

Data and Program Description

Below is a description of the data sets and programs used to create the analyses in the paper “Can Small Incentives Have Large Effects? The Impact of Taxes versus Bonuses on Disposable Bag Use”. Analyses for Figure 5 and Appendix Table 3 use restricted access retail scanner data. To obtain access to these data, please contact Sofia Villas-Boas (sberto@berkeley.edu) at the Giannini Data Center (<https://are.berkeley.edu/SGDC/index.html>). Data access will be provided for replication purposes only and only to researchers affiliated with a university with a signed data sharing agreement.

Public Data Files

- 20150261_countsdata.dta (main data set): customer-level data on bag use observed at sixteen stores in the Washington Metropolitan Area
- 20150261_surveydata.dta: survey data on attitudes and knowledge of bag policies collected at a subset of the sixteen stores
- 20150261_mturkdata.dta: survey data from Amazon Mechanical Turk on hypothetical bag policies

Restricted Data Files

- storedate_all.dta: store-date level scanner data from all three sample counties with data on number of transactions, total expenditure, and average basket size. Used to create Appendix Table 3.
- storetxnupc_DCpost.dta: store-transaction-product level data for a large chain in DC in the years after the DC tax was implemented through June 2012; includes a code for whether the transaction was charged a tax for using a disposable bag. Used to create Figure 5A.
- storetxnupc_MDpost.dta: same data as in storetxnupc_DCpost, but for stores located in Montgomery County and only after the MD tax was implemented. Used to create Figure 5B.

Programs

- 20150261_analysis.do: Stata program including all regressions and additional analyses using publicly available data.
- 20150261_analysis_scanner.do: Stata program including all regressions using restricted scanner data.