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Exporting Firms Do Not Pay Higher Wages, *Ceteris Paribus*. First Evidence from Linked Employer-Employee Data

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ABSTRACT

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18 studies using data from 20 highly developed, developing, and less developed countries document that average wages in exporting firms are higher than in non-exporting firms from the same industry and region. The existence of these so-called exporter wage premia is one of the stylized facts found in the emerging literature on the microeconometrics of international trade. This paper uses a large and rich set of linked employer-employee data from Germany to demonstrate that these premia vanish when individual characteristics of the employees and of the work place are controlled for.

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1. MOTIVATION

Some ten years ago Bernard and Jensen (1995) published a Brookings paper on "Exporters, Jobs, and Wages in U.S. Manufacturing" that used hundreds of thousands of plant level data to provide facts and figures on exporting plants compared to their non-exporting counter-parts. One of the new and exciting findings documented in this paper is that exporters tend to pay higher wages and benefits: Average wages and benefits (per worker, per production worker, and per non-production worker) are higher in exporting plants than in non-exporting plants of all size classes. Exporter wage premia are statistically significant for all categories of wages and benefits after controlling for capital per worker, size of plant, multi-plant dummy, industry, year, plant age, and region. Coefficients of exporter status dummies are statistically significant in fixed effects regressions controlling for capital per worker, hours per worker, size of plant, and year.

The Bernard and Jensen (1995) paper started a literature. Table 1 provides a synopsis[1] of 18 studies covering 20 different countries from highly developed economies like the U.S., Germany, and Sweden, and emerging economies like Taiwan, Korea, and Mexico, to a transition country (Estonia) and least developed Sub-Saharan African economies like Burundi or Ethiopia. The empirical strategies used in these papers replicate (sometimes only partly) the approach introduced by Bernard and Jensen, and the results regarding the exporter wage premia are broadly consistent with the findings from the pioneering study.

[Table 1 near here]

An open question not dealt with in this literature is whether these exporter wage premia do indeed indicate that exporting plants pay higher wages in the sense that comparable workers are better paid when working on a comparable work place for an exporter, i.e. *ceteris paribus*.[2] Given that all the empirical studies listed in Table 1 use average data at the plant or firm level, individual characteristics of the

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[1] We intend to keep this synopsis comprehensive and up-to-date. Readers who are aware of other studies not covered or of more recent (published) versions of studies listed are kindly asked to send an e-mail to <wagner@uni-lueneburg.de>.

[2] Another question that is taken into account in this literature is the direction of causality: Do exporters pay higher wages because they are exporters? Did they pay higher wages before they started to export? Do wages increase faster in firms that (started to) export than in comparable non-exporting firms? In this paper we focus on the question whether the premia do exist at all or not. For a discussion of the pitfalls of the standard approach used to investigate the direction of causality, and a solution based on a matching approach, see Wagner (2002).

workers that might influence their productivity (and, therefore, their wages) cannot be taken into account, and certain characteristics of the work place that might call for compensating wage differentials are not represented adequately. This shortcoming has been recognized from the outset: Commenting on the presentation of the paper by Bernard and Jensen, Robert Z. Lawrence argued that "the impact of exports, while positive and statistically significant, is considerably reduced once the effects of capital intensity, industry, plant scale, and location are controlled for. One suspects, moreover, that the premiums would be even further reduced if the authors were able to control for worker characteristics. Thus the wage benefits that are attributable solely to exporting appear to be rather small." (Bernard and Jensen 1995, p. 113f.)

Besides providing a synopsis of the literature on exporter wage premia in Table 1 this paper contributes to the literature by testing for the existence of these premia when individual characteristics of the employees and the work place are controlled for in an appropriate way. To do so we use a rich German linked employer-employee data set, a type of data that has not been used to investigate this topic before. The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 introduces the data set while section 3 explains our line of econometric investigation. Section 4 provides results for exporter wage premia based on plant level data and on linked employer-employee data using information for both individual workers and the plants they are working in. Section 5 concludes.

2. THE LINKED EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE DATA SET

The use of matched employer-employee data has recently become popular as it allows a more detailed analysis of economic relationships. In particular, various analyses of the labor market can benefit from the availability of employer-employee data.[3] In this paper, we use the LIAB, which combines the employment statistics of the German Federal Labor Services with plant level data from the IAB Establishment Panel.

The employment statistics (cf. Bender, Haas and Klose 2000) cover all employees and trainees subject to social security. They exclude, among others, the self-employed, family workers, a subgroup of civil servants ("Beamte"), students enrolled in higher education and those in marginal employment. The employment

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[3] A survey of analyses using matched employer-employee data sets can be found in Abowd and Kramarz (1999).

statistics cover nearly 80% of all employed persons in western Germany and about 85% in eastern Germany. They are collected by the social insurance institutions for their purposes according to a procedure introduced in 1973 and are made available to the Federal Employment Services. Notifications are prescribed at the beginning and at the end of a person's employment in a plant. In addition an annual report for each employee is compulsory at the end of a year. Misreporting is legally sanctioned. The employment statistics contain information on an employee's occupation, the occupational status, and gross earnings up to the contribution assessment ceiling, and on individual characteristics like sex, age, nationality, marital status, and qualification. Each personnel record also contains the establishment identifier, the industry, and the size of the plant.

Starting in 1993, the IAB Establishment Panel (cf. Kölling 2000) is drawn from a stratified sample of the plants included in the employment statistics, where the strata are defined over industries and plant sizes (large plants are oversampled), but the sampling within each cell is random. In 1993, the sample started with 4,265 plants, covering 0.27% of all plants in western Germany (2 million) and 11% of total employment (29 million). In 1996, the eastern German establishment panel started with 4,313 establishments representing 1.10% of all plants (391 thousand) and 11% of total employment (6 million). Altogether, the number of establishments interviewed increased until the year 2003 up to nearly 16,000, in order to allow regional analysis at the federal state level. The IAB Establishment Panel has been set up for the needs of the Federal Labor Services to provide further information about the demand side of the labor market. Therefore, detailed information on the composition of the workforce and its development through time constitutes a major part of the questionnaire. Further questions include information on training and further education, wages, working time, business activities, establishment policies, and general information about the plant. Other topics, for instance, questions on innovations or the flexibility of labor, are asked biannually or triannually.

The LIAB is created by linking the employment statistics and the IAB Establishment Panel through a plant identifier which is available in both data sets.[4] This matched employer-employee data set, which is unique for Germany, currently comprises the years 1993 to 1997. Since precise information on the collective bargaining regime of plants is not available before 1995, we can only make use of

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[4] The LIAB data are confidential but not exclusive. Starting in 2005, they will be available for non-commercial research by visiting the data access center of the German Federal Labor Services at the IAB in Nuremberg, Germany. Researchers interested in replications or extensions of our work may contact the first author (e-mail: Thorsten.Schank@wiso.uni-erlangen.de) for a copy of the Stata do-files used to produce the results reported here.

the waves 1995 to 1997. We exclude establishments that are located in the eastern part of Germany since the economic situation (and the level of wages) in post-communist eastern Germany still differs considerably from that in western Germany. Also, we focus on the manufacturing sector since exports are only of minor importance in the service sector. Therefore, in the regressions we end up with a sample of 1,860,710 observations of 903,614 employees in 2,948 establishments.

3. ECONOMETRIC APPROACH

The basic specification for our econometric investigations relates the wage (w_{it}) of individual i at time t to characteristics of the individual (X_{it}) and the establishment ($Z_{j(it)}$).

$$\ln w_{it} = X_{it}\beta + \overline{Z}_{1,j(it)}\gamma_1 + Z_{2,j(it)}\gamma_2 + J_{t(ij)}\delta + \varepsilon_{it} \tag{1}$$

X_{it} is a vector of individual characteristics which are typically included in the empirical literature on wages. These comprises the following variables, all of which are available from the employment statistics: the age of the employee, the squared age of the employee, a gender dummy, dummies for the occupational status of the employee (unskilled blue-collar, skilled blue-collar, master craftsman/foreman, white-collar worker), dummies indicating that the employee is working part-time, is married, is of non-German nationality, as well as 98 occupational dummies.

$Z_{j(it)}$ defines characteristics of the plant, where the subscript $j(it)$ indicates that at time t all workers in a plant j share the same value of Z. This vector of plant level variables can be split up into two subsets Z_1 and Z_2. The former includes those characteristics which can be obtained either directly from the IAB Establishment Panel or by aggregating individual level information from the employment statistics, whereas the latter comprises variables only available from the IAB panel. In particular, Z_1 includes the logarithm and the squared logarithm of the number of employees in the establishment and the proportions of female workers, of foreign workers, of workers with a graduate degree and of part-time employees. More precisely, we use the notation $\overline{Z}_1$ to take account of the fact that this subset captures plant averages of employee characteristics as compared to Z_2, which reflects characteristics of the plant. These include information on exports (explained below), two dummies for the economic performance of the establishment, dummies indicating that overtime work exists, that shift work exists,

that the plant applies a collective bargaining agreement (separately for sectoral and plant level agreements), an index for the state of technology in the plant, a dummy indicating that the plant has been founded within the last five years as well as nine federal state dummies and 13 industry dummies. Equation (1) also includes a vector of year dummies $J_{t(j,i)}$, where the subscript $t(i,j)$ indicates that the time effect in t is constant for all workers i and all plants j. ε_{it} denotes the error component.

Aggregating Equation (1) at the plant level (i.e. aggregating over all employees i at time t in a plant j) yields the following relationship:

$$\ln \overline{w}_{jt} = \overline{X}_{jt}\beta + \overline{Z}_{1,jt}\gamma_1 + Z_{2,jt}\gamma_2 + J_{t(j)}\delta + \overline{\varepsilon}_{jt} \tag{2}$$

where $\overline{w}_{jt} = \sum_{(it)\in jt} w_{it}/N_{jt}$, $\overline{X}_{jt} = \sum_{(it)\in jt} X_{it}/N_{jt}$ and $\overline{\varepsilon}_{jt}$ analogously (N_{jt} denotes the number of employees in plant j at time t).

Our preferred specification to estimate the exporter wage premia is clearly given by Equation (1), since it controls for individual as well as plant level heterogeneity. However, we also want to investigate whether the obtained estimate changes when the specification is more restrictive. Therefore, we start off by assuming we had only a plant level data set at hand, i.e. we mimic the framework of those studies listed in Table 1 and estimate the following relationship which we denote as Model 1:

$$\ln \overline{w}_{jt} = \overline{Z}_{1,jt}\gamma_1 + Z_{2,jt}\gamma_2 + J_{t(j)}\delta + \overline{\varepsilon}_{jt} \tag{3}$$

We should point out again, that at this first stage all variables are based on information from the IAB panel (although information on $\overline{w}_{jt}$ and $\overline{Z}_{1,jt}$ would be available from the employment statistics as well). In the second step, we also include individual level information which has been aggregated to the plant level ($\overline{X}_{jt}$). This is equivalent to estimating Equation (2). Henceforth, we refer to this specification as Model 2, which combines information from the employment statistics (the $\overline{X}_{jt}$) with information from the IAB panel ($\overline{w}_{jt}$, $\overline{Z}_{1,jt}$ and $Z_{2,jt}$). As stated above, $\overline{Z}_{1,jt}$ can also be extracted from the individual level data, and our Model 3 is based on this information from the employment statistics. Next, we replace our aggregate wage variable from the IAB panel with the plant level average of the individual wages reported in the employment statistic (Model 4). Hence, when estimating Model 4, only $Z_{2,jt}$ stems from the IAB panel, whereas $\overline{w}_{jt}$ as well as $\overline{X}_{jt}$ and $\overline{Z}_{2,jt}$ are extracted from the employment statistics. Finally, we

estimate Model 5, which is the individual level wage equation given in Equation (1). The different specifications are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Different empirical specifications of wage equations

Model	Level of aggregation	Variables from IAB Establishment Panel	Variables from employment statistics
1	Plant	$\overline{w}_{jt}$, $\overline{Z}_{1,jt}$, $Z_{2,jt}$	
2	Plant	$\overline{w}_{jt}$, $\overline{Z}_{1,jt}$, $Z_{2,jt}$	$\overline{X}_{jt}$
3	Plant	$\overline{w}_{jt}$, $Z_{2,jt}$	$\overline{X}_{jt}$, $\overline{Z}_{1,jt}$
4	Plant	$Z_{2,jt}$	$\overline{w}_{jt}$, $\overline{X}_{jt}$, $\overline{Z}_{1,jt}$
5	Individual	$Z_{2,j(it)}$	w_{it}, X_{it}, $\overline{Z}_{1,j(it)}$

Note: All models include year dummies (*J*).

The dependent variable in our investigation is the log of wages, taken from the IAB Establishment Panel in Models 1 to 3 and from the employment statistics in Models 4 and 5. Whereas the IAB panel data just provide information on the total wage bill of an establishment, the information on individual earnings in the employment statistics is more detailed, but it refers only to the income subject to social security contributions (i.e. up to the contribution assessment ceiling of the social security system). To take account for this censoring, we apply a Tobit analysis when estimating Model 5. At the plant level (Models 1-4), we use OLS since the distribution of the average wages analyzed is not censored.[5]

In accordance with the extant literature, we will also investigate whether our findings differ between blue-collar workers and white-collar workers. Therefore, we re-estimate Models 4 and 5 separately for both types of employees. For Models 1 to 3, we cannot distinguish between both groups of employees, since the IAB panel only contains information on the total wage bill within a plant.

The main focus of our analysis is on the influence of exports on wages. We can make use of two alternative indicators of exports: First, a dummy variable indicating whether or not a plant has any exports, and second the proportion of

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[5] A special case is Model 4 which uses information from the employment statistics, where the individual wages have been aggregated to the plant level. Only one plant in the regression sample employs solely workers with censored wages (and hence, only for this plant the average wage is censored). In other plants, some of the workers earn wages that are censored, so that the average reported wage is smaller than the average of the actual wages. However, we have ignored any (small) bias arising from this underreporting since the bias should be correlated with individual qualification for which we control in our estimations and since there is no clear-cut truncation point which could be taken into account in the plant-level estimations.

exports within total sales. In our observation period 1995 to 1997, 69% of all plants in western German manufacturing were exporters (employing 92% of the workers in our sample) and the average export share of all plants was 23% (40% when employment-weighted as in the Appendix). More information on these and on the other variables employed in our analysis can be found in an Appendix Table.

4. EMPIRICAL RESULTS

The results of our empirical investigations using pooled data for the period 1995 to 1997 are presented in Tables 3a (for specifications with the export dummy) and 3b (for the export share).[6] In both cases we started with Model 1 and made only use of the information available from the IAB Establishment Panel, in such a way mimicking the traditional approach adopted by the studies listed in Table 1. As can be seen from the tables, these regressions are well determined, most of the coefficients estimated are highly significant and of the expected sign. While the impact of control variables needs not to be discussed in detail, it is interesting to see that the well-established firm size effect on wages shows up and that the composition of the work force plays an important role for the size of the wage bill.

[Tables 3a and 3b near here]

The principal result is that the estimated coefficient of the dummy variable indicating that a plant is an exporter is not significantly different from zero at any conventional error level, while the coefficient of exports measured as a proportion of total sales is positive and statistically significant. According to the results reported for Model 1 in Table 3b, an increase in the share of exports by ten percentage points raises the wage by some 0.7 percent. This result is in line with the findings reported by Bernard and Wagner (1997) in an earlier study using plant level data from official statistics for one of the western German federal states.

Subsequently, we included additional information from the employment statistics (Model 2) and we replaced those independent variables from the IAB panel for which (more precise) data from the employment statistics were available

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[6]   We also ran cross-section estimations for each year (available from the authors upon request), the results of which are in accordance with those of the pooled estimations presented here. In all models, estimation of standard errors is not based on the assumption that observations within plants (and between years) are independent, i.e. we made use of the cluster (plant) option of Stata. All computations were done inside the German Federal Labor Services using Stata SE 8.2.

(Model 3). In Model 4 even the dependent variable was replaced by the aggregated wage variable from the employment statistics. The results reported in Table 3a show that, like in Model 1, exporting *per se* does not have an impact on wages in Models 2 to 4. Looking at Table 3b we find that the positive effect of a higher share of exports in total sales reported for Model 1 vanishes when additional information on the quality of the workforce is added and when some firm characteristics are measured more precisely. Note that both the point estimates of the exports variable and the t-values decrease considerably from Model 1 to Model 4. This finding of no positive impact of a higher export share on wages contradicts the earlier findings for German plants mentioned above, and the results for many other countries summarized in Table 1.

In the next step of our empirical exercise we looked at blue-collar and white-collar workers separately. The reason for this is that Bernard and Wagner (1997) report in their study using plant level data that the positive exporter wage differential is almost exclusively driven by higher wages of white-collar workers. As has been explained in section 3 above, Models 1 to 3 cannot be estimated separately for blue-collar and white-collar workers because the IAB Establishment Panel does not report average wages for these groups of employees. For Model 4, the results shown in Tables 4a and 4b point into the same direction as the earlier findings for Germany: While for white-collar workers both the estimated coefficient for the exporter dummy and for the share of exports in total sales is positive and statistically significant at a conventional level, this is not the case for blue-collar workers where exporting even seems to have a negative impact.

[Tables 4a and 4b near here]

Our preferred specification making optimal use of all information available at the most disaggregated level possible is Model 5. The results from estimations with both variants of the exports variable for all workers, and for blue-collar and white-collar workers separately, can be summarized in one sentence: Contrary to what has been argued based on findings from earlier studies using data at the plant level, there is no such thing as an exporter wage differential. None of the estimated coefficients reported in Tables 3a to 4b for the export variable in Model 5 is positive and statistically significant at the five percent level or better.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The bottom line of the empirical exercise performed in this study is that in (western) Germany exporting firms do not pay higher wages, *ceteris paribus*. The exporter wage premia vanish if linked employer-employee data instead of plant level data are used to estimate the wage equations. This finding is fully in line with speculations by Robert Z. Lawrence when commenting on the pioneering paper by Bernard and Jensen (1995).

Our results imply that – at least for western Germany – some further questions related to the issue of exporter wage premia are no longer on the research agenda of the microeconometrics of exporting. These include the direction of causality (do exports cause higher wages, or *vice versa*?), the theoretical explanation (why do exporting firms pay premia to their workers?), and the policy implications (are jobs in exporting firms better jobs that should be protected and subsidized?). Evidently, our results have to be replicated with linked employer-employee data sets from other countries before they may be taken for granted. Hopefully, our analysis can provide a stimulus for those researchers that have access to such data sets to invest some time in solving the exporter wage premium puzzle with better data.

Table 1: Synopsis of studies on exporter wage differentials

Author(s) (year of publication)	Country (period covered)	Sample	Wage variable(s)	Important results
Meller (1995)	Chile (1986 – 1989)	Sample of 138 export firms and 436 non-export firms from five industries (food, wine, wood products, chemicals, basic metal)	Median value of average annual wage	The null hypothesis of equal means for wage levels among export and non- export firms (for small and large firms separately) is rejected at the 1 per cent level of significance. Workers of export firms have consistently higher wages than those from non-export firms in all industries. (Note that a wages than those from non-export firms in all industries. (Note that a firm was considered an exporter if at least 30 per cent of its production was destined for foreign markets; non-exporters sell only on the domestic market. Firms with less than 100 workers were classified as small firms.)
Isgut (2001)	Colombia (1981 – 1991)	5,956 to 6,909 manufacturing plants (unbalanced panel)	Average annual wages for all workers, blue collar workers, white collar workers, technicians, and managers	Average annual wages are much higher in exporting plants than in non-exporting plants by all five measures of wages in all plants and in plants from three different size classes (less than 30, 30 to 100, more than 100 workers). Exporter wage premia are statistically significant for all wage measures after controlling for plant size, industry, region, year, export/sales ratio, and capital per worker. Fixed effects regressions including the exports/sales ratio, plant size, capital per worker, and year estimate exporter wage premia between 1.5 percent (for white collar workers) and 3.3 percent (for blue collar workers).
Sinani (2003)	Estonia (1994 – 1999)	2,335 observations on manufacturing firms (unbalanced panel) with 420 firms in 1994 and 303 firms in 1999.	Average labor costs	Average labor costs for exporters equal about four times (1994) and three times (1999) the average labor costs for non-exporters.
Bernard and Wagner (1997)	Germany [Federal State of Lower Saxony] (1978 – 1992)	4,263 manufacturing plants in 1978; 4,270 manufacturing plants in 1992	Average annual wage; average annual production wage; average annual non-production wage	Average annual wage, production wage and non-production wage is higher in all plants and in plants with less than 250 employees in 1978 and 1992, but not for plants with more than 250 or more than 500 employees. Wage differences are much more pronounced for white-collar workers. Exporter wage premia are in part statistically significant after controlling for plant size, capital per worker, production hours per worker, a multi-plant dummy, and industry: the average wage premium in exporting plants is 2.6 percent, while blue-collar workers receive no premium and white-collar workers are paid 3.3 percent more. Results including export intensity are similar. In a fixed effects specification both the premia for average wages and for white-collar wages remain significant.

Author	Country (Years)	Data	Measures	Results
Arnold and Hussinger (2004)	Germany (1992 – 2000)	Unbalanced panel of 2,149 observations on the firm level taken from the Mannheim Innovation Panel covering the manufacturing sector	Wage per employee (exact definition not given)	The wage per employee for the 1,260 exporters is 24.7 percent higher than the wage paid by the 889 non-exporters. Note that firms are considered to be exporters only if they sell at least five percent of their turnover abroad.
Hahn (2004)	Korea (1990 – 1998)	ca. 69,000 to 97,000 manufacturing plants (unbalanced panel)	Average wage; average production worker wage; average non-production worker wage	Average wages are higher in exporting plants than in non-exporting plants by all three measures of wages 1990, 1994 and 1998. Exporter wage premia are statistically significant and high controlling for industry, region and plant size (in 1998, 12.5 percent, 10.5 percent, and 12.0 percent for the three different measures of wages, respectively).
Bernard (1995)	Mexico (1986 – 1990)	2,370 manufacturing plants (balanced panel)	Average annual wage and benefits; average annual production wage; average annual non-production wage; average hourly production wage; average hourly non-production wage; average annual benefits	Exporting plants pay higher average amounts than non-exporting plants for all measures of wages and benefits in 1986 and 1992. Exporter premia are statistically significant after controlling for capital per worker, hours per worker, size of plant, foreign ownership, white collar/total employment, industry, state and year. In a fixed-effects model only the premia for benefits per employee is statistically significant. However, the number of plants changing from non-exporter to exporter or vice versa is rather small so the results from the fixed effects model rely on a very small sample.
Zhou (2003)	Mexico (1986 – 1990)	2,353 manufacturing plants	Average white-collar wages; average blue-collar wages; average earnings including non-wage benefits and social security contributions but excluding profit sharing; average earnings including everything	Average wages are much higher in exporting plants than in non-exporting plants by all four measures of wages. Exporter wage premia are statistically significant and high controlling for industry and state; and controlling for size of firm, capital-labor ratio, white-collar worker share in total employment, foreign equity participation dummy, imported machinery share, royalty payment share, total factor productivity growth, tariff rates on outputs and inputs, and license requirements on outputs and inputs. Exporter wage premia are statistically significant and high (between 7 and 9 percent) in fixed effects regressions.
Verhoogen (2003)	Mexico (1984 – 2001) (1993 – 2001)	3,003 manufacturing plants for 1993 – 2001 in a balanced panel; 3,605 manufacturing plants for 1993 – 2001 in an unbalanced panel; 706 plants for 1984 – 2001 in a balanced panel	Average white-collar hourly wage; average blue-collar hourly wage; ratio of white-collar / blue-collar wage	Average white-collar and blue-collar wages, and ratio of white-collar to blue-collar wages higher for exporters than for non-exporters in 1993, 1997, and 2001 (balanced panel 1993 - 2001); no results reported for the two other panels.

Study	Country (period)	Sample	Wage measure	Findings
Farinas and Martin-Marcos (2003)	Spain (1990 – 1999)	10,145 observations on 1,403 manufacturing plants (unbalanced panel)	Average wage per hour	Average wages are higher in exporting firms than in non-exporting firms for all firms, small firms, and large firms in 1990 and 1999; note that differences are small in large firms (0.3 Euro and 0.5 Euro, respectively). Exporter wage premium is statistically significant and positive (6 percent) controlling for firm size, industry, year, foreign ownership, and firm age.
Hansson and Lundin (2003)	Sweden (1990 – 1999)	3,275 manufacturing firms (between 1,565 and 1,820 each year) in an unbalanced panel.	Average annual labor costs (including social security) per employee; average earning per employee; average earnings of skilled employees; average earnings of less-skilled employees	Average wages are significantly higher for all four wage measures in exporting firms than in non-exporting firms in 1990; in 1999, this holds only for skilled employees (while exporting firms had on average lower labor costs per employee). Using pooled data for 1990 to 1999 (15, 262 or 15,413 observations) exporter wage premia are computed controlling for export share, firm size, capital intensity, industry and year dummies; results are positive and statistically significant for average labor costs (wage premium: 1 percent), average earnings per employee (1.5 percent), and average earnings of skilled workers (7 percent), but not for average earnings of less- skilled workers.
Aw and Batra (1999)	Taiwan (1986)	80,584 firms in ten manufacturing industries from the 1986 census	Average annual wage of non-production labor and of production labor	For all ten industries exporters pay higher wages than non-exporters to both their non-production and production labor. The average cross-industry export wage premium (after controlling for firm size, foreign capital, firm age, multiplant status, and technology investment) is almost 30 percent for non-production workers and 14 percent for production workers.
Liu, Tsou and Hammitt (1999)	Taiwan (1989 – 1993)	875 plants from electronics industry (balanced panel) Information on exports only available for 1990 and 1992	Average annual wage	Average annual wage is much higher in exporting plants than in non- exporting plants in 1992. Exporter wage premium is statistically significant and positive (15.5 percent) in a random effects regression controlling for capital intensity, ratio of subcontracting revenues to total sales, and ratio of R&D expenditure to total sales.
Tsou, Liu and Hammitt (2002)	Taiwan (1986 – 1996)	Plant level data from the electrical machinery and electronics industry; 5,923 plants in 1986, 8,346 plants	Average annual wage	Average annual wages were significantly higher for exporters than for non-exporters; the differentials were 23.8 percent in 1991 and 18.6 percent in 1996.

Study	Country (Period)	Wage measures	Findings
Bernard and Jensen (1995)	U.S. (1976 – 1987)	Average annual wage per worker; average annual wage per production worker; average annual wage per non-production worker; average annual benefits per worker	All average wages and benefits are higher in exporting plants than in non-exporting plants of all size classes, and with less than 250 employees or with 250 and more employees in 1987. Exporter wage premia are statistically significant for all categories of wages and benefits after controlling for capital per worker, hours per worker, size of plant, multi-plant dummy, industry, year, plant age, and region, amounting to 4.4 percent for wage per worker and 7.6 percent for benefits. Coefficients of exporter status dummies are statistically significant in fixed effects regressions controlling for capital per worker, hours per worker, size of plant, and year.
Bernard and Jensen (1999)	U.S. (1984 – 1992)	Annual average wage; annual average production wage; annual average non-production wage	Exporter wage premia are statistically significant after controlling for industry, state, and plant size. Estimates for 1992 are 9.3 percent for average wage, 6.6 percent for production wage, and 4.6 for non-production wage.
Bernard and Jensen (2001)	U.S. (1984 – 1992)	Average annual wage; annual blue-collar wage; annual white-collar wage	Exporter wage premia are statistically significant after controlling for industry and state in 1984 and 1992; estimates for 1992 are 6.9 percent for average wage and blue-collar wage, and 3.7 percent for white-collar wage.
Van Biesebroeck (2003)	Sub-Saharan Africa: Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe (1992 / 1996)	Average wage; production wage; non-production wage	Exporter wage premia is statistically significant and high (about 40 percent) for average wage after controlling for country, year, industry, location, and plant size. The premia is statistically significant and high (about 33 percent) for non-production wage in a sub-sample with information on it, but not statistically significant for production wage.

[data column:]

193,463 manufacturing plants (1987 Census of Manufactures) ca. 400,000 manufacturing plants (pooled data for 1976 – 1987)

56,257 manufacturing plants in 1984; 199,258 manufacturing plants in 1987; 224,009 manufacturing plants in 1992

13,550 manufacturing plants (balanced panel)

approx. 200 firms and three consecutive years in each country except Cote d'Ivoir (two years) and Burundi and Ethiopia (one year); unbalanced panels.

Note: The studies are listed in alphabetical order of the country considered; studies covering up to three countries are listed separately for each country, other multi-country studies are listed at the bottom of the table.

Table 3a: Wage Regressions, Manufacturing, Western Germany
(Endogenous Variable: Log. Wage)

			Model		
Variables	1	2	3	4	5
Exporting plant (1 = yes)	0.028	0.010	-0.004	0.002	-0.003
	[1.33]	[0.50]	[0.21]	[0.18]	[0.39]
Age of employee (years)		0.022	-0.027	-0.006	0.023
		[1.04]	[1.19]	[0.45]	[21.21]**
Age of employee squared		-0.019	0.042	0.012	-0.022
(divided by 100)		[0.71]	[1.48]	[0.66]	[18.71]**
Gender (1 = female)					-0.189
					[43.30]**
Professional status: (reference:					
unskilled blue collar worker)					
Skilled blue collar worker		0.092	0.111	0.102	0.063
		[2.05]*	[2.27]*	[4.31]**	[10.60]**
Master craftsmen, foremen		0.621	0.598	0.393	0.288
		[4.60]**	[3.87]**	[5.26]**	[16.90]**
White collar worker		0.323	0.384	0.329	0.251
		[5.28]**	[6.21]**	[9.19]**	[34.06]**
Part-time employee (1 = yes)					-0.318
					[28.91]**
Married employee (1 = yes)		0.041	0.065	0.028	0.019
		[0.86]	[1.38]	[0.98]	[8.63]**
Foreign employee (1 = yes)					-0.020
					[5.76]**
Logarithm of establishment size	0.198	0.156	0.203	0.120	0.066
	[7.91]**	[6.11]**	[9.01]**	[8.90]**	[3.36]**
Logarithm of establishment size	-1.295	-1.048	-1.423	-0.776	-0.315
squared (divided by 100)	[5.99]**	[4.94]**	[7.29]**	[6.62]**	[1.95]
Proportions within total workforce					
of plant:					
Female workers	-0.335	-0.351	-0.408	-0.374	-0.229
	[7.11]**	[7.37]**	[7.02]**	[10.85]**	[9.16]**
Foreign workers		0.024	0.053	-0.021	0.054
		[0.32]	[0.67]	[0.39]	[1.32]
Workers with graduate	0.200	0.439	0.416	0.369	0.269
degree	[6.13]**	[3.58]**	[3.04]**	[5.95]**	[6.85]**
Part-time employees	-0.598	-0.629	0.046	-0.402	0.180
	[6.44]**	[6.58]**	[0.41]	[5.43]**	[2.59]**

Economic performance of establishment (reference: average performance)					
Good	0.019	0.019	0.021	0.008	0.013
	[1.12]	[1.21]	[1.35]	[0.98]	[2.28]*
Bad	0.017	0.002	-0.003	-0.009	-0.003
	[1.31]	[0.12]	[0.23]	[1.49]	[0.42]
Paid overtime work in establishment (1 = yes)	0.048	0.047	0.035	0.032	0.023
	[2.95]**	[3.03]**	[2.25]*	[4.24]**	[3.14]**
Shift work in establishment (1 = yes)	-0.031	0.013	0.007	0.007	0.024
	[1.53]	[0.68]	[0.38]	[0.65]	[2.25]*
Collective agreement (reference: no collective agreement)					
at sectoral level	0.029	0.025	0.039	0.033	0.029
	[1.08]	[0.98]	[1.49]	[2.19]*	[1.15]
at firm level	0.044	0.053	0.059	0.019	0.048
	[1.40]	[1.74]	[1.85]	[1.10]	[1.81]
Use of technology (index, 1= new, 5 = old)	-0.006	-0.011	-0.005	-0.004	-0.004
	[0.70]	[1.38]	[0.61]	[0.84]	[0.90]
Establishment formation in the last 5 years (1 = yes)	0.011	0.005	0.019	0.004	0.003
	[0.50]	[0.25]	[0.95]	[0.36]	[0.39]
Year Dummies (reference: year = 1995)					
1996	0.025	0.019	0.025	0.028	0.020
	[2.28]*	[1.79]	[2.46]*	[7.88]**	[4.69]**
1997	0.025	0.018	0.026	0.031	0.029
	[2.16]*	[1.60]	[2.27]*	[7.81]**	[9.44]**
98 dummies for individual profession					yes**
9 federal state dummies	yes**	yes*	yes	yes**	yes**
13 industry dummies	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**
Constant	7.817	7.284	8.040	9.296	8.934
	[84.89]**	[17.58]**	[18.48]**	[34.04]**	[82.08]**
Number of observations: total (censored)	2697	2697	2697	2948	1,860,710 (224,853)
Estimation Method	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	Tobit
R^2	0.492	0.535	0.532	0.781	

Source: LIAB 1995-1997. Absolute values of t-statistics in brackets. **/ * denote significance at the 1%/5% level, respectively.

Table 3b: Wage Regressions, Manufacturing, Western Germany
(Endogenous Variable: Log. Wage)

			Model		
Variables	1	2	3	4	5
Exports (proportion of total sales)	0.073	0.036	0.022	0.006	0.023
	[2.43]*	[1.26]	[0.76]	[0.38]	[1.73]
Age of employee (years)		0.023	-0.027	-0.006	0.023
		[1.06]	[1.17]	[0.44]	[21.31]**
Age of employee squared		-0.020	0.042	0.012	-0.022
(divided by 100)		[0.74]	[1.46]	[0.65]	[18.83]**
Gender (1 = female)					-0.189
					[43.47]**
Professional status: (reference:					
unskilled blue collar worker)					
Skilled blue collar worker		0.091	0.111	0.101	0.063
		[2.01]*	[2.27]*	[4.28]**	[10.51]**
Master craftsmen, foremen		0.620	0.597	0.393	0.288
		[4.59]**	[3.86]**	[5.26]**	[16.93]**
White collar worker		0.321	0.383	0.328	0.251
		[5.25]**	[6.21]**	[9.18]**	[33.96]**
Part-time employee (1 = yes)					-0.318
					[28.93]**
Married employee (1 = yes)		0.041	0.064	0.028	0.019
		[0.84]	[1.37]	[0.98]	[8.35]**
Foreign employee (1 = yes)					-0.020
					[5.75]**
Logarithm of establishment size	0.203	0.157	0.202	0.120	0.066
	[8.51]**	[6.43]**	[9.30]**	[9.26]**	[3.44]**
Logarithm of establishment size	-1.353	-1.068	-1.421	-0.779	-0.324
squared (divided by 100)	[6.48]**	[5.19]**	[7.45]**	[6.83]**	[2.03]*
Proportions within total workforce					
of plant:					
Female workers	-0.337	-0.352	-0.409	-0.374	-0.229
	[7.13]**	[7.40]**	[7.06]**	[10.89]**	[9.24]**
Foreign workers		0.021	0.050	-0.021	0.050
		[0.28]	[0.64]	[0.39]	[1.25]
Workers with graduate	0.194	0.430	0.407	0.367	0.260
degree	[5.98]**	[3.50]**	[2.97]**	[5.96]**	[6.67]**
Part-time employees	-0.599	-0.628	0.046	-0.402	0.182
	[6.51]**	[6.62]**	[0.42]	[5.44]**	[2.61]**

Economic performance of establishment (reference: average performance)					
Good	0.016	0.017	0.020	0.008	0.012
	[0.95]	[1.12]	[1.30]	[0.95]	[2.13]*
Bad	0.016	0.001	-0.003	-0.009	-0.002
	[1.23]	[0.09]	[0.23]	[1.50]	[0.35]
Paid overtime work in establishment (1 = yes)	0.049	0.047	0.035	0.032	0.023
	[3.03]**	[3.07]**	[2.26]*	[4.27]**	[3.21]**
Shift work in establishment (1 = yes)	-0.034	0.011	0.005	0.007	0.021
	[1.69]	[0.56]	[0.24]	[0.62]	[1.97]*
Collective agreement (reference: no collective agreement)					
at sectoral level	0.029	0.026	0.040	0.033	0.029
	[1.10]	[0.99]	[1.53]	[2.19]*	[1.19]
at firm level	0.047	0.054	0.060	0.019	0.049
	[1.50]	[1.78]	[1.86]	[1.11]	[1.88]
Use of technology (index, 1= new, 5 = old)	-0.006	-0.011	-0.005	-0.004	-0.004
	[0.77]	[1.43]	[0.66]	[0.85]	[0.89]
Establishment formation in the last 5 years (1 = yes)	0.011	0.006	0.020	0.004	0.004
	[0.53]	[0.28]	[0.98]	[0.36]	[0.46]
Year Dummies (reference: year = 1995)					
1996	0.024	0.018	0.025	0.028	0.020
	[2.20]*	[1.75]	[2.46]*	[7.90]**	[4.73]**
1997	0.025	0.018	0.025	0.031	0.028
	[2.16]*	[1.58]	[2.23]*	[7.78]**	[9.14]**
98 dummies for individual profession					yes**
9 federal state dummies	yes**	yes*	yes	yes**	yes**
13 industry dummies	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**
Constant	7.811	7.273	8.035	9.294	8.927
	[85.06]**	[17.62]**	[18.46]**	[33.98]**	[82.49]**
Number of observations: total (censored)	2697	2697	2697	2948	1,860,710 (224,853)
Estimation Method	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	Tobit
R^2	0.493	0.536	0.532	0.781	

Source: LIAB 1995-1997. Absolute values of t-statistics in brackets. **/ * denote significance at the 1%/ 5% level, respectively.

Table 4a: Wage Regressions; Separately for Blue-collar Workers (BC) and White-Collar Workers (WC), Manufacturing, Western Germany

(Endogenous Variable: Log. Wage)

	Model 4		Model 5	
Variables	BC	WC	BC	WC
Exporting Plant (1 = yes)	-0.040	0.040	-0.009	0.005
	[3.43]**	[2.56]*	[1.00]	[0.60]
Age of employee (years)	0.001	-0.016	0.017	0.048
	[0.04]	[0.68]	[17.28]**	[47.04]**
Age of employee squared (divided by 100)	0.006	0.032	-0.018	-0.047
	[0.26]	[1.13]	[15.24]**	[40.38]**
Gender (1 = female)			-0.152	-0.194
			[31.71]**	[23.50]**
Professional status: (reference: unskilled blue collar worker)				
Skilled blue collar worker	0.083		0.066	
	[3.28]**		[10.79]**	
Master craftsmen, foremen	0.52		0.318	
	[5.92]**		[10.89]**	
Married employee (1 = yes)	0.035	0.013	0.02	0.021
	[1.26]	[0.35]	[7.99]**	[8.66]**
Foreign employee (1 = yes)			-0.018	-0.014
			[5.60]**	[3.43]**
Logarithm of establishment size	0.092	0.180	0.046	0.104
	[5.89]**	[8.93]**	[1.88]	[5.69]**
Logarithm of establishment size squared (divided by 100)	-0.542	-1.202	-0.165	-0.585
	[4.05]**	[7.16]**	[0.80]	[4.39]**
Proportions within total workforce of plant:				
Female workers	-0.333	-0.265	-0.249	-0.071
	[11.06]**	[6.25]**	[10.10]**	[2.51]*
Foreign workers	-0.085	0.049	-0.009	0.119
	[2.22]*	[0.88]	[0.19]	[2.54]*
Workers with graduate	0.361	0.347	0.249	0.272
Degree	[5.94]**	[5.70]**	[4.33]**	[6.53]**
Economic performance of establishment (reference: average performance)				
Good	0.011	0.014	0.012	0.013
	[1.28]	[1.36]	[1.93]	[2.22]*
Bad	-0.005	-0.003	-0.001	-0.002
	[0.79]	[0.45]	[0.08]	[0.41]

Paid overtime work in establishment (1 = yes)	0.04 [5.15]**	0.024 [2.19]*	0.028 [3.16]**	0.017 [2.39]*
Shift work in establishment (1 = yes)	-0.005 [0.46]	0.032 [2.42]*	0.027 [2.19]*	0.012 [1.02]
Collective agreement (reference: no collective agreement)				
at sectoral level	0.019 [1.22]	0.013 [0.67]	0.041 [1.19]	0.007 [0.42]
at firm level	-0.007 [0.40]	0.029 [1.37]	0.056 [1.61]	0.033 [1.81]
Use of technology (index, 1= new, 5 = old)	-0.007 [1.60]	0.000 [0.06]	-0.003 [0.51]	-0.005 [1.16]
Establishment formation in the last 5 years (1 = yes)	0.006 [0.53]	0.025 [1.71]	0.006 [0.56]	-0.003 [0.40]
Year Dummies (reference: year = 1995)				
1996	0.022 [6.39]**	0.025 [5.75]**	0.020 [4.06]**	0.025 [6.87]**
1997	0.028 [7.34]**	0.034 [6.45]**	0.028 [7.82]**	0.036 [10.26]**
98 dummies for individual profession			yes**	yes**
9 federal state dummies	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**
13 industry dummies	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**
Constant	9.192 [30.84]**	9.394 [21.28]**	8.968 [106.97]**	9.373 [.]
Number of observations: total			1198254	598968
(censored)	2853	2725	(20,326)	(203,898)
Estimation method	OLS	OLS	Tobit	Tobit
R^2	0.614	0.646		

Source: LIAB 1995-1997. Absolute values of t-statistics in brackets. **/ * denote significance at the 1%/5% level, respectively.

Table 4b: Wage Regressions; Separately for Blue-Collar Workers (BC) and White-Collar Workers (WC), Manufacturing, Western Germany

(Endogenous Variable: Log. Wage)

Variables	Model 4		Model 5	
	BC	WC	BC	WC
Exports (Proportion of total sales)	-0.003	0.034	0.032	0.006
	[0.21]	[2.01]*	[1.84]	[0.50]
Age of employee (years)	0.001	-0.015	0.017	0.048
	[0.08]	[0.64]	[17.51]**	[46.99]**
Age of employee squared (divided by 100)	0.005	0.031	-0.018	-0.047
	[0.22]	[1.10]	[15.48]**	[40.31]**
Gender (1 = female)			-0.152	-0.194
			[31.94]**	[23.47]**
Professional status: (reference: unskilled blue collar worker)				
Skilled blue collar worker	0.088		0.065	
	[3.47]**		[10.66]**	
Master craftsmen, foremen	0.517		0.318	
	[5.84]**		[10.95]**	
Married employee (1 = yes)	0.035	0.012	0.020	0.021
	[1.23]	[0.32]	[7.58]**	[8.61]**
Foreign employee (1 = yes)			-0.018	-0.014
			[5.61]**	[3.47]**
Logarithm of establishment size	0.084	0.188	0.046	0.105
	[5.58]**	[9.60]**	[1.89]	[5.75]**
Logarithm of establishment size squared (divided by 100)	-0.493	-1.261	-0.171	-0.593
	[3.78]**	[7.68]**	[0.83]	[4.45]**
Proportions within total workforce of plant:				
Female workers	-0.337	-0.262	-0.25	-0.071
	[11.00]**	[6.20]**	[10.25]**	[2.50]*
Foreign workers	-0.09	0.053	-0.013	0.119
	[2.33]*	[0.94]	[0.30]	[2.58]***
Workers with graduate degree	0.349	0.351	0.239	0.27
	[5.75]**	[5.67]**	[4.21]**	[6.54]**
Economic performance of establishment (reference: average performance)				
Good		0.013	0.011	0.013
	0.01 [1.26]	[1.25]	[1.73]	[2.18]*
Bad	-0.004	-0.004	0	-0.002
	[0.70]	[0.58]	[0.02]	[0.42]

Paid overtime work in establishment (1 = yes)	0.039 [4.96]**	0.025 [2.28]*	0.028 [3.23]**	0.017 [2.39]*
Shift work in establishment (1 = yes)	-0.01 [0.82]	0.034 [2.52]*	0.021 [1.81]	0.012 [1.00]
Collective agreement (reference: no collective agreement)				
at sectoral level	0.021 [1.38]	0.011 [0.57]	0.041 [1.22]	0.007 [0.42]
at firm level	-0.008 [0.47]	0.032 [1.48]	0.057 [1.67]	0.034 [1.83]
Use of technology (index, 1= new, 5 = old)	-0.007 [1.67]	0.000 [0.07]	-0.002 [0.48]	-0.005 [1.13]
Establishment formation in the last 5 years (1 = yes)	0.007 [0.62]	0.024 [1.67]	0.007 [0.65]	-0.003 [0.38]
Year Dummies (reference: year = 1995)				
1996	0.022 [6.56]**	0.025 [5.62]**	0.02 [4.05]**	0.025 [6.90]**
1997	0.027 [6.89]**	0.035 [6.54]**	0.026 [7.39]**	0.036 [10.29]**
98 dummies for individual profession			yes**	yes**
9 federal state dummies	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**
13 industry dummies	yes**	yes**	yes**	yes**
Constant	9.191 [30.78]**	9.366 [21.17]**	8.957 [106.65]**	9.371 [.]
Number of observations: total (censored)	2853	2725	1198254 (20,326)	598968 (203,898)
Estimation Method	OLS	OLS	Tobit	Tobit
R^2	0.610	0.644		

Source: LIAB 1995-1997. Absolute values of t-statistics in brackets. **/ * denote significance at the 1%/5% level, respectively.

Appendix 1: Descriptive Statistics; Regression Sample (Individual Level), Manufacturing, Western Germany

Variables	All		Blue Collar Workers		White Collar Workers	
	mean	s.d.	mean	s.d.	mean	s.d.
Logarithm of daily wage (in Pfennigen)	9.775	0.293	9.694	0.223	9.995	0.235
Exports (proportion of total sales)	0.396	0.238	0.392	0.232	0.407	0.251
Exporting plant (1 = yes)	0.921	0.270	0.926	0.261	0.910	0.286
Age of employee (years)	40.160	10.296	39.345	10.351	41.621	10.102
Age of employee squared (divided by 100)	17.188	8.486	16.551	8.406	18.343	8.565
Gender (1 = female)	0.197	0.397	0.139	0.346	0.238	0.426
Professional status: (reference: unskilled blue collar worker)						
Skilled blue collar worker	0.281	0.449	0.436	0.496	0.000	0.000
Master craftsmen, foremen	0.023	0.150	0.036	0.186	0.000	0.000
White collar worker	0.322	0.467	0.000	0.000	1.000	0.000
Part-time employee (1 = yes)	0.034	0.182	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Married employee (1 = yes)	0.646	0.478	0.640	0.480	0.646	0.478
Foreign employee (1 = yes)	0.131	0.337	0.183	0.387	0.033	0.178
Logarithm of establishment size	7.509	1.297	7.517	1.308	7.513	1.269
Logarithm of establishment size squared (divided by 100)	0.581	0.194	0.582	0.195	0.581	0.190
Proportions within total workforce of plant:						
Female workers	0.131	0.097	0.184	0.152	0.209	0.134
Foreign workers	0.100	0.088	0.140	0.101	0.114	0.089
Workers with graduate degree	0.034	0.043	0.079	0.068	0.140	0.108
Part-time employees	0.197	0.150	0.030	0.039	0.037	0.038
Economic performance of establishment (reference: average performance)						
Good	0.234	0.423	0.227	0.419	0.245	0.430
Bad	0.391	0.488	0.394	0.489	0.389	0.487

Paid overtime work in establishment (1 = yes)	0.899	0.301	0.898	0.303	0.906	0.292
Shift work in establishment (1 = yes)	0.944	0.223	0.959	0.194	0.917	0.265
Collective agreement (reference: no collective agreement)						
at sectoral level	0.929	0.257	0.925	0.263	0.936	0.245
at firm level	0.051	0.220	0.056	0.229	0.043	0.202
Use of technology (index, 1= new, 5 = old)	1.986	0.653	1.990	0.661	1.979	0.635
Establishment formation in the last 5 years (1 = yes)	0.059	0.235	0.058	0.234	0.062	0.240
Year Dummies (reference: year = 1995)						
1996	0.336	0.472	0.331	0.471	0.344	0.475
1997	0.354	0.478	0.354	0.478	0.353	0.478
Number of observations: total (censored)	1,860,710 (224,853)		1,198,254 (20,326)		598,968 (203,898)	

Source: LIAB 1995-1997.

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