Long, long term consequences of vouchers for private schooling in Colombia
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Abstract: We use administrative data to investigate the post-secondary educational and labor market effects of private secondary school vouchers in Colombia fifteen years after initial voucher receipt. When demand exceed availability vouchers were allocated by a lottery. We use this initial random assignment to document that voucher winners, particularly men, are more likely to attend (10%), persist and graduate from college (25%) in part because they are more likely to receive governmental college financial aid. Voucher winners, especially men, earn 10% more than voucher losers, an effect that we interpret as a wage effect because there are no differences between winners and losers in the probability of formal sector employment, number of days worked per year or occupational distribution. Our labor market results indicate that in the Colombian context vouchers for private secondary schooling are highly cost-effective.