Haddad and Kattan
"Female-Specific Labor Regulation and Employment: Historical Evidence from the United States" README
(updated December 2024)

This README file explains the contents of the replication folder and provides instructions on how to replicate the results from the paper and appendix. The same do file allows reproducing the tables and figures, using Stata (Version 17), are stored in the ./Code/ folder.

To perform the replications, run (1) "cleaning_main.do" and (2) "master_results.do" in the code folder. Before doing so, change the global macro root (in both .do files) to the location of the replication folder on your computer.

We are not able to publicly post some of the data sources used in our analysis. We obtained individual-level, complete-count Population Census data from 1850-1940 via an agreement with the Minnesota Population Center. These data can be accessed by other researchers via their own agreements. In fact, IPUMS USA data are available free of charge. Before using the data, researchers must complete a registration form and agree to abide by the usage license.

We include in the replication files all codes needed to generate the results in the paper and appendix. Except for:
- Figure 1 (generated using Tableau)
- Tables A1 and A2

Replicating all the results from the paper requires extensive computations and is time-consuming given the large sample size. It should take approximately one week, depending on the computer's memory, capacity, and STATA version.

Users must install some packages that are needed to execute the replication: boottset, coefplot, did_multiplegt, estout, ivreg2.

Health and safety laws are referred to as regulatory or prohibitory laws in the .do files

CODE

The cleaning replication .do file can be run from ./code/cleaning_main.do. It produces the main dataset to be used to replicate all tables and figures. We flag code run on restricted-access data with a *, and indicate the variables to be used.

The main replication .do files can be run from ./code/master_results.do. The code can produce all figures and tables in the paper and the appendix.

DATA

The following data files are provided to produce all figures and tables in the paper and appendix.

- state_laws.dta: digitized data the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. It indicates the year each law was implemented at the state level (non-panel). Used for generating "main_data.dta" producing all tables and figures.
- state_laws_panel.dta: digitized data the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. It indicates the year each law was implemented at the state level (panel). Used in Figures A2 and A4.
- state_year_industry.dta: digitized data the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. It indicates the year each law was implemented at the industry-state level (panel). Used in Tables 4, A13, A21.
- seating_falsification.dta: digitized data on state-level economic and political characteristics pre-implementation of seating laws. Used in Table 3.
- regulatory_falsification.dta: digitized data on state-level economic and political characteristics pre-implementation of health and safety laws. Used in Table 3.
- nightwork_falsification.dta: digitized data on state-level economic and political characteristics pre-implementation of nightwork laws. Used in Table 3.
- seating_falsification_panel.dta: (lagged) digitized data on state-decade level economic and political characteristics for states that implemented seating laws. Used in Table A6.
- regulatory_falsification_panel.dta: (lagged) digitized data on state-decade level economic and political characteristics for states that implemented health and safety laws. Used in Table A6.
- nightwork_falsification_panel.dta: (lagged) digitized data on state-decade level economic and political characteristics for states that implemented nightwork laws. Used in Table A6.
- seating_reinforcement.dta: digitized data on years when seating laws were reinforced by state. Used in Table A4.
- regulatory_reinforcement.dta: digitized data on years when health and safety laws were reinforced by state. Used in Table A4.
- nightwork_reinforcement.dta: digitized data on years when nightwork laws were reinforced by state. Used in Table A4.
- other_laws.dta: digitized data on the passage of equal pay, maximum hours, minimum wage, and suffrage by state-year. Used in Table 3.
- econ_characteristics.dta: data computed from the full-count US Census on the share of male gainful employment, the average occupational score, and the share of foreign-born women at the state-decade level. Used in Table A8.