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Equity Impacts of Transportation Improvements and Peripheral Cities

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to assess the short-term impact of transportation improvement reduction of socio-economic disparities between core and peripheral cities. Data used in was extracted from the 1995 Israel Census. The methodology applied in the study was discrete choice models in an attempt to identify key variables affecting commuting decisions. Simulations are employed to illustrate the effect of diminishing spatial friction on wage differentials between poor southern towns and affluent core cities. The empirical evidence suggests that transportation improvements, especially in the form of introducing new rail links in underdeveloped areas, could significantly contribute to the alleviation of spatial wage disparities between core and peripheral cities.

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