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Nota di contenuto	Contents; I. Introduction; II. Methodology; III. Government Efficiency, 1980-2004; Tables; 1. Summary of Scores; 2. Spearman Rank Order Correlations; Figures; 1. Plots of PSP, PSE, and DEA Scores in Education and Health; 2. Evolution of Health and Education Spending, Performance, and Efficiency in Advanced and Developing Economies; IV. Determinants of Government Efficiency; 3. Tested-Down Regressions; 4. Overview of Univariate and Tested-Down Regressions; A. Economic Determinants; B. Institutional Determinants; C. Demographic and Geographic Determinants; V. Conclusions; VI. Appendix A. Data Sources B. Countries Included; C. Background Tables; A1. Summary of Determinants; A2. Univariate Regressions; A3. Multivariate Regressions; References
Sommario/riassunto	We compile the first large cross-country panel dataset of public sector performance and efficiency, encompassing 114 countries on all income levels from 1980 to 2006, with about 1,800 country-year observations for the education sector and about 900 observations for health. We regress these indicators on potential economic, institutional, demographic, and geographic determinants. Our most resounding conclusion is that higher government expenditure relative to GDP tends to be associated with lower efficiency in the respective sector. Moreover, we find that richer countries exhibit better public sector performance and efficiency, and that institutional and demographic factors also play a significant role.