The Rationale Behind Choosing to Work Far from Home

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Abstract

When people decide to work, the first problem to be addressed is where to work. In this paper, I want to examine the potential characteristics that would affect an individual's choice on their work location relative to their home location. In particular, I am interested in the choice of an individual, who is originally from the rural area but chooses to work and stay in a big city far from his/ her home. Interestingly, the choice of the work location will sometimes change at some point in time. If data permits, I am interested in identifying the potential characteristics that are associated with the change in the choice of work location for an individual.

Keywords: 3 to 6 keywords

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1 Motivation

Growing up in a small city in Taiwan, people in my city generally go to other big cities to attend college. When people graduate from college, some choose to go back home to work, some choose to stay in big cities. For those who moved back home, they made this decision at different ages, with different individual characteristics such as different degrees from different schools, different occupation and income, and different cities (that they want to escaped from).

2 Research Questions

For people who grow up in rural areas, how do they choose to work in a city far from home or choose to work near home? Why do some of these people who initially chose to work in a big city eventually choose to move back home to work?

3 Literature Review

I have briefly searched through the literature, but I do not find many similar articles. Could professor please suggest some literature for me to read? Thank you! For similar work, I only found that Fields et al. (2018) examined the registered nurses' preferences for rural and urban jobs using a discrete choice experiment.

4 Research Design

1. model

    (a) probit model to work at either a city or not a big city (big city will be defined by administrative districts, population, or GDP)

    (b) multinomial model logit: choosing which city to work

2. Data

    (a) Cross sectional survey data for individual

        i. with individual characteristics variable like age, education, gender, occupation, economic status, income, degree type, parent's occupation, home district, choice variable: work place district

    (b) City characteristics data. eg, GDP, population, average rent

    (c) Ideally, panel data for individual characteristics

5 Outline

- March 28: (1)discuss with prof and think about feedback. (2)finalize the project idea and model

- April 1: search through most of the related literature for my paper

- April 10: (1)obtain the data I need. (2) finish writing the introduction part of the paper (3)finish searching through literature, start writing related literature part

- April 15: finish writing literature review part

- April 22: finish writing empirical strategy

- April 25: finish writing results and conclusion

- Until May 1: proofread and correct my final manuscript