

NEW AT DICE DATABASE

New interface for institutional comparisons

Ifo's Database for Institutional Comparisons in Europe (DICE) has redesigned its interface. DICE will continue to provide country-comparative information on institutions, regulations and the conduct of economic policy but, with its new interface, it offers users much quicker access to any of our new main topics, namely Business and Financial Markets, Education and Innovation, Energy and Natural Environment, Labour Market and Migration, Public Sector, Social Policy, and Values. Since mid-April DICE offers the user a quicker overview of the topics contained, and faster access to current tables, reports and charts, as well as to the archived content and time series. Additionally, DICE now provides expanded search functions.

At present DICE contains about 2,800 country-comparative tables, charts and reports on institutions, regulations and economic policy covering European countries as well as several major non-European countries.

Check out the DICE database at www.cesifo.de/DICE.

New entries

In the first quarter of 2008 the DICE Database received approximately 120 new entries, consisting partly of updates of existing entries and partly of new topics. Examples of new country-comparative information include the following subjects:

- Index of Globalization (according to KOF)
- Childcare Typology
- Fees and Characteristics of Centre-based Child-care,
- Capital Income Tax on Interest and Dividends
- Property Tax
- Tax Burden on Companies in Europe
- Poverty Rates for Children and for Families by Employment Status
- Direct Public Expenditures on Educational Institutions and Subsidies for Households and Other Private Entities
- National Minimum Wages of Younger and Less Experienced Workers
- Energy Consumption and Electricity Generation
- Taxation of Residential Property

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

Liquidity: Concepts and Risks

Munich, 17 October 2008 to 18 October 2008

Various notions of liquidity and of liquidity risks have emerged from different angles of economic research. Recent turmoil in the global financial system has, however, shown that the interplay between these different liquidity concepts and liquidity risks is most important for understanding real-world crises. This conference will provide a forum to discuss these interrelations and thereby contribute to a more integrated view on liquidity and liquidity risk.

Scientific organisers: Gerhard Illing, Falko Fecht and Klaus Duellmann

Submission deadline: 30 June 2008

Annual Conference of The Society for Economic Design (SED) 2008

Michigan, 15 June to 17 June 2008

Submission deadline: 15 April 2008

NEW BOOKS ON INSTITUTIONS

Presidentialism, Parliamentarism, and Democracy

Jose Antonio Cheibub

Cambridge University Press, 2007

Internationalisation and Economic Institutions: Comparing the European Experience

Mark Thatcher

Oxford University Press, 2007

Institutions and Norms in Economic Development

Mark Gradstein and Kai A. Konrad (eds)

MIT Press, 2007

Handbook of Antitrust Economics

Paolo Buccirossi (ed)

MIT Press, 2008