
This paper analyzes the relationship between human capital and growth (considering the first through a broad approach involving health and education) for 86 countries from 1960-2010. The objective is to evaluate the presence of nonlinearities and the threshold effects by using parametric and semiparametric panel techniques. The results show: a) well-known evidence of nonlinearities in education, with a range of average values of education (and income) for which the relation is negative (threshold effects); b) evidence of nonlinearities for health, although the effect is smoother; and c) great dispersion in the education–growth relationship at medium and high levels of income.

**Keywords:** Economic growth, human capital, health, education, panel data, semiparametric methods, non-linearities, threshold effects.

**JEL:** C1, I0, O4, O5.