EDUCATION AND MOBILITY

Stephen Machin
University College London

Panu Pelkonen
University of Sussex

Kjell G. Salvanes
Norwegian School of Economics

Abstract
We show that the length of compulsory education has a causal impact on regional labour mobility. We reach this conclusion from an analysis of a quasi-exogenous staged Norwegian school reform, using register data on the whole population. Based on the results, we conclude that part of the US-Europe difference, as well as the European North-South difference in labour mobility, is likely to be due to differences in levels of education in the respective regions. (JEL: I28, J24, J61)