

The Impact of the Great Irish Famine on Irish Mass Migration to the United States at the Turn of the Twentieth Century

Authors : Gayane Vardanyan, Gaia Narciso, Battista Severgnini

Abstract : This paper investigates the long-run impact of the Great Irish Famine on emigration from Ireland at the turn of the twentieth century. To do it we combine the 1901 and the 1911 Irish Census data sets with the Ellis Island Administrative Records on Irish migrants to the United States. We find that the migrants were more likely to be Catholic, literate, unmarried, young and Gaelic speaking compared to the ones that stay. Running individual level specifications, our preliminary findings suggest that being born in a place where the Famine was more severe increases the probability of becoming a migrant in the long-run. We also intend to explore the mechanisms through which this impact occurs.

Keywords : Great Famine, mass migration, long-run impact, mechanisms

Conference Title : ICMDHS 2018 : International Conference on Migration, Development and Human Security

Conference Location : Rome, Italy

Conference Dates : May 03-04, 2018