

Judges and Development

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ABSTRACT:

Do legal institutions create economic development? Or are institutions just a result of economic development? To answer this question, this paper focuses on a particular aspect of legal institutions: the number of judges in a legal system. Unlike other measures of legal institutions, which can be quite persistent, the number of judges in a given country varies through time. This allows for the use of country panel data, and of an instrumental variable method in order to control for the possible reverse causality of economic development on the judicial system.