Perspectives on Politics Data and Code

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This file contains the information needed to replicate all figures and tables in "Why Do States Privatize their Prisons? The Unintended Consequences of Inmate Litigation."

Necessary R packages

- `tidyverse`; `readxl`; `openintro`; `reshape2` for data editing, import, and export
- `ggplot2` and `geofacet` for graphing and mapping
- `lfe`; `AER` for regression modeling
- `xtable`; `stargazer` for table creation

Datasets needed

- `POPdata.csv`, the main dataset used for all models
- `fjcIVtermandfile.csv`; `nationalincarrate.csv`; `fjclength.csv`; `latlongfacilities.csv`; `facilitydatabase.xlsx`; `1995data.csv` for figures and tables

POPfigures.R

This produces all the figures in the main body of the paper and the supplementary materials.

Figure 1

- input `fjcIVtermandfile.csv`
- output is `Lawsuitsovertime.pdf`, prisoner lawsuits filed and terminated, 1986 to 2016

Figure 2

- input `nationalincarrate.csv`
- output is `incarrate.pdf`, growth of incarceration rate, 1970 to 2016

Figure 3

- input `POPdata.csv`
- output is `maplogppinmates.pdf`, the logged number of private prison inmates, 1986-2016

Supplementary Figure 1

- input `fjclength.csv`
- output is `lengthtotermination.pdf`, the length of prisoners' cases in years from adjudication to termination

Supplementary Figures 2-4

- output is `mappropppinmates.pdf` and `mapppfacilities.pdf`, the proportion of inmates held in private facilities and the number of private facilities in each state, 1986 to 2016
- output is `maplawsuitsperprisoner.pdf`, a map of the number of lawsuits filed per prisoner in each state, 1986 to 2016

Supplementary Figures 5-6

- input is `latlongfacilities.csv` (facility city name geolocated using the U.S. Census Places shapefiles to get lat/long for mapping)
- output is `1986.pdf`,`1996.pdf`,`2006.pdf`,`2016.pdf`, the location of private prisons in the US in those four years

Supplementary Figure 7

- output is `numcustomers.pdf`, the sum of all facilities that have either one or more than one customer, 1986 to 2016

Supplementary Figure 8

- output is `bjsdatacorrelation.pdf`, comparison of the BJS private prison data and the original dataset, 1999 to 2015

POPmodels.R

This produces all the tables in the main body of the paper, as well as supplementary materials.

Note, that I edited the tables in Latex for readability (such as labeling where fixed effects were included or added additional captions or information.)

Table 1

- input is `facilitydatabase.xlsx`
- output is `facilitiestable.html`, a table that shows the number of unique facilities and number of customers managed by each private company

Table 2

- input is `POPdata.csv` (the data used for all remaining tables in the paper)
- output is `facilitiesbystate.html`, the dates of the first private prison facility or inmate by each state

Table 3

- output is `olsmain.html`, the OLS model in the main body of the paper

Table 4

- output is `hyp2DC.html`, the IV model from the paper

Supplementary Table 1

- output is `propDCapp.html`, the alternative dependent variable of the proportion of inmates in private facilities (OLS model)

Supplementary Table 2

- output is `sumfacilitiesapp.html`, the alternative dependent variable of the sum of state private facilities (OLS model)

Supplementary Table 3

- output is `altIVsols.html`, identifying the effect of big (successful) or small (unsuccessful cases) (OLS model)

Supplementary Table 4

- input is `1995data.csv`, the Census of State and Federal Adult Correctional Facilities to calculate the approximate percentage of all correctional facilities within a state's border that are state-run (not federal or local; OLS model)
- output is `olsstatelawsuitsonly.html` that proxies for the number of lawsuits filed against state facilities only

Supplementary Table 5

- output is `appshor.html`, that uses Shor and McCarty legislative ideology scores in place of the dummy variable for Republican legislature (OLS model)

Supplementary Table 6

- output is `stateunionapp.html`, that uses the percent of the public sector that is unionized in place of the proxy calculated in the main specification (OLS model)

Supplementary Table 7

- output is `olsadditionalvars.html` that adds several other control variables to the OLS specification (percent overcrowded, deaths in custody, economic policy liberalism, sum campaign contributions)

Supplementary Table 8

- output is `olslaggeddv.html`, a lagged dependent variable OLS model

Supplementary Table 9

- output is `hyp2propDC.html`, the alternative dependent variable of the proportion of inmates in private facilities (IV model)

Supplementary Table 10

- output is `hyp2sumfacilities.html`, the alternative dependent variable of the sum of state-only private facilities (IV model)

Supplementary Table 11

- output is `hyp2sumALLfacilities.html`, the alternative dependent variable of the sum of all private facilities (state, local, and federal; IV model)

Supplementary Table 12

- output is `hyp2DCsmall.html`, using the alternative independent variable of "small" lawsuits (IV model)

Supplementary Table 13

- output is `hyp2DCbig.html`, using the alternative independent variable of "big" lawsuits (IV model)

Supplementary Table 14

- output is `hyp2DCstateonlylawsuits.html`, using the alternative independent variable of the proxy of lawsuits against state officials only (IV model)

Supplementary Table 15

- output is `hyp2DCauthorized.html` that uses an alternative instrumental variable, weighted cases heard by authorized judge serving (IV model)

Supplementary Table 16

- output is `hyp2DCpop.html` which adds population as a control variable to the IV model

Supplementary Table 17

- output is `hyp2DClogsum.html` which uses the logged sum of lawsuits as an alternative independent variable (IV model)

Supplementary Table 18

- output is `hyp2DCweighted.html` which uses a weighted version of the sum lawsuits variable