

International and Interarea Comparisons of Income, Output, and Prices

Edited by Alan Heston and
Robert E. Lipsey



The University of Chicago Press

Chicago and London

Contents

Prefatory Note	xi
Introduction	1
Alan Heston and Robert E. Lipsey	
I. THEORETICAL BASES OF MULTILATERAL INTERSPATIAL COMPARISONS	
1. Axiomatic and Economic Approaches to International Comparisons	13
W. Erwin Diewert	
<i>Comment:</i> Irwin L. Collier Jr.	
2. International Comparisons Using Spanning Trees	109
Robert J. Hill	
II. INTERAREA PRICE AND WAGE COMPARISONS	
3. Interarea Price Comparisons for Heterogeneous Goods and Several Levels of Commodity Aggregation	123
Mary F. Kokoski, Brent R. Moulton, and Kimberly D. Zieschang	
<i>Comment:</i> Paul Pieper	
4. Constructing Interarea Compensation Cost Indexes with Data from Multiple Surveys	171
W. Brooks Pierce, John W. Ruser, and Kimberly D. Zieschang	
<i>Comment:</i> Joel Popkin	

5. Cities in Brazil: An Interarea Price Comparison	211
Bettina H. Aten	
<i>Comment:</i> Jorge Salazar-Carrillo	

III. INFORMAL REPORTS ON METHODS AND THE GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON PROGRAM

6. Purchasing Power Parities for Medical Care and Health Expenses	233
Giuliano Amerini	
7. Comparisons for Countries of Central and Eastern Europe	239
Alfred Franz	
8. Multilateral Comparison of the Baltic Countries, 1993	251
Seppo Varjonen	
9. Report on the Romania-Republic of Moldova Bilateral Comparison, Benchmark Year 1993	261
Daniela Elena Ștefanescu and Maria Chisinevski	
10. A Critique of CIA Estimates of Soviet Performance from the Gerschenkron Perspective	271
Yuri Dikhanov	

IV. REPORTS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS OF OUTPUT AND PRODUCTIVITY PROGRAM

11. The Measurement of Performance in Distribution, Transport, and Communications: The ICOP Approach Applied to Brazil, Mexico, France, and the United States	279
Nanno Mulder	
<i>Comment:</i> Peter Hooper	
12. Prices, Quantities, and Productivity in Industry: A Study of Transition Economies in a Comparative Perspective	327
Bart van Ark, Erik Monnikhof, and Marcel Timmer	
<i>Comment:</i> Irwin L. Collier Jr.	

V. APPLICATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON DATA

13. The Effects of Price Regulation on Productivity in Pharmaceuticals	371
Patricia M. Danzon and Allison Percy	
<i>Comment:</i> Ernst R. Berndt	
14. Specialization and Productivity Performance in Low-, Medium-, and High-Tech Manufacturing Industries	419
Edward N. Wolff	
15. Wage Dispersion and Country Price Levels	453
Robert E. Lipsey and Birgitta Swedenborg	
<i>Comment:</i> Andrew Levin	
16. The World Distribution of Well-being Dissected	479
Robert Summers and Alan Heston	
<i>Comment:</i> Timothy M. Smeeding	
Glossary	509
Contributors	517
Author Index	521
Subject Index	525