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Impact of Income Risk on Health and Well-Being

A. Adeline (THEMA), I. Choinière Crèvecoeur (UQAM), R. Fonseca (UQAM), P-C Michaud (HEC)

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Income, health and well-being has been frequently studied.

• Δ^+ income $\Rightarrow \Delta^+$ Health, Δ^+ Well-being

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- Previous literature focuses on the effect of single specific income shocks on health and well-being:
 - 1. Job loss (Strully (2009), Sullivan & Von Wachter (2009), Michaud et al. (2016), and Schaller & Stevens (2015))

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 - 3. Receipt of an inheritance (Meer et al. (2003); Kim & Ruhm (2012))

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 - Macroeconomic shock (Clark et al. (2010), McInerney et al. (2013); Jenkins & Lambert (2010))
 - 3. Receipt of an inheritance (Meer et al. (2003); Kim & Ruhm (2012))
 - 4. Lottery win (Gardner & Oswald (2007); Apouey & Clark (2015))

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Heterogeneity between individuals



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We investigate the impacts of income risk experienced over the working life on health and well-being after 50 years old.

- Data from the Longitudinal and International Study of Adults (LISA)
 - Health and well-being measurement (2012-2014)
 - Identify income risk using Canadian tax records associated to each respondent from 1982 to 2012.

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1. For each respondent, we estimate variances of the permanent and the transitory components of income.

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 - Permanent: Loss of transfers or an event implying a permanent work stoppage
 - Transitory : Job loss, a transitory work stoppage, group or individual layoffs, or business closures.

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- 1. For each respondent, we estimate variances of the permanent and the transitory components of income.
 - Permanent: Loss of transfers or an event implying a permanent work stoppage
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- 2. Controlling for the average level of income, we estimate the effect of income risk over a working-age period on :
 - Self-Assessed Health
 - Well-being
 - Mental health

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Avalible income information (T1 Family File).

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Avalible income information (T1 Family File).

Aged 30 to 55 years old between 1982 and 2012:

- No longer at school.
- Not yet retired.

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Male:

- According to th OECD, the labour force participation rate over the working age period considered:
 - ▶ Men: 82.9%
 - Women: 69.1% .

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 - ▶ Men: 82.9%
 - ▶ Women: 69.1% .

 \Rightarrow A total of 6,991 observations, 3,698 (2012); 3,293 (2014).

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Income measure

Total Family income before taxes:

- Taxfiler's income from taxable as well as non-taxable sources.
- Deflated using the Consumer Price Index (2013 base year).

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Income measure

Total Family income before taxes:

- ► Taxfiler's income from taxable as well as non-taxable sources.
- Deflated using the Consumer Price Index (2013 base year).
- Family income allows to control for insurance effects between household's members.

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Logarithm of permanent income:

$$inc_{it} = \gamma p_{it} + inc_{it-1} + \eta_{it} \quad \forall t, i$$
(1)

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Logarithm of permanent income:

$$inc_{it} = \gamma p_{it} + inc_{it-1} + \eta_{it} \quad \forall t, i \tag{1}$$

Logarithmic transformation of current income:

$$y_{it} = inc_{it} + \epsilon_{it}.$$
 (2)

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Income difference between *d* years as:

$$(y_{it+d} - y_{it}) = inc_{it+d} + \epsilon_{it+d} - inc_{it} - \epsilon_{it}$$
(3)

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Recursively substituting equation (1):

$$(y_{it+d} - y_{it}) = (\eta_{it+1} + \eta_{it+2} + \dots + \eta_{it+d}) + \epsilon_{it+d} - \epsilon_{it}$$
(4)

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Recursively substituting equation (1):

$$(y_{it+d} - y_{it}) = (\eta_{it+1} + \eta_{it+2} + \dots + \eta_{it+d}) + \epsilon_{it+d} - \epsilon_{it}$$
(4)

Variance of equation (4) is given by:

$$Var(y_{it+d} - y_{it}) = d\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$
(5)

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$$Var(y_{it+d} - y_{it}) = d\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$
(5)

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{it}+\mathbf{d}} - \mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{it}})^2 = d\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$

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- 1. Remove the predictable growth from the income process.
 - Identify y_{it} : Specific OLS by levels of education and provinces.
 - Control for age_t , age_t^2 , Marital Status_t, Disability_t.

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- Control for age_t , age_t^2 , Marital Status_t, Disability_t.
- 2. Create dataset of $\frac{T(T+1)}{2}$ observations based on equation (5):

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$$(\mathbf{y}_{i,t+d}-\mathbf{y}_{i,t})^2=d\sigma_{i\eta}^2+2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$

$$(y_{i,2012} - y_{i,2007})^2 = 5\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$

$$(y_{i,2012} - y_{i,2008})^2, (y_{i,2011} - y_{i,2007})^2 = 4\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$

$$(y_{i,2012} - y_{i,2009})^2, (y_{i,2011} - y_{i,2008})^2, (y_{i,2010} - y_{i,2007})^2 = 3\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$

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$$(y_{i,2012} - y_{i,2007})^2 = 5\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$

$$(y_{i,2012} - y_{i,2008})^2, (y_{i,2011} - y_{i,2007})^2 = 4\sigma_{i\eta}^2 + 2\sigma_{i\epsilon}^2$$

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Health and Well-Being Distribution (50 to 75 years old)



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Mental Health Distribution (50 to 75 years old)



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Specifications			

- σ_{η}^2 : Variance of the permanent component of income.
- σ_{ϵ}^2 : Variance of the transitory component of income.

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Specifications

- σ_{η}^2 : Variance of the permanent component of income.
- σ_{ϵ}^2 : Variance of the transitory component of income.
- ► Log of average annual income between 30 and 55 years old.

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Specifications

- σ_{η}^2 : Variance of the permanent component of income.
- σ_{ϵ}^2 : Variance of the transitory component of income.
- ► Log of average annual income between 30 and 55 years old.

- Age (group of 5 years)
- Education (4 categories)
- Provinces (Qc, On, BC, Prairies, Atlantics)
- Marital status
- Number of children
- Born in Canada

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Log of the Average Income



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Permanent Income risk



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Transitory Income risk



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Number of mental health issues



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Mental Health (Log of the Average Income)



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Mental Health (Permanent Income risk)



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Mental Health (Transitory Income risk)



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Robustness Specifications

- 1. Control for the number of relationships.
 - Individuals may have been in a relationship with different people who earned different annual incomes.

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Robustness Specifications

- 1. Control for the number of relationships.
 - Individuals may have been in a relationship with different people who earned different annual incomes.
- 2. Exclude individuals who have already reported an income less than 20% of their average income.
 - Reduce effects of outliers.
 - Periods during which individuals could have worked abroad.

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Robustness Specifications

- 1. Control for the number of relationships.
 - Individuals may have been in a relationship with different people who earned different annual incomes.
- 2. Exclude individuals who have already reported an income less than 20% of their average income.
 - Reduce effects of outliers.
 - Periods during which individuals could have worked abroad.
- 3. Keep only respondent with at least 20 observations between 30 and 55 years old.

- $\sigma_{\eta i}$ and $\sigma_{\epsilon i}$ estimated with more precision.
- But lose all respondent over 65 years old.

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Conclusion

To the best of our knowledge, we are the first to study the relationship between income volatility, health and well-being.

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Conclusion

- To the best of our knowledge, we are the first to study the relationship between income volatility, health and well-being.
- Researcher should continue to study this relationship:
 - More complete data could avoid the potential endogeneity issues.