

REPLICATION FILES FOR “RACE TO THE BOTTOM? LOCAL TAX BREAK COMPETITION AND BUSINESS LOCATION” BY EVAN MAST

This folder contains the code and data necessary to replicate all tables and figures in this paper.

Master Files (to replicate all results)

The do-file replicate_all.do produces all of the tables and figures produced in Stata. The working directory in the replicate_all_stata file must be set to the data directory of the replication folder in order to run the code. The m-file replicate_all_matlab file produces all of the tables and figures produced in Matlab. The working directory in this file must be set to the replication folder in order to run the code.

Data sets

- Subsidy_level_2013.dta
 - Contains agreement-level information on each IDA tax exemption
- Town_level_2013.dta
 - Contains town-level information on the total IDA tax exemptions in each town, as well as town characteristics
- Formatted_data.mat
 - Contains both agreement-level information on each IDA tax exemption as well as town characteristics
- Formatted_manu_data.mat
 - Contains both agreement-level information on each IDA tax exemption as well as town characteristics. Includes only firms in the manufacturing and finance sectors.
- Formatted_services_data.mat
 - Contains both agreement-level information on each IDA tax exemption as well as town characteristics. Includes only firms in the retail and services sectors.
- Full_formatted_data.mat
 - Contains the information in formatted_data.mat, as well as some estimation objects (such as weighting matrices) that are costly to estimate and used repeatedly.
- Formatted_pov_data.mat
 - Contains the information in formatted_data.mat, as well as additional information on town level poverty
- Ny_tv_dissolve.shp
 - Contains the boundaries of the baseline set of municipalities
- Ida_list.dta
 - Contains a crosswalk between municipalities and county/municipal IDAs

Individual Figures and Tables

- Table 1

- Code: Table_1.do
 - Data: subsidy_level_2013.dta
- Table 2
 - Code: Table_2.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Table 3
 - Code: Table_3.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Table 4
 - Code: Table_4.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Table 5
 - Code:
 - Baseline_estimation.m
 - Baseline_standard_errors.m
 - Manu_finance_estimation.m
 - Manu_finance_standard_errors.m
 - Retail_services_estimation.m
 - Retail_services_standard_errors.m
 - Data:
 - Formatted_data.mat
 - Full_formatted_data.mat
 - Formatted_manu_data.mat
 - Formated_services_data.mat
- Table 6
 - Code:
 - Baseline_location_change.m
 - Retail_services_location_change.m
 - Manu_finance_location_change.m
 - Data:
 - Full_formatted_data.mat
 - Formatted_manu_data.mat
 - Formated_services_data.mat
- Table 7
 - Code:
 - Poverty_estimation.m
 - poverty_location_change
 - Data: Formatted_pov_data.mat
- Figure 1:
 - Code: User interface
 - Data: ny_tv_dissolve.shp, ida_list.dta
- Figure 2
 - Code: Figure_2.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Figure 3:
 - Code: User interface

- Data: ny_tv_dissolve.shp, ida_list.dta
- Figure 4:
 - Code:
 - Amherst_example_baseline.m
 - Amherst_example_alternate.m
 - Data: Full_formatted_data.mat
- Appendix table 1
 - Code: appendix_table_1.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix table 2
 - Code: appendix_table_2.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix table 3
 - Code: appendix_table_3.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix table 4
 - Code: appendix_table_4.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix table 5
 - Code: appendix_table_5.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix table 6
 - Code: appendix_table_6.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix table 7
 - Code: appendix_table_7.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix Figure 1:
 - Code: User interface
 - Data: ny_tv_dissolve.shp, ida_list.dta
- Appendix Figure 2
 - Code: appendix_figure_2.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix Figure 3
 - Code: appendix_figure_3.do
 - Data: town_level_2013.dta
- Appendix Figure 4:
 - Code: model_fit
 - Data: formatted_data.mat
- Appendix Figure 5:
 - Code: gamma_identification.m
 - Data: full_formatted_data.mat
- Appendix Figure 6:
 - Code: kappa_identification.m
 - Data: full_formatted_data.mat

ArcGIS maps

Figures 1 and 3, as well as Appendix Figure A1, were produced in ArcGIS using the user interface. The shapefiles necessary to reproduce these graphs are contained in the New York GIS subfolder of the data directory. The shape file ny_tv_dissolve provides the list and coordinates of the baseline set of municipalities, and the Stata file ida_list provides a crosswalk from municipalities to IDAs. Finally, the shape file County provides coordinates of the set of counties in the state.

Processing raw data files

This replication file does not reproduce the estimation datasets from the raw underlying files. Town characteristics were produced by matching 2006-2010 ACS blockgroup characteristics to town boundaries; IDA variables were produced using files available from the New York State Comptroller; and spatial variables were produced as described in the data section of the online Appendix.