



CBS-TAU Data Center

Work in Progress...

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Israel as a research lab

Population features:

- √ Heterogeneous population
- ✓ Large share of immigrants from developed and developing countries
- ✓ Different ethnicities and religion affiliations
- ✓ Large variation in family size across demographic groups
- ✓ Households with traditional values and households with modern values
- ✓ Different levels and trends in educational attainment, employment, fertility rates, and additional key socio-economic variables across groups
- ➤ Same institutions and policies

Israel as a research

Data Features:

- Population Registry where each individual has a unique ID given at birth or upon immigration to Israel
- Registry records also: ID of children allowing to build intergenerational linkages, country of birth, year of immigration, religion, marital history, residential history
- Centralized administrative datasets from various public offices transferred to the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS): school enrollment, test scores, educational attainment, crime, welfare benefits, tax records, causes of death, etc. Firms data.



1. Safe people

Who? researchers from Israeli higher education institutions and research institutes authorized by the head of the CBS



2. Safe projects

What? Research projects that are relevant to the CBS or provide a significant contribution to policymakers or to the scientific literature



3. Safe Setting

Where? Research rooms of the CBS that provide a secure and protected environment



4. Safe Data

Type of data: de-identified anonymized records



5. Safe outputs

Each output goes through a review process to make sure that it meets the CBS privacy requirements

The potential of CBS Data Center at TAU

✓ Increase research productivity

✓ Expand the pool of researchers who do empirical work based on data from Israel

✓ Attract researchers and students from the international community

✓ Synergies between researchers from different disciplines and new links between data scientists and social scientists

Shed light on important scientific questions and provide relevant evidence for policy makers

Some examples

Research conducted using restricted data at the research room of the CBS

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND FERTILITY

Alma Cohen, Rajeev Dehejia, and Dmitri Romanov*

Abstract—Using panel data on over 300,000 Israeli women from 1999 to 2005, we exploit variation in Israel's child subsidy to identify the impact of changes in the price of a marginal child on fertility. We find a positive, statistically significant, and economically meaningful price effect on overall fertility and, consistent with Becker (1960) and Becker and Tomes (1976), a small effect of income on fertility, which is negative at low and positive at high income levels. We also find a price effect on fertility among older women, suggesting that part of the overall effect is due to a reduction in total fertility.

Multiple Experiments for the Causal Link between the Quantity and Quality of Children

Joshua Angrist, MIT and NBER

Victor Lavy, Hebrew University, Royal Holloway University of London, and NBER

Analia Schlosser, Tel Aviv University

This article presents evidence on the child-quantity/child-quality trade-off using quasi-experimental variation due to twin births and preferences for a mixed sibling sex composition, as well as ethnic differences in the effects of these variables. Our sample includes groups with very high fertility. An innovation in our econometric approach is the juxtaposition of results from multiple instrumental variables strategies, capturing the effects of fertility over different ranges for different sorts of people. To increase precision, we develop an estimator that combines different instrument sets across partially overlapping parity-specific subsamples. Our results are remarkably consistent in showing no evidence of a quantity-quality trade-off.

Short and Long-Term Effects of Universal Preschool: Evidence from the Arab Population in Israel

Elad DeMalach, Bank of Israel & Tel Aviv University Analia Schlosser, Tel Aviv University, IZA, CEPR Tatiana Baron, Ben Gurion University

We estimate the short and long-term effects of universal preschool education by analyzing the impact of the Israeli Preschool Law, which mandated the provision of public preschool for ages 3 and 4 since 2000. We focus on the Arab population, who were the main beneficiaries of the first phase of the implementation of the Law, and exploit exogenous variation in universal preschool provision across localities due to the Law's gradual implementation. We find that individuals benefitted from the provision of universal preschool along various dimensions: their academic performance in elementary, middle school, and high school improved significantly, and their postsecondary enrollment rates increased substantially. We also find beneficial effects of universal preschool on additional outcomes, such as a reduction in juvenile delinquency among boys and a decline in early marriage among women. An important mechanism impacting long-term outcomes, was the creation of a better learning environment during elementary and middle school, with a greater sense of security and better relationships with teachers and classmates. These findings highlight the benefits of providing universal preschool education for disadvantaged communities.

Older Yet Fairer: How Extended Reproductive Time Horizons Reshaped Marriage Patterns in Israel[†]

By Naomi Gershoni and Corinne Low*

Israel's 1994 adoption of free in vitro fertilization (IVF) provides a natural experiment for how fertility time horizons impact women's marriage timing and other outcomes. We find a substantial increase in average age at first marriage following the policy change, using both men and Arab-Israeli women as comparison groups. This shift appears to be driven by both increased marriages by older women and younger women delaying marriage. Age at first birth also increased. Placebo and robustness checks help pinpoint IVF as the source of the change. Our findings suggest age-limited fertility materially impacts women's life timing and outcomes relative to men. (*JEL* J12, J13, J16)

One Land, Many Promises: Heterogeneous Childhood Location Effects

Hadar Havivi, UC Berkley Tslil Aloni, NYU

Work in progress

Estimation of the impact of place of residence in childhood on long term outcomes for children of immigrants and Israeli natives

Intergenerational Racial Income Gaps In Israel

Dor Leventer, TAU

Explore the long-term racial income inequality in Israel:

- 1. Stratifying by child gender.
- 2. Accounting for other child outcomes (e.g. labor supply)
- 3. Accounting for other childhood covariates (e.g. parent education)

Who Becomes a Start-Up Innovator? The Allocation of Talent in the Israeli High-Tech Start-Up Industry

Yona Hackett, TAU