

# Dynamic Responses to Labor Demand Shocks: Evidence from the Financial Industry in Delaware\*

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## Abstract

This paper analyzes an important shock to local labor demand in financial services: firm relocation to Delaware following a Supreme Court ruling and state legislation in the 1980s. Using synthetic controls and bordering states, I find large effects on employment, unemployment, and participation in the first decade. Wage effects, and in many cases employment spillovers to the nontradable sector, appear larger than estimates from shocks to the tradable sector. Effects persist for ten to twenty years after Delaware loses its original policy-induced advantage. The shift towards a low unemployment sector explains this persistence, rather than direct productivity effects or agglomeration.

## 1 Introduction

Local governments in the United States are estimated to spend 80 billion dollars per year on incentives to attract or retain companies (Story 2012).<sup>1</sup> Local governments in developing countries, especially Brazil, India, and China, also extensively compete for firms through offering fiscal incentives. While local governments in Europe are

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<sup>1</sup>Carruthers and Lamoreaux (2014) survey the literature on regulatory races.

currently limited in their power to offer these incentives, this issue has recently arisen in the courts (Markusen and Nesse 2007). Given the large costs and prevalence of these policies around the world, understanding their economic impact is crucial.

The local impact of competing for new firms depends on whether the policy successfully attracts those firms, directly affects worker productivity, or yields local spillovers to other industries. The policy effects also depend on whether and how quickly individuals respond through migration (Bartik 1991, Blanchard and Katz 1992). Importantly, the local, long-run impact depends on whether companies remain in their new jurisdiction, or eventually leave for another jurisdiction offering a more attractive package.<sup>2</sup>

The impact of attracting new firms, both the magnitude and who is affected, may vary with the industry that is targeted. Industries pay different wages, and employ people with different characteristics, including different mobility frictions. Spillover effects may also depend on the targeted industry.

This paper makes two important contributions. First, I study the short-run impact of a well-known policy seeking to create an international center for financial services in one jurisdiction. While previous papers have studied the impact of local labor demand shocks affecting the manufacturing and energy sectors,<sup>3</sup> there is a particular lack of evidence on policies attracting white-collar jobs, and no papers to my knowledge studying policies targeting financial services. These are an important target for local jurisdictions.<sup>4</sup> As described above, attracting these jobs may yield significant differences relative to attracting manufacturing or energy jobs.

By studying the impact of stimulating finance labor demand, this paper contributes to discussions of how finance benefits society (Zingales 2015). I complement the literature by focusing on the societal impact of finance jobs rather than financial products.<sup>5</sup> I identify whether new finance jobs translate into total job growth or in-

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<sup>2</sup>This is one potentially important distinction between local governments individually offering incentives and a central government offering incentives to locate in a particular region (for example federal Empowerment Zones in the US or Regional Selective Assistance in Great Britain). Devereux, Griffith, and Simpson (2007) and Criscuolo et al. (2012) analyze the RSA policy. Busso, Gregory, and Kline (2013) study Empowerment Zones. See Neumark and Simpson (2015) for a review of studies analyzing place-based policies.

<sup>3</sup>This literature is reviewed at the end of the section.

<sup>4</sup>Reflecting this importance, Prudential Financial was awarded \$224 million in state grants from 2007 to 2012, and Royal Bank of Scotland was awarded \$121 million. Out of 48 companies identified to have received more than \$100 million dollars in state grants from 2007 to 2012, Prudential was ranked 11th and Royal Bank of Scotland 39th (Story, Fehr, and Watkins 2012).

<sup>5</sup>In an effort to increase the number of high-quality, middle-class jobs, New York City Mayor

stead simply replace existing jobs. I identify whether attracting finance jobs reduces the number of unemployed and out-of-the labor force individuals in the local market, or whether it simply attracts individuals from other markets. This evidence helps fill a gap, highlighted by Neumark and Simpson (2015), in understanding who benefits from place-based policies.<sup>6</sup>

Additionally, I provide the first estimates of which I am aware of local multiplier effects from a nontradable sector (finance) to other nontradable sectors. I compare these magnitudes to recent estimates of local multiplier effects from tradable to nontradable sectors (Moretti 2010, Moretti and Wilson 2013). For policymakers engaged in attracting new firms, comparing multiplier effects by industry may help identify optimal target industries. I also apply the relatively new, though increasingly-used, synthetic control method to the local labor market literature.

The second contribution of the paper is that I study a unique setting in which a short-run policy-induced advantage weakens over time. Given significant competition between jurisdictions, it is necessary to understand the robustness of local policies to future competition. If firms remain in the jurisdiction even after the jurisdiction's policy-induced advantage disappears, this may suggest agglomerative effects or high fixed costs of relocation.

I study the dynamic effects of an exogenous increase in local labor demand affecting the finance sector, resulting from a landmark United States Supreme Court decision. In 1978, the US Supreme Court ruled in *Marquette National Bank of Minneapolis v. First Omaha Service Corp.* that a bank could export the highest interest rate allowed by the state in which it is headquartered. Previously, state usury laws determined the maximum interest rate that banks could charge customers residing in that state (regardless of where the bank was headquartered).

*Marquette* implied that if one state eliminated its usury laws, banks could relocate to that state and charge unlimited interest to customers around the country. South Dakota eliminated its usury laws in 1980. Delaware followed in 1981, with the Financial Center Development Act (FCDA), which also introduced a regressive tax for banks. Likely because of its proximity to New York and its regressive tax, many

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De Blasio recently announced a plan to create 100,000 jobs by investing in several specific sectors (technology, life sciences and healthcare, industrial and manufacturing, and creative and cultural), which did not include finance (The City of New York 2017).

<sup>6</sup>Notowidigdo (2013) finds low-skill workers are less likely to relocate following an adverse labor demand shock because the incidence of the shock is lower for these workers.

more banks and credit card companies opened subsidiaries in Delaware than in South Dakota.

Within just a few years other states, including Delaware’s neighbors, responded with similar policies eliminating or increasing the limit on interest rates. As more states with low taxes passed these policies, Delaware’s tax advantage weakened too. By ten years after Delaware’s policy, the original policy-induced advantage was eliminated.

The *Marquette* decision effectively deregulated the bank credit card market in the United States. Given its importance, an existing literature studies its impact on credit card interest rates, profits, consumer finance, and entrepreneurship (Ausubel 1991, Chatterji and Seamans 2012, Knittel and Stango 2003, Zinman 2003). Similarly, Delaware’s legislative action is well-known for its impact on bank relocation (Evans and Schmalensee 2005). However, this is among the first papers to study the exogenous increase in local labor demand following *Marquette*, which created an important center for financial services in Delaware.<sup>7</sup>

The ideal estimate of the policy’s “treatment effect” would compare outcomes in Delaware in year  $t$ , to the outcome in Delaware in year  $t$  if the policy had not been implemented. Because this control is not observed, I use the states bordering Delaware as a counterfactual, as well as synthetic control methods. The latter create a weighted composition of states that approximate Delaware’s economy had the policy not been implemented (Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller 2010, 2014). The relative value of these methods depends on whether pre-policy predictor variables, or geographic proximity, are a better predictor of post-policy outcomes.

I construct a dataset from 1960 to 2013 using the Current Employment Statistics (CES), Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) Index, and the US Census.

The policy had large effects within the first decade. FIRE (Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate) employment grew an additional 60 to 70%. These jobs were not all filled by substitution across sector, as total employment grew an additional 10

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<sup>7</sup>Several earlier papers study the effect of the FCDA (Butkiewicz and Latham 1991 and Abrams and Butkiewicz 2007). These papers find positive effects of the FCDA on Delaware’s economy. I extend their study of the FCDA by focusing more on the economic adjustment mechanism, identifying who benefits from the policy, testing for cross-industry spillovers, identifying a control group to Delaware, and testing for evidence of productivity effects, direct or indirect through agglomeration. In an additional paper, I study whether this sector-specific increase in local labor demand affects choice of college major (Weinstein 2017).

to 14%. Some of these jobs appear to benefit new residents, as there is a nontrivial effect on population growth. However, there is also evidence the policy benefited unemployed and out-of-the labor force individuals. The unemployment rate falls 1 to 1.8 percentage points below the control group, and the participation rate increases 3 to 4.4 percentage points above the control. This is not only driven by changing workforce composition, there are also relative decreases in the number of unemployed and out-of-the labor force individuals.

The new FIRE jobs have spillover effects to other industries. For every FIRE job created from 1980-1989, magnitudes suggest 1 to 2 jobs are created in the nontradable sector (excluding FIRE). There appear to be nontrivial effects on wages over the first decade, with increases exceeding 7%, although these effects are not significant.

Evaluating the policy's long-run impact requires the stronger assumption that any long-run difference-in-difference derives from the initial shock. This is consistent with popular media and scholarly work on Delaware's history and politics, which attribute long-run effects to the policy twenty to thirty years after it was enacted. Based on extensive research, I attribute later FIRE growth to two large firms, and rule out additional legislation as an explanation for long-run effects. With this caveat, thirty years after the policy employment, population, and wages are still higher, and unemployment lower, even after other states had competed away the original advantage. This persistence differs dramatically from Blanchard and Katz (1992). Local multipliers suggest for every FIRE job created from 1980-1989, by 2000 there were an additional 1.7 jobs in FIRE (from 1989-2000), and 2.3 jobs in other nontradable sectors.

I test whether these long-run effects on the unemployment rate are explained by the increased share employed in finance, a sector with higher wages and lower unemployment. This is also an informal test of whether agglomerative effects in Delaware are stronger than in finance nationally. Specifically, I compare the unemployment rate in Delaware to the predicted unemployment rate based on national sectoral unemployment rates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). By approximately 15 years after the shock, I find the persistent effect on the unemployment rate is almost all explained by the shift in sectoral composition. This suggests that while the policy had positive effects in Delaware, it was inefficient on the aggregate level.

The effects of this local financial services shock differ from the effects of policies targeting other industries.<sup>8</sup> First, local multipliers from finance are at least as

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<sup>8</sup>A related literature studies whether temporary, local shocks can have long-run effects (Carring-

large or larger than multipliers from several other industries. Short-run local multipliers from finance to nontradable employment are slightly larger and the long-run multipliers significantly larger than recent estimates from tradable to nontradable employment (Moretti 2010). Spillover effects from finance to nontradable sectors in percentage terms are larger than spillovers from oil and gas employment to manufacturing (Allcott and Keniston forthcoming).<sup>9</sup> The multipliers also sharply contrast with the absence of employment loss after military base closures, beyond direct transfers (Hooker and Knetter 2001). However, the very short-run local multiplier from biotech to nontradable employment is substantially larger than the multiplier from finance (Moretti and Wilson 2013).

The large, though statistically insignificant, short-run wage impacts of stimulating finance labor demand are larger than those from several other important local labor demand shocks, including oil and gas booms (Allcott and Keniston forthcoming), stimulating biotech labor demand (Moretti and Wilson 2013), the Tennessee Valley Authority targeting manufacturing and agriculture (Kline and Moretti 2014), and wages of nonresident workers in federal urban Empowerment Zones (EZs) (Busso, Gregory, and Kline 2013). However, the wage effects are smaller than those experienced by resident workers in federal urban Empowerment Zones (EZs), about 10% of EZ workers.

Similar to Delaware's finance shock, evidence from other local demand shocks shows individuals who were previously nonresidents may take newly created jobs either by moving or commuting (Allcott and Keniston forthcoming, Kline and Moretti 2014, Busso, Gregory and Kline 2013). These papers do not analyze changes in the number of unemployed or out-of-the labor force individuals in the affected areas. As a result, it is not possible to determine whether a shock to finance labor demand has stronger effects on these measures than shocks to other sectors. While the population response in Delaware is not precisely estimated in the first decade, it is dramatically larger in the second decade than the short-run effects cited above.

Finally, both Delaware's finance shock and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) provide settings in which an original policy-induced advantage weakens over time. The

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ton 1996, Davis and Weinstein 2002, 2008, Hanlon 2015, Miguel and Roland 2011, Redding, Sturm, and Wolf 2011).

<sup>9</sup>I am comparing to the oil and gas spillover to manufacturing in counties with one standard deviation larger endowment (Allcott and Keniston forthcoming). Allcott and Keniston describe the many other papers studying the local effects of resource booms.

effects of Delaware’s finance shock appear more robust to this weakening advantage than those of the TVA, though the time series for the TVA study is considerably longer (40 years after a weakened advantage relative to 20).<sup>10</sup> This may suggest stronger agglomeration economies from finance, or larger moving costs for finance firms. Alternatively, this could simply reflect the value of targeting an industry that performs well in the long run, and manufacturing did not.<sup>11</sup>

The results have important policy implications: local policies can successfully incentivize firms to relocate, with significant local wage and employment effects, and these effects can be sustained in the longer-run. However, this is conditional on the policy shifting the economy’s composition towards sectors with low unemployment and high wages in the long-run. It is especially notable that this shift was lasting in Delaware, despite other states later passing similar legislation.

## 2 Exogenous Shift in Labor Demand in Delaware: A Temporary Policy-Induced Advantage

Prior to 1978, state usury laws determined the interest rate that credit card companies could charge residents of the state.<sup>12</sup> The US Supreme Court’s ruling in *Marquette* allowed a bank to export the highest interest rate allowed by the state in which it is headquartered. At the time, large banks claimed losses in their credit card divisions due to high interest rates, coupled with ceilings on the interest rates they could charge. After *Marquette*, banks were eager to find a state that would allow them to charge higher interest rates nationwide.

In 1980, South Dakota eliminated its usury laws, and Citibank subsequently moved its credit card operations to South Dakota. Delaware, which had historically provided a favorable business climate, was looking to diversify its economy from the automotive and chemical industry.<sup>13</sup> After *Marquette*, the state recognized the opportunity to

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<sup>10</sup>After federal subsidies decreased, TVA regions experienced no population growth, reversal in agriculture employment growth, and positive though much reduced growth in manufacturing (with smaller magnitudes than the continued finance growth in Delaware) (Kline and Moretti 2014).

<sup>11</sup>Allcott and Keniston (forthcoming) find no long-term effects of oil and gas boom and bust periods in counties with greater oil and gas endowments. This is not directly comparable to the Delaware setting since finance never experiences a bust period so large that the industry returns to its pre-boom levels.

<sup>12</sup>The description of the FCDA in this section is based on Moulton (1983).

<sup>13</sup>Delaware was historically a favored location for business incorporation, due to its corporation

attract the finance industry. In 1981, Delaware eliminated its usury laws, with the passage of the Financial Center Development Act (FCDA). In addition to eliminating ceilings on interest rates for most kinds of loans, the FCDA reduced other industry regulation and introduced a regressive tax structure for banks.<sup>14</sup>

While South Dakota was the first to eliminate its usury laws, Delaware was closer to the major financial centers of the Northeast. In addition, unlike Delaware, South Dakota did not introduce a regressive tax structure for banks until 1991 (South Dakota Session Laws 1979, 1991). As a result, many companies moved their finance or credit operations to Delaware, starting with J.P. Morgan in 1981. By 1987, 27 banks and nonbanks had been opened or been acquired through the FCDA (Appendix Figure A7, Panel A).<sup>15</sup> Eighteen were focused in part on consumer credit and credit/debit cards, while the remainder generally focused on wholesale banking. Of the 27 banks, 12 were from New York, and these were focused generally on wholesale banking rather than credit cards. By 1987, four banks had moved from Pennsylvania, four from Maryland, and three from Illinois. Figure 1 shows that around the time of the policy there were clear increases in FIRE employment in Delaware.

The tax and interest rate advantages the FCDA conferred upon Delaware were ultimately only temporary. After the policy, Delaware remained an attractive place to relocate for banks from New York, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, despite these states responding with similar legislation. The taxes on banks remained lower in Delaware, and the interest rate ceiling higher when comparing to Maryland or Pennsylvania.<sup>16</sup> However, after Delaware's legislation, many other states responded similarly by eliminating interest rate ceilings, and also offered low taxes on financial institutions. By 1982 most states with large banking sectors had relaxed or repealed their interest rate ceilings (Ausubel 1981). By 1985, fifteen states had eliminated the ceiling on credit

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law, Court of Chancery (corporations court), and a traditionally business-friendly government (Black 2007). In addition, Delaware exempts from corporate taxation companies whose only business within the state is managing intangible assets. This has led companies to form holding companies in Delaware for this purpose, and Delaware only requires that the holding companies are physically located in the state (Boyer 2000). This exemption started in 1958, and was expanded in 1984 (Delaware General Laws).

<sup>14</sup>There were capitalization and employment requirements for these FCDA banks. Other provisions of the FCDA include allowing borrowers and lenders to negotiate terms without interference from regulators, and banks to charge certain fees for credit accounts.

<sup>15</sup>The source for the description of the banks and nonbanks opening through the FCDA through 1987 is Swayze and Ripsom (1988).

<sup>16</sup>See appendix for a full description of the resulting competition between states.



card interest rates (Chatterji and Seamans 2012).<sup>17</sup>

These changes implied that banks from New York, Maryland, and Pennsylvania now had many other options for relocation besides Delaware. In addition, the costs of remaining in their own state were lower given relaxation in interest rate ceilings. Most directly, Delaware's advantage disappeared by 1991, when South Dakota introduced a regressive tax rate for financial institutions with a lower top rate, and a lower bottom rate than Delaware (South Dakota Session Laws 1991). Consistent with the policy advantage being only temporary, Appendix Figure A7 Panel B shows that the number of new banks remained relatively flat in Delaware during the early 1990s, ten years after the policy. Furthermore, starting in 1990, banks that had moved to Delaware in the early 1980s began to leave the state. By the mid-1990s, seven such banks had left the state.

This suggests that after 1991, banks and credit card companies were not relocating or adding jobs in Delaware because Delaware still offered a policy advantage. Thus, policy effects thirty years after the policy can be interpreted as long-run effects of the policy, rather than continual short-run effects from a policy advantage. The erosion of Delaware's original advantage uniquely allows me to study whether there are long-run benefits to an initial advantage after that policy-induced advantage had disappeared.

### 3 Data

I obtain annual data from 1960 through 2000 on non-farm employment by state and SIC industry from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Current Employment Statistics (CES). To obtain a longer time series for total employment I use total employment from the CES, NAICS basis. From the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), I obtain annual data from 1976 through 2013 on the labor force and unemployment rate by state. I obtain state unemployment rates from 1970 through 1976 constructed from labor market areas.<sup>18</sup> As a measure of participation, I use labor force divided by population. If Delaware experiences differential population

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<sup>17</sup>Some of these states may not have formally invited out-of-state bank holding companies as Delaware had, implying relocation there would be more difficult. This also was changing during the 1980s, and by 1990 46 states allowed out-of-state bank holding companies to acquire in-state banks in certain circumstances. Furthermore, the Riegle Neal Banking Act of 1994 implied this was no longer a necessary requirement (Medley 1994).

<sup>18</sup>These data were used in Blanchard and Katz (1992).

growth of nonemployment age individuals, the effects on labor force participation will be underestimated.

I obtain population by state and year from the intercensal estimates of the US Census, available through 2010. From the 1960, 1970, and 1980 US Censuses I obtain for each state: percent with at least a high school diploma, percent of the population age 15 to 64, and percent living in metropolitan areas.

I obtain data on housing prices from the Federal Housing Finance Agency All-Transactions Index, which begins in 1975. I adjust the index using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). When analyzing wages, I use the 1970 1% Form 1 state sample, the 1970 1% Form 2 state sample, the 1980 5% state sample, the 1990 5% state sample, the 2000 5% state sample, and the 2014 ACS (Ruggles 2015) (since wages are not publicly available in the 2010 10% sample). I use the 2014 ACS rather than the 2010 ACS to avoid complicating effects of the Great Recession.

## 4 Empirical Methods

The “treatment” effect of this policy in year  $t$  is  $Y_{DE,t} - Y_{DE,t}^N$ , where  $Y_{DE,t}^N$  is the outcome in Delaware if the policy had not been implemented. Clearly,  $Y_{DE,t}^N$  is not observed, but must be approximated by a control representing Delaware absent the policy. There are several possible ways in which to construct the control group. Perhaps most obviously, I could estimate a differences-in-differences model using bordering states as a control group. This strategy is appropriate if absent the policy, Delaware would not have experienced any differential shock in the post-policy years relative to these states. While this seems reasonable, it is not obvious that bordering states are the best control and the choice is somewhat arbitrary. In addition, potentially negative policy effects in bordering states would imply this strategy may double count the policy’s impact.

A second possibility is to use the data to identify states that appear similar before the policy, using the synthetic control method (Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmuller 2010, 2014). This method involves constructing a weighted combination of states such that the outcome predictor variables match those in Delaware before the policy. The assumption is that if the pre-policy trends appear similar in these states, their post-policy trends should have been similar in the absence of the policy.

I present results using both the bordering states and the synthetic control as a counterfactual Delaware. While in many cases they yield similar results, there are important dissimilarities which I discuss.

Given individual-level wage data, to use the synthetic control framework I first construct regression-adjusted average state wages (in 1999 dollars) in each sample year to adjust for differences in worker characteristics across states. I regress log wages on state-year fixed effects and individual characteristics, including years of education, a quadratic in potential years of experience, indicators for grouping of usual hours worked per week last year and weeks worked last year, years of education, and indicators for white, black, Asian, male, and married.<sup>19</sup> To focus on individuals with significant attachment to the labor force, I include only individuals between the ages of 25 and 59, who usually worked at least 35 hours per week.

I estimate regression-adjusted average state wages in each sample year using the full sample (including industry and occupation fixed effects), and separately for individuals whose industry was “Banking and credit agencies,” and separately for a group of occupations relevant to the banking and credit industry (accountants and auditors, and clerks and managers relevant to the banking and credit industries).<sup>20</sup> Wages for these occupations, regardless of industry, may have increased because of demand from financial firms.

## Synthetic Control

I construct a synthetic control with similar sectoral, economic, and demographic characteristics as Delaware in the pre-policy period. Specifically, I include as predictors five-year averages of the following variables in the pre-policy period: sectoral employment shares, unemployment rate; labor force participation rate; and housing prices, employment, and population (indexed to one in 1981).<sup>21</sup> I also include as predictors the 1960, 1970, and 1980 Census values for the percent living in metropolitan areas; percent of the population 15 to 64; and percent with at least a high school diploma. By matching Delaware to a control with similar five-year averages of these variables,

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<sup>19</sup>In 1970, the hours worked variable denotes hours worked last week rather than usual hours worked per week last year. See appendix for details.

<sup>20</sup>See Appendix Table A8 for the Census Bureau codes pertaining to these groups. I include occupation fixed effects when including only those in the banking and credit industry. I include occupation and industry fixed effects when the sample is limited to relevant occupations.

<sup>21</sup>See appendix for details.

often starting in 1960 and through 1980, I capture not only pre-policy levels but pre-policy trends.

By assigning equal weight to each of these predictors, I hold constant the composition of the synthetic control across outcomes. For robustness, I allow the weight on the predictors to vary with each outcome, and estimate a separate synthetic control for each outcome variable. I include each state and Washington, DC as potential components of the synthetic control.<sup>22</sup> The robustness section addresses the concern that the policy negatively affected certain control states.

Following Bohn, Lofstrom, and Raphael (2014), I obtain differences-in-differences estimates by comparing changes in Delaware to the synthetic control in the period before the policy and in each period after the policy. Specifically, I estimate:

$$\Delta Y_{DE,t} - \Delta Y_{synth,t} = \alpha_0 + \beta_t + u_t \quad (1)$$

The variable  $\Delta Y_{s,t}$  is the change in  $Y$  from  $t'$  to  $t$  in state  $s$ , where  $s$  is either Delaware or the synthetic control. Thus, the dependent variable is the differential change in  $Y$  in Delaware relative to the synthetic control from  $t'$  to  $t$ . I analyze changes over the following periods  $(t', t)$ : (1960, 1970), (1970, 1980), (1980, 1989), (1989, 2000), (2000, 2007), (2007, 2010), (2010, 2013). I analyze changes from 1980 to 1989, rather than 1990, to avoid confounding effects of the 1990/1991 recession. Similarly, I analyze changes from 2000 to 2007, rather than 2010, because of the recession beginning in December 2007.<sup>23</sup>

In an additional specification, I analyze changes over the entire post-policy period. For all variables except employment by sector, I analyze changes over the following  $(t', t)$ : (1960, 1970), (1970, 1980), (1980, 2010). Given the data limitations on sectoral employment, I analyze changes over the pre-policy decades and (1980, 2000).

The omitted period in regression (1) is the decade preceding Delaware's policy (1970 to 1980). Thus, the coefficients  $\beta_t$  identify the differential change in  $Y$  in Delaware from  $t'$  to  $t$ , relative to the synthetic control, and relative to this difference

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<sup>22</sup>I exclude Oregon since it is missing data in some pre-policy years.

<sup>23</sup>Many of the variables only have time series until 2010, and so to compare effects across variables I analyze changes from 2007 to 2010, and then 2010 to 2013. Several variables do not have observations for  $(t', t) = (1960, 1970)$ . For housing prices, participation, out-of-the labor force, and unemployment, data are not available in 1970. Instead, the pre-period consists of  $(t', t) = (1976, 1980)$ .

in the period preceding the policy.

Following Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller (2010), I assess whether these effects are statistically significant through the use of placebo tests. I estimate the treatment effects from assuming each of the states in the donor pool is the treated state. For each state, I construct a synthetic control using the principal synthetic control specification.<sup>24</sup> As in Bohn, Lofstrom, and Raphael (2014), I obtain the differences-in-differences estimates for each of these placebo states. If the differences between Delaware and the synthetic control are much larger than the differences between the other states and their synthetic controls, the results are less likely due to chance alone. More formally, following Bohn, Lofstrom, and Raphael (2014) the placebo differences-in-differences can be interpreted as the sampling distribution for the estimate  $\beta_t$ . If the cumulative density function of all the differences-in-differences estimates is  $F(\cdot)$  then the p-value of the one-tailed test that  $\beta_t > 0$  is  $1 - F(\beta_t)$ .

## Bordering States

I estimate the following specification, including Delaware and bordering states (Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania):

$$\Delta Y_{st} = \alpha_0 + \beta_t Decade\_t + \gamma_t Decade\_t * DE_s + \delta DE_s + u_{st} \quad (2)$$

I include observations for the same  $t$  as in (1), and as in (1), the omitted group is 1980. With four states, and up to seven year groups, the maximum number of observations in these regressions is 28. Including indicators for each year group, and interacting with Delaware additionally decreases the likelihood of identifying precise effects.

## Spillover Employment Effects

The difference-in-difference coefficients from regressions (1) and (2) identify the exogenous change in  $Y$  in Delaware, by comparing Delaware to the control, and subtracting out the difference in the immediately preceding period. I calculate employment mul-

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<sup>24</sup>I do not allow Delaware to be in the synthetic control of the placebo treatment states, because of the large policy effects in Delaware.

multipliers using these exogenous changes. In particular, I obtain the percentage change in FIRE employment resulting from the policy, and the resulting percentage change in employment in other sectors. This allows me to obtain the percent change in other sectors' employment for a given percent change in FIRE employment. Specifically, if  $Y = \ln(\text{Employment})$ , then an exogenous 10% increase in FIRE employment from 1980-1989 yields a  $10 * (\beta_{Y,1989} / \beta_{\ln(\text{FIRE}),1989})$  percent increase in total employment, using the  $\beta$  coefficients estimated in regression (1) (separately when the dependent variable is  $\ln(\text{Employment})$  and  $\ln(\text{FIRE Employment})$ ). Writing the multiplier in terms of jobs, every FIRE job created from 1980 through 1989, creates the following number of jobs in sector  $Y$ :

$$\frac{\beta_{Y,1989}}{\beta_{\ln(\text{FIRE}),1989}} * \frac{\text{Jobs}_{Y,1980}}{\text{Jobs}_{\text{FIRE},1980}}$$

## 5 Pre-Policy Differences: Delaware, Bordering States, and the Synthetic Control

The potential advantage of the synthetic control is identifying good counterfactuals for Delaware based on economic and demographic characteristics, but not necessarily those in close geographic proximity. Table 2 shows several important differences between Delaware and bordering states. In the pre-policy period, relative to bordering states Delaware had a larger manufacturing and high-technology manufacturing sector, smaller services sector, experienced greater population growth, greater declines in housing prices, and had a smaller share living in metropolitan areas. These differences may imply a potential improvement upon the traditional control group.

### Role of Manufacturing

American manufacturing experienced significant declines in the 1980s, precisely the period following Delaware's financial services legislation. As a result, states where manufacturing was similarly important may best approximate Delaware in the absence of the policy.

In every period the share employed in manufacturing is larger in Delaware than in the bordering states. In 1980, 27% of Delaware's economy was employed in manufacturing, while in bordering states this sector represented only 22% of employment.

Bordering states also experience a more significant pre-policy decline in manufacturing employment share. Finally, high-technology manufacturing was historically a much larger share of manufacturing employment in Delaware than in the bordering states.<sup>25</sup> This is especially important given high-technology manufacturing industries experienced smaller employment declines over the 1980s (Plunkert 1990). As a result, I include as an additional predictor the percent employed in high-technology manufacturing.

Table 2 shows that compared to bordering states, the synthetic control more closely matches Delaware's pre-policy manufacturing employment share, and similar to Delaware was historically more specialized in high-technology manufacturing. The synthetic control more closely matches the relatively smaller pre-policy services sector in Delaware. Finally, relative to bordering states, the synthetic control more closely matches various demographic characteristics of Delaware in the pre-policy period, including percent living in metropolitan areas and population growth.

### **Composition of the Synthetic Control**

Consistent with the synthetic control yielding more similar pre-policy characteristics, it does not heavily weight bordering states. Given differences from the more conventional control group, and concerns about transparency of synthetic controls, I provide further discussion on why specific states receive a high weight. In the robustness section, I also test sensitivity of the results to composition of the synthetic control.

Ohio has the greatest weight in the synthetic control. Both the level and trend of the proportion employed in manufacturing and high-technology manufacturing are very similar to Delaware. The same is true for Indiana, which comprises over 10% of the control. Despite being nontraditional controls for Delaware, the similarity in manufacturing and the overall manufacturing decline during the post-policy period may suggest these are good counterfactuals for Delaware.

Virginia is 23% of the synthetic control. Despite large differences in the proportion

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<sup>25</sup>From 1960-1964 this was nearly 46% in Delaware, but 14% in bordering states. This reflects the importance of chemical and automotive manufacturing in Delaware. The average increase in high-technology employment share over time in bordering states is due to increases in Maryland and Pennsylvania (which had a share of zero in in the 1960s), while the share decreased in New Jersey (which had nonzero share in the 1960s). See appendix for high-technology manufacturing definition.

employed in manufacturing, the trends are similar to Delaware.<sup>26</sup> The inclusion of Virginia in the synthetic control helps match the proportion of individuals age 15 to 64.<sup>27</sup> Without these as predictors, Virginia's share falls to 11% while Ohio's share rises to 32% and Indiana's share to 18%.

Maryland is the only bordering state in the synthetic control, and it comprises only 4.5%. Removing the proportion employed in manufacturing and high-technology manufacturing as predictor variables increases Maryland's share to 32%, and decreases Indiana's share to 0%. Because levels and trends in other predictors are similar in Delaware and Ohio, its share remains large at 34% when removing the manufacturing variables as predictors.

New Jersey and Pennsylvania do not enter the synthetic control. For many of the predictor variables, the levels and trends in New Jersey and Pennsylvania are similar to Delaware, but there are other states for which these are more similar.

Figure 1 shows that for the main outcomes of interest, pre-trends generally look similar in the synthetic control and bordering states, and these fairly closely approximate the pre-policy outcome in Delaware.

While the synthetic control contains vastly different states than those bordering Delaware, this may yield only small differences in the results. These groups of states may only experience small differences in outcomes over this period, implying the effects of Delaware's legislation are robust to using different control groups.

## 6 Adjustment to a Labor Demand Shock

### 6.1 Short-Run Adjustment

I focus first on the policy's effects over approximately the first decade, from 1980-1989. Even by the end of this period, Delaware's policy-induced advantage had not completely disappeared relative to other states. Also, because additional shocks are always possible in the long-run, attributing short-run effects to the policy is more straightforward.

From 1980 to 1989, employment in Delaware's FIRE sector grows by an additional

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<sup>26</sup>Virginia's manufacturing employment share, averaged over period in parentheses: .27 (1960-1964), .26 (1965-1969), .23 (1970-1974), .20 (1975-1979), .19 (1980).

<sup>27</sup>In 1980, 68% of Delaware's population was 15 to 64 years old. In Ohio and Indiana this was 66%, while in Virginia this was 68%.



71% as a result of the policy, when using the synthetic control as a counterfactual Delaware (Figure 1; Table 3, column 1). This FIRE growth relative to the synthetic control is larger than all of the placebo estimates. The magnitude is also large (58%) and significant when comparing Delaware to bordering states (Table 3). These results confirm Delaware’s legislation successfully attracted thousands of new finance jobs, and helped transform the state into a center for financial services employment. More generally, the results show relocation costs for finance jobs are small relative to potential state-level differences in taxation and regulatory environments. In this environment, local economic development policies may have large impacts.

### **Total Employment Growth and the Recipients of New Jobs**

New FIRE jobs were not simply filled by substitution across sector. Total employment grows by an additional 14% or 10.3% in Delaware in the period immediately after the policy, using the synthetic control and bordering states respectively. The effect relative to the synthetic control is larger than all but 3 of the placebo estimates, while the effect relative to bordering states has a  $p$ -value of .13.

Delaware employment in 1980 was 259,200, implying an additional 36,288 jobs using the synthetic control estimate. I next discuss results from a simple accounting of whether this job growth exclusively benefited new residents and individuals who were already employed in Delaware, or whether it also reduced the number of unemployed and out-of-the labor force individuals in Delaware.

The synthetic control suggests nontrivial additional population growth in Delaware of 4% immediately after the policy, though the effect is not statistically significant. Figure 1 also shows differential population growth in Delaware relative to bordering states, but the difference-in-difference is very small given larger pre-policy growth in Delaware. In 1980, Delaware’s population was 594,338. Assuming 4.1% differential population growth (based on the synthetic control), this implies 24,368 additional residents. In 1990, the proportion of Delaware residents 15 to 64 was approximately 67%, implying an additional 16,327 working-age individuals. Assuming prime-working ages of 18 to 64, the number of new working-age individuals would be even lower. Population growth appears to explain less than half of the additional jobs created by the policy.

There are large, immediate effects on the unemployment and participation rate. Delaware’s unemployment rate drops by an additional 1.8 or 1 percentage points from

1980 to 1989 as a result of the policy, using the synthetic control and bordering states respectively as a counterfactual Delaware. Only the effect relative to bordering states is statistically significant.

Similarly, from 1980-1989 the participation rate in Delaware increased an additional 3 or 4.4 percentage points as a result of the policy, using the synthetic control and bordering states respectively as a counterfactual Delaware. Both effects are statistically significant.

These changes may not reflect reductions in the number of unemployed or out-of-the labor force individuals. Instead, they may reflect that new residents in Delaware move directly into jobs, mechanically decreasing the unemployment rate and increasing the participation rate. I estimate additional specifications looking at the number of unemployed and working-age out-of-the labor force individuals (age 15 to 64). From 1980 to 1989, the number of unemployed individuals in Delaware falls by an additional 19% or 24%, using bordering states and the synthetic control respectively as a counterfactual. Only the effect relative to bordering states is statistically significant. In 1980, there were 20,966 unemployed individuals in Delaware. Using the effect relative to the synthetic control, this suggests an additional 5,000 individuals exited (or did not enter) unemployment resulting from the policy.

Delaware experienced an additional decrease of 20.3% or 22% in the number of people 15-64 not in the labor force, using the synthetic control and bordering states respectively.<sup>28</sup> These effects are both statistically significant (Appendix Figure A1, Appendix Table A1). In 1980, there were 119,404 Delawareans age 15-64 not in the labor force. Using the effect relative to the synthetic control, this suggests the number of individuals out-of-the labor force (or leaving the labor force) decreased by an additional 24,239 individuals. This will also be an overestimate if the proportion of the population age 15-64 does not increase linearly in Delaware between 1980 and 1990 (which I assume given this proportion is only known in census years). An overestimate may be particularly likely given that migration in response to the shock appears to have operated with some lag.

This simple accounting exercise relies on several assumptions. Nonetheless, it provides a general decomposition of who benefited from the increased number of jobs

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<sup>28</sup>I subtract labor force from population age 15 to 64, available in the decennial censuses through 2000. I impute the population age 15 to 64 in non-census years by assuming the proportion age 15 to 64 increases linearly between censuses. See Appendix Table A1 for details.

in Delaware. The additional 36,300 jobs in Delaware nearly matches the increase of 16,300 new, working-age residents, 5,000 exiting (or not entering) unemployment, and 24,200 reentering (or not leaving) the labor force. The sum of new residents, unemployment exits, and individuals reentering the labor force would likely match the number of new jobs even more closely, if I assumed prime-working age of 18, rather than 15, to 64 and if I did not impose that proportion 15 to 64 increases linearly.

**Employment Spillovers to Other Sectors** Table 4 shows spillover effects to other industries. I first show spillovers to all other nontradable sectors, excluding FIRE. As in Moretti (2010), I use nontradable to refer to industries other than manufacturing, agriculture, mining, government, and the military.<sup>29</sup>

While not statistically significant, the coefficients suggest large effects. From 1980-1989 Delaware experienced an additional 12.9% increase in non-FIRE nontradable employment. This is larger than all but eight of the placebo effects, and so has a  $p$ -value of .18. Thus, the exogenous 71% growth in FIRE yielded a 12.9% increase in non-FIRE nontradable employment. Equivalently, a 10% increase in FIRE employment (1230 jobs) results in non-FIRE nontradable employment growth of 1.82% (2377 jobs). Rewritten in terms of a jobs multiplier, 1 FIRE job yields 1.93 non-FIRE jobs in nontradable sectors. Using the bordering states as a control, the magnitude is also large, suggesting 1 FIRE job yields 1.05 non-FIRE jobs in nontradable sectors.

Separating these effects by sector, the coefficients also suggest large, though not statistically significant effects. The largest effect is on services employment, when using the synthetic control as a counterfactual Delaware. The exogenous 71% growth in FIRE employment from 1980-1989 yields a 13.8% increase in services employment. This is larger than all but six of the placebo effects. Equivalently a 10% increase in FIRE employment results in services employment growth of 1.94%, or 1 FIRE job yields .76 jobs in services. Using the bordering states as a control, the magnitude is much smaller, though the standard error is large so we cannot rule out large effects.

Both the synthetic control and bordering states specifications also show large effects on transportation and utilities and trade, clearly evident in Figure 2. Figure 2 also shows suggestive evidence of effects on construction, especially in the first years after the policy. While the difference-in-difference relative to the synthetic control is

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<sup>29</sup>Because the CES measures nonagricultural employment, nontradable employment is constructed by subtracting manufacturing, mining, and government from total employment.

large, relative to bordering states this is close to zero because of pre-policy differences.

Delaware's legislation required that banks opening as a result of their policy must employ at least 100 people by the end of the first year of operation. I compare the number of new FIRE jobs with the number of jobs required given the number of new firms. This may be a measure of within-finance spillovers or alternatively the value of locating employees at centralized offices rather than across many locations. Thirty new banks had been opened in Delaware by 1989 (Epstein 2001a).<sup>30</sup> Thus, between 1980 and 1989 there should have been at least 3,000 new FIRE jobs in Delaware. In fact, there were more than 8,700 new FIRE jobs in this period.<sup>31</sup>

Delaware housing prices increase substantially relative to both the synthetic control (39.5%) and bordering states (15.3%), although only the former are statistically significant (Appendix Figure A1, Appendix Table A1). This is consistent with increased demand for new housing, and relatively fixed supply in the short run. However, post-period housing price growth looks almost identical in Delaware and bordering states. The difference-in-difference is only large because of different pre-policy trends. Given a very short pre-policy period with available housing price data this may suggest we place less weight on these results. Differences in pre-policy trends also lead to much higher differences-in-differences effects relative to the synthetic control.

## Wages

The data suggest small to moderate wage effects in the decade after the policy, though the differences-in-differences estimates are imprecise (Figure 4, Table 5). Wages in Delaware grew an additional 7.4% when comparing to the synthetic control, and 4.1% when comparing to bordering states (Table 5, columns 1 and 2). The effects are similar when focusing on relevant clerks, accountants and managers (columns 5 and 6), and smaller and less significant when focusing on workers in the banking and

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<sup>30</sup>While not all of these were likely opened through the FCDA, Appendix Figure A7 Panel A shows this is a good approximation.

<sup>31</sup>While this includes new jobs in FIRE outside of banks and credit card companies (for example insurance and real estate), Erdevig (1988) reports 13,536 new jobs in Delaware commercial banks from 1980 through 1987. This estimate is not a difference-in-difference, and so includes jobs that may have been created even in the absence of the policy.

credit industry (columns 3 and 4).<sup>32 33</sup>

In sum, fiscal or regulatory competition can effectively incentivize employers to relocate. Within the first decade, new finance employment yields growth in total employment, which benefits new residents, unemployed, and out-of-the labor force individuals. These new finance jobs have large spillovers to nontradable sectors. Importantly, these employment and wage effects exist despite attempts from other states to compete away the advantage within this first decade.

## 6.2 Long-Run Adjustment

By 1991 Delaware’s tax and usury law advantage had disappeared due to competition from other states and federal legislation. This period provides a unique setting to study the robustness of place-based policies to fiscal and regulatory competition from other jurisdictions. If companies remain in Delaware this may suggest the policy yielded agglomerative effects. Alternatively, it may suggest small differences in regulatory environments and substantial relocation costs for companies.

Analyzing the policy’s long-run impact requires that any difference-in-difference must derive from the initial shock, ruling out alternative shocks in Delaware and control states. Bordering states may be a better control in the long run, if long-run economic trends are driven more by geography than initial sectoral composition.

### **Attributing Long-Run Effects to the 1981 Policy and Examining Additional Delaware Legislation**

Twenty years after Delaware’s policy was enacted, popular media and scholarly work were attributing long-run effects to the legislation. Newspaper articles were published with headlines such as “1981 Banking Act: How One Law Transformed Delaware”

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<sup>32</sup>For robustness, I estimate specifications using yearly data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) (King et al 2010), as well as the Census, allowing me to look for short-run positive effects on wages consistent with Blanchard and Katz (1992). I do not find any statistically significant positive effects in the first several years using either the bordering states or synthetic control. There is marginally statistically significant evidence that average wages in Delaware are lower in 1985 and 1986 than in the synthetic control, relative to the five-year period preceding the policy. These exercises cannot be done using banking and credit wages due to very small sample sizes. See Appendix Table A13.

<sup>33</sup>Taking into account the large policy effect on housing prices (Appendix Table A1), the wage effects are significantly reduced. However, the housing prices variable presents several difficulties as discussed above.

(Epstein 2001a). In 2009, Boyer and Ratledge write in their book Delaware Politics and Government, “Changes wrought by FCDA were to prove as important historically for Delaware’s economy as Delaware’s Chancery Court, the general corporation laws, and even the influence of the DuPont Company itself.”

I provide some further details on the long-run FIRE growth, and discuss why several other policies do not explain the long-run effects.<sup>34</sup> From 1989 to 2000, Delaware continues to experience additional FIRE employment growth (48% additional growth using the synthetic control as a counterfactual and 44% using bordering states). Figure 1 shows that while FIRE growth in Delaware had leveled off in the late 1980s and early 1990s, this was followed by a resurgence. Figure 5 shows this appears mainly due to the growth of MBNA, a credit card company that spun off one of the original FCDA firms relocating to Delaware.<sup>35</sup> This suggests that persistent effects are due to the original policy, rather than a second shock affecting finance labor demand in this period.

After the FCDA, Delaware passed two other pieces of legislation aimed at helping smaller banks and international banks to take advantage of the FCDA provisions. These had smaller initial impacts than the FCDA (Erdevig 1988). Delaware also attempted to create a second regulatory advantage by allowing banks to enter the insurance industry, though this policy was not successful in creating significant employment growth (explained in detail in the appendix).

### **Long-Run Impacts of Stimulating Finance Labor Demand**

Relative to the counterfactual, from 1980-2010 Delaware experiences an additional 101% or 108% growth in finance employment, 19 or 21% growth in total employment, and an approximately 18 or 20% increase in population, using the bordering states and synthetic control respectively (Table 3). These effects are statistically significant at least at the 10% level using both controls. These long-run effects are larger in

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<sup>34</sup>My research included extensively studying newspaper and trade journal articles, as well as interviewing a knowledgeable party (chief of staff and legal counsel to Governor du Pont, who signed the FCDA into law).

<sup>35</sup>The insurance firm AIG also grew from 150 Delaware employees in the mid-1980s to 2700 Delaware employees in 2001 (Epstein 2001b). This growth suggests the importance of agglomeration economies. AIG located its marketing division in Delaware (Epstein 1999b). It pioneered the use of direct marketing in the insurance industry (Jackson 1992), using strategies similar to those used by Delaware’s credit card companies. In the late 1990s, MBNA partnered with AIG to sell insurance (Epstein 1999a), and AIG opened a bank (Epstein 1999b). Below, I test whether agglomerative forces in Delaware appear stronger than in the industry nationally.

magnitude than the initial effects of the policy, which is consistent with the continued, significant decadal growth in later decades (especially 1989-2000) (Table 3).

The unemployment rate is substantially lower in Delaware thirty years later, relative to the counterfactual, from .6 percentage points (bordering states) to 1.3 percentage points (synthetic control). Neither effect is statistically significant. The long-run effect on the unemployment rate is not as large as the initial effect, consistent with some convergence over time. This convergence is evident looking at the relative increases in the unemployment rate from 1989-2000 (Table 3). Convergence may be due to much higher population growth in Delaware, especially in these later decades. While this mechanism is similar to Blanchard and Katz (1992), the dramatic difference is that convergence is not complete.

The participation rate is significantly lower, mostly due to changes starting in the 2000s.<sup>36</sup> Housing prices are an additional 45% higher relative to the synthetic control, but only 13% higher relative to bordering states (and this is not statistically significant) (Appendix Table A1). Unlike previous papers (Blanchard and Katz 1992, Bartik 1991), these results do not suggest a flat long-run housing supply curve. However, as discussed above, the short pre-policy period for which housing prices are available may be problematic.

Thirty years after the policy total nontradable employment excluding FIRE is higher by nearly 15 to 16% using both the synthetic control and bordering states (statistically significant at the 10% level using the synthetic control and the 5% level using bordering states). This implies that one additional FIRE job from 1980-1989 yielded an additional 2.32 nontradable jobs excluding FIRE from 1980-2010, or 2.7 jobs relative to bordering states. Decomposing this long-run effect by sector, the largest multipliers among the nontradable sectors are in services and trade.

Given that Delaware's regulatory advantage had disappeared by 1991, additional FIRE jobs during the 1990s are arguably the result of within FIRE spillovers. Delaware's policy no longer sets it apart from other states, and so this cannot explain why new firms continue to arrive. The results suggest that for every 1 additional FIRE job from 1980 to 1989, there were an additional 1.66 or 1.88 jobs in FIRE from 1989-2000,

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<sup>36</sup>Participation drops below that of the synthetic control by the end of the sample period. Appendix Figure A4 shows, based on CPS data, that in these years (2006 until 2010) there was also an increase in the percent of new residents in Delaware who were 55 and older. In 2014, Kiplinger ranked Delaware as the 7th most tax-friendly state for retirees, and the tax-friendliest in the Northeast (*10 Most* 2014).

using the synthetic control and bordering states respectively. Taking the multipliers to FIRE (1989-2000) and non-FIRE nontradable (1980-2000) together implies an additional 4 to 4.6 jobs from 1980-2000 per additional FIRE job from 1980-1989.

The results suggest moderate to large long-run wage growth, consistent with initially positive effects, followed by the absence of large, negative effects in later decades. However, these effects are imprecisely estimated. Comparing to the synthetic control, wages in Delaware grew an additional 8.6% from 1979 to 2013, and this effect is 2.5% when comparing to bordering states. Focusing on banking and credit wages, Delaware experienced additional growth of 6% relative to the synthetic control and nearly 5% relative to bordering states. Effects are smaller for clerks, accountants, and managers.

In sum, even after Delaware had lost its policy-induced advantage relative to other states, the policy effects strongly persist for the next decade. Thirty years after the policy, Delaware still enjoyed higher total employment, lower unemployment rate, higher population, and higher wages.

The results differ dramatically from Blanchard and Katz (1992), who find that unemployment and participation converge to the pre-policy equilibrium five to seven years after the shock, and only small temporary effects on consumption wages. In the Delaware setting this would be five to seven years after Delaware loses its original policy advantage. Below, I consider the extent to which these long-run effects can be explained by the greater share of Delaware's economy employed in finance, a sector with lower unemployment. An alternative explanation is that the policy directly affected worker productivity in the finance sector, or indirectly affected productivity through agglomeration.

## **Robustness**

**Predictor variables** The principal results hold constant the composition of the synthetic control across outcomes. However, Delaware's unemployment rate may have looked like state X's in the absence of the policy, but the same may not be true for population. For robustness, I allow for the synthetic control to differ across outcome variables. Specifically, as described in Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller (2010), for each outcome I find the predictor weights minimizing the mean squared prediction error of the outcome variable in the pre-policy period.

This exercise yields nontrivial differences in the composition of the synthetic con-



trol (Appendix Table A5), and generally larger and more statistically significant results (Appendix Tables A6 and A7).<sup>37</sup> For example, the results suggest that from 1980 to 1989 Delaware experienced additional 22% employment growth, 8% population growth, and 3.11 non-FIRE nontradable jobs for each FIRE job created.<sup>38</sup> It is reassuring that even with dramatic changes in the composition of the synthetic control, there are no dramatic changes in the results. This suggests small differences in outcomes between states that could perceivably enter the synthetic control.

**Adjusting for Negative Policy Effects in Control States** The migration of firms and individuals to Delaware will yield negative effects in other states. If these negative effects are large in states that are influential in the control, the policy's effect will be overestimated. I will be double counting the effect of the policy in Delaware: comparing the positive effect in Delaware to the negative effect in the control states.

Using US Census data, for each state I compare the fraction of the 1985 population that had moved to Delaware by 1990, and the fraction of the 1975 population that had moved to Delaware by 1980.<sup>39</sup> Looking at the difference in mobility across these years allows me to infer the policy's effect on mobility. Of the top five states losing population to Delaware from 1985 to 1990, relative to 1975 to 1980, Maryland is the only state in the synthetic control (and only 4.5% of the synthetic control). This suggests migration is unlikely to cause overestimation of the treatment effect when using the synthetic control.

Further, even for Maryland, which lost the most population to Delaware, the population loss is very small. In the years before the policy (1975 to 1980), Maryland lost .28% of its population to Delaware (approximately 11,600 people). After the policy (1985 to 1990), Maryland lost .32% of its population to Delaware (approximately 14,200 people). The pre-post policy difference in migration to Delaware is not large.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>37</sup>Connecticut, Indiana, and Michigan comprise a clear majority of the control for most outcomes, and there is significantly more weight placed on these states compared to the principal synthetic control (Appendix Table A5). However, there are also some differences across outcomes. For example, while Michigan comprises over 20% of the control for nearly all of the outcomes, it is only 2.7% of the control for labor force/population. Instead, it appears that relative to these other variables, labor force over population in Delaware looks more similar to Ohio.

<sup>38</sup>The robustness specification yields a smaller effect on the unemployment rate, suggesting a decrease of 1.1 percentage points instead of 1.8 using the principal specification.

<sup>39</sup>State to state migration flows are only available in the decennial years of the census.

<sup>40</sup>See appendix for the other states losing the most population to Delaware.

## Compositional Effects

The persistently lower unemployment rate and higher wages in Delaware may be explained by the policy's impact on sectoral composition. The policy resulted in a shift to finance, a sector with lower unemployment and higher wages. I compare Delaware's actual unemployment rate to the predicted rate based on sectoral composition, using national sectoral unemployment rates from the BLS Labor Force Statistics (based on the Current Population Survey (CPS)). If Delaware's unemployment is lower than this predicted rate, this suggests the policy brought sectoral unemployment rates (in finance or other sectors) lower than the national rates. This could be due to the policy's direct effect on worker productivity in the finance sector or a potential agglomerative effect of the policy.<sup>41</sup>

I obtain the predicted number of unemployed people by sector ( $s$ ) in the following way:  $UR_{National,s} = \frac{U_{DE,s}}{U_{DE,s} + E_{DE,s}}$ . The values of  $E_{DE,s}$  (number employed in sector  $s$ ) and  $UR_{National,s}$  (national unemployment rate in sector  $s$ ) are known, and I solve for  $U_{DE,s}$  (number unemployed in sector  $s$ ). I then add the number of predicted unemployed across all sectors, and divide by this number plus the total employed.<sup>42</sup> The BLS started reporting sectoral unemployment rates in 1976, and so I present predicted unemployment rates starting in 1976. The sectoral unemployment rates use the SIC definitions, which are not available starting in the early 2000s, when the BLS exclusively used the NAICS definitions. Consistent with the results presented earlier, I present these predicted unemployment rates through 2000.

In the years immediately after the policy there is a large difference between Delaware's actual and predicted unemployment rates (Figure 6). The difference reaches up to two percentage points in the mid- to late-1980s. Lower unemployment rates than national averages are consistent with a dramatic, exogenous increase in labor demand. During this initial period there are transitions to employment from unemployment and being out of the labor force, and new residents arrive to immediately take jobs. In this setting, we would expect that the unemployment rate in

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<sup>41</sup>As discussed in Evans and Schmalensee (2005), *Marquette* may have directly affected worker productivity in the finance sector because employees no longer had to tailor credit card offers to the customers' state of residence.

<sup>42</sup>The employment data used in the paper are only non-farm employment. However, the state unemployment rate is constructed by the BLS using CPS data, which includes workers in the agricultural sector. To compare the predicted unemployment rate to the actual rate, I use data on agricultural employment from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA).

Delaware is even lower than the new economic composition would suggest.

The actual rate remains considerably below the predicted rate until approximately 1994, nearly 15 years after the policy. This could be evidence of the policy's agglomerative effects, which drive unemployment rates below national sectoral rates in finance or in other sectors.

During the mid-1990s, the unemployment rate is one to two percentage points lower in Delaware than bordering states and the synthetic control. However, the difference between Delaware's unemployment rate, and the predicted rate based on sectoral composition is significantly smaller in this period, approximately .2 percentage points. This suggests that much of the persistent effect on the unemployment rate in the longer run is due to the changed sectoral composition.

This exercise suggests the policy's long-run effects are not due to its direct impact on worker productivity in the finance sector. Rather, the results suggest the long-run policy effects can be attributed to the policy's impact on sectoral composition. While this shift towards finance may have yielded agglomerative effects in Delaware, the results suggest these agglomerative effects were not stronger than those that exist in finance nationally. Delaware largely attracted firms from New York, an important financial center with agglomerative effects likely equal to at least the national average in the industry. The results then suggest that while Delaware's policy yielded positive effects in Delaware, it was inefficient at the aggregate level.

## 7 Conclusion

This paper analyzes the short- and long-run impact of an exogenous shock to labor demand in the financial services sector, using the relocation of finance companies to Delaware in the early 1980s. Policies aimed at attracting firms to a particular jurisdiction are prevalent, though much of the recent literature has focused on policies targeting jobs in the tradable sector. The response to these policies may depend on the targeted industry, because of differences in wages, mobility frictions, and spillover effects.

The first contribution of the paper is to study the short-run impact of a policy targeting financial services, and compare this to recent studies of policies targeting the tradable sector. The second contribution is to study the long-run impact of the policy, after the original policy-induced advantage had disappeared. Given intense

competition between local jurisdictions, it is important to understand whether newly attracted firms will remain in the new jurisdiction or will leave for a more attractive package.

Using bordering states, as well as the synthetic control framework, the findings suggest fiscal or regulatory competition can effectively incentivize employers to relocate, and this has positive effects on the local economy. By the end of the first decade, total employment, wages, population, and participation were higher, while the unemployment rate was lower. Further, for every FIRE job created from 1980-1989, there were up to 1.9 additional non-FIRE nontradable jobs created. Thirty years after the policy, and 20 years after Delaware lost its original policy-induced advantage, Delaware still had higher employment, population, and wages and lower unemployment. In addition, by 2000 the nontradable multiplier was up to 4.5, including FIRE jobs from 1989-2000.

These persistent effects differ dramatically from the Blanchard and Katz (1992) finding that unemployment and participation adjust within five to seven years of the shock and only small temporary effects on consumption wages. The policy's lasting impact on sectoral composition appears to explain these persistent effects. The lasting impact on sectoral composition is noteworthy given that other states passed similar legislation to Delaware in the following years.

The effects differ from recent studies of policies that do not specifically target white-collar jobs. The principal differences are generally larger spillover effects to nontradable employment from finance than from tradable sectors, larger wage effects, and greater robustness to weakening policy advantages over time.

The implication for policymakers is that short-run effects from attracting firms can be sustained if the policy shifts the economic composition towards a low unemployment and high-wage sector in the long run. However, at least in this setting, the successful local policy appears inefficient at the aggregate level. Agglomerative effects do not appear stronger than in the industry nationally.

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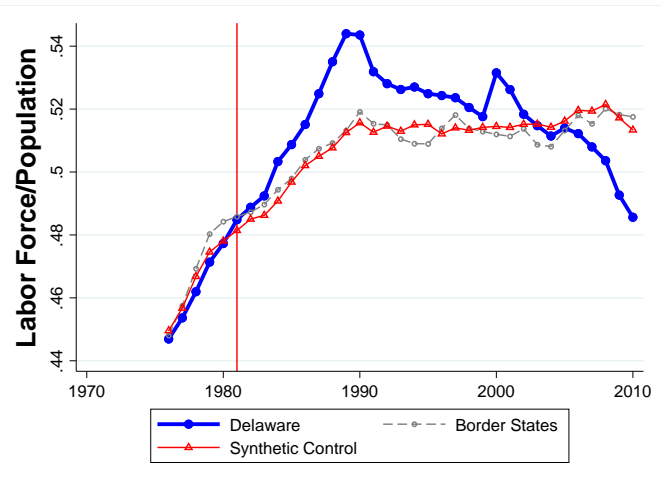
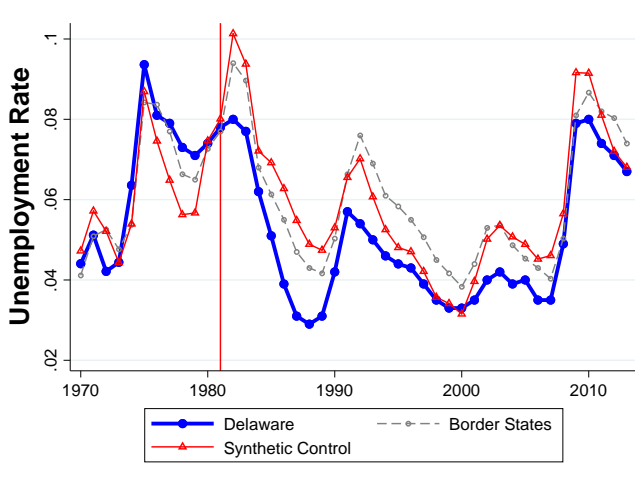
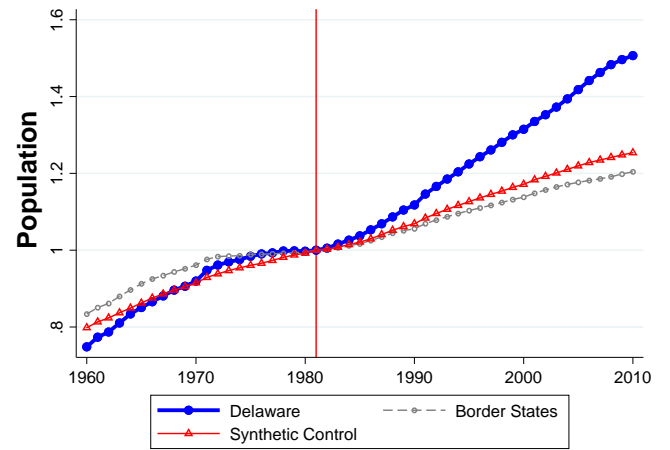
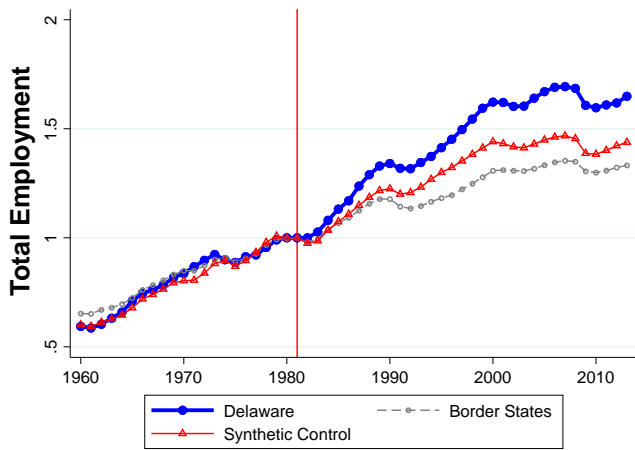
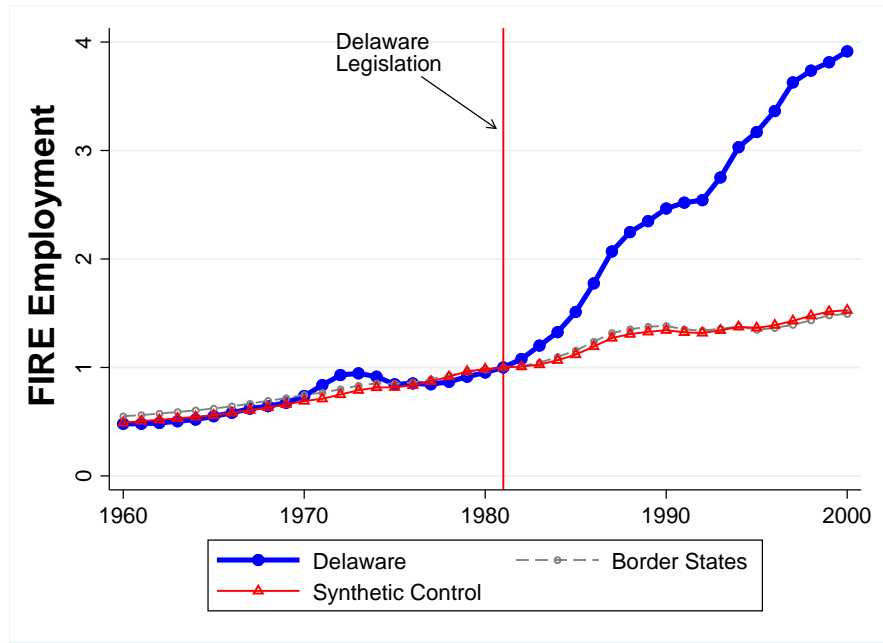
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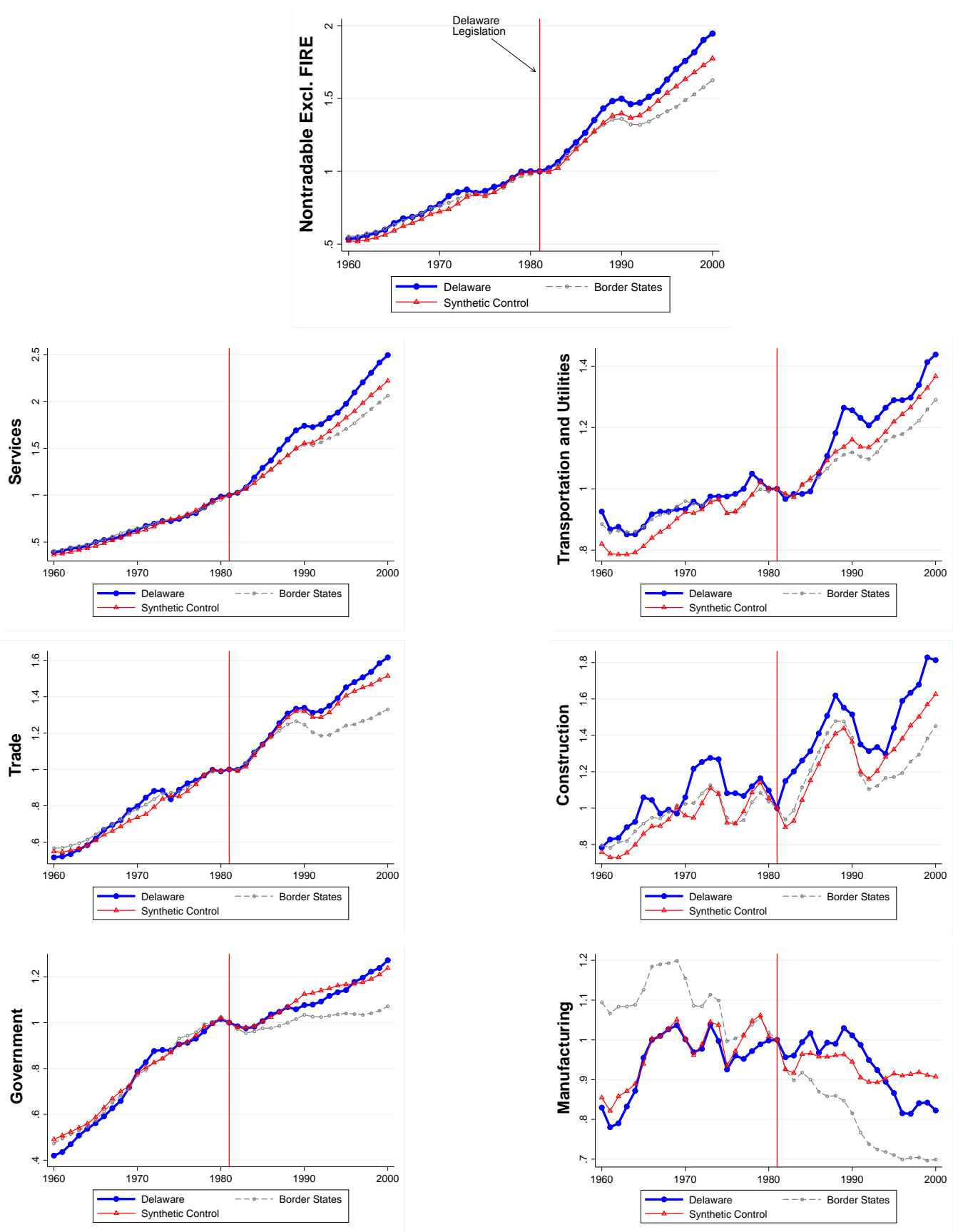


Figure 1: Policy Effects on the Labor Market, Delaware Relative to the Synthetic Control and Bordering States



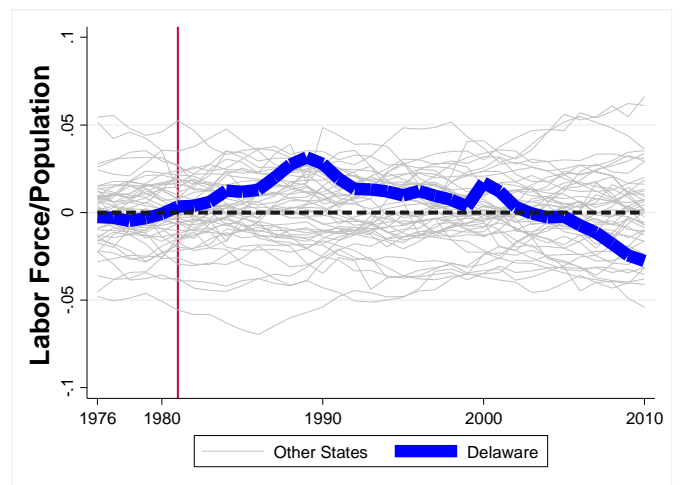
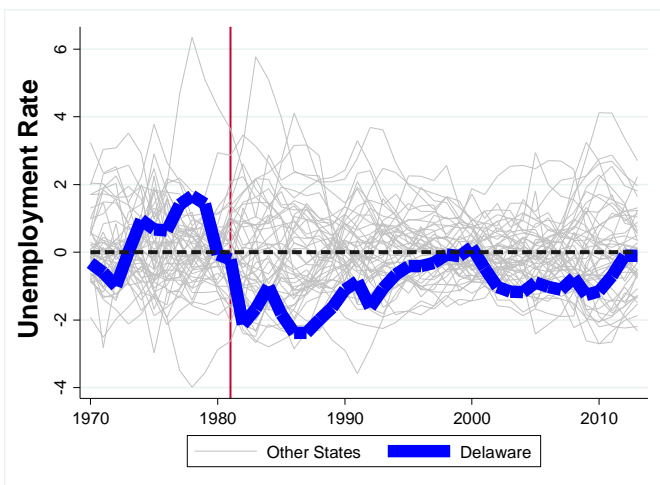
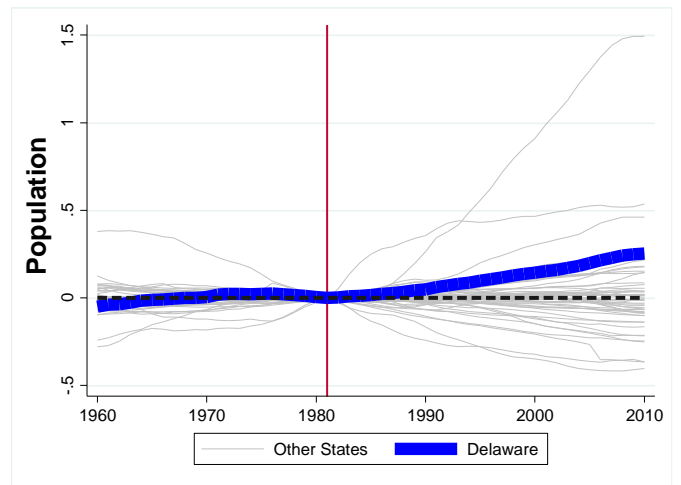
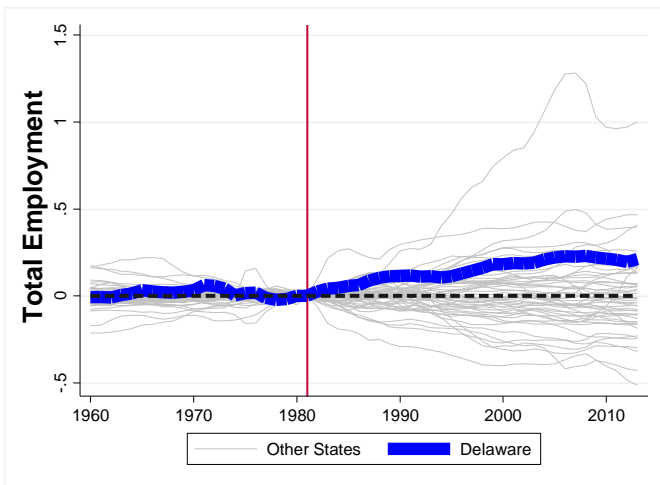
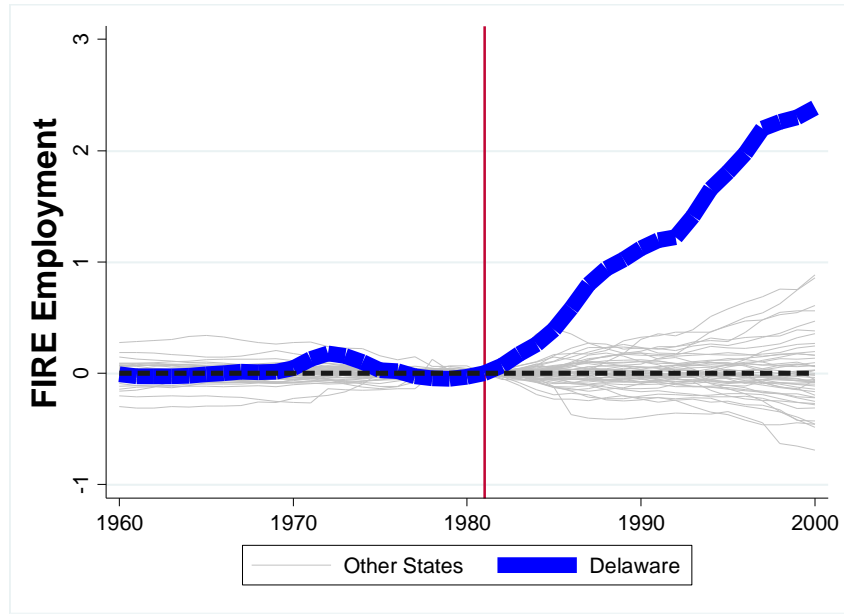
Note: Figures show variables indexed to one in 1981 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and synthetic control, except for the unemployment rate and labor force/population. See paper for details on construction of the synthetic control.

**Figure 2: Cross-Industry Spillover Effects, Delaware Relative to the Synthetic Control and Bordering States**



Note: Figures show variables indexed to one in 1981 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and synthetic control. See paper for details on construction of the synthetic control.

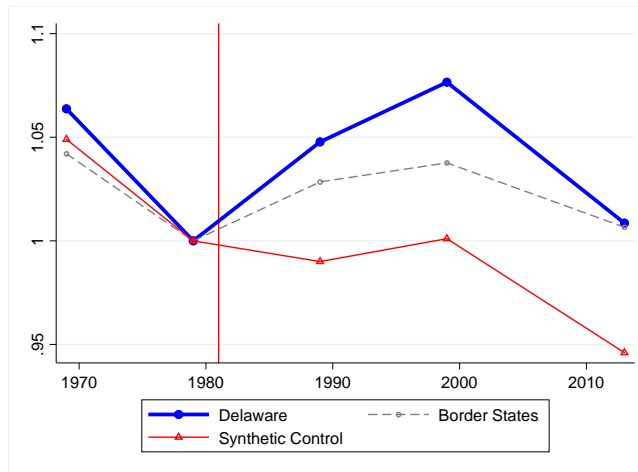
Figure 3: Inference - Estimated Effects in Delaware Relative to Placebos



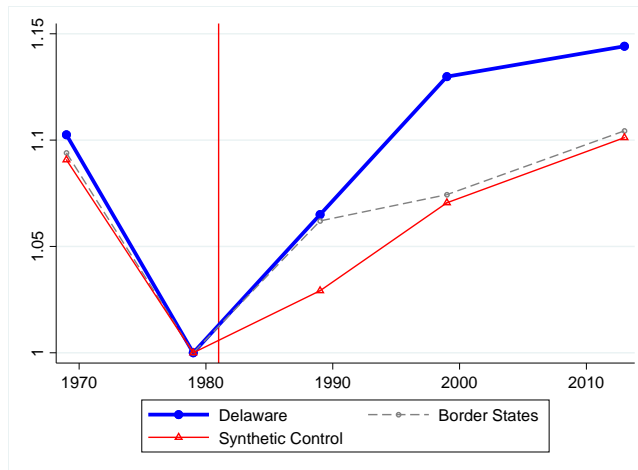
Note: Figures show variables indexed to one in 1981 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and synthetic control, except for the unemployment rate and labor force/population. See paper for details on construction of the synthetic control.

Figure 4: Policy Effect on Average Wages: Delaware Relative to Synthetic Control and Bordering States

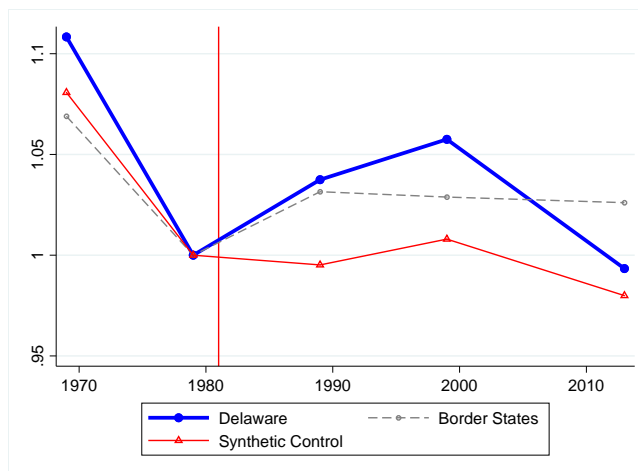
(a) All Occupations and Industries



(b) Banking and Credit Industry



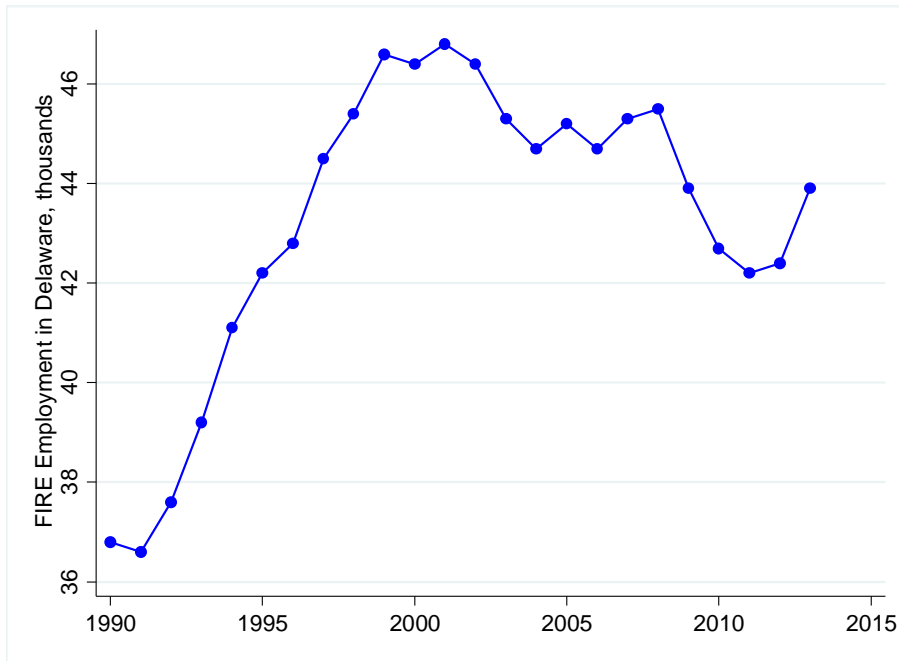
(c) Relevant Clerks, Accountants, and Managers



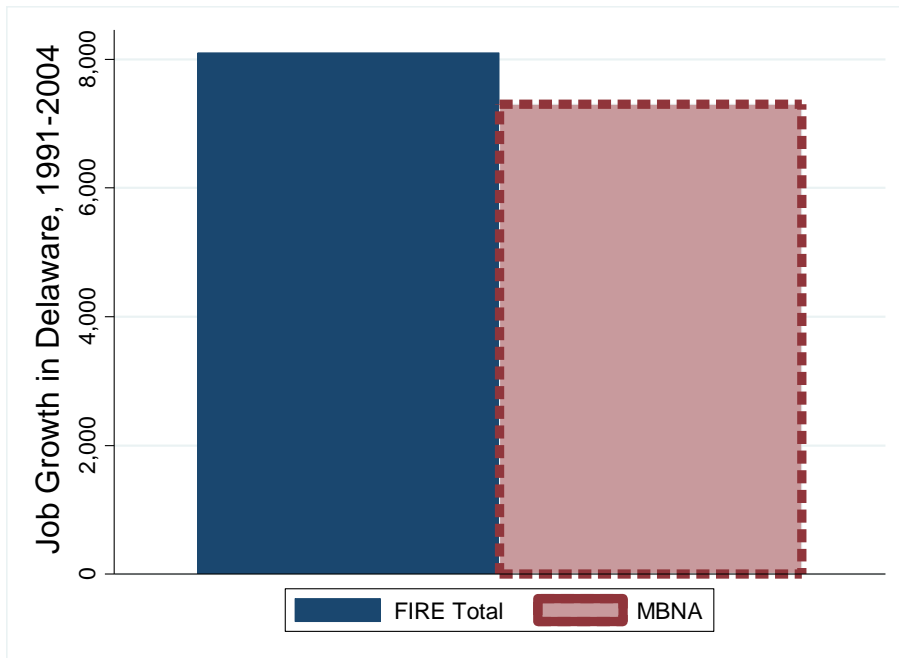
Note: Dependent variable is regression-adjusted average state wage, indexed to one in 1979 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and the synthetic control. See text for details.

Figure 5: Decomposition of FIRE Growth in Delaware, 1990s

Panel A: FIRE Employment in Delaware, 1990-2015

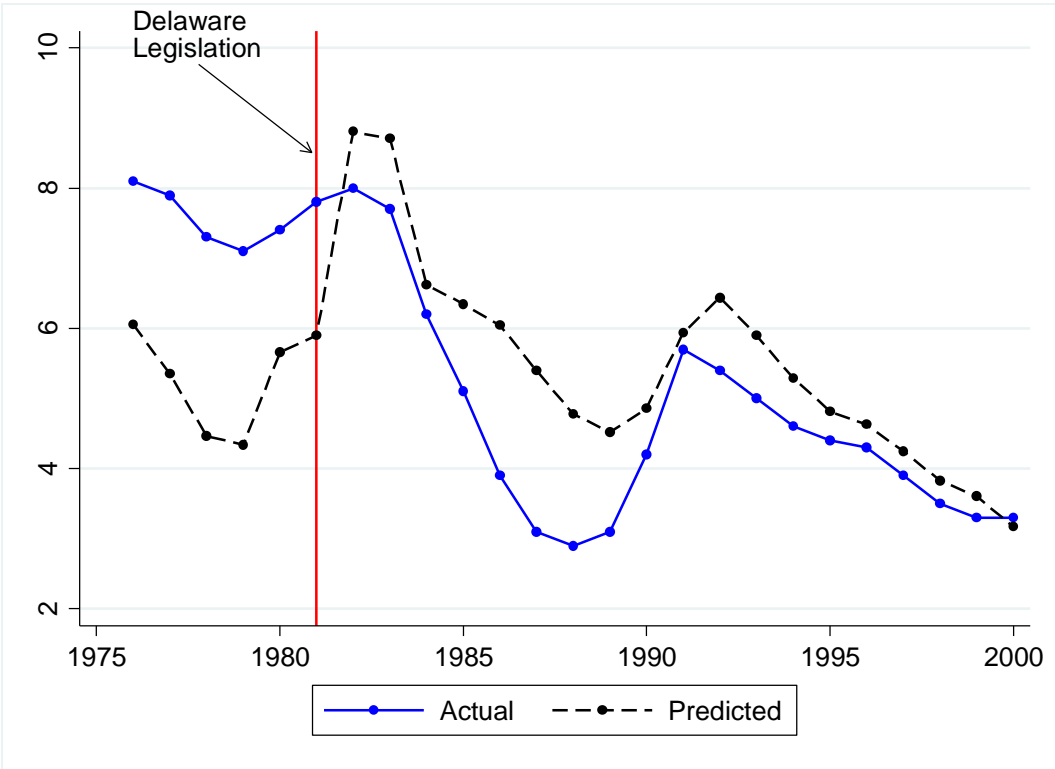


Panel B: FIRE Employment Growth Explained by MBNA Employment Growth



Note: Panel A, and the left bar of Panel B are constructed using the CES, based on the NAICS industry codes. The right bar of Panel B is constructed based on Boyer and Ratledge (2009).

Figure 6: Effect of Sectoral Composition on Delaware’s Unemployment Rate



Note: The predicted unemployment rate is constructed using the share of Delaware’s employment in each sector from the CES, and national sectoral unemployment rates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. See paper for details.

**Table 1: Synthetic Control Composition**

Ohio	0.282
Virginia	0.230
Indiana	0.111
Connecticut	0.091
Vermont	0.091
Michigan	0.079
Florida	0.050
Maryland	0.045
South Carolina	0.021

Note: This table shows the composition of the synthetic control for Delaware. See paper for details.

**Table 2: Pre-policy Characteristics: Delaware, Bordering States, and the Synthetic Control**

Predictors	Delaware	Bordering States	Synthetic Control	
<b>Share Employed in</b>				
<b>FIRE</b>				
1960-1964	0.040	0.046	0.043	
1965-1969	0.040	0.045	0.042	
1970-1974	0.049	0.048	0.046	
1975-1979	0.046	0.050	0.048	
1980	0.047	0.052	0.051	
<b>Manufacturing</b>				
1960-1964	0.37	0.35	0.35	
1965-1969	0.36	0.32	0.34	
1970-1974	0.31	0.28	0.30	
1975-1979	0.28	0.24	0.27	
1980	0.27	0.22	0.25	
<b>High-Tech Manufacturing</b>				
1960-1964	0.17	0.050	0.14	
1965-1969	0.17	0.047	0.14	
1970-1974	0.15	0.088	0.13	
1975-1979	0.14	0.097	0.13	
1980	0.13	0.095	0.12	
<b>Services</b>				
1960-1964	0.13	0.14	0.13	
1965-1969	0.13	0.15	0.14	
1970-1974	0.15	0.17	0.16	
1975-1979	0.17	0.19	0.18	
1980	0.18	0.20	0.19	
% Metropolitan,	1980	67.0	87.4	72.7
% with ≥ a HS Diploma,	1980	68.6	66.5	66.3
% age 15-64	1960	59.9	61.2	59.4
	1970	61.8	62.5	61.8
	1980	67.8	67.3	66.7
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>				
1970-1974	0.049	0.049	0.051	
1975-1979	0.080	0.075	0.068	
1980	0.074	0.073	0.075	
<b>Population (1981 = 1)</b>				
1960-1964	0.79	0.86	0.82	
1965-1969	0.88	0.93	0.89	
1970-1974	0.95	0.98	0.94	
1975-1979	0.99	0.99	0.97	
1980	1.00	1.00	0.99	
<b>Housing Prices (1981 = 1)</b>				
1975-1979	1.15	1.06	1.09	
1980	1.07	1.05	1.07	

Note: This table compares the balance of a subset of predictor variables in the synthetic control, Delaware, and states bordering Delaware. Text and appendix table contain a complete list and balance.



**Table 3: Labor Market Effects: Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Ln(FIRE Empl.)	Ln(Empl.)	Ln(Pop.)	Unempl. Rate	LF/Pop.
<b>Panel A: Delaware Relative to Synthetic Control</b>					
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>					
1980-1989	0.71** (1/50) [.02]	0.14* (4/50) [.08]	0.041 (12/50) [.24]	-0.018 (8/50) [.16]	0.03** (2/50) [.04]
1989-2000	0.478** (1/50) [.02]	0.083* (5/50) [.1]	0.084** (2/50) [.04]	0.015 (44/50) [.88]	-0.016 (43/50) [.86]
2000-2007		0.080 (7/50) [.14]	0.063** (2/50) [.04]	-0.015 (8/50) [.16]	-0.030 (48/50) [.96]
2007-2010		0.051 (11/50) [.22]	0.020 (15/50) [.3]	-0.003 (21/50) [.42]	-0.018 (48/50) [.96]
2010-2013		0.042 (12/50) [.24]		0.008 (36/50) [.72]	
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>					
1980-2010	1.084** (1/50) [.02]	0.208* (4/50) [.08]	0.196* (3/50) [.06]	-0.013 (13/50) [.26]	-0.029 (47/50) [.93]
<b>Panel B: Delaware Relative to Bordering States</b>					
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>					
1980-1989	0.580*** (0.073)	0.103 (0.072)	0.002 (0.044)	-0.010*** (0.003)	0.044*** (0.007)
1989-2000	0.443*** (0.032)	0.079 (0.053)	0.050 (0.035)	0.007** (0.003)	-0.005 (0.008)
2000-2007		-0.006 (0.052)	0.021 (0.027)	0.002 (0.004)	-0.021** (0.008)
2007-2010		-0.034 (0.051)	-0.032 (0.023)	0.000 (0.005)	-0.019** (0.007)
2010-2013		-0.009 (0.050)		0.001 (0.003)	
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>					
1980-2010	1.009*** (0.072)	0.191* (0.090)	0.180* (0.085)	-0.006 (0.006)	-0.019 (0.010)

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. In each column, the coefficients in Section I (Decadal Changes) are from a single regression, and coefficients in Section II (Long-Run Changes) are from a separate regression. The dependent variables in Panel A are  $\ln(\text{Empl}_{t,DE}) - \ln(\text{Empl}_{t',DE}) - (\ln(\text{Empl}_{t,\text{synth}}) - \ln(\text{Empl}_{t',\text{synth}}))$ , for (t',t): (1960,1970), (1970,1980), (1980-1989), (1989-2000), (2000-2007), (2007-2010), (2010-2013). These regressions have as many observations as (t',t) pairs. Explanatory variables include fixed effects for t. Coefficients for (t',t)= (1960, 1970) are shown in the appendix, and the omitted group is (1970, 1980). The effect's rank relative to placebo estimates is in parentheses and the p-value based on this rank in brackets. Dependent variables in Panel B are  $\ln(\text{Empl}_{t,s}) - \ln(\text{Empl}_{t',s})$  and the explanatory variables include fixed effects for t, and these effects interacted with Delaware. These regressions have as many observations as (t',t) pairs multiplied by four (Delaware plus three bordering states). Panel B shows coefficients on year group interacted with Delaware, with robust standard errors in parentheses. In column 1, the long-run change is from 1980-2000 not 1980-2010. In the case of tied ranks, I assign the worse rank to Delaware. See paper for details.

**Table 4: Cross-Industry Spillovers: Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth**

	FIRE	Nontrad. excl. FIRE	Services	Trade	Transp. / Util.	Constr.	Manufact.	Govt.
<b>Panel A: Delaware Relative to Synthetic Control</b>								
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>								
1980-1989	0.71** (1/50) [.02]	0.129 (9/50) [.18]	0.138 (7/50) [.14]	0.104 (12/50) [.24]	0.13 (12/50) [.24]	0.113 (18/50) [.36]	0.100 (8/50) [.16]	-0.012 (31/50) [.62]
New Jobs per New FIRE Job	1.00	1.93	0.76	0.67	0.18	0.19	0.81	-0.06
1989-2000	0.478** (1/50) [.02]	0.09 (7/50) [.14]	0.034 (19/50) [.38]	0.147* (3/50) [.06]	-0.033 (36/50) [.72]	0.102 (15/50) [.3]	-0.138 (44/50) [.88]	0.08 (10/50) [.2]
New Jobs per New 1980-89 FIRE Job	1.66	2.00	0.32	1.27	-0.06	0.24	-1.16	0.43
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>								
1980-2000	1.084** (1/50) [.02]	0.155* (4/50) [.08]	0.146* (4/50) [.08]	0.162 (6/50) [.12]	0.078 (21/50) [.42]	0.145 (19/50) [.38]	-0.058 (35/50) [.7]	0.051 (19/50) [.38]
New Jobs per New 1980-89 FIRE Job		2.32	0.80	1.04	0.11	0.24	-0.47	0.26
<b>Panel B: Delaware Relative to Bordering States</b>								
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>								
1980-1989	0.580*** (0.073)	0.057 (0.060)	0.026 (0.063)	0.071 (0.049)	0.089 (0.085)	-0.022 (0.114)	0.095* (0.043)	0.085 (0.088)
New Jobs per New FIRE Job		1.05	0.17	0.56	0.15	-0.05	0.94	0.54
1989-2000	0.443*** (0.032)	0.078** (0.030)	-0.004 (0.040)	0.160*** (0.033)	-0.056* (0.030)	0.151 (0.084)	-0.150* (0.074)	0.165* (0.079)
New Jobs per New 1980-89 FIRE Job	1.88	2.12	-0.05	1.69	-0.12	0.44	-1.54	1.09
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>								
1980-2000	1.009*** (0.072)	0.147** (0.059)	0.091 (0.082)	0.212*** (0.039)	0.067 (0.077)	0.148 (0.090)	0.066 (0.087)	0.215** (0.086)
New Jobs per New 1980-89 FIRE Job		2.70	0.61	1.66	0.11	0.30	0.66	1.36
Jobs in Delaware, 1980	12,300	130,800	47,900	56,000	12,100	14,700	70,900	45,200
Jobs in Delaware, 1989	30,300	193,900	82,200	75,500	15,300	20,800	73,100	47,100

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See Table 3 notes for description of regressions. New jobs in sector Y per New FIRE job is calculated as  $((\text{Beta}_{\{Y,1989\}}/\text{Beta}_{\{\ln(\text{FIRE}),1989\}})*\text{Jobs}_{\{Y,1980\}})/(\text{Jobs}_{\{\text{FIRE},1980\}})$ . In case of tied ranks I assign the worse rank to Delaware. See paper for details.

**Table 5: Effects on Wage Growth - Differences-in-Differences in Delaware Relative to Pre-Policy Growth**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	All		Banking and Credit		Clerks, Accountants, Managers	
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>						
(1) 1979-1989	0.074 [10/50] (.2)	0.041 (0.053)	0.049 [20/50] (.4)	0.013 (0.053)	0.07 [11/50] (.22)	0.043 (0.045)
(2) 1989-1999	0.03 [10/50] (.2)	0.039* (0.020)	0.031 [19/50] (.38)	0.056*** (0.016)	0.032 [9/50] (.18)	0.058*** (0.012)
(3) 1999-2013	0.011 [20/50] (.4)	-0.014 (0.027)	0.005 [21/50] (.42)	-0.005 (0.024)	-0.005 [25/50] (.5)	-0.024 (0.022)
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>						
(4) 1979-2013	0.086 [8/50] (.16)	0.025 (0.054)	0.061 [10/50] (.2)	0.047 (0.075)	0.045 [12/50] (.24)	0.006 (0.049)
Control	Synthetic	Bordering	Synthetic	Bordering	Synthetic	Bordering

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. In each column, the coefficients in Section I (Decadal Changes) are from a single regression, and the coefficients in Section II (Long-Run Changes) are from a separate regression. The dependent variables in columns 1, 3, and 5 are  $(\ln(\text{AvgWage}_{t,DE}) - \ln(\text{AvgWage}_{t',DE})) - (\ln(\text{AvgWage}_{t,\text{synth}}) - \ln(\text{AvgWage}_{t',\text{synth}}))$ , for (t',t) in Section I: (1969, 1979), (1979, 1989), (1989, 1999), (1999, 2013), and in Section II (1969, 1979), (1979, 2013). These regressions have as many observations as (t',t) pairs. Explanatory variables include fixed effects for t. The omitted group is (1969, 1979). The rank of the effect relative to placebo estimates is in brackets and the p-value based on this rank is in parentheses. The dependent variables in columns 2, 4, and 6 are  $\ln(\text{AvgWage}_{t,s}) - \ln(\text{AvgWage}_{t',s})$  and the explanatory variables include an indicator for Delaware, fixed effects for t, and these effects interacted with Delaware. In these regressions there are as many observations as (t',t) pairs multiplied by four (Delaware plus three border states). Estimates in columns 2, 4, and 6 are the coefficients on year group interacted with Delaware, with robust standard errors in parentheses. Average wages by state are based on the sample of workers aged 25-59 who usually worked at least 35 hours per week. These average wages by state are also regression-adjusted, controlling for years of education, a quadratic in potential experience, indicators for grouping of usual hours worked per week last year and weeks worked last year, and indicators for white, black, Asian, male, and married. In case of tied ranks I assign the worse rank to Delaware. See paper for details.

Dynamic Responses to Labor Demand Shocks:  
Evidence from the Financial Industry in Delaware  
*Appendix: For Online Publication*

October 5, 2017

## **Fiscal and Regulatory Competition from Other States**

As part of the Financial Center Development Act (FCDA), Delaware introduced a regressive tax on banks of 8.7% on the first \$20 million of net income, 6.7% on net income from \$20 to \$25 million, 4.7% on net income from \$25 to \$30 million, and 2.7% on net income over \$30 million (Moulton 1983).

Other states responded to Delaware's FCDA, and specifically to the elimination of the interest rate ceiling in Delaware. New York passed a law in 1981 eliminating its usury laws and allowing companies to charge fees, but did not restructure the taxes. In fact, in 1981, there was a temporary 18% surcharge on tax liability attributable to business in the Metropolitan Commuter Transportation District, later reduced to 17% in 1982. This surcharge remains in place today. The tax rate in 1981 for banks was 12%, reduced to 9% in 1985, to 7.5% in 1999 (over three years), and 7.1% in 2007 (Rubin 2011).

In 1983, Virginia eliminated interest rate ceilings on credit card loans, as well as allowed unlimited annual fees, and invited out-of-state bank holding companies to acquire a bank. In 1982, Maryland raised the interest rate ceiling to 24%, but did not allow fees on credit cards or invite out-of-state banks until 1983. The tax on financial institutions in Maryland was 7% at the time of introduction in 1968, and at repeal in 2000 (Maryland Session Laws 1968, Michie's Annotated Code 2004).

While Pennsylvania responded as well, it did not match Delaware's policy. In 1982, Pennsylvania raised the interest rate ceiling from 15% to 18%, and also allowed banks to charge a fee of up to \$15 per year (Erdevig 1988). Pennsylvania taxes banks and financial institutions based on their equity capital, rather than on their net income (as in Delaware and in most other states) (Pennsylvania Department of Revenue 2015). From 1971 through 1983, this tax rate was 1.5%. In 1984, it was reduced to 1.075%, in 1990 it increased to 1.25%, and in 2014 reduced to .89% (Pennsylvania Department of Revenue 2008, 2015). The effective rate on net income was estimated to be 9.84% based on the 2014 rate, making it higher than the top rate in Delaware (Pennsylvania Department of Revenue 2015).

From 1979 until 1991, South Dakota imposed a tax of 6% on the net income of financial institutions (South Dakota Session Laws 1979). In 1991, South Dakota introduced a regressive tax on the net income of financial institutions, with a lower top rate, and a lower bottom rate than Delaware (South Dakota Session Laws 1991).

## A Failed Attempt at Another Regulatory Advantage

The Bank and Trust Company Insurance Powers Act of 1989 allowed state-chartered banks in Delaware to enter the insurance business and to exercise powers incidental to banking (Nolen and Yemc 2011, Swayze and Schiltz 2005). Few other states allowed such powers to banks (Schrader 1990). After the resolution of some policy, legal, and regulatory uncertainty, several banks initiated insurance operations in Delaware in the 1990s. However, a thorough review of newspaper articles and trade journals, as well as a conversation with a corporate attorney involved with this policy, conveyed the response was not large enough to explain the FIRE growth in the 1990s. At its peak, Citicorp, which was one of the banks most interested in entering insurance, had 200 employees in its insurance group in Delaware (Chuang 2000).

## Construction of Variables

I calculate potential years of experience from the Census as  $Age - Education - 6$ , and set this to zero if it is less than zero. I code education as 0 if the *educ* variable from the CPS denoted the respondent received no education, preschool, or kindergarten. I code education as 4 if the individual attained nursery school to grade 4 (Census

code 1); 8 if grades 5, 6, 7, or 8 (Census code 2); for grades 9 through 12 I code the education variable as the grade attained. I code education as 13 for 1 year of college; 14 for two years of college; 15 for 3 years of college; 16 for 4 years of college; and 17 for 5+ years of college (Census code 11).

I code as married those who respond they are married with spouse absent in addition to those who are married with spouse present.

I code groupings of hours and weeks worked in the CPS to be consistent with the census variable. I include indicators for the following groups of usual hours worked per week last year: 1 through 14 hours, 15 through 29 hours, 30 through 34 hours, 35 through 39 hours, 40 hours, 41 through 49 hours, 49 through 59 hours, and 60 hours. In 1970, usual hours worked per week last year is not available. Instead I use hours worked last week, in the same groupings as defined above. I include indicators for the following groups of weeks worked last year: 1 through 13, 14 through 26; 27 through 39; 40 through 47; 48 through 49; 50 through 52.

I define high-technology manufacturing using the SIC major industry groups corresponding to the Level I and Level II high-technology industries identified in Hecker (2005). These are: Industrial and Commercial Machinery and Computer Equipment (35); Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment and Components, Except Computer Equipment (36); Transportation Equipment (37); Measuring, Analyzing, and Controlling Instruments, Photographic, Medical and Optical Goods, Watches and Clocks (38); Chemicals and Allied Products (28); Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products (30). Hecker's definitions identify 4-digit NAICS codes, and I use the three-digit SIC codes containing those industries.

To obtain a longer time series for total employment I use total employment from the CES, NAICS basis. Unlike the NAICS-basis data for total employment, NAICS-basis data by industry are only available starting in 1990. When constructing shares of total employment by industry, the denominator is total employment, SIC basis. As a result, I measure employment by industry as a share of total non-farm employment.

State unemployment rates constructed from labor market areas, provided by Larry Katz and used in Blanchard and Katz (1992) were normalized to equal the LAUS unemployment rate in 1976.

## Synthetic Control

In the principal synthetic control, I include as predictors five year averages from 1960 through 1979, as well as the value in 1980 of the following variables: population and employment indexed to one in 1981, share of employment in construction; FIRE; manufacturing; high-technology manufacturing; trade; services; transportation and utilities; government. I include five year averages from 1970 through 1979, and the value in 1980 of the unemployment rate. I include the average from 1976 through 1980 of labor force over population, and the average from 1975 through 1979, as well as the value in 1980, of housing prices indexed to one in 1981.

## States Losing Population to Delaware

The top five states losing population to Delaware from 1985 to 1990, relative to 1975 to 1980 are mostly those in close geographic proximity: (with difference in the fraction of population lost to Delaware in parentheses): Maryland (.00043), Pennsylvania (.00039), New Jersey (.00035), West Virginia (.00025), and Rhode Island (.00023).

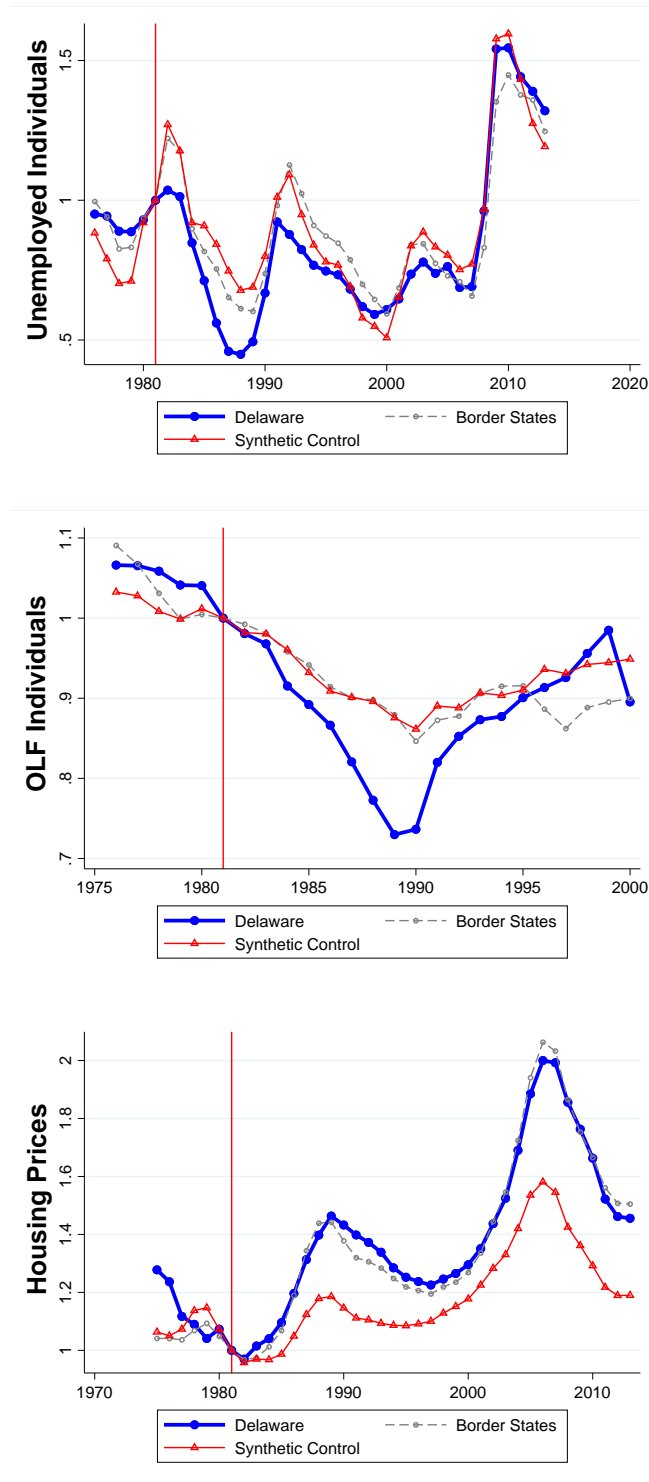
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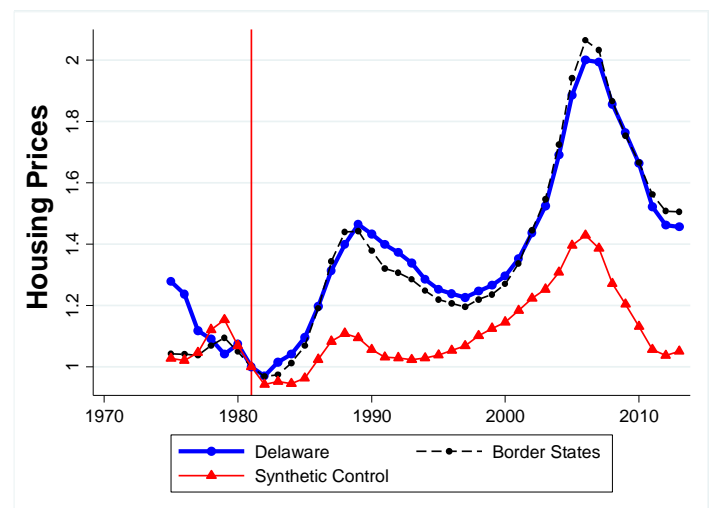
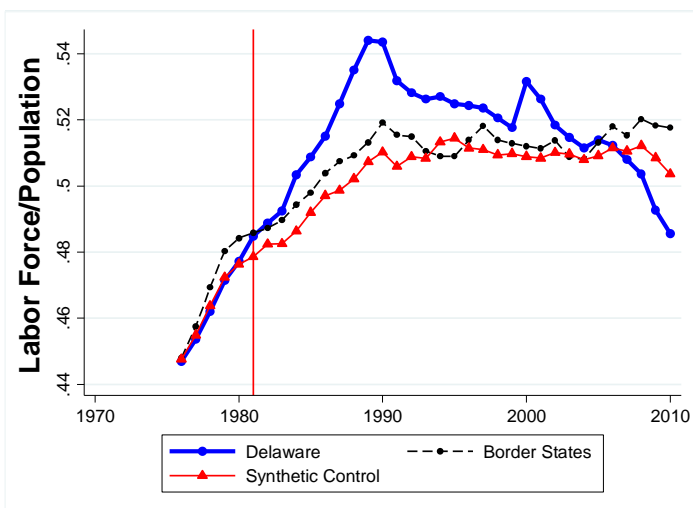
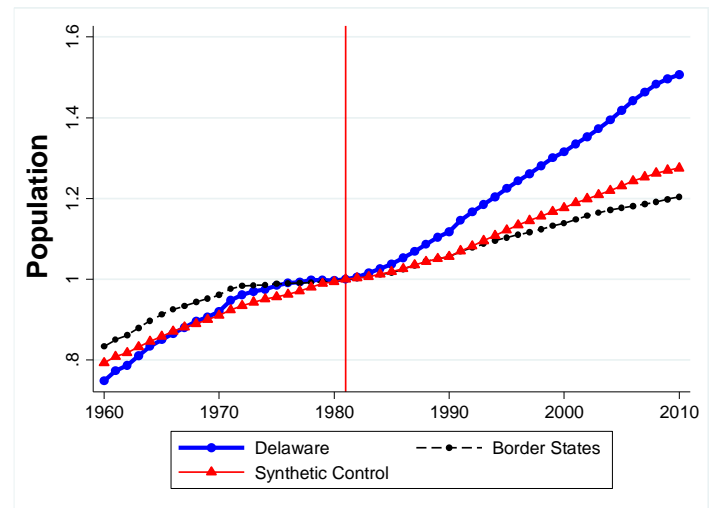
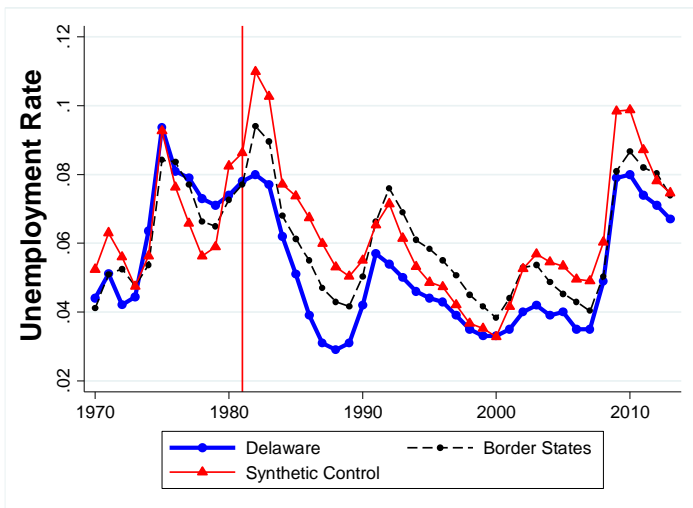
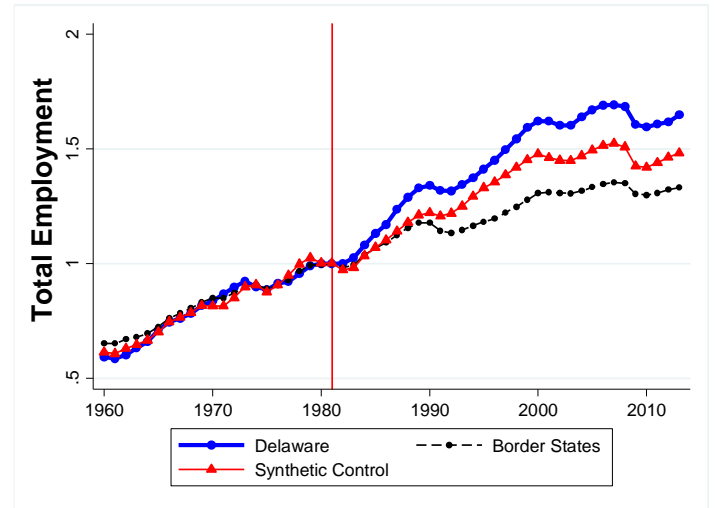
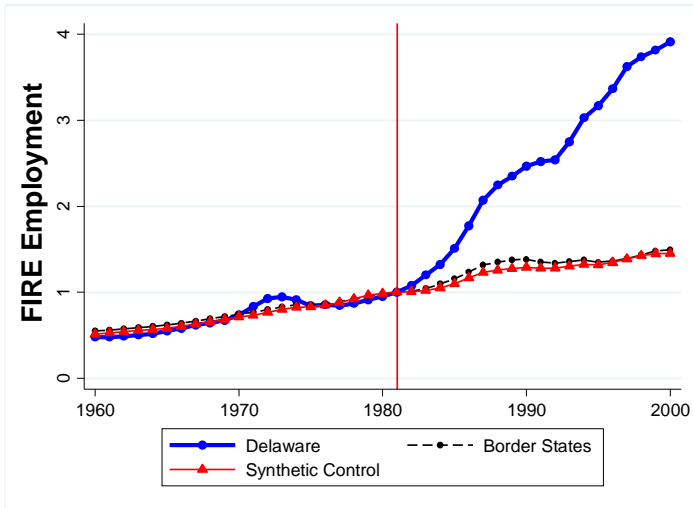


### Appendix Figure A1: Additional Policy Effects



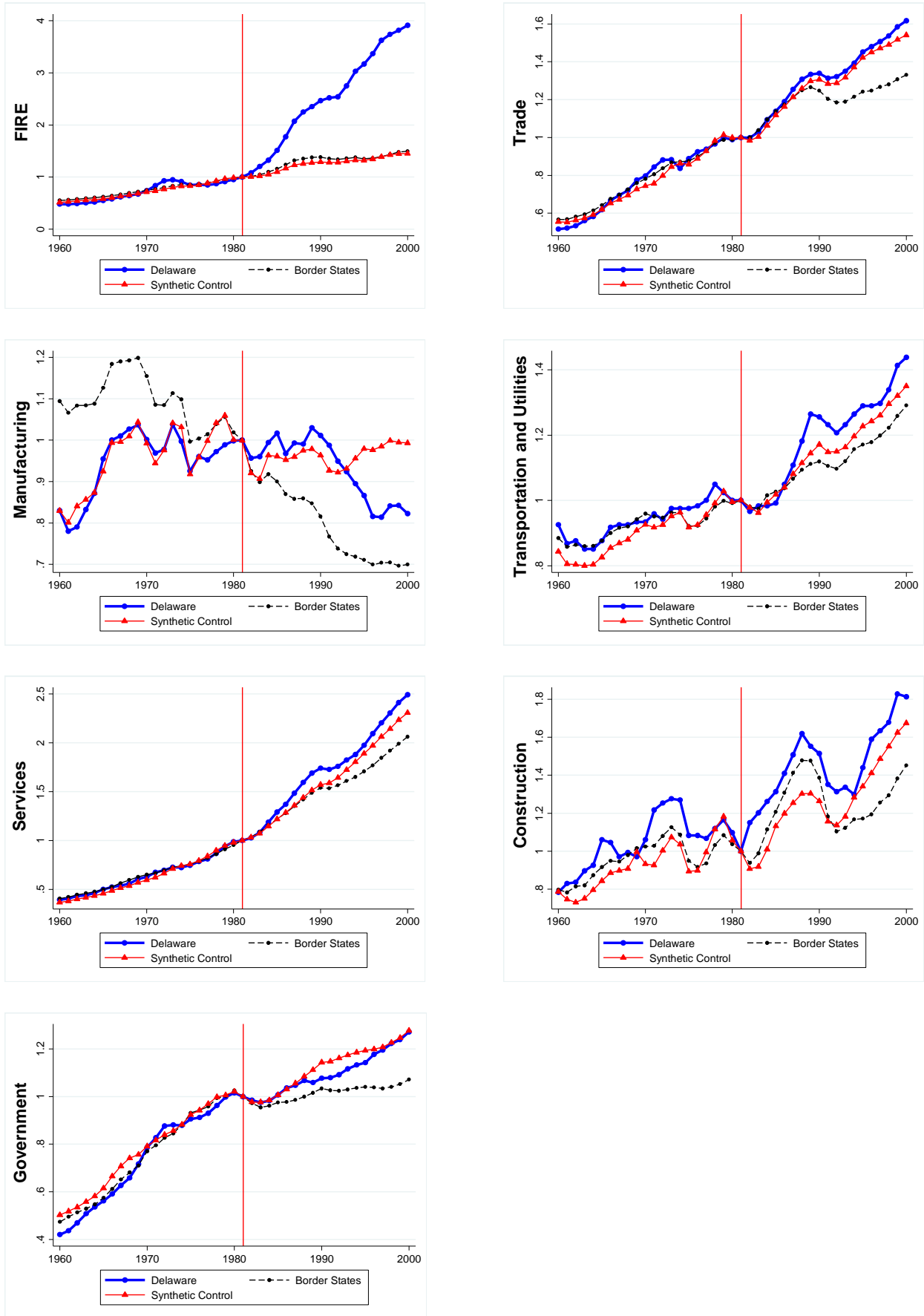
Note: Outcomes are indexed to one in 1981 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and the synthetic control. I construct OLF individuals by subtracting the labor force from the population age 15 to 64. See paper and Appendix Table A1 for details.

Appendix Figure A2: Policy Effect on the Labor Market, Allowing the Synthetic Control to Vary by Outcome



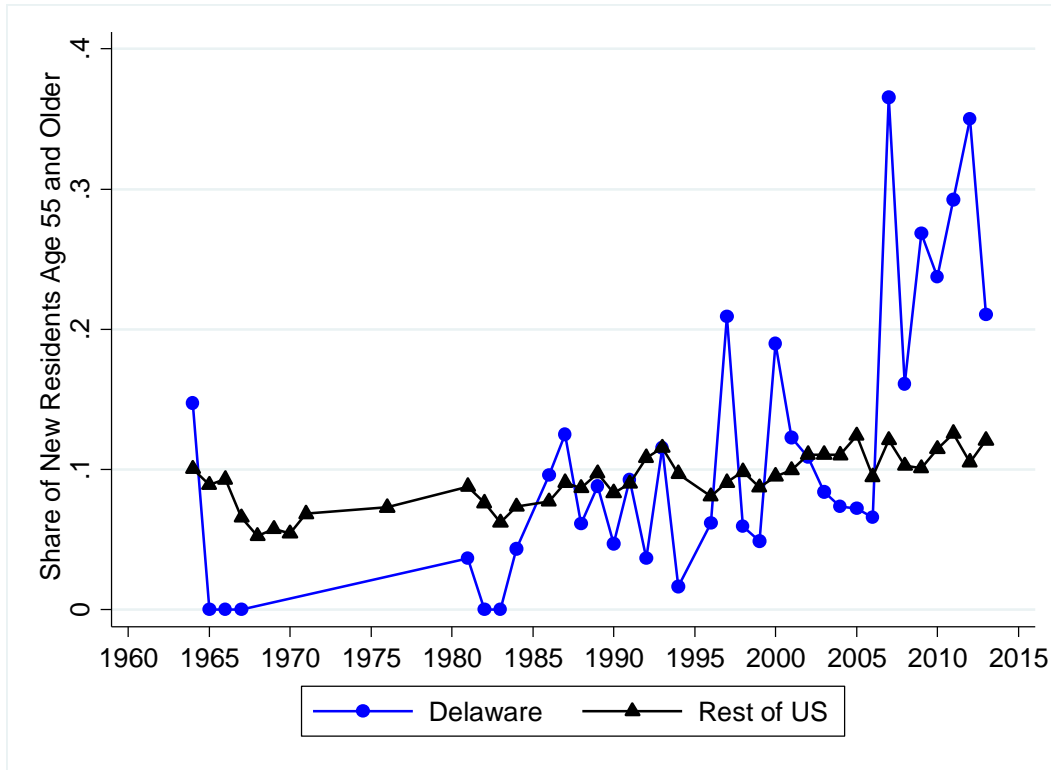
Note: Figures show variables indexed to one in 1981 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and synthetic control, except for the unemployment rate and labor force/population. See paper for details on construction of the synthetic control.

**Appendix Figure A3: Cross-Industry Spillovers: Allowing the Synthetic Control to Vary Across Outcome**



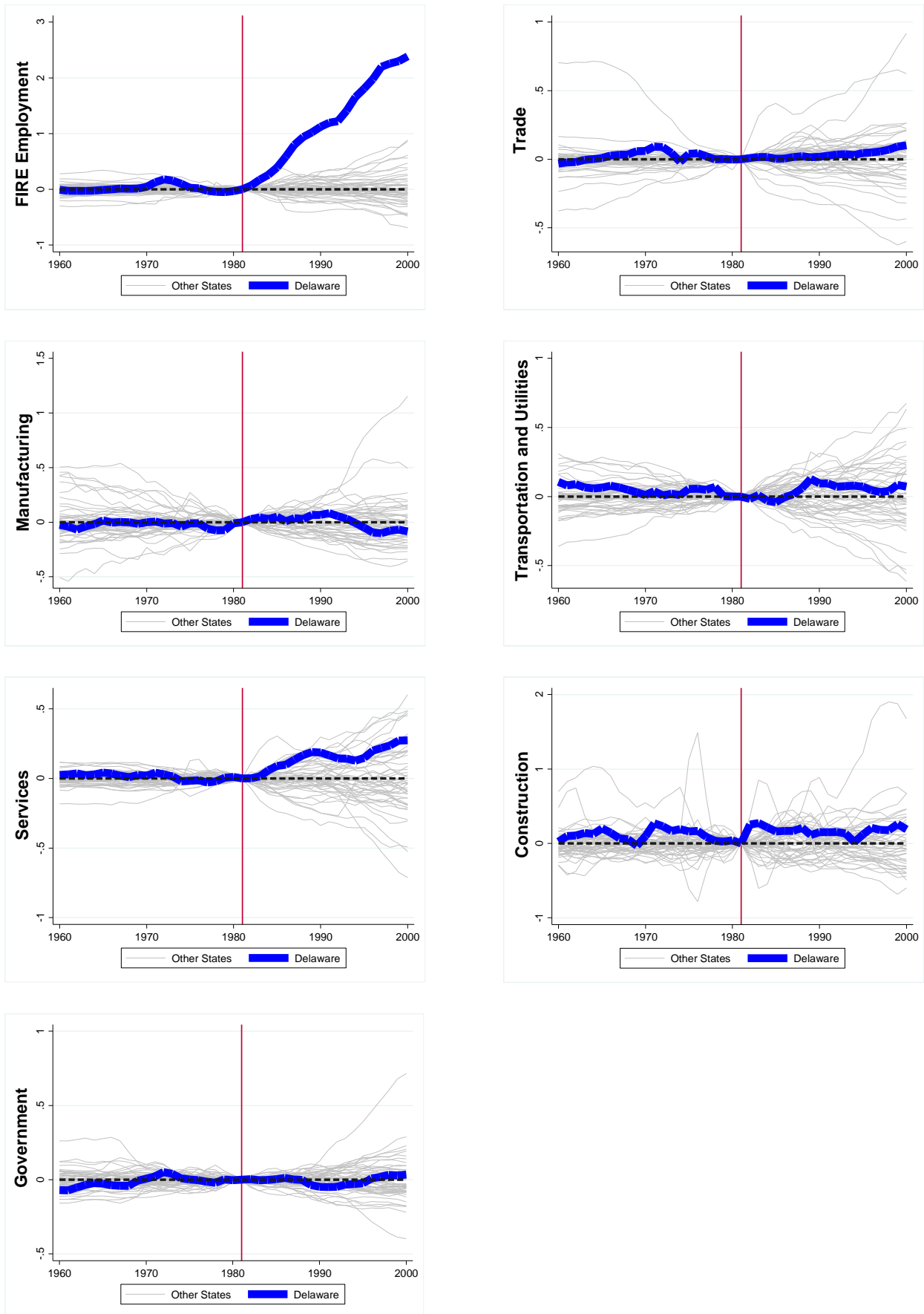
Note: Figures show variables indexed to one in 1981 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and synthetic control. See text for details on construction of the synthetic control.

**Appendix Figure A4: Share of New Residents 55 and Older**



Note: This plot is based on CPS Microdata and compares the weighted share of residents who migrated across states last year who are 55 and older. The data are missing for Delaware from 1968 through 1976, and there were no new Delaware residents in the CPS from 1977 through 1980, or in 1985 and 1995. Sample sizes for Delaware are small, from 1981 through 2013 they range from 33 to 99.

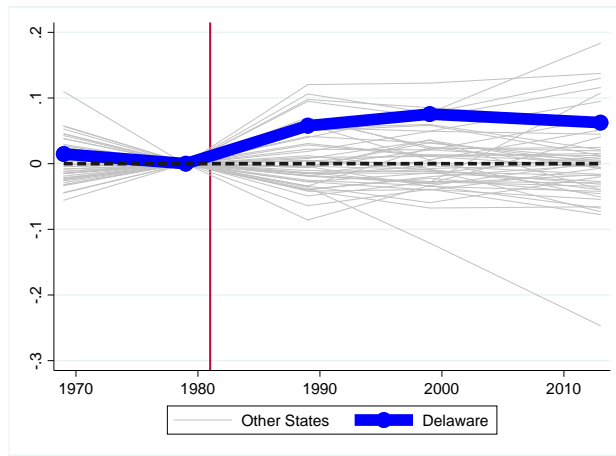
**Appendix Figure A5: Cross-Industry Spillovers Inference, Estimated Effects in Delaware Relative to Placebos**



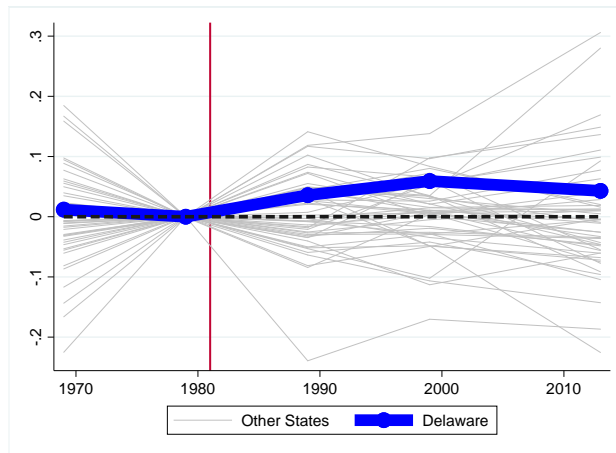
Note: Figures show variables indexed to one in 1981 for Delaware, the bordering states' average, and synthetic control. See text for details on construction of the synthetic control.

**Appendix Figure A6: Inference: Estimated Effects on Average Wages in Delaware Relative to Placebos**

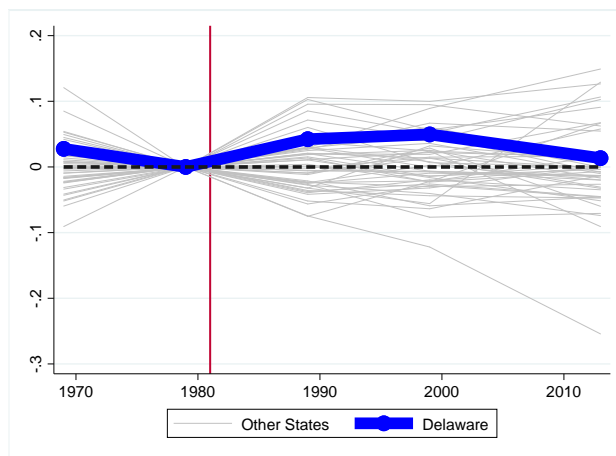
**(a) All Occupations and Industries**



**(b) Banking and Credit Industry**



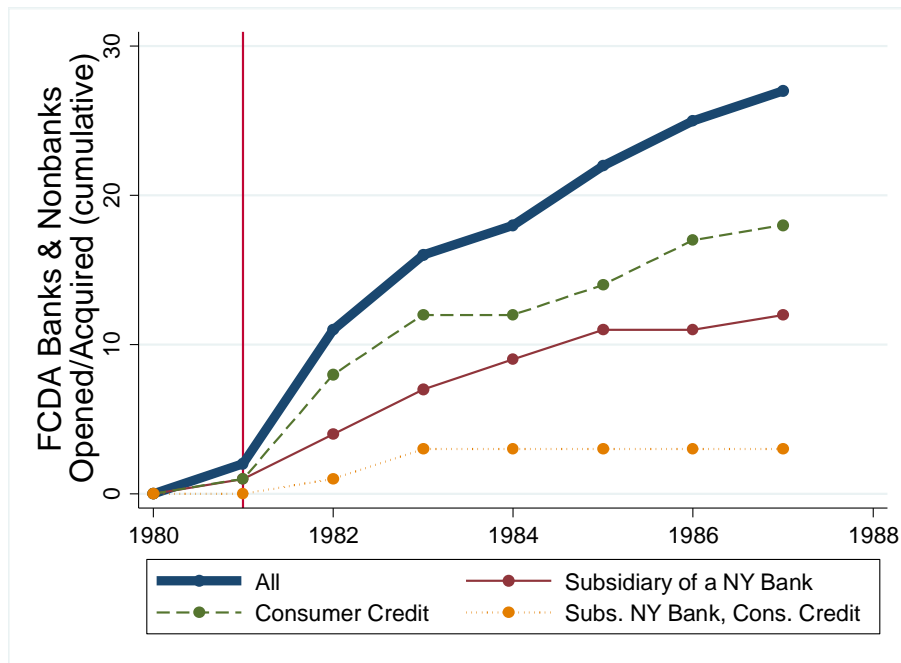
**(c) Relevant Clerks, Accountants, and Managers**



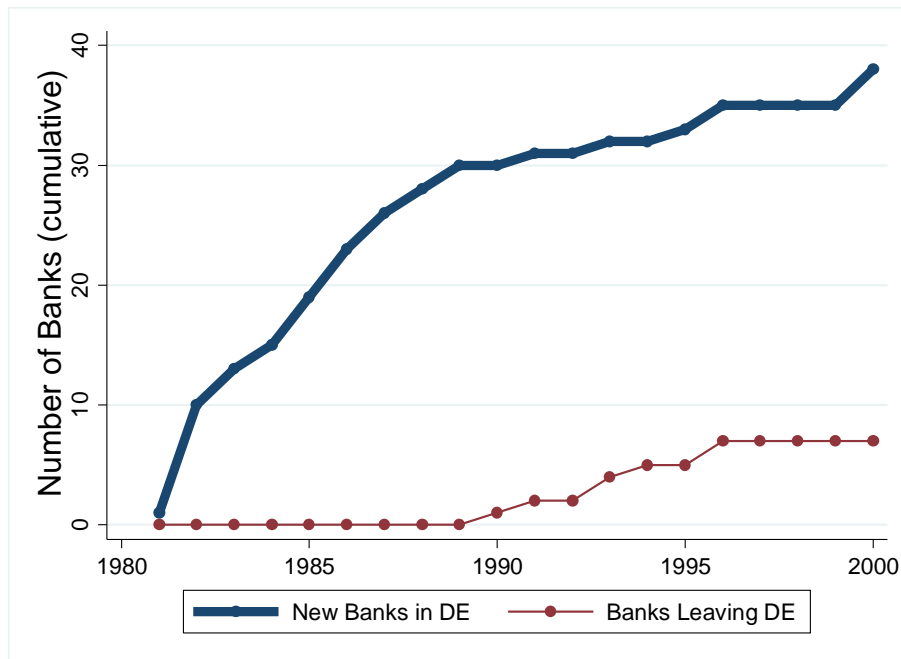
Note: Dependent variable is regression-adjusted average state wage for full-time workers, indexed to one in 1979 in both the treatment and synthetic control. See text and Table 5 notes for details.

## Appendix Figure A7: Bank Relocations Following Delaware's Policy

Panel A: FCDA Banks Opened/Acquired Through 1987, by Type and Origin



Panel B: Banks Opening and Closing in Delaware, Through 2000



Note: The source for Panel A is Swayze and Ripsom (1988). The source for Panel B is Epstein (2001a). There are slight differences because Panel A shows only FCDA banks and nonbanks, rather than all new banks (in particular leaving out Community Credit Bank Act banks created through 1983 Delaware legislation). Further, Panel A includes acquisitions, rather than only new banks that were opened.

**Appendix Table A1: Additional Policy Effects - Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth**

	Ln(Unemployed)	Ln(OLF)	Ln(Housing Price Index)
<b>Panel A: Delaware Relative to Synthetic Control</b>			
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>			
1980-1989	-0.238 (10/50) [.2]	-0.203* (3/50) [.06]	0.395* (3/50) [.06]
1989-2000	0.619 (48/50) [.96]	0.137 (41/50) [.82]	0.030 (23/50) [.46]
2000-2007	-0.214 (13/50) [.26]		0.354** (2/50) [.04]
2007-2010	0.196 (37/50) [.74]		0.159 (6/50) [.12]
2010-2013	0.230 (40/50) [.8]		0.113* (4/50) [.08]
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>			
1980-2010	0.09 (27/50) [.54]	-0.071 (17/50) [.34]	0.446** (2/50) [.04]
<b>Panel B: Delaware Relative to Bordering States</b>			
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>			
1980-1989	-0.193*** (0.016)	-0.220** (0.061)	0.153 (0.117)
1989-2000	0.226** (0.047)	0.184*** (0.028)	0.156** (0.070)
2000-2007	0.025 (0.057)		0.117 (0.112)
2007-2010	0.022 (0.064)		0.168* (0.086)
2010-2013	-0.009 (0.015)		0.120* (0.067)
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>			
1980-2010	0.081 (0.107)	-0.036 (0.087)	0.134 (0.106)

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See notes to Table 3 for regression details. The variable OLF is the difference between the population aged 15-64 and the labor force. Population age 15 to 64 is available in the census years, and I use this to obtain the proportion of the population age 15 to 64 in the census years. I then impute the population age 15 to 64 in non-census years by assuming the proportion age 15 to 64 increases linearly between the censuses, and then I multiply this by the population in each year. In column 2, the long-run change is from 1980-2000 not 1980-2010. In the case of tied ranks, I assign the worse rank to Delaware.



**Appendix Table A2: Labor Market Effects - Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth  
Delaware Relative to Bordering States**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Ln(FIRE Employment)	Ln(Employment)	Ln(Population)	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force/ Population	Ln(Housing Price Index)
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>						
1960-1970	0.039 (0.082)	0.113 (0.099)	0.113 (0.069)			
1980-1989	0.063 (0.073)	0.003 (0.072)	0.019 (0.044)	-0.063*** (0.003)	-0.007 (0.007)	0.299** (0.117)
1989-2000	-0.191*** (0.032)	-0.058 (0.053)	0.043 (0.035)	-0.035*** (0.003)	-0.037*** (0.008)	-0.136* (0.070)
2000-2007		-0.129** (0.052)	0.005 (0.027)	-0.030*** (0.004)	-0.033*** (0.008)	0.455*** (0.112)
2007-2010		-0.204*** (0.051)	-0.020 (0.023)	0.015** (0.005)	-0.034*** (0.007)	-0.207** (0.086)
2010-2013		-0.138** (0.050)		-0.044*** (0.003)		-0.111 (0.067)
DE	-0.015 (0.030)	0.016 (0.050)	0.046* (0.023)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.006 (0.007)	-0.154** (0.066)
1960-1970*DE	0.130 (0.082)	0.051 (0.099)	0.012 (0.069)			
1980-1989*DE	0.580*** (0.073)	0.103 (0.072)	0.002 (0.044)	-0.010*** (0.003)	0.044*** (0.007)	0.153 (0.117)
1989-2000*DE	0.443*** (0.032)	0.079 (0.053)	0.050 (0.035)	0.007** (0.003)	-0.005 (0.008)	0.156** (0.070)
2000-2007*DE		-0.006 (0.052)	0.021 (0.027)	0.002 (0.004)	-0.021** (0.008)	0.117 (0.112)
2007-2010*DE		-0.034 (0.051)	-0.032 (0.023)	0.000 (0.005)	-0.019** (0.007)	0.168* (0.086)
2010-2013*DE		-0.009 (0.050)		0.001 (0.003)		0.120* (0.067)
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>						
1960-1970	0.039 (0.082)	0.113 (0.099)	0.113 (0.069)			
1980-2010	0.145* (0.072)	0.098 (0.090)	0.152 (0.085)	-0.018** (0.006)	-0.003 (0.010)	0.446** (0.106)
DE	-0.015 (0.030)	0.016 (0.050)	0.046* (0.023)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.006 (0.007)	-0.154* (0.066)
1960-1970*DE	0.130 (0.082)	0.051 (0.099)	0.012 (0.069)			
1980-2010*DE	1.009*** (0.072)	0.191* (0.090)	0.180* (0.085)	-0.006 (0.006)	-0.019 (0.010)	0.134 (0.106)

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See notes to Table 3 for description of regressions. In column 1, the long-run change is from 1980-2000 not 1980-2010.

**Appendix Table A3: Cross-Industry Spillover Effects - Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth Delaware Relative to Bordering States**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	FIRE	Nontrad. excl. FIRE	Services	Trade	Transp./ Util.	Constr.	Manufact.	Govt.
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>								
1960-1970	0.039 (0.082)	0.093 (0.093)	0.105 (0.115)	0.100 (0.102)	0.057 (0.086)	0.244** (0.095)	0.179*** (0.017)	0.221 (0.159)
1980-1989	0.063 (0.073)	0.080 (0.060)	0.063 (0.063)	0.012 (0.049)	0.078 (0.085)	0.334** (0.114)	-0.061 (0.043)	-0.299*** (0.088)
1989-2000	-0.191*** (0.032)	-0.063* (0.030)	-0.060 (0.040)	-0.184*** (0.033)	0.117*** (0.030)	-0.030 (0.084)	-0.071 (0.074)	-0.237** (0.079)
DE	-0.015 (0.030)	0.012 (0.030)	0.068* (0.033)	-0.018 (0.029)	0.035 (0.029)	0.019 (0.073)	0.122*** (0.016)	-0.034 (0.078)
1960-1970*DE	0.130 (0.082)	0.018 (0.093)	-0.088 (0.115)	0.118 (0.102)	-0.116 (0.086)	0.024 (0.095)	0.012 (0.017)	0.150 (0.159)
1980-1989*DE	0.580*** (0.073)	0.057 (0.060)	0.026 (0.063)	0.071 (0.049)	0.089 (0.085)	-0.022 (0.114)	0.095* (0.043)	0.085 (0.088)
1989-2000*DE	0.443*** (0.032)	0.078** (0.030)	-0.004 (0.040)	0.160*** (0.033)	-0.056* (0.030)	0.151 (0.084)	-0.150* (0.074)	0.165* (0.079)
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>								
1960-1970	0.039 (0.082)	0.093 (0.093)	0.105 (0.115)	0.100 (0.102)	0.057 (0.086)	0.244** (0.095)	0.179*** (0.017)	0.221 (0.159)
1980-2000	0.145* (0.072)	0.262*** (0.059)	0.386*** (0.082)	0.062 (0.039)	0.228** (0.077)	0.320** (0.090)	-0.258** (0.087)	-0.246** (0.086)
DE	-0.015 (0.030)	0.012 (0.030)	0.068* (0.033)	-0.018 (0.029)	0.035 (0.029)	0.019 (0.073)	0.122*** (0.016)	-0.034 (0.078)
1960-1970*DE	0.130 (0.082)	0.018 (0.093)	-0.088 (0.115)	0.118 (0.102)	-0.116 (0.086)	0.024 (0.095)	0.012 (0.017)	0.150 (0.159)
1980-2000*DE	1.009*** (0.072)	0.147** (0.059)	0.091 (0.082)	0.212*** (0.039)	0.067 (0.077)	0.148 (0.090)	0.066 (0.087)	0.215** (0.086)

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See notes to Table 3 for description of regressions.

**Appendix Table A4: Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth (1970-1980)  
Delaware Relative to Synthetic Control**

**Panel A: Labor Market Effects, Decadal Changes**

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	FIRE Empl.	Empl.	Pop.
1960-1970	0.18*	0.089*	0.069
	(5/50)	(5/50)	(7/50)
	[.1]	[.1]	[.14]

**Panel B: Cross-Industry Spillover Effects, Decadal Changes**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	FIRE	Nontrad. excl. FIRE	Services	Trade	Transp./ Util.	Constr.	Manufact.	Govt.
1960-1970	0.18*	0.098	-0.013	0.222*	-0.104	0.114	0.033	0.165*
	(5/50)	(8/50)	(28/50)	(3/50)	(41/50)	(17/50)	(25/50)	(5/50)
	[.1]	[.16]	[.56]	[.06]	[.82]	[.34]	[.5]	[.1]

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. All outcomes in logs. See Table 3 notes for description of regressions. These coefficients are from the same regressions as those in Section I (decadal changes) of Panels A and B of Table 3, but were not included in that table. In case of tied ranks I assign the worse rank to Delaware.

**Appendix Table A5: Composition of Synthetic Control, Predictor Weights Determined by Regressions**

	FIRE Empl.	Empl.	Pop.	Unemp. Rate	LF/Pop.	Housing Prices	Nontrad. excl. FIRE	Services	Trade	Transp./ Util.	Constr.	Manufact.	Govt.
Alaska	0.041	0.042	0.034	0	0	0	0.043	0.044	0.042	0.043	0.037	0.043	0.041
Arizona	0.066	0.058	0.056	0.075	0.132	0.129	0.061	0.06	0.06	0.065	0.056	0.073	0.05
Connecticut	0.219	0.221	0.171	0.161	0.166	0.163	0.22	0.218	0.22	0.222	0.215	0.174	0.216
Florida	0	0	0	0	0.005	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indiana	0.231	0.201	0.158	0.252	0.275	0.29	0.208	0.198	0.221	0.195	0.188	0.235	0.225
Maryland	0	0.015	0.055	0.042	0	0.026	0.005	0	0	0.006	0.026	0.049	0.029
Michigan	0.203	0.212	0.241	0.133	0.027	0.049	0.207	0.202	0.205	0.217	0.215	0.187	0.205
New Hampshire	0	0	0	0.019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Dakota	0	0	0	0	0.002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	0.014	0.03	0.075	0.24	0.303	0.209	0.03	0.049	0.018	0.029	0.049	0.036	0.015
South Carolina	0.102	0.109	0.117	0	0	0.015	0.106	0.105	0.101	0.115	0.115	0.133	0.108
Vermont	0	0	0	0	0	0.051	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Virginia	0.038	0.021	0	0.044	0.089	0.059	0.032	0.037	0.047	0.019	0.003	0	0.018
Wyoming	0.085	0.091	0.091	0.033	0	0.01	0.088	0.087	0.087	0.089	0.096	0.069	0.091

Note: Each column shows the composition of the synthetic control for the given outcome. All outcomes are in logs, except the unemployment rate and labor force/population. The synthetic control is constructed using predictor weights that minimize the mean squared prediction error of the outcome variable in the pre-policy period (as in Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller 2010, 2014), allowing the composition of the control to vary by outcome. See text and appendix for details.

**Appendix Table A6: Labor Market Effects - Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth  
Allowing for Differences in the Synthetic Control Across Outcome**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Ln(FIRE Empl.)	Ln(Empl.)	Ln(Pop.)	Unemp. Rate	LF/ Pop.	Ln(Housing Price Index)
<b>Panel A: Delaware Relative to Synthetic Control</b>						
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>						
1980-1989	0.806** (1/50) [.02]	0.22** (1/50) [.02]	0.083* (4/50) [.08]	-0.011 (13/50) [.26]	0.034* (4/50) [.08]	0.472* (3/50) [.06]
1989-2000	0.549** (2/50) [.04]	0.123* (4/50) [.08]	0.111** (2/50) [.04]	0.020 (47/50) [.94]	-0.016 (40/50) [.8]	0.046 (22/50) [.44]
2000-2007		0.115* (3/50) [.06]	0.088** (2/50) [.04]	-0.014 (10/50) [.2]	-0.027 (49/50) [.98]	0.428** (1/50) [.02]
2007-2010		0.098* (3/50) [.06]	0.047* (5/50) [.1]	-0.005 (22/50) [.44]	-0.017 (49/50) [.98]	0.203* (4/50) [.08]
2010-2013		0.08* (5/50) [.1]		0.011 (38/50) [.76]		0.138* (3/50) [.06]
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>						
1980-2010	1.202** (1/50) [.02]	0.282* (3/50) [.06]	0.228* (3/50) [.06]	-0.010 (15/50) [.3]	-0.020 (39/50) [.78]	0.559** (1/50) [.02]

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See notes to Table 3 for description of regressions. The synthetic control is constructed using predictor weights that minimize the mean squared prediction error of the outcome variable in the pre-policy period (as in Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller 2010, 2014), allowing the composition of the synthetic control to vary by outcome. See text and appendix for details. In column 1, the long-run change is from 1980-2000 not 1980-2010. In case of tied ranks, I assign the worse rank to Delaware.

**Appendix Table A7: Cross-Industry Spillovers - Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth  
Allowing for Differences in the Synthetic Control Across Outcome**

	FIRE	Nontrad. excl. FIRE	Services	Trade	Transp./ Util.	Constr.	Manufact.	Govt.
<b>Panel A: Delaware Relative to Synthetic Control</b>								
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>								
1980-1989	0.806** (1/50) [.02]	0.236** (2/50) [.04]	0.215** (2/50) [.04]	0.193* (4/50) [.08]	0.214* (3/50) [.06]	0.352 (10/50) [.2]	0.123 (7/50) [.14]	-0.034 (30/50) [.6]
New Jobs/New FIRE Job	1.00	3.11	1.04	1.09	0.26	0.52	0.88	-0.16
1989-2000	0.549** (2/50) [.04]	0.13** (2/50) [.04]	0.079 (9/50) [.18]	0.171** (2/50) [.04]	0.065 (19/50) [.38]	0.073 (17/50) [.34]	-0.132 (43/50) [.86]	0.067 (11/50) [.22]
New Jobs/New 1980-89 FIRE Job	1.68	2.54	0.66	1.30	0.10	0.15	-0.97	0.32
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>								
1980-2000	1.202** (1/50) [.02]	0.245* (3/50) [.06]	0.218** (2/50) [.04]	0.228* (3/50) [.06]	0.169 (11/50) [.22]	0.266 (7/50) [.14]	-0.062 (31/50) [.62]	0.016 (24/50) [.48]
New Jobs/New 1980-89 FIRE Job		3.23	1.05	1.29	0.21	0.39	-0.44	0.07
Jobs in Delaware, 1980	12,300	130,800	47,900	56,000	12,100	14,700	70,900	45,200
Jobs in Delaware, 1989	30,300	193,900	82,200	75,500	15,300	20,800	73,100	47,100

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See Table 3 and 4 notes for description of regressions. The synthetic control is constructed using predictor weights that minimize the mean squared prediction error of the outcome variable in the pre-policy period (as in Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller 2010, 2014), allowing the composition of the control to vary by outcome. In case of tied ranks I assign the worse rank to Delaware. See text and appendix for details.

## **Appendix Table A8: 1950 Census Bureau Codes for Relevant Industries and Occupations**

### **Relevant Occupations: Accountants, Relevant Clerks, and Relevant Managers**

#### **Occupational Codes Included as Relevant Managers**

- 200 “Buyers and department heads, store”
- 201 “Buyers and shippers, farm products”
- 204 “Credit men”
- 205 “Floormen and floor managers, store”
- 210 “Inspectors, public administration”
- 250 “Officials and administrators (n.e.c.), public administration”
- 280 “Purchasing agents and buyers (n.e.c.)”
- 290 “Managers, officials, and proprietors (n.e.c.)”

#### **Occupational Codes Included as Relevant Clerks**

- 310 “Bookkeepers”
- 321 “Collectors, bill and account”
- 341 “Office machine operators”
- 390 “Clerical and kindred workers (n.e.c.)”

#### **Occupational Code for Accountants: 0**

#### **Relevant Industry: Banking and credit agencies, 1950 industry code 716**

**Appendix Table A9: Effects on Wage Growth - Differences-in-Differences Relative to Pre-Policy Growth  
Delaware Relative to Bordering States**

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	All	Banking and Credit	Clerks, Accountants, and Managers
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>			
1979-1989	0.067 (0.053)	0.148** (0.053)	0.096* (0.045)
1989-1999	0.050** (0.020)	0.101*** (0.016)	0.064*** (0.012)
1999-2013	0.010 (0.027)	0.115*** (0.024)	0.064** (0.022)
DE	-0.021 (0.020)	-0.008 (0.015)	-0.036** (0.011)
1979-1989*DE	0.041 (0.053)	0.013 (0.053)	0.043 (0.045)
1989-1999*DE	0.039* (0.020)	0.056*** (0.016)	0.058*** (0.012)
1999-2013*DE	-0.014 (0.027)	-0.005 (0.024)	-0.024 (0.022)
N	16	16	16
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>			
1979-2013	0.046 (0.054)	0.185* (0.075)	0.091 (0.049)
DE	-0.021 (0.020)	-0.008 (0.015)	-0.036** (0.011)
1979-2013*DE	0.025 (0.054)	0.047 (0.075)	0.006 (0.049)
N	8	8	8

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. See notes to Table 5 for description of regressions.



**Appendix Table A10: Synthetic Control Composition, Predictor Weights Determined by Regressions**

	All Wages	Banking and Credit Wages	Clerks', Accountants', and Managers' Wages
Alaska	0.025	0	0
Arizona	0.105	0.037	0.073
Connecticut	0.098	0.154	0.157
Florida	0	0	0.009
Indiana	0.509	0.42	0.435
Maryland	0.082	0	0.034
Michigan	0.088	0.129	0.079
Nevada	0	0.005	0
Ohio	0	0.009	0.053
South Carolina	0.003	0	0
Vermont	0.062	0.078	0.091
Virginia	0.029	0.143	0.049
Wyoming	0	0.026	0.02

Note: Each column shows the composition of the synthetic control for the given outcome. All outcomes are log regression-adjusted state average wages. The synthetic control is constructed using predictor weights that minimize the mean squared prediction error of the outcome variable in the pre-policy period (as in Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller 2010, 2014), allowing the composition of the control to vary by outcome. See text and appendix for details.

**Appendix Table A11: Effects on Wage Growth - Differences-in-Differences in Delaware Relative to Pre-Policy Growth, Allowing for Differences in the Synthetic Control Across Outcome**

	(1)	(3)	(5)
	All	Banking and Credit	Clerks, Accountants, Managers
<b>I. Decadal Changes</b>			
(1) 1979-1989	0.106 [9/50] (.18)	0.055 [17/50] (.34)	0.088 [8/50] (.16)
(2) 1989-1999	0.028 [12/50] (.24)	0.024 [21/50] (.42)	0.030 [10/50] (.2)
(3) 1999-2013	0.047 [12/50] (.24)	0.023 [16/50] (.32)	0.021 [17/50] (.34)
<b>II. Long-Run Changes</b>			
(4) 1979-2013	0.141* [5/50] (.1)	0.089 [10/50] (.2)	0.074 [8/50] (.16)

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. The synthetic control is constructed using predictor weights that minimize the mean squared prediction error of the outcome variable in the pre-policy period (as in Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller 2010, 2014), allowing the composition of the control to vary by outcome. See notes to Table 5 for details of regressions. In case of tied ranks, I assign the worse rank to Delaware.

**Appendix Table A12: Pre-Policy Characteristics: Delaware, Bordering States, and the Synthetic Control**

		(1)	(2)	(3)
Predictors		Delaware	Bordering States	Synthetic Control
<b>Share Employed in</b>				
<b>FIRE</b>				
	1960-1964	0.040	0.046	0.043
	1965-1969	0.040	0.045	0.042
	1970-1974	0.049	0.048	0.046
	1975-1979	0.046	0.050	0.048
	1980	0.047	0.052	0.051
<b>Manufacturing</b>				
	1960-1964	0.37	0.35	0.35
	1965-1969	0.36	0.32	0.34
	1970-1974	0.31	0.28	0.30
	1975-1979	0.28	0.24	0.27
	1980	0.27	0.22	0.25
<b>High-Tech Manufacturing</b>				
	1960-1964	0.17	0.050	0.14
	1965-1969	0.17	0.047	0.14
	1970-1974	0.15	0.088	0.13
	1975-1979	0.14	0.097	0.13
	1980	0.13	0.095	0.12
<b>Transportation and Utilities</b>				
	1960-1964	0.067	0.073	0.065
	1965-1969	0.056	0.066	0.058
	1970-1974	0.051	0.062	0.056
	1975-1979	0.050	0.057	0.051
	1980	0.047	0.056	0.050
<b>Trade</b>				
	1960-1964	0.19	0.20	0.20
	1965-1969	0.2	0.20	0.20
	1970-1974	0.21	0.21	0.21
	1975-1979	0.22	0.22	0.22
	1980	0.22	0.22	0.22
<b>Services</b>				
	1960-1964	0.13	0.14	0.13
	1965-1969	0.13	0.15	0.14
	1970-1974	0.15	0.17	0.16
	1975-1979	0.17	0.19	0.18
	1980	0.18	0.20	0.19
<b>Construction</b>				
	1960-1964	0.072	0.054	0.055
	1965-1969	0.068	0.054	0.055
	1970-1974	0.071	0.053	0.055
	1975-1979	0.061	0.046	0.048
	1980	0.057	0.045	0.047

	(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>Predictors</b>	<b>Delaware</b>	<b>Bordering States</b>	<b>Synthetic Control</b>
<b>Share Employed in</b>			
Government			
1960-1964	0.13	0.14	0.15
1965-1969	0.14	0.15	0.16
1970-1974	0.16	0.18	0.18
1975-1979	0.17	0.19	0.18
1980	0.17	0.19	0.18
% Metropolitan			
1960	68.9	81.5	57.0
1970	70.4	83.8	64.5
1980	67.0	87.4	72.7
% with ≥ a HS Diploma			
1960	43.3	39.6	40.9
1970	54.6	51.7	52.1
1980	68.6	66.5	66.3
% age 15-64			
1960	59.9	61.2	59.4
1970	61.8	62.5	61.8
1980	67.8	67.3	66.7
Unemployment Rate			
1970-1974	0.049	0.049	0.051
1975-1979	0.080	0.075	0.068
1980	0.074	0.073	0.075
Population (1981=1)			
1960-1964	0.79	0.86	0.82
1965-1969	0.88	0.93	0.89
1970-1974	0.95	0.98	0.94
1975-1979	0.99	0.99	0.97
1980	1.00	1.00	0.99
Labor Force Participation			
1976-1980	0.46	0.47	0.47
Housing Prices (1981=1)			
1975-1979	1.15	1.06	1.09
1980	1.07	1.05	1.07
Total Employment (1981=1)			
1960-1964	0.61	0.67	0.62
1965-1969	0.76	0.78	0.74
1970-1974	0.88	0.88	0.85
1975-1979	0.93	0.94	0.94
1980	1.00	1.00	1.00

Note: This table compares the balance of predictor variables in the synthetic control, Delaware, and the states bordering Delaware.

**Appendix Table A13: Delaware Wage Differential Relative to Five Years Preceding the Policy**

	Control Group	
	Synthetic Control	Bordering States
1969	0.01 [19/50]	0.029 (0.052)
1981	0.004 [26/50]	0.001 (0.038)
1982	0 [23/50]	0.021 (0.046)
1983	-0.039 [44/50]	-0.035 (0.051)
1984	0.02 [18/50]	0.026 (0.048)
1985	-0.055 [48/50]	-0.047 (0.050)
1986	-0.078 [46/50]	-0.060 (0.045)
1987	-0.001 [28/50]	-0.004 (0.055)
1988	0.061 [7/50]	0.062 (0.065)
1989	0.052 [10/50]	0.026 (0.074)
1990	0.011 [22/50]	-0.004 (0.061)
1991	0.02 [19/50]	-0.008 (0.064)
1992	0.093* [4/50]	0.071 (0.058)
1993	0.037 [10/50]	0.016 (0.048)
1994	0.014 [17/50]	-0.002 (0.052)
1995	0.034 [11/50]	0.015 (0.054)
1996	0.082** [2/50]	0.070* (0.039)
1997	0.03 [15/50]	0.016 (0.051)
1998	-0.013 [33/50]	0.004 (0.050)
1999	0.068* [5/50]	0.045 (0.074)
2000	-0.021 [36/50]	-0.008 (0.049)

	Control Group	
	Synthetic Control	Bordering States
2001	0.005 [24/50]	0.002 (0.052)
2002	0.043 [11/50]	0.019 (0.052)
2003	0.022 [18/50]	-0.001 (0.050)
2004	0.043 [15/50]	0.029 (0.058)
2005	0.042 [16/50]	0.039 (0.054)
2006	0.044 [15/50]	0.027 (0.070)
2007	0.009 [26/50]	-0.004 (0.059)
2008	0.035 [16/50]	-0.005 (0.055)
2009	0.032 [19/50]	0.006 (0.065)
2010	0.032 [20/50]	0.009 (0.053)
2011	-0.004 [26/50]	-0.020 (0.061)
2012	-0.014 [30/50]	-0.039 (0.056)
2013	0.058 [10/50]	0.004 (0.077)

Note: \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. This table shows coefficients representing the difference between Delaware and the control relative to the five years preceding the policy. In column 1, the dependent variable is  $\ln(\text{avg. wage}_{DE}) - \ln(\text{avg. wage}_{\text{synth}})$ , and I include indicators for all years except 1976 through 1980. In column 2, the dependent variable is  $\ln(\text{avg. wage})$ , and I include indicators for Delaware, each year and each year interacted with an indicator for Delaware. I omit indicators and interactions for 1976 through 1980. The average wage is the regression-adjusted average wage for full-time workers. In case of tied ranks I assign the worse rank to Delaware. See text for details.