

## NEW AT DICE DATABASE

In the second quarter of 2007 the DICE Database ([www.cesifo.de/DICE](http://www.cesifo.de/DICE)) received about 120 new entries, consisting partly of updates of existing entries and partly of new topics. Some further topics are mentioned below:

- Business Regulations in International Comparison (I-IV)
- Differences in Earnings Between Females and Males
- Free Movement of Labour in the EU-15
- Teachers' Salaries at Different Teaching Levels
- Institutional Bodies in Charge of Administrative Simplification
- Financial Structures of Public Health Care Systems
- Health Expenditures
- Private Health Insurance-related Laws and Regulations
- Working Time
- Business Tax Rates
- Corporate Taxes
- Personal Income Tax: Top Tax Rates.

## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

### **European Meeting of the European Economic Association and the Econometric Society**

27–31 August 2007, in Budapest

The Central European University and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences are pleased and honoured to host the next joint European meeting of the European Economic Association and the Econometric Society (EEA/ESEM) in Budapest, Hungary, August 27–31, 2007. The European Economic Association and the Econometric Society are international scientific organizations dedicated to the promotion and dissemination of contemporary economic research, including theoretical, empirical, and policy-relevant contributions. The EEA/ESEM joint meeting will feature the work of the leading scholars in economics and related fields, and will provide an excellent opportunity to present own research results.

### **International Institute of Public Finance (IIPF) Annual Congress**

27–30 August 2007, University of Warwick

The 63rd IIPF Congress will be held at the University of Warwick, UK, on 27–30 August 2007. Its

keynote addresses will deal with Global Public Goods and Commons: Theoretical and Policy Challenges for a Changing World. The congress will be particularly concerned with global public good and open access resource issues, for which the prospects of satisfactory resolution are made more difficult by the non-existence of supranational authorities with the power to monitor and enforce attractive mechanisms for resource allocation. However, it is also interested in public good and open access resource issues that arise at the local and regional level.

### **Economic Incentives: Do They Work in Education? Insights and Findings from Behavioral Research**

16–17 May 2008, in Munich

To explore the use of economic incentives in education, CESifo Munich and the Program on Education Policy and Governance (PEPG) of Harvard University are hosting jointly a conference in Munich Germany on 16–17 May 2008. The scientific organizers, Paul E. Peterson (Harvard) and Ludger Woessmann (Munich), hope to bring scholarly perspectives together from both sides of the Atlantic.

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SURVEY PROGRAM

The International Social Survey Program (ISSP) is a continuing, annual program of cross-national collaboration. It brings together pre-existing, social science projects and coordinates research goals, thereby adding a cross-national perspective to the individual, national studies. ISSP evolved from a bilateral collaboration between the Allgemeine Bevölkerungsumfragen der Sozialwissenschaften (ALLBUS) of the Zentrum für Umfragen, Methoden, und Analysen (ZUMA) in Mannheim, Germany and the General Social Survey (GSS) of the National Opinion Research Center (NORC), University of Chicago. Both the ALLBUS and the GSS are replicating time series studies.

ISSP makes data available to the social science community. The merging of the data into a cross-national data set is performed by the Zentralarchiv für Empirische Sozialforschung, University of Cologne in collaboration with the Analisis Sociologicos, Economicos y Politicos in Spain. Data from 1985 to 2003 are presently available from the Zentralarchiv and various national archives such as Essex in Britain and ICPSR in the United States.

## WORLD BANK DOING BUSINESS

The Doing Business database provides an objective means for measuring business regulations and their enforcement. The Doing Business indicators are comparable across 175 economies. They indicate the regulatory costs of business and can be used to analyse specific regulations that enhance or constrain investment, productivity, and growth. The World Bank has recently added new indicators on paying taxes. This topic addresses the taxes and mandatory contributions that a medium-size company must pay or withhold in a given year, as well as the administrative burden in paying taxes.