Government Expenditure on education and income inequality A Case Analysis of China

Introduction

High-skilled job

High income

Low-skilled job

Low income

 Difference in income is highly associated with the level of education obtained.

· It is the important reason causing inequality in income.

Study: relationship between government education expenditure and inequality in the regions

Analysis

Inequality: Gini coefficient(GINI)

$$G = 1 - \frac{1}{PW} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (W_{i-1} - W_i) * P_i$$

Education expenditure(EXPRATE): the ratio of expenditure on education to total GDP for the province in a year.

Independent and dependent variable

Control Variables:

GROWTH: the growth rate of Gross Domestic Production for the province in a year UNIVRATE: the ratio of number of university students to total population.

MIDDRATE: the ratio of number of middle school students to total population.

Regression model:

 $=\alpha+\beta_1$ EXPRATE $+\beta_2$ GROWTH $+\beta_3$ UNIVRATE $+\beta_4$ MIDDRATE

Regression result

GINI	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
EXPRATE	1.173427	0.2295034	5.11	0.000	0.7236089	1.623246
GROWTH	0.0013368	0.000766	1.75	0.081	-0.0001645	0.0028381
UNIVRATE	1.405525	0.3639122	3.86	0.000	0.6922703	2.11878
MIDDRATE	1.135782	0.176483	6.44	0.000	0.7898813	1.481682
_cons	0.2594985	0.0108113	24.00	0.000	0.2383088	0.2806883

Conclusion

· Education expenditure is positively related to Gini coefficient.

Discussion

Explanation:

·Higher education expenditure means greater chances e to access better jobs & Region has more industries that require high skilled jobs.

Limited: only three control variable & low R²

Granger causality test

Dumitrescu & Hurlin (2012) Granger non-causality test results:

Lag order: 1

W-bar=1.9889

Z-bar=3.4256

Z-bar tilde=1.4978

(p-value = 0.0006) (p-value = 0.1342)

H0: EXPRATE does not Granger-cause GINI.

H1: EXPRATE does Granger-cause GINI for at least one panel var (id).

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