



RESUMEN

Título: Reassessing the penalty in commuting for immigrants: New evidence from Spain.

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Resumen: (máximo 300 palabras)

This research examines the differences in commuting length between native and immigrant workers in Spain, a relevant issue given that an imperfect spatial distribution of their labour supply and demand can have negative effects on their employment outcomes and individual satisfaction. The study differentiates immigrants according to their country of origin, is based on a nationally representative database and uses, for the first time, decomposition techniques that allow quantifying the effect of different characteristics. The evidence obtained for the Spanish case shows that, although part of the explanation for the greater commuting observed for immigrants is related to the use of different modes of transport in relation to natives, immigrants make significantly longer journeys even when controlling for a wide range of additional factors. However, this circumstance occurs only in the case of immigrants from emerging countries and not for those from advanced countries. Likewise, this penalty in commuting is greater in large municipalities and in the Madrid region, so that previous studies focused on areas with a higher population density could not be nationally representative. Among the proposed explanations, evidence is offered of the impact of commuting on individual satisfaction, showing that the differences are not due to a hypothetical greater tolerance on the part of the immigrant community.

Palabras Clave: Commuting; well-being; job satisfaction; immigrants; Spain.

Clasificación JEL: R4, I3, J28.

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