory education. The book presents the project methodology. It adopted an approach rooted in VET pedagogical methodologies. The results of the project have been evaluated through a counterfactual experimental approach.

Link: http://www ircres cnr it/images/pubblicazioni/oltreimuri_ENG pdf (English version)

http://www ircres cnr it/images/pubblicazioni/oltreimuri_ITA pdf (Italian version)

Type: book

Contact: elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it

Language: English and Italian

Open source: yes

Keywords: random trial, counterfactual evaluation, migration, training models, integration, training, education, good practices

Notes: Further information on the project (in Italian) may be found on the website:
<https://progettooltreimuri.com/>