Will new roads built to higher design standards improve traffic safety? Many analyses have suggested that they will. This seminar will describe a new study that uses negative binomial fixed-effect models to analyze how road infrastructure improvements affect traffic-related fatalities and injuries while controlling for other factors also known to affect traffic safety. Using data from the U.S. and the United Kingdom, Dr. Noland will show that demographic changes in age cohorts, increased seat-belt use, reduced alcohol consumption and improvements in medical technology have accounted for a large share of the overall reduction in fatalities.

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