

Data access and data files for Norway

The data from Norway used in the analysis for the replication paper on “Knowledge transfers from multinational to domestic firms” by Stefanie Haller, Eoin Flaherty and Ragnhild Balsvik are all micro-data sets from Statistics Norway, i.e. data sets that relate to individuals, firms and enterprises. These datasets are not publicly available, but subject to application for use.

The guidelines for access to Microdata can be found on the webpages of Statistics Norway: <https://www.ssb.no/en/data-til-forskning/utlan-av-data-til-forskere>. Among other things, the guidelines state that the data cannot be stored on personal computers but must be stored on a secure server. The guidelines further require that the application for access to microdata must provide the list of named persons who will have access to the data. Based on these guidelines, the permission to access the data can only be given by Statistics Norway based on a new application for access to data.

Statistics Norway provides microdata for research projects, and has data relating to persons, establishments and enterprises. The procedure for obtaining microdata from Statistics Norway is described by Statistics Norway’s on their web page Data for research – step by step, where most of the datasets are also documented.

Datasets used in the analysis for Norway:

We merge the following datasets:

1. Annual population files (named adssb_yyyy), e.g., age, gender, years of education, employer id (plant level), location and industry of employer, annual income
2. Annual income tax files (named atlto_yyyy) where all employer-employee relationships reported to the tax authorities are recorded, including both plant and firm ids.
3. Annual register of foreign ownership (named sifonyyyy) recording foreign ownership shares at firm level.
4. Register of highest level of completed education per October 1st each year (named edu_level)
5. Register of individuals and their results on the ability test given by the military at the first test before military service. This covers males only during the period of analysis.