UNIVERSIDAD DE GRANADA

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Económica

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Título: Education and internal migration: Evidence from a child labor reform in Spain

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Abstract: We exploit a child labor regulation that eliminated the difference in school/work alternatives for children born at the beginning and the end of the year to provide further evidence on the causal effect of education on migration at low levels of schooling. This approach does not rely on changes in the school system, so we can be more confident that our results are not driven by unobserved changes in school quality or different trends which occur across regions. The results of a difference-in-differences methodology combined with an exploration of maternal characteristics and a regression discontinuity design suggest that internal migration hardly changed after the reform. A consideration of the external validity of this finding is also provided.

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