

Dynamische Wirtschaftsanalysen – erste Ergebnisse aus Forschungsprojekten mit AFiD-Daten

Donnerstag 20. Mai 2010

15:00 bis 16:30 Uhr

DIENSTLEISTUNGEN

The Determinants of Export Performance: Evidence from Business Services Firms in Germany

Alexander Eickelpasch¹ und Alexander Vogel²

¹ Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, Berlin

² Statistisches Amt für Hamburg und Schleswig-Holstein

The determinants of export behaviour at firm level have been widely investigated for manufacturing companies. By contrast, what has remained largely neglected is a detailed investigation in the service sector. As aggregate statistics show, international trade in services has grown significantly over the last few years. However, it is unclear why some companies export and others do not. This paper presents some results about the German business services sector at firm level. Using a unique panel dataset of enterprises from the business services sector (transport, storage and communication, real estate, renting and business activities) for the years 2003 to 2007, we analysed the impact of several firm-specific characteristics such as size, productivity, human capital, experience on the national market in Germany, etc. on the firms' export performance. Further, we used the pooled fractional probit estimator, recently introduced by Papke & Wooldridge, an approach that considers both the special nature of the export intensity variable and in addition unobserved time-invariant characteristics. When there is no control for fixed enterprise effects the overall results are in line with previous studies. When there is a control for unobserved heterogeneity, the positive effects of productivity and human capital disappear, indicating that these variables are not per se positively related to export performance, but rather to time-constant characteristics that are unobserved. Size still has a positive and significant effect.

Dynamische Wirtschaftsanalysen – erste Ergebnisse aus Forschungsprojekten mit AFiD-Daten

Donnerstag 20. Mai 2010

15:00 bis 16:30 Uhr

DIENSTLEISTUNGEN

Growth Potentials in Germany – Is Baden-Württemberg really lagging behind?

Elena Biewen, Raimund Krumm und Jochen Späth

Institut für Angewandte Wirtschaftsforschung, Tübingen

Many studies have pointed out that manufacturing plays an important role in the German Federal State Baden-Württemberg whereas the employment contribution of the service sector is relatively low compared to other countries and regions (so-called "service sector gap", in German: Dienstleistungslücke). On the other hand there is a broad strand of literature that certifies high growth potentials for the service sector industries. This thesis is still enforced by the current economic crisis, which is hitting especially the manufacturing sector leaving services somewhat aside. But how large is actually the growth potential in the service sector in Baden-Württemberg? And what are its determinants? Is Baden-Württemberg lagging behind the German Republic? – These and other questions are analyzed using a data set on the firm level – the AFiD Services Panel (in German: AFiD-Panel Dienstleistungen) which has been available only for a short time. It comprises rich information – f. i. firms' labour costs, export activity or investments, among others. As a panel data set it allows us to track the development of firms and is therefore especially suitable for our analysis.