

Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1995/2:

Quantitative Wirtschaftsgeschichte der DDR

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Lothar Baar, Uwe Müller und Frank Zschaler, Strukturveränderungen und Wachstumsschwankungen. Investitionen und Budget in der DDR 1949 bis 1989, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1995/2, S. 7-74.

Bart van Ark, The Manufacturing Sector in East Germany: A Reassessment of Comparative Productivity Performance, 1950-1988, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1995/2, S. 75-100.

André Steiner, Beständigkeit oder Wandel? Zur Entwicklung der Industriestruktur der DDR in den sechziger Jahren, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1995/2, S. 101-118.

Oskar Schwarzer, Der Lebensstandard in der SBZ/DDR 1945-1989, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1995/2, S. 119-146.

II. Diskussion

Margrit Grabas, Der wechselvolle Verlauf der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung in der DDR - Zusammenspiel von akkumuliertem Innovationspotential und institutionellen Diffusionsblockaden, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1995/2, S. 149-162.

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Gottfried Eisermann, Mandeville und La Rochefoucauld, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1995/2, S. 177-190.

III. Forschungs- und Literaturberichte

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Abstracts

I. Abhandlungen und Studien

Albrecht Ritschl, Aufstieg und Niedergang der Wirtschaft der DDR: Ein Zahlenbild 1945-1989

Abstract

This paper provides an overview of East German macroeconomic performance between 1945 and the year before unification. For this, an attempt is made to review and evaluate the existing database. Despite data quality problems, some clear patterns can be identified. A rough estimate of productivity in 1950 suggests that half of the later productivity gap with respect to West Germany had developed already by the time. Subsequent growth displays the familiar productivity slowdown. High foreign borrowing produced favorable macroeconomic performance of East Germany during this past decade is dominated by costly attempts at import substitution and exhibits stagnant, if not declining living standards.

Lothar Baar, Uwe Müller und Frank Zschaler, Strukturveränderungen und Wachstumsschwankungen. Investitionen und Budget in der DDR 1949 bis 1989

Abstract

In East Germany Budget policy and investment planning also proved to be important instruments of general economic policy. But the political and economic order caused a special form of these instruments. A deep investment gap was being created by a high centralized economic policy during the 1950th. The decentralization of decisions on investments and the diversification of fiscal policy as parts of the New economic policy certainly permitted structural change for a short time in the 1960th. With the beginning of the 1970th stabilization of political order became the primary aim of East German policy. That's why the budget was used above all as source of public subsidies and social security expenditure. The result of this was an increasing instability of investment policy. This new investigation is based on an analysis of up to now not published statistical data.

André Steiner, Beständigkeit oder Wandel? Zur Entwicklung der Industriestruktur der DDR in den sechziger Jahren

Abstract

The focus of this article is the intensity and direction of structural change within East German industry during the 1960s. Furthermore, consequences for growth are discussed. Empirical data from 57 branches served as the base of this study. Generally, structural change was modest between 1960 and 1973. The effects on production and productivity growth were, therefore weak.

Oskar Schwarzer, Der Lebensstandard in der SBZ/DDR 1945-1989

Abstract

East Germany's productivity performance had never surpassed significantly the top level of the German economy in World War II. In 1989 productivity per gainfully employed person had reached approximately 16 to 20 percent of the West German level. If one takes into account these facts it has to be stated that people's standard of living was out of proportion, i.e. exaggerated. Due to their first ideological target to obstruct private wealth East German policy makers had to exaggerate the standard of living for securing the existing path of productivity.