

INCOME CONVERGENCE ACROSS US STATES: AN ANALYSIS USING MEASURES OF CONCORDANCE AND DISCORDANCE

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ABSTRACT.

This paper presents a new method to analyse convergence using distribution free statistics that are not sensitive to the magnitudes involved. Measures of concordance and discordance are employed in the empirical analysis of income per capita for 48 US States over the period 1930-1990. Our results suggest swings in the trend between convergence and divergence. We also identify four regions that strongly oppose convergent trends, which are Connecticut, Idaho, Montana and Utah.