

The impact of Hispanic last names and identity on labor market outcomes

Hussain Hadah

Department of Economics, Tulane University, 6823 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, 70118, LA, United States

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, I study discrimination against Hispanics in the labor market. I compare the children of inter-ethnic marriages to study the impact of having a Hispanic last name. While males born to Hispanic father-White mothers earn 6 percentage points less than those born to White father-Hispanic mothers, the gap could be completely explained by educational differences. I also study the effect of identifying as Hispanic on earnings. I find that men with a Spanish-sounding last name who identify as Hispanic earn significantly less than those who do not identify as Hispanic, but the gap could also be explained by educational differences.



hhadah@tulane.edu (H. Hadah)

ORCID(s): <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8705-6386> (H. Hadah)