README file for "Stuck in the Seventies: Gas Prices and Consumer Sentiment"

Authors: Carola Binder and Christos Makridis

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Email: cbinder1@haverford.edu

Note about proprietary/restricted data:

This paper uses data from The Gallup Organization, specifically its U.S. Daily Poll between 2008 and 2017. Although the data is proprietary, it can be accessed through a standard procurement contract between your academic institution and Gallup. One point of contact is Kris Hodgins at Kris_Hodgins@gallup.com. If readers are interested in this data and have access to it, send an email to Christos Makridis and he can provide the code for cleaning the data at request. Other proprietary data is from OPIS. Information on data access is at https://www.opisnet.com/.

Data files:

gaspercapita.dta : state per capita consumption expenditures on gasoline and energy goods (deflated using the personal consumption expenditure index) and averaged across years from "bea_pce_state_gas.dta", which is based directly on the Bureau of Economic Analysis data

MichiganSurveyTimeSeries.dta : monthly economic sentiment measures from Michigan Survey of Consumers

OPIS_clean.dta : daily gas price by state (proprietary)

OPIS_daily_national.dta : daily gas price for the U.S. (proprietary)

population.dta : data on population averaged across years

realgdp.dta : data on real GDP averaged across years from bea_state_realgdp.dta

st2005data.txt : data on population by state from social explorer

st2005dic.dct : dictionary file corresponding to st2005data.txt

st2005.dta : generated from st2005data.txt and st2005dic.dct

state_gasprice_elasticities.dta : estimates of the elasticity of sentiment to gas prices by state (see code at the bottom of gasprice_final.do)

stlouis_cpiall_annual.dta : annual consumer price index from FRED

stlouis_cpigas_annual.dta : annual consumer price index for gasoline from FRED

stlouis_cpigas_annual_cohort.dta : uses the CPI for gas prices, "stlouis_cpigas_annual.dta" with the CPI overall, "stlouis_cpiall_annual.dta," and bins the years in a way that will correspond with cohorts for some of the heterogeneity analysis

stlouis_monthly_pce.dta : personal consumption expenditures price index from FRED

zip10_14data.txt : data on commute time by zipcode from social explorer

zip10_14dic.dct : dictionary file corresponding to zip10_14data.txt

zip_10_14.dta : generated from zip10_14data.txt and zip10_14dic.dct

us_daily_all_clean.dta : omitted since it is proprietary; contains all the relevant data from Gallup measuring subjective well-being and economic attitudes, together with the demographics on race, age, gender, marital status, number of children, education, occupation, income, liquidity constraints, and geography

Code files:

gasprice_final.do: Produces all figures and tables in the paper and appendix. Figures are produced as pdf files, and tables are produced in the Stata results window.

Other files:

Figure1.pdf: Corresponds to "Figure 1: Real Gas Prices and Consumer Sentiment."

Figure2.pdf: Corresponds to "Figure 2: Dynamic Response of Consumer Sentiment to Gas Prices."

Figure3a.pdf, Figure3b.pdf, and Figure3c.pdf: Correspond to "Figure 3: Heterogeneity of Gas Prices and Consumption Across States."

FigureA1a.pdf and Figure A1b.pdf: Correspond to Appendix "Figure A.1 Comparison of Gallup and Michigan Survey of Consumers Data."

FigureA2.pdf: Corresponds to Appendix "Figure A.2 Elasticity of Sentiment to Gas Price by Age Cohort."

Data dictionary:

Variable name	**Description**	**Source**
college	Indicator for having at least a college degree	Gallup
educ_nohs	Indicator for not having a high school degree	Gallup
educ_tech	Indicator for having a technical / associates degree	Gallup
educ_somecoll	Indicator for having some college	Gallup
educ_coll	Indicator for having a bachelors degree	Gallup
educ_postgrad	Indicator for having more than a post-graduate degree	Gallup
male	Indicator for being male	Gallup
race_white	Indicator for being white	Gallup
race_black	Indicator for being black	Gallup
age	Age	Gallup
nchild	Number of children	Gallup
married	Indicator for being male	Gallup
employed	Indicator for being employed	Gallup
pre1962	Indicator for being born before 1962	Gallup
COMB_WEIGHT	Sample weights	Gallup

highcommute	Indicator for the zipcode having an average commute above the median	SocialExplorer
highincome	Indicator for the zipcode having an average household income above the median	SocialExplorer
goodlifesat_now	Current life satisfaction (0-10 index) at least 7/10	Gallup
goodlifesat_future	Expected future life satisfaction over the next 5 years at least 7/10	Gallup
goodecon	Believes the current national economy is good or excellent (1/0)	Gallup
getbetter	Believes the national economy is getting better (1/0)	Gallup
liquidconst	Struggles to pay bills (1/0)	Gallup
z_state_of_econ	Standardized z-score of current belief about the economy (1=poor, 2 = fair, 3 = good, 4 = excellent)	Gallup
z_future_of_econ	Standardized z-score of belief about the future state of the economy (1 = getting worse, 2 = staying the same, 3 = getting better)	Gallup
z_totsent	Standardized z-score of the sum of the current and future state of the economy	Gallup
z_lifeladder_now	Standardized z-score of current life satisfaction	Gallup
z_lifeladder_future	Standardized z-score of expected future life satisfaction	Gallup
price_nsadefl	Price of gasoline (deflated using monthly PCE 2012 normalization)	OPIS
price_abovemed	Indicator for the price being above the median	OPIS
price_above75pc	Indicator for the price being above the 75th percentile	OPIS
gaspriceweek	Smoothed gasoline price over the week	OPIS
gaspricemonth	Smoothed gasololine price over the month	OPIS
highimpactst	Indicator for JP Morgan classification of "higher-impact" states	JP Morgan