

 PMMA Project: 2XXXX

Delete as appropriate: Interim report / final draft report / final report / working paper

Title of the report

*Date (month, year)*

**Author A**

**Author B**

**Author C**

**Author D**

**Etc.**

*General note: the structure and indications below can apply or not depending on the version of the document. However, we expect that, since the first version, the paper adopts a journal article format*



**Title of the paper**

**Abstract**

A summary of 12-16 lines (or between 100 and 150 words) briefly reporting the research background, main questions, results and policy implications of the study. Your abstract should reply these questions: What is known and why is this study needed. (Background and motivation); What you do? (Methods); What do you find? (Results); Which are the policy implications? (Discussion)

**Authors**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Author A:**Professional title, institution city and countryemail address | **Author B:**Professional title**,** institutioncity and countryemail address |
| **Author C:**Professional title**,** institutioncity and countryemail address |  |

**Key words** : Keyword 1, Keyword 2, etc.[[1]](#footnote-1)

**JEL Classification**: CODE1; CODE2; etc.

**Acknowledgements**

**Make sure to include the correct** [**acknowledgement**](https://www.pep-net.org/grants/acknowledgements)**, according to the program/donors through which your PEP project was funded.**

Refer to the link above, or to section A3 of your Research Support Grant Agreement, beginning:

“This work was carried out with financial and scientific support from the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP)”…

**This first paragraph is mandatory, and must be copied as is.** The rest can be customized and opened to other contributors - for example:

*“The authors are also grateful to Person X and Person Y for technical support and guidance, as well as to Person Z for valuable comments and suggestions”.*

We encourage you to start by acknowledging your PEP mentors (scientific and policy outreach).

**Table of Contents**

1. [Introduction](#_bookmark2) 1
2. [Literature review](#_bookmark3) 2
3. [Conceptual Framework (optional)](#_bookmark4) 3
4. [Data and Measurement of Key Variables](#_bookmark5) 4
	1. [Context and Data](#_bookmark6) 4
	2. [Defining the outcome](#_bookmark7) 4
	3. [Defining the ”treatment/shock”](#_bookmark8) 4
5. [Identifying the causal impact of *X* on *Y* : Empirical Strategy](#_bookmark11) 6
	1. [Econometric specifications](#_bookmark12) 6
6. [Estimation Results](#_bookmark13) 7
	1. [Effect of *X* on *Y*](#_bookmark14) 7
	2. [Robustness checks](#_bookmark17) 8
	3. [Impact mechanisms](#_bookmark18) 8
7. [Conclusions and policy implications](#_bookmark19) 9

[References](#_bookmark23) 10

[Appendices](#_bookmark23) 11

[Appendix A](#_bookmark24) 11

[Appendix B](#_bookmark25) 11

List of Figures

Figure 1: [The density curve of the Pigou index](#_bookmark10) 5

Figure 2: [The density curve of the Pigou index](#_bookmark16) 8

List of Tables

Table 1: [Labor market power determinants](#_bookmark9) 4

Table 2: [Labor market power determinants](#_bookmark15) 7

1. Introduction

This section should be developed around the following issues (note that the order of the elements below can be changed):

* + Hook: motivation of your paper, explain why the topic is interesting.
	+ Question: research question and explanation of your strategy and its challenges, preview of the results and impact mechanisms
	+ Antecedents: overview of directly relevant literature that contextualize your article
	+ Value Added: Contributions (most important part)
	+ Roadmap: Outline the organization of the paper with key points and milestones
1. Literature review

Report on key works on the issue of interest.

* 1. Note that it is more and more frequent that the literature review is very narrow and included in the Introduction section (however, especially for the Interim and Final Report versions, it might be better to have this as a distinct section)
	2. You should cite only sources that are crucially relevant to your research question
	3. The literature review should also help you to demonstrate the value-added of your contribution
	4. One of the scholars cited might be a referee for your paper: keep a neutral tone when describing past contributions
	5. The absence of recent references suggests that the review is incomplete or the topic out- of-fashion

Please, note that any text that you borrow from another source should be carefully contained between quotation marks, and this, with a reference to the source (including page number) immediately following the quotation. Note also that copying large extracts (such as several paragraphs) from other texts is not a good practice, and is usually unacceptable.

For a fuller description of plagiarism, please refer, for example, to the following web sites:

<http://writing.yalecollege.yale.edu/warning-when-you-must-cite>, and <http://writing.yalecollege.yale.edu/fair-paraphrase>.

PEP will be using a software program to detect cases of plagiarism.

1. How to insert the author name of one reference ([Baah-Boateng](#_bookmark21), [2016](#_bookmark21))
2. How to insert remember different references in the text ([Baah-Boateng](#_bookmark21), [2016](#_bookmark21), [2015](#_bookmark20); [Mueller](#_bookmark22) [et al.](#_bookmark22), [2018](#_bookmark22))
3. Conceptual Framework (optional)

(The use of this section depends on the type of paper; if entirely empirical, the impact mechanisms can be briefly discussed in the introduction and, extensively, in the empirical section - see below).

* 1. It explains the potential determinants and the impact/causal mechanisms of a given pol- icy/intervention, phenomenon or shock on the outcome(s)
	2. It allows to derive (conceptually or theoretically) the hypotheses being tested with the empirical models
	3. It may help to explain some (seemingly) unexpected or counterintuitive empirical results
	4. The interpretation of the empirical results needs to be done consistently with the developed conceptual framework

# Data and Measurement of Key Variables

(Note that the Empirical Strategy section - just after - sometimes precedes this one).

## Context and Data

In this subsection you need to describe the context of your application, your data and convince the reader that your data are the most appropriate to address your research question(s). You also need to show some descriptive statistics of the variables used in the econometric analysis (except for the outcome and main explanatory variable - see below).

* 1. Defining the outcome

In this sub-section, you define the outcome, and show some descriptive statistics of the outcome.

* 1. Defining the “treatment/shock”

In this subsection, you define the treatment or shock, and show some descriptive statistics of the treatment or shock.

As a general suggestion, Descriptive statistics are crucially important: By rigorously interrogating the basic data and their relationships, they should report information supporting and guiding the research questions. If you cannot tell a coherent story with the basic data, then how can the reader be convinced by empirical strategy?

*Example for inserting a table:*

**Table 1:** **Labor market power determinants**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Dep. Var.: Pigou index** | **Model 1** | **Model 2** |
| Concentration in Labor | 0.0220∗ | 0.0204 |
| Concentration in Remunerations | -0.0468∗∗∗ | -0.0514∗∗∗ |
| Concentration in total gross production | 0.0285∗∗ | 0.0291∗∗ |
| Concentration in fixed assets | 0.0172∗ | 0.0196∗ |
| Sector dummies | ... | YES |
| Constant | 0.165 | -0.261 |
| Observations | 268 | 268 |
| *R*2 | 0.216 | 0.360 |
| Adjusted *R*2 | 0.204 | 0.302 |
| **Note:** ∗ *p <* 0*.*05, ∗∗ *p <* 0*.*01, ∗∗∗ *p <* 0*.*001**Source:** Always, always, always indicate the source of data |

*Example for inserting a figure:*

Figure 1: The density curve of the Pigou index

.6

.8

E in [−Inf, 0.0] : 48.9

E in [0.0, 0.5] : 20.8

E in [0.5, 1.0] : 9.6

E in [1.0, Inf.] : 20.7

−2 0 2 4 6

The density: f(E)

.4

0

.2

Pigou Index

**Note**: …

**Source:** Always, always, always indicate the source of data

Remember that Figures and Tables must be self-contained (no need to read the text to understand them)

1. Identifying the causal impact of X on Y: Empirical Strategy

## Econometric specifications

The challenges to, e.g., identification can be discussed here or in a separate subsection.

Example for inserting an equation:

$Y\_{i,s,t}=\sum\_{l=1}^{2}β\_{1,l}X\_{s,t-l}+γ\_{1}Z\_{i,t}+γ\_{2}Z\_{i}+ω\_{1}θ\_{i,t}+ω\_{2}μ\_{s}+ω\_{3}σ\_{t}+ε\_{i,t}$**(01)**

Remark(s):

* Use the same font for all symbols and notation;
* Define clearly all notation used in the text and in the equations.

In general, this section should be structured around these points:

* It describes how the paper answers the research question(s)
* To do that, you need a credible and solid research design
* You need the appropriate methodology
* You need to convince the editor and the referees that you use the best possible methodology given the available data to answer your research questions
* Must provide all the details that are needed to replicate your research design, i.e. the exact reference(s) and a broad but stand-alone description of the method
* No need to describe well-known methods (e.g., likelihood function of a probit), use references
* Robustness checks and a discussion about the limits and caveats of the analysis are perceived favorably by referees

# Estimation Results

This section should report the discussion and interpretation of the results together with the associated tables and figures. All tables and figures should be accurately cited in the text. In order to keep the main text as brief as possible, some less relevant but still necessary tables and figures can be moved into an Annex (see below).

* 1. Effect of *X* on *Y*

**Table 2: Labor market power determinants**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Dep. Var.: Pigou index** | **Model 1** | **Model 2** |
| Concentration in Labor | 0.0220∗ | 0.0204 |
| Concentration in Remunerations | -0.0468∗∗∗ | -0.0514∗∗∗ |
| Concentration in total gross production | 0.0285∗∗ | 0.0291∗∗ |
| Concentration in fixed assets | 0.0172∗ | 0.0196∗ |
| Sector dummies | ... | YES |
| Constant | 0.165 | -0.261 |
| Observations | 268 | 268 |
| *R*2 | 0.216 | 0.360 |
| Adjusted *R*2 | 0.204 | 0.302 |
| **Note:** ∗ *p <* 0*.*05, ∗∗ *p <* 0*.*01, ∗∗∗ *p <* 0*.*001**Source:** Always, always, always indicate the source of data |

Example for inserting a figure:

Figure 1: The density curve of the Pigou index

.6

.8

E in [−Inf, 0.0] : 48.9

E in [0.0, 0.5] : 20.8

E in [0.5, 1.0] : 9.6

E in [1.0, Inf.] : 20.7

−2 0 2 4 6

The density: f(E)

.4

0

.2

Pigou Index

**Note**: …

**Source:** Always, always, always indicate the source of data

* 1. Robustness checks

This section serves to test whether the identification strategy is robust to, e.g., possible sample characteristics, or unobserved variables, etc.

## Impact mechanisms

This section serves to elucidate the mechanisms that would drive the causal effect.

# Conclusions and policy implications

* Some readers glance at the conclusion to decide to read the more or not: Good practice to restate the research question to show its pertinence
* Synthesizes the data, method, challenges, results, policy implications, and possible future research
* Do not draw conclusions that are not supported by your findings. Do not extrapolate.

# References

Baah-Boateng, W. (2015). Unemployment in Africa: how appropriate is the global definition and measurement for policy purpose. *International Journal of Manpower*, 36(5):650–667.

Baah-Boateng, W. (2016). The youth unemployment challenge in Africa: What are the drivers? *The Economic and Labor Relations Review*, 27(4):413–431.

Mueller, V., Doss, C., and Quisumbing, A. (2018). Youth migration and labor constraints in African agrarian households. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 54(5):875–894.

# Appendices

# Appendix A

Insert the text of the appendix A

# Appendix B

Insert the text of the appendix B

1. Please consult the following link: [*https://www.aeaweb.org/econlit/jelCodes.php*](https://www.aeaweb.org/econlit/jelCodes.php)*. B*y clicking on the JEL code links, you will find examples of keywords associated to specific domains. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)