Local Leaders and the Pursuit of Growth in U.S. Cities: The Role of Managerial Skill

Note: The dataset used in this project combines i) confidential interviews conducted with U.S. mayors and city managers and ii) a series of publicly available financial and demographic data. To protect the privacy of the individuals in our dataset per our IRB approval, **identifiable information about the specific cities and leaders has been removed** from these publicly available replication files. **All of the results in the manuscript have been replicated and verified by the PSRM replication team**. To obtain the full dataset with identifiable city information, researchers must sign a Data Use Agreement and complete a sensitive data protection plan in order to receive access to the data. Please contact Maria Carreri or Julia Payson to request the data, and they will share the datafiles directly after receiving the appropriate documentation.

The full replication files consist of the following:

01_Codebook: codebook for variables used in main analyses

02_replication.do
- Main .do file to generate all tables and figures

03_CarreriPayson_replication_balancetable1.dta
- Data to generate Table A1. Due to data privacy concerns, available by request only.

04_CarreriPayson_replication_balancetable2.dta
- Data to generate Table A1. Due to data privacy concerns, available by request only.

05_CarreriPayson_replication_main_public.dta
- Main dataset to generate most Tables and Figures. An anonymized, partial version of the data is posted publicly. Please contact the authors for the complete, identifiable data.

06_CarreriPayson_replication_predecessors.dta
- Raw data to generate Table 4. An anonymized version of this data is posted publicly.

Required STATA packages: outreg2, reghedfe, egenmore, ftools

Below, we provide information about which Tables and Figures can be replicated with the anonymized, publicly posted data and which Tables and Figures require the full, identifiable data (available by request)

Main Text Tables / Figures (generated via replication.do)

Figure 2: Distribution of the Managerial Score
- Replicable with anonymized data

Table 1: Individual Correlates of the Managerial Score
- Replicable with anonymized data

Table 2: Managerial Score and Growth
- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Figure 3: Timing of Changes in Growth Indicators
- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table 3: Controlling for Voter Ideology
- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table 4: Correlation Between Predecessors and Successors
- Replicable with anonymized data

Table 5: Managerial Score and Growth Index
- Columns 1 and 2 can be replicated with anonymized data.
- Columns 3 and 4 requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table 6: Managerial Score and Growth: Mayors vs. Managers
- Columns 1 and 2 can be replicated with anonymized data.
- Column 3 requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table 7: When Leaders Mention Growth As A Goal
- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Appendix Tables / Figures (generated via replication.do)

Table A1: Interviewed vs. Non-Interviewed Cities – Balance
- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table A2: Summary statistics
- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Figure A5: Distribution of the Managerial Scores: Mayors vs. City Managers
- Replicable with anonymized data

Table A3: Reliability of Managerial Score: Pairwise Correlations of Components

- Replicable with anonymized data

Table A4 - No Difference in City Demographics for High- vs. Low-Scoring Leaders

- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

TableA5 - No Difference in City Growth for High- vs. Low-Scoring Leaders

- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table A6 - Robustness to time-varying controls

- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table A7 - Robustness to Inverse Covariance Weighted Managerial Score

- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table A8 - Dropping one practice at a time from the Managerial Score

- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table A9 - The Effect of Managerial Skill Does Not Vary By Tenure

- Columns 1 and 2 can be replicated with anonymized data.
- Column 3 requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table A10 - Controlling for Self-Declared Ideology

- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.

Table A11 - Managerial Score and growth: Mayors vs. Managers

- Requires identifiable information to generate. Contact authors for full dataset.