**Overview:**

This document provides a description of the data and programs used for the paper “Communicating Program Eligibility: A Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Field Experiment.”

**Data Availability Statement:**

This study used confidential administrative data from the Social Security Administration (SSA) and we are prohibited from posting the data. Researchers seeking to replicate the study will need to have either a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with SSA or have an approved data exchange agreement. The data exchange approval process can be found here: <https://www.ssa.gov/dataexchange/>. Researchers may contact Jeffrey Hemmeter ([jeffrey.hemmeter@ssa.gov](mailto:jeffrey.hemmeter@ssa.gov)) at SSA for additional information about the data and files.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Data** | **Notes** |
| Master Beneficiary Record (MBR) | File of all Old-age, Survivors, and Disability (OASDI) beneficiaries |
| Supplemental Security Record (SSR) | File of all Supplemental Security Income (SSI) applicants and recipients |
| Special Notice Options (SNO) | File with information on preferred type of notice (e.g., Braille, large type, etc.) |
| Master Earnings File (MEF) | File with annual Internal Revenue Service (IRS) earnings records |
| Numident | File with death records |
| MEDIB | Relational database used to identify SSA field offices |

**Computational Requirements:**

The programs were run on a combination of SAS 9.4, SAS Enterprise Guide 7.1, and Stata 17 in both a server and mainframe environment. Total program run time was roughly 13 hours.

**Programs:**

The following is a list of files under RCT ID # AEARCTR-0002423 in the AEA RCT Registry. The files are organized in the order in which they should be run to replicate the results.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **File** | **Type** | **Program** | **Description** |
| SNOFINAL | Prep | SAS | Obtains Special Notice Option (SNO) type data |
| SNO to SAS | Prep | SAS | Reads SNO codes into SAS data set |
| SBST\_Final | Prep | SAS | Pulls in potential OASDI sample from the MBR, merges with SSI data from SSR, SNO data, and Field Office data from MEDIB, creating variables used in study |
| Randomization Final | Prep | SAS | Randomly selects 400,000 and randomizes into treatments groups, creating primary intervention data |
| Mail Files | Prep | SAS | Separates treatment group files for mailing |
| To Stata | Prep | SAS | Exports data to Stata |
| Randomization Checks.do | Prep | Stata | Checks randomization balance |
| Birthday | Prep | SAS | Adds birthdays to sample and calculates full retirement age to intervention data |
| Applications 6 RandR | Prep | SAS | Adds Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) data, death, and SSI outcome data to intervention data |
| Earnings Bucket | Prep | SAS | Creates Earnings Record data |
| Buckets Macro Year Number | Prep | SAS | Converts earnings data to person-based data |
| Add Earnings | Prep | SAS | Adds earnings data to intervention data |
| To Stata 4 | Prep | SAS | Exports data to Stata for analysis |
| Data\_2022\_06\_06.do | Prep | Stata | Prep data |
| OutcomesMonth24\_2024\_02\_22.do | Analysis | Stata | Final Analysis of outcomes |
| Figures02202024.do | Analysis | Stata | Figures |