README

County-Level Consumption Flows

By Abe Dunn and Mahsa Gholizadeh

1 Overview

This document describes the data on county-to-county consumption flows. The main raw dataset is obtained from Fiserv, a card transaction intermediary company. To address missing or suppressed counties, imputations and adjustments are made to the original data to create full set of county-to-county flows for 2015. These flows are generated using Fiserv consumption flows along with data from the Economic Census and the QCEW. For more information on the Fiserv data and methods used to generate flows in this folder, see Dunn and Gholizadeh (2023). The consumption flow data is saved in a separate folder "flow".

Statement about Rights

✓ I certify that the author(s) of the manuscript have legitimate access to and permission to use the data used in this manuscript.

I certify that the author(s) of the manuscript have documented permission to redistribute/publish the data contained within this replication package. Appropriate permissions are documented in the LICENSE.txt file.

2 Data

List of sources of data used to generate the consumption flows:

1- Raw Fiserv Consumption Flows: The raw consumption flows from Fiserv can't be made publicly available. These data include location of the card holder and merchant along with the 3-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) industry, and the year the transaction took place. To read more about the Fiserv raw file, refer to Abe and Gholizadeh (2023).
2- Economic Census: the 5-year county-level economic census data at 3-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) for 2012 and 2017 (https://www2.census.gov/econ2012/ , https://www2.census.gov/econ2017/)
3- Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data: county QCEW data at 3-digit NAICS level are used to interpolate between two economic censuses. To generate receipts for 2015. This data is obtained through a special MOU between Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of Labor Statistics and can't be made publicly available.
4- Population centroid data from Census Bureau from https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/reference/cenpop2010/county/CenPop2010_Mean_CO.txt

The data available in this folder consist of sixteen .dta files.

1- Consumption_flows_AGG.dta
2- consumption_flows_NAICS.dta (NAICS: 442, 444, 445, 447, 448, 451, 452, 453, 621, 711, 713, 721, 722, 811, 812)

List of variables available on each data file:

- naics: industry code associated with
- naics_description_2007: NAICS industry name
- merchant_geo: the location of the merchant where the purchase took place
- card_geo: the guessed location of the card holder making the purchase
- dollars: estimate of the dollar amount spent in merchants' location by card holder in a specified location. Only available for the aggregate estimates, as industry specific estimates are imputed using QCEW data.
- share: consumption flow share associated to the merchant/firm location by the card holder

3 Code

The program used to output these flows is (24) ConsumptionFlowToShare.do