README for "The Effect of Medicaid on Crime: Evidence from the Oregon Health Insurance Experiment"

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1 Overview

This repository contains all of the code needed to produce the cleaned datasets and analysis results in the paper "The Effect of Medicaid on Crime: Evidence from the Oregon Health Insurance Experiment." The authors are not authorized to publicly circulate the data used in the paper. The data used in the manuscript are housed (as of 06/30/2025) on the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) research server.

2 Data sets used

Table 1 describes the data used to conduct the analysis in this paper.

Table 1: Dataset List

Data Name	Years	Availability	Citation
Criminal justice data			
Criminal charges	1/2007-12/2010	By agreement only	Oregon Judicial Information Network (OJIN)
Criminal convictions	1/2007-4/2012	By agreement only	Oregon Judicial Information Network (OJIN)
Medicaid lottery and enrollment data			
List and lottery information	2008	By agreement only	Oregon's Department of Human Services' Division of Medical Assistance Programs
Enrollment outcomes	3/2008-7/2010	By agreement only	Oregon's Department of Human Services' Division of Medical Assistance Programs
Emergency department usage			
Portland-area ED discharge data	2007-2008	By agreement only	Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems

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3 Programs

We used Stata to produce all of the results contained in the manuscript. The replication package consists of a master Stata code file that runs all programs in order and exports the contents of the analysis to an Excel spreadsheet. This master file is crime_analysis_master.do. This file calls the following Stata programs to produce the analysis:

1. Subprograms/ed_records_baseline.do: This program generates an indicator for whether the participant had an ED visit between January 2007 and March 10, 2008 that included a diagnosis of a mental health disorder.

2. Subprograms/crime_prepare_data.do: Cleans and prepares the criminal justice data for analysis and merges it with the lottery and Medicaid enrollment data.

3. Subprograms/compare_pop.do: Generates descriptive statistics reported in Appendix Table A5.

4. Programs/oregon_analysis.ado: Produces ITT and LATE estimates and control group mean.

5. Programs/oregon_table_export.ado: Exports results into Excel table format.

6. Programs/oregon_heterogeneity_analysis.ado: Conducts subgroup analyses.

7. Programs/oregon_balance.ado: Generates balance table statistics reported in Appendix Tables A6 and A7.

8. Programs/oregon_var_sum: Generates statistics about weights used in the analysis, reported in Appendix Table A17.

9. Programs/oregon_first_stage.ado: Estimates first stage regressions.

10. Subprograms/crime_alt_specification.do: Estimate logit and negative binomial specifications reported in Appendix Tables A13 and A14.

11. Subprograms/crime_analysis_sensitivity.do: Estimate models with alternative control variables reported in Appendix Tables A11 and A12.

4 Replication instructions

1. Place data within master folder in subfolder Data.

2. Edit paths in crime_prepare_data.do, ed_records_baseline.do, and crime_analysis_master.do where indicated with "[Set Path]" and run.