DESTINATION CHOICE OF INTERSTATE FAMILY MIGRANTS TO SELECTED AREAS IN CALIFORNIA

Saeed Abedin Dorkoosh*

Abstract

In this study an attempt has been made to construct a destination choice model for those families who migrated to California from other states between the years 1965 and 1970.

The empirical work is based on a Public Use Sample of Basic Records from the 1970 Census; the technique of estimation used in this study is McFadden's maximum likelihood (multinomial logit technique which often is referred to as conditional logit).

Our findings confirm the hypothesis that various groups of migrants respond somewhat differently to the geographic and economic stimuli in selecting their destinations in California. While white family migrants pay attention to the level of expected earnings in selecting their destinations, black family migrants are more concerned with the expansion of economic opportunities (i.e., growth rates of income and employment).

I. Introduction

When a person wants to migrate, he faces two definite decisions: first, whether to move or stay put and second to move and decide upon a destination before doing so. Most migration research has been concerned with the decision of whether to move or whether to stay. The choice of destination sometimes has been modeled upon studies using aggregated census data (5, 6, 9) which estimates the combined effect of the influence of an explanatory variable on both out-migration and in-migration (destination choice). But using aggregate data for migration studies is not appropriate for several different reasons.[1]

In this study an attempt is made to construct a choice destination model for those families who migrated to California from other states between the years 1965 and 1970. It is assumed that not only have the migrants made the decision to move to California but that they have the possibility of choosing their destination in California.

---

*Assistant Professor, Karaj School of Mathematics and Economic Management, Iran.

[1]For detailed discussion about micro data and its advantages over aggregate data for migration analysis, see Da Vanzo (2)

Date received: July 1980; revised July 1981.