

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910961922503321
Autore	Gonzalez-Garcia Jesus
Titolo	Benford's Law and Macroeconomic Data Quality / / Jesus Gonzalez-Garcia, Gonzalo Pastor Campos
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, D.C. : , : International Monetary Fund, , 2009
ISBN	9786612842320 9781462306343 1462306349 9781452791449 1452791449 9781451871579 1451871570 9781282842328 1282842323
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (22 p.)
Collana	IMF Working Papers
Altri autori (Persone)	Pastor CamposGonzalo
Disciplina	339
Soggetti	Business & Economics Economic Theory Investments: General Macroeconomics Money and Monetary Policy Statistics Econometric and Statistical Methods: General Methodology for Collecting, Estimating, and Organizing Macroeconomic Data Data Access Measurement and Data on National Income and Product Accounts and Wealth Environmental Accounts Monetary Systems Standards Regimes Government and the Monetary System Payment Systems General Aggregative Models: General Investment Capital Intangible Capital Capacity

Data Collection and Data Estimation Methodology  
Computer Programs: Other  
Current Account Adjustment  
Short-term Capital Movements  
Econometrics & economic statistics  
Monetary economics  
Currencies  
National accounts  
Gross fixed investment  
Government finance statistics  
Balance of payments statistics  
Money  
Economic and financial statistics  
National income  
Saving and investment  
Finance  
Balance of payments  
United States

---

**Lingua di pubblicazione**

Inglese

---

**Formato**

Materiale a stampa

---

**Livello bibliografico**

Monografia

---

**Note generali**

Description based upon print version of record.

---

**Nota di contenuto**

Contents; I. Introduction; II. Benford's Law and Testing Methodology; A. Benford's Law; B. Testing Methodology; III. Conformity of Macroeconomic Data with Benford's Law; IV. Comparison of Goodness of Fit Tests Results with ROSC Assessments of Data Quality; V. Can Tests of Conformity with Benford's Law be Considered Reliable Indicators of Macroeconomic Data Quality ?; VI. Conclusion; Text Tables; 1. Banking Survey Statistics: Goodness of Fit Tests; 2. Balance of Payments Statistics: Goodness of Fit Tests; 3. National Accounts Statistics: Goodness of Fit Tests  
4. Government Finance Statistics: Goodness of Fit Tests5. Rejections of Benford's Law and Shares of LNO and NO Ratings; Appendix: Country Groups and Data Series Used; Appendix Tables; A.1. Groups of Countries; A2. Data Series Tested; Text Figures; 1. Finland and Japan Nominal GDP; 2. Niger Nominal GDP, Household Consumption and Gross Fixed Capital Formation; References

---

**Sommario/riassunto**

This paper examines the usefulness of testing the conformity of macroeconomic data with Benford's law as indicator of data quality. Most of the macroeconomic data series tested conform with Benford's law. However, questions emerge on the reliability of such tests as indicators of data quality once conformity with Benford's law is contrasted with the data quality ratings included in the data module of the Reports on the Observance of Standards and Codes (data ROSCs). Furthermore, the analysis shows that rejection of Benford's law may be unrelated to the quality of statistics, and instead may result from marked structural shifts in the data series. Hence, nonconformity with Benford's law should not be interpreted as a reliable indication of poor quality in macroeconomic data.

---

