

Graduate Seminar

Department of Economics and Finance

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The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on construction workers in Canada

In 2020, under the impact of COVID-19, the construction industry in many countries around the world has suffered an unprecedented impact, such as the United States, Pakistan, and China. Canada's construction industry, meanwhile, has been one of the few growing industries in a sluggish national economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. Different from previous literature, this paper will collect evidence from multiple aspects to prove that Canada's construction industry has witnessed rapid growth even under the impact of COVID-19. This not only complements the literature on a single aspect of the construction industry but also provides a reference for those who want to understand the Canadian construction industry during the pandemic. This paper mainly analyzes and compares the Canadian construction industry with other industries in the following aspects: the monthly salary of new employees, overtime hours of new employees, personnel inflow and outflow, and the change in premium of several specific occupations over covid. It turns out that wages for new construction workers were higher than those in other industries for all three years, notably 43% higher in the year of the Canadian coronavirus outbreak. New construction employees work longer overtime than workers in other industries, a gap that has been particularly pronounced since the pandemic. By observing the inflow and outflow of personnel in the construction industry, it can be seen that the construction industry needs a large number of new employees to complete the work during the pandemic compared with other industries. In addition, compared with other industries, some occupations in the construction sector have also seen their change in premiums move more than other occupations during the pandemic time. These occupations include management, health, education, art, sales service, trade transport, equipment operators, and natural resources.

Date: Thursday, August 18, 2022

Time: 2:00 pm Room: Zoom

