

Discussion: Asian and Hispanic Earnings Inequality in
Administrative Data
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September 2019

Summary

Question: How much variation in earnings within the broadly defined groups of Asian and Hispanic

- Data
 - Confidential 2005 ACS data linked to IRS W2 and 1099
 - Panel spanning 2005 - 2012
- Bottom line
 - There is substantial within - race/ethnicity earnings inequality when examining when disaggregating by ancestry
 - All subgroups seem to be following a trend toward less social mobility reflecting overall changes in the US economy

Important topic

- Brings better data to this question
- Complicates the discussion surrounding the “success” (or lack thereof) among Asians and Hispanics in the US

Next steps:

- Understanding better the sources of within - subgroup inequality
 - Immigrant vs. Native?
 - Education?
 - What's the role of race within subgroup e.g. Cubans ?
 - Interesting to think about the social capital and networks among established communities in fostering inequality – e.g. established occupation pathways within a changing economy may lead to differential outcomes
 - Spatial differences across the US?
- Income volatility: susceptibility, severity, and persistence?
- Wealth?