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The role of distance education in economic growth: Evidence from Turkiye

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Abstract

Endogenous growth models emphasize the impact of human capital on economic growth. It is accepted that Anadolu University's distance education investments significantly contribute to increasing human capital. This study examines the effects of the Anadolu University Open Education System on economic growth in Turkiye. For this purpose, annual time series covering 1987-2023 are analyzed with the fractional frequency Fourier Toda-Yamamoto causality test, which considers permanent and temporary structural breaks. The findings indicate a one-way relationship from the open education system to growth. Among the open education, economics, and business administration faculties in the open education system, only the open education faculty is associated with growth. In addition, the number of female graduates of the open education system also encourages growth. As a result, distance education positively affects Turkiye's macroeconomic performance.

Keywords: Anadolu University, Distance Education, Economic Growth, Open Education System
Jel Codes: C32, I25, O47