A time allocation model considering external providers

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TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART B-METHODOLOGICAL
Volumen: 100
Páginas: 175-195
DOI: 10.1016/j.trb.2017.01.019
Fecha de publicación: JUN 2017

Resumen

Time use models have advanced significantly during the last decade: their theoretical approach has been refined, functional forms have improved and new constraints have been incorporated, among other aspects. However, there is an incipient development of an issue of great importance: the role and influence of external agents on individual time allocation and the recognition of unpaid/domestic work as a distinctive area of research. In this paper we introduce domestic production and the potential domestic work substitution by external providers in a time use model, improving its formulation and the interpretation of the values of time. We take into account the marginal utility of domestic activities, their cost - either if self-produced or hired - and the relation between the domestic output and domestic work hours considering the difference in skills between providers and household members. A stochastic system of equations is proposed and estimated using three Dutch time use and expenses data sets, from which the values of leisure and work are computed and analyzed. Comparative results show that a model with no consideration of hired domestic providers overestimates the values of leisure. (C) 2017 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Palabras clave

Palabras clave de autor: Time values; Domestic production; External agents; Domestic providers
KeyWords Plus: LABOR SUPPLY CURVE; HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTION; CHOICE MODELS; LEISURE; WORKERS; FAMILY; TRIPS

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Financiación
Entidad financiadora | Número de concesión
---|---
Fondecyt, Chile | 1160410
 | 3160178
Institute for Complex Engineering Systems | ICM: P-05-004-F
 | CONICYT: FB0816
ACTUM Project |

Ver texto de financiación

Editorial

PERGAMON-ELSEVIER SCIENCE LTD, THE BOULEVARD, LANGFORD LANE, KIDLINGTON, OXFORD OX5 1GB, ENGLAND

Categorías / Clasificación

Áreas de investigación: Business & Economics; Engineering; Operations Research & Management Science; Transportation

Categorías de Web of Science: Economics; Engineering, Civil; Operations Research & Management Science; Transportation; Transportation Science & Technology

Información del documento

Tipo de documento: Article
Idioma: English
Número de acceso: WOS:000402443600010
ISSN: 0191-2615

Información de la revista

- Impact Factor: Journal Citation Reports

Otra información

Número IDS: EW4AE
Referencias citadas en la Colección principal de Web of Science: 67
Veces citado en la Colección principal de Web of Science: 0