

Possible Research Topics 590

Spring 2008

(1)

Family Macroeconomics

Research that incorporates elements from family economics into a macro framework has become quite popular over the last decade. Fertility, marriage, and home production decisions are more and more regarded as having potentially big effects on the aggregate economy.

Sources: M. Tertilt at Stanford and website links: <http://www.stanford.edu/~tertilt/>

(2) Wealth, Income Inequality, Aging issues (general) (and see data below)

Cristina De Nardi: <http://www.nber.org/~denardim/>

Mark Huggett, Ventura, Yaron : "Sources of Lifetime Inequality" February 2007

<http://www.georgetown.edu/faculty/mh5/research/sources.pdf>

(3) Wage inequality

Galiano, Sebastian and Porto, Guido, "Trends in Tariff Reforms and Trends in Wage Inequality" (May 1, 2006). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 3905 Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=917476>

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=917476

(4) Local taxation to agricultural land , residential properties and land in preservation.

Local development issues//land trusts/Transfer of development rights (TDR)

Land Trust Alliance: <http://www.lta.org/>

TDR Book by Pick Pruetz: Beyond Takings and Givings :

<http://www.beyondtakingsandgivings.com/>

New Lincoln Institute Report: Reinventing Conservation Easements by Jeff Pidot (October 2005), paper available in pdf from Maria

Wisconsin DNR contacts available

(5) Math AP classes/ admissions/performance

UW data

(6) Randomized trials

<http://www.povertyactionlab.com/research/rand.php>

(7) Microfinance:

Credit Information Systems in Less Developed Countries: A Test Using Guatemalan Microfinance

Jill Luoto, Craig McIntosh and Bruce Wydick.

<http://www.basis.wisc.edu/live/credit/Credit%20Information%20Systems.pdf>

Innovation for Poverty Action Website:

<http://www.poverty-action.org/ourwork/publications.php>

(7) Immigration

The Globalization of Household Production," Michael Kremer and Stanley Watt, 2006.

<http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/kremer/papers/immigration%20paper%20090506>

Ethan Lewis, "How Did the Miami Labor Market Absorb the Mariel Immigrants?" Jan 2004. Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Working Paper 04-03.

<http://www.philadelphiafed.org/files/wps/2004/wp04-3.pdf>

James Walker: Economic Perspectives on Family and Migration

http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~walker/research/ma_conf_walker.pdf

(8) Education:

"Schools, Teachers, and Education Outcomes in Developing Countries," Michael Kremer and Paul Glewwe, forthcoming in Handbook on the Economics of Education, Elsevier.

<http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/kremer/papers/EconEducationHandbook.pdf>

Paul Glewwe Home Page (LDC's and education):

<http://www.apec.umn.edu/faculty/pglewwe/research.html>

Interpreting the Evidence on Life Cycle Skill Formation, Heckman, Cunha et al.

http://www.iza.org/en/webcontent/publications/papers/viewAbstract?dp_id=1675

Conference on Early Childhood Education (Mpls Fed 2003):

<http://www.minneapolisfed.org/research/studies/earlychild/2003conf/index.cfm#papers>

Marshall University Presentation on ECE:

http://www.marshall.edu/cber/research/early_childhood_education.ppt

(9) Poverty/ Development

Declining Poverty in Latin America? Helgewe and Birch 2007:

<http://www.ase.tufts.edu/gdae/Pubs/wp/07-02LatinAmPoverty.pdf>

Global Development and Environment Institute Tufts University:
http://www.ase.tufts.edu/gdae/policy_research/globalization.html

CDE DATA SETS

1) Wisconsin Longitudinal Study

The Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) is a long-term study based on a random sample of 10,317 men and women who graduated from Wisconsin high schools in 1957. A companion sample contains comparable data for a randomly selected sibling of most respondents.

WLS data cover social background, youthful aspirations, schooling, military service, labor market experiences, family characteristics and events, social participation, psychological characteristics, health and well-being, and retirement.

Examples of papers:

Hisam Kim: "Parental Investment between Children with Different Abilities"
http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~hikim/IQ_premium.pdf

Scholtz et al: "Tied Transfers"
http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~scholz/Research/Tied_Transfers.pdf

2) SABE/PRECO

PREHCO: Puerto Rico database health, aging , other.

SABE

<http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/sabe/home.html>

is a cross-national survey on health and aging organized as a cooperative venture among researchers in Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico and Uruguay. SABE has produced the first cross-national database for studying health and aging in these countries. SABE's sponsors include the Pan American Health Organization and several national and academic institutions in the participating countries.

Ex. of papers:

- CDE Working Paper #99-02 , <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/cde/cdewp/99-02.pdf>
Aging in Latin American and the Caribbean
Alberto Palloni, Susan DeVos, Martha Pelaez
Abstract

This document evaluates the nature of aging in Latin America and the Caribbean, and reviews available evidence regarding the demographic profile of the elderly, their health and disability status, the composition of their human capital, labor force participation and retirement behavior, residential arrangements, and intergenerational transfer systems. The review identifies problematic areas to take account in the design and implementation of public policies. Among them we include the following: an accelerated pace of demographic aging, large expected differentials in the process of aging (by rural-urban residence and by socioeconomic groups), sharp gender inequalities, unfavorable composition by health and disability status, dissolution of traditional family-based support systems, and insufficient development of institutional transfers mechanisms.

Suggestions: look at disparity in health expenditures across individuals over time. In LA shift from public provision of health services to private. Compare US and other countries.
Pension/Retirement issues: in LA decrease in birth rate and decrease in soc. Sec. Benefits granted by gov. coincide, implications?

OTHER USEFUL SITE

BADGIR

Site to perform basic statistics from several databases

<http://nesstar.ssc.wisc.edu/index.html>

Welcome to BADGIR, an on-line data archive at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. The archive is a cooperative venture organized by the Center for Demography of Health and Aging (CDHA) with contributions from the Center for Demography and Ecology (CDE) and the Data and Program Library Service (DPLS). Computing services are provided by the Social Science Computing Cooperative (SSCC). From this portal you can browse or search data documentation (e.g., metadata, codebooks) and univariate summary statistics (e.g., mean, frequency counts). Registered users can also create cross-tabulations that can be downloaded in MSEXcel format, and perform regression analyses (registration required). Registered users who are interested in performing more sophisticated multivariate analyses can create and download customized data sets that can be imported into a variety of statistical packages (e.g., SPSS, SAS, STATA).