"The Return to Schooling among High School Dropouts: Evidence from Britain's Compulsory Schooling Changes"

Estimates of the labor market return to schooling among high school dropouts can reveal much about how individuals acquire human capital and how policy-makers can foster human capital accumulation. In this paper I use the 1947 and 1972 British compulsory schooling changes to estimate this return - comparing labor market outcomes of students who left high school at the earliest opportunity with students born a few days later who, because of a change in the compulsory schooling laws, were required to attend school for an extra year. Using newly-assembled administrative data, I report estimates for a wide range of labor market outcomes.