

Seminario 511. The Effects of Natural Disasters on Labor Market: Do Hurricanes Increase Informality?

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- Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo

Entrada libre. Indispensable inscribirse en el siguiente vínculo: Inscripciones

Hora: 12:00 m. (refrigerio) y 12:30 p. m. (inicio del seminario)

Tiempo de exposición: 12:30 p. m. a 2:00 p. m.

Lugar: Auditorio del Museo del Oro, Carrera 6 #15-88, piso 1, Bogotá D.C.

Idioma de la exposición: Español

Resumen del documento: *This paper studies the probability of formally employed men falling into informality because of exposure to hurricanes and tropical storms. It combines destruction variables calculated from physical storms' characteristics at the district level with 36 quarterly rounds of Jamaica's labour force surveys. The empirical strategy exploits variation arising from the storm's timing, intensity, and geographic location within a panel-random effects endogenous choice model framework. Controlling for potential biases due to initial conditions, panel attrition and employment selection, findings suggest that hurricanes positively affect the transition probability regardless of whether the individual was initially employed in a formal or an informal job. When the marginal effects of the storm were studied, the probability of becoming informally employed ranges between 0.7 and 12 percent depending on the employee's initial state and the moment when the storms were suffered. These results suggest that the public and private policy agenda on adaptation to climate change should incorporate a discussion on how to offset the negative effects of hurricanes since these events could become worse in the near future.*

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