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| Record Nr. | UNINA9910812018503321 |
| Autore | Bornhorst Fabian |
| Titolo | How Good Are Ex Ante Program Evaluation Techniques? The Case of School Enrollment in PROGRESA / / Fabian Bornhorst |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Washington, D.C. : , : International Monetary Fund, , 2009 |
| ISBN | 1-4623-3155-6 |
| | 1-4518-7334-4 |
| | 9786612843976 |
| | 1-4527-3392-9 |
| | 1-282-84397-4 |
| Edizione | [1st ed.] |
| Descrizione fisica | 35 p. : ill |
| Collana | IMF Working Papers |
| Disciplina | 339.4;339.46 |
| Soggetti | School attendance - Mexico - Evaluation - Econometric models |
| | Economic assistance, Domestic - Mexico - Evaluation - Econometric models |
| | Poor - Mexico - Evaluation - Econometric models |
| | Labor |
| | Macroeconomics |
| | Demography |
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| | Aggregate Factor Income Distribution |
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| | Labour |
| | income economics |
| | Population & demography |
| | Wages |
| | Income |
| | Aging |
| | Labor economics |
| | Population aging |
| | Mexico |

Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"September 2009."
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Sommario/riassunto	This paper evaluates a microsimulation technique by comparing the simulated outcome of a program with its actual effect. The ex ante evaluation is carried out for a conditional cash transfer program, where poor households were given money if the children attended school. A model of occupational choice is used to simulate the expected impact of the program. The results suggest that the transfer would indeed increase school attendance and do more so among girls than boys. While the simulated effect tends to be larger than the actual effect, the latter lies within bootstrapped confidence intervals of the simulation.