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報告 1

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「The Effects of Minimum Wage on Wage Distribution in Urban China」

The rationale behind minimum wage policy is to increase the wage level for low-income group, reduce the poverty and narrow income inequality between high-wage group and low-wage group. Thus, the minimum wage implementation is an important labor policy in both developing and developed countries. There are some empirical studies on the effects of minimum wage on employment, wage gaps, and income inequality for developed countries, but there are few empirical studies to understand the effects of minimum wage on wage distribution in China. Using CHIPs data, this study analyzes the effects of minimum wage policy on wage distribution in urban China from 1993 to 2013. Several major conclusions emerged from this study. First, considering the effect of the minimum wage on wages for the low-wage groups, (1) the OLS and QR model results showed that the minimum wage affected both the average wage and wage levels for low-wage groups for 1993–1995, 1998–2002, and 2007–2013, with the greatest effect on the low-wage group during 1993-1995. (2) The results using Neumark et al. (2004) model indicated that the minimum wage level change affected wage level changes for the low-wage group during 1993-1995 and 1998-2002, with the greatest effect during 1993-1995. (3) The DID model results indicated that even when the heterogeneity problems are addressed, the minimum wage also affects the wage levels for the low-wage group considerably in all three periods. Second, all estimation results indicated the presence of the spillover effect in 1993-1995, though spillover was not observed for 1998-2002 and 2007-2013.