



Banks and the Swiss Economy

By Dirk Sven Björn Drechsel

Cuvillier Verlag Jul 2010, 2010. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 213x147x19 mm. Neuware - The topic of the thesis is banks and the Swiss economy. It consists of four main parts which make empirical contributions to the fields of banking, productivity analysis, financial economics, macroeconomics and economic history. The first part describes the construction of a newly developed data set, containing balance sheets and profit & loss accounts of Swiss banks from 1906-2007. The second part is about banking intermediation efficiency in Switzerland. Banking efficiency is estimated utilizing stochastic frontier analysis. The results show that state owned cantonal banks and co-operatives are more stable in terms of efficiency than big universal banks. There is little variation in cost efficiency. Scale effects are present, while banks with market power do not seem to obstruct smaller banks. A risk measure based on the Basel II standardized approach is included to incorporate the cost of risk. The third part investigates Swiss banking crises and their effect on the Swiss economy. Banking crises are determined by estimating deviations from potential return on equity with Bayesian dynamic stochastic frontier analysis. Several periods of distress are revealed. The most prominent are the Great Depression, the mortgage crisis of the 1990s, the burst of the dot-com bubble and the onset of the sub-prime crisis...



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