

XIAOYING XIE

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EDUCATION

2009-Present, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics (expected in July 2015)

Fields: Labor Economics, Public Policy, Urban Economics.

2009, Master of Economics, HSBC School of Business, Peking University

2009, Master of Finance, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Hong Kong

2005, Bachelor of Law in Sociology, School of Sociology and Population Studies, Renmin University of China

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2013-2014, Research Assistant for Professor David Molitor, Finance Department, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

2007-2009, Research Assistant, Professor Minsoo Lee, Institute for China and Global Economy, Peking University

2007, Research Assistant, Professor Geng Xiao, Brookings-Tsinghua Center for Public Policy, Brookings Institution

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2011, Macroeconomic Principles, Teaching Assistant to Professor Fred M. Gottheil

Fall 2012, spring 2013, Microeconomic Principles, Teaching Assistant to Professor Jose J. Vazquez-Cognet

CONFERENCES

2014, presented at the 7th Midwest Graduate Student Summit at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2013, presented at the 50st Annual Meeting of Missouri Valley Economic Association

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2014, McNatt Memorial Award by University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

2013, Summer Fellowship by University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

2008, Merit Student by Peking University

2007, China Reconstruct Scholarship by Peking University

RESEARCH PAPERS

“How is Migration Affected by Education?” (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: This paper estimates the impact of education on two key outcomes, migration probability and distance. Migration greatly affects the regional economy, and the out-migration of highly educated workers has raised serious concerns for local development. The OLS estimator indicates a small but positive effect of education on both outcomes, which is similar to other studies. However, using compulsory schooling law changes as an instrumental variable, the 2SLS estimator suggests that education increases migration distance but decreases the probability to migrate. To guide the analysis, this paper expands the basic migration model to include distance as another element in people's decisions. The intuition is that by searching broader distances, people could obtain higher expected incomes but also must pay higher costs. The overall effect of education on migration is determined by the trade-off between the cost and benefits of migrating longer distances.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Immigration and Housing Prices—A Quantile Approach” (Working paper with Cong Zhang)

Abstract: This paper estimates the influence of immigration on local housing prices. Housing price is crucial to people's well-being, as it not only affects their living conditions, but also affects homeowners' investment values. The empirical results suggest that the average effect of immigration is to increase housing prices. However, if we use quantile regression, we observe quite heterogeneous effects for different areas. For census tracts with expensive housing, immigrants increase housing prices. For census tracts with cheap housing, immigrants reduce housing prices. One possible reason for this phenomenon is that immigrants drive natives to neighborhoods with better amenities.

“The Impact of Immigration on Local Crime Rate?” (Working paper with Dongwoo Kim)

Abstract: This paper estimates how immigration affects local crime rate. Currently, the U.S. immigration policy is based on family reunification, which leads to admitting large amounts of unskilled workers. This phenomenon raises the concerns of the general public and policymakers about their impact on local crime rates. This paper proposes to use the 1995 Mexican peso crisis as an exogenous shock to analyze how Mexican immigrants affect crime rates in U.S. cities.

“Do High-Skilled Immigrants Improve Firm Performance?—A Natural Experiment Approach” (Proposal submitted to the U.S. Census Bureau)

Abstract: This paper estimates how high-skilled immigrants affect firm performances, such as their survival rate, profit, etc. In recent years, the U.S. government has changed several regulations to attract high-skilled immigrants, with the belief that they could provide essential knowledge, make companies more competitive and create more jobs for society. However, due to the lack of credible identification strategies, we know relatively little about the causal impact of high-skilled immigrants on firm performances. This paper proposes to use the H1-B visa lottery as a natural experiment to study this causal relationship and to provide policy suggestions based on the results.

REFERENCES

- Professor Darren Lubotsky, University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Economics
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- Professor Daniel McMillen, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Department of Economics
Phone: 217-333-8930; Email: mcmillen@illinois.edu
- Professor Tatyana Deryugina, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Department of Finance
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