Immigrants' Wages and the Contribution of Immigration on the Wage Structure: Spain 1995-2002

Raquel Carrasco (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid) J.Francisco Jimeno (Banco de España) Carolina Ortega (CreAM, University College London)

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Goal

 To study the contribution of the immigration in Spain to the evolution of the wages between 1995 and 2002.

 To analyze the wage differential between immigrants and natives in Spain, at different points of the wage distribution, after controlling for observable characteristics.

Motivation





The two wage distributions are very similar.

- One of the most important changes the Spanish labor market has experienced is the increase in the immigrant labor force.
- What is the contribution of the changes in the immigrant working force on changes in wages?
- Have the immigrants different productive characteristics, or are the returns form these characteristics different?

Proportion of Native employment, Men

		Exp <=10	10 <exp <="25</th"><th>Exp >25</th></exp>	Exp >25
Primary Educ.				
	1995	.9564	.9694	.9983
	2002	.8489	.7977	.9884
Secondary Educ.				
	1995	.9884	.9820	.9720
	2002	.9274	.9360	.9454
University Educ.				
	1995	.9876	.9883	.9770
	2002	.9523	.9292	.9839

Proportion of Native employment, Women

		Exp <=10	10 <exp <="25</th"><th>Exp >25</th></exp>	Exp >25
Primary E 1 2	duc. 1995 2002	.9906 .8121	.9815 .8647	.9961 .9778
Secondary E 1 2	duc. 1995 2002	.9917 .9435	.9872 .9543	.9897 .9691
University E 1 2	duc. 1995 2002	.9709 .9415	.9769 .9135	.9720 .9468

Methodology (I)

- We do not have direct information that allows to decompose the differences in wages according to workers' nationality.
- Therefore, We compute the contribution of the immigration to the evolution of wages by using the following expression for the wages in each cell (gender, experience, education):

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{W02} = \alpha \mathsf{02} \ \mathsf{W02,n} \ + (1 - \alpha \mathsf{02}) \ \mathsf{W02,i} \\ \mathsf{W95} = \alpha \mathsf{95} \ \mathsf{W95,n} \ + (1 - \alpha \mathsf{95}) \ \mathsf{W95,l} \\ = \alpha \mathsf{95} \ \mathsf{W02,n} \ + (1 - \alpha \mathsf{95}) \ \mathsf{W02,i} \\ + \alpha \mathsf{95} \ (\mathsf{W95,n} \ - \mathsf{W02,n}) \ + (1 - \alpha \mathsf{95}) \ (\mathsf{W95,i} \ - \mathsf{W02,i}) \end{array}$

Then:

 $W02 - W95 = (\alpha 02 - \alpha 95)(W02, n - W02, i) +$

 $[(\alpha 95 W02,n + (1 - \alpha 95) W02,i) - (\alpha 95 W95,n + (1 - \alpha 95) W95,i)]$

Methodology (II)

- We estimate wage equations on the conditional mean for natives and immigrants and use the Oaxaca-Blinder method to decompose the wage difference in two parts: one due to different productive characteristics and other due to different returns to these characteristics.
- We perform previous analysis also at other points of the wage distribution, following a Quantile Regression (QR) approach.
 - We first present quantile measures of the wage gap for 2002.
 - Then, we use a generalization of the Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition to a QR framework proposed by Machado and Mata (2005) using Monte Carlo methods.

The data

- For the first goal, we use information from the WWS in 1995 and 2002. Since the WWS for 1995 lacks information on the nationality of the worker, we use data from the Labor Force Survey to obtain the employment weights.
- For the second goal, we use data from the 2002 Spanish Wage Structure Survey (WSS).

The data

- The WSS is a random sample of workers from firms of at least 10 employees in the manufacturing, construction and service sectors.
- The survey collects detailed information on workers' wages, as well as on workers' personal (such as gender, nationality only in 2002, age, and educational attainment) and job characteristics (including tenure, sector, occupation, contract and job type, firm size and ownership, and region).

The data

Wage definition: worker's hourly wage.

- We include as wages the gross ordinary salary plus the extraordinary payments.
- Working time information from the agreed regular schedule and the hours worked in a no-regular fashion.
- The sample is restricted to men and women between 16 and 64 years old.
 - Men and women are considered separately.
 - Immigrants from European Union countries are distinguished from those from non-European Union countries.

Fig. 1: Native and Immigrant Log Hourly Wage Distributions (2002)



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Figure 2. Native-Immigrant Wage Gap



Figure 2. Native-Immigrant Wage Gap



Table A.1. Summary Statistics. Men

	All workers	Natives workers	EU workers	Non-EU workers
Log Hourly Wage	2.3586	2.3675	2.4674	2.0212
	0.5190	0.5177	0.7019	0.3732
Years of schooling	10.7347	10.7903	11.4652	8.6033
	3.3877	3.3703	4.1314	3.0626
Experience	21.2759	21.3590	19.1457	18.9142
	11.7714	11.8458	10.8149	8.6996
Tenure ≤ 3 years	0.4477	0.4325	0.7045	0.9142
	0.4973	0.4954	0.4566	0.2801
Part-time	0.0450	0.0444	0.0735	0.0594
	0.2074	0.2060	0.2612	0.2364
Temporary Contract	0.2588	0.2473	0.3636	0.6332
	0.4380	0.4314	0.4814	0.4820
White -collar	0.2511	0.2553	0.4064	0.0635
	0.4336	0.4360	0.4915	0.2439
Public Ownership	0.0499	0.0511	0.0227	0.0144
	0.2177	0.2202	0.1491	0.1192
Industry	0.4720	0.4755	0.3262	0.3868
	0.4992	0.4994	0.4691	0.4871
Construction	0.1221	0.1177	0.1537	0.2711
	0.3275	0.3222	0.3609	0.4446
Servic es	0.4059	0.4069	0.5201	0.3421
	0.4911	0.4913	0.4999	0.4745
10-50 employees	0.4374	0.4346	0.4693	0.5285
	0.4961	0.4957	0.4994	0.4993
50-200 employees	0.2990	0.2983	0.2914	0.3236
	0.4578	0.4575	0.4547	0.4679
More than 200 employees	0.2636	0.2671	0.2393	0.1479
Number of observations	105,635	101,973	748	2,914

Table A.1. Summary Statistics. Women

	All workers	Natives workers	EU workers	Non-EU workers
Log Hourly Wage	2.1251	2.1285	2.2937	1.8687
	0.4909	0.4906	0.5436	0.4011
Years of schooling	11.5927	11.6171	13.3166	9.5254
	3.5180	3.5050	3.6052	3.4182
Experience	18.3185	18.3460	16.2187	17.6620
	11.2756	11.3164	10.5141	8.9869
Tenure ≤ 3 years	0.5178	0.5094	0.6788	0.9181
	0.4997	0.4999	0.4675	0.2744
Part-time	0.2199	0.2183	0.2096	0.3117
	0.4142	0.4131	0.4075	0.4634
Temporary Contract	0.2836	0.2789	0.3326	0.5245
	0.4507	0.4484	0.4717	0.4996
White -collar	0.2983	0.3000	0.5581	0.1008
	0.4575	0.4582	0.4972	0.3011
Public Ownership	0.1028	0.1046	0.0456	0.0264
	0.3037	0.3060	0.2088	0.1603
Industry	0.2648	0.2666	0.2141	0.1836
	0.4412	0.4422	0.4107	0.3874
Construction	0.0147	0.0148	0.0091	0.0122
	0.1203	0.1207	0.0951	0.1100
Services	0.7205	0.7186	0.7768	0.8041
	0.4487	0.4497	0.4169	0.3970
10-50 employees	0.3639	0.3611	0.4055	0.5009
	0.4811	0.4803	0.4915	0.5002
50-200 employees	0.2790	0.2785	0.3645	0.2702
	0.4485	0.4482	0.4818	0.4443
More than 200 employees	0.3572	0.3604	0.2301	0.2288
	0.4792	0.4801	0.4214	0.4203
Number of observations	60,380	58,879	439	1,062