Barista or Better? The Earnings of Canadian Bachelor’s Graduates: A Tax Linkage Approach

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Thanks to...

• Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)

• StatsCan

• Participating institutions
What We Do: Track Graduates’ Post-Schooling Earnings Using Tax Data

- Year-by-year after graduation
- Cohort-by-cohort
- By field of study
A New, Unique, and Powerful Approach

- Totally new perspective of graduates’ outcomes
- Using accurate & timely tax-based income data
- Emerging practice at international level
- Potential to build/use further – this is just a start
Motivation: New and Powerful LLMI

- PSE Institutions
- Policy Makers
- Employers
- General public

Informing Student Choices
Data

Graduates 2005-2012

Linked to tax data

97% linkage rate
Samples and Earnings Measure

- 14 PSE institutions across 4 regions

- Annual earnings through to 2013 (reported in $2014)

- Dropped if/where indication of further PSE

- Also exclude if earnings < $1k (c. 3-3.5% overall)
Start with 2005 (Earliest) Cohort
Mean Earnings of All Graduates ($2014)
Add Other Cohorts
Mean Earnings of All Graduates ($2014)
Showing Selected Cohorts:
Mean Earnings of Selected Cohorts ($2014)
Now Compare Across Areas of Study
First Year Earnings by Area of Study
Distribution of Earnings – All Graduates, 2005 Cohort
Making the Results Accessible

www.epri.ca/tax-linkage
Where to Go Next?
1. An Administrative Data Research Platform
An Administrative Data Research Platform

Add K-12 data

Track students through PSE

Track students in the labour market

Relate labour market outcomes to
- Student characteristics
- Schooling experiences

PSE Admin Data

Tax Data
2. A New Skills Agenda
The Traditional Skills Agenda

Engineers
Physiotherapist
Skilled Trades
Technician
Plumbers
Nurses
Welder
STEM
Pipe Fitters
Business Managers
Accountant
Programmers
Mechanic
Exotic Dancer
Personal Care Workers
Technologist
Analysts
Electrician
Doctors
Analysts
Designers
The Traditional Skills Agenda

- Engineers
- Skilled Trades
- Technicians
- Welders
- Accountants
- Personal Care Workers
- Physiotherapists
- Plumbers
- Pipe Fitters
- Programmers
- Business Managers
- Business Technologists
- Analysts
- Designers
- Electricians
- Doctors
- Exotic Dancers

2 – 5 Years Experience
The New Skills Agenda

Analytical Skills  Initiative  Conscientious
Self-Confidence  Verbal Communication  Strong Work Ethic  Leadership
Problem Solving  Creative Thinking
Teamwork  Interpersonal Skills
Written Communication  Flexibility/Adaptability  Detail-Oriented
Organization  Leadership
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