Replication Package README

No Time to Attend? Effects of Family-Friendly Meeting Hours in Politics

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October 2026

1 Overview

This package contains the Stata programs that reproduce all tables and figures in the paper and its Online Appendix. The analysis combines (i) administrative register data from Statistics Norway (SSB), (ii) the Local Candidate Dataset (Fiva et al., 2025), (iii) the author's Local Council Meetings and Attendance datasets (Online Appendices B and C), and (iv) a small number of publicly available auxiliary files.

The register data are confidential and cannot be included in the package. They can be obtained from SSB by researchers at approved institutions, as described in Section 3. All programs are included. Running `MASTER.do` on the full data reproduces all results in the paper.

2 Data availability statement

2.1 Statistics Norway register data (restricted)

The individual-level register data are provided by Statistics Norway (2026) under project 19/0078. The data are pseudonymized: persons are identified by a project-specific serial number (`w19_0078_lopenr_person`), and no direct identifiers are available to the researcher. Under the Statistics Act and SSB's terms of access, the author is not permitted to share the data with third parties. The data were stored and analyzed on the Services for Sensitive Data (TSD) platform at the University of Oslo.

Table 1 lists the register files and variables used. Researchers requesting the data from SSB can use this list as the variable specification in their application.

Table 1: Register files and variables used

File	Variables	Years
W19_0078_FASTE_OPPL (fixed information, population register)	sex (kjoenn), immigrant category (invkat), year and month of birth (foedsels_aar_mnd)	Time-invariant
W19_0078_TIDSPUNKTBESTEMTE_VAR (point-in-time variables)	municipality of residence (bostedskommune_01_01_YYYY)	2007–2020
W19_0078_SLEKT (family links)	serial numbers of father and mother (lopenr_far, lopenr_mor), year and month of birth of children (fodtaar_mnd_barn_01–_21)	Time-invariant
W19_0078_EKTEF_SAMBO (spouses)	serial number of spouse (lopenr_ektefelle_YYYY)	2015–2019
W19_0078_BU (education register)	level of highest completed education (bu_nivaa_YYYY)	2015–2019
W19_0078_SKATT_1967_2023 (tax register)	pensionable income (pensjgiv_inntekt)	2015–2019
W19_0078_REGSYS_YYYY (employment register)	employer serial number (w19_0078_lopenr_foretak), occupation (arb_yrke_styrk08), institutional sector (frtk_sektor_2014), main-job indicator (arb_hovedarb)	2015–2019
W19_0078_LCD_V14_AVID (linked candidate and attendance file)	Local Candidate Dataset variables (see Section 2.2) and meeting-by-meeting attendance (present*, meetings_loc), linked by SSB to the pseudonymized person identifier	2007–2023 (attendance: 2015–2019)

2.2 Local Candidate Dataset

The Local Candidate Dataset (Fiva et al., 2025) covers all candidates in Norwegian local elections and is available at https://www.jon.fiva.no/data.html. The variables used are running_loc, elected_loc, executiveboard_loc, preadvantage_loc, mayor_loc, depmayor_loc, rank_loc, knr_loc, party_loc and partyname_loc, for the elections 2007–2023. In this project, SSB linked the candidates to the register data and delivered the file with pseudonymized identifiers (W19_0078_LCD_V14_AVID). A replicator must therefore request the same linkage from SSB as part of the application (Section 3).

2.3 Local Council Meetings and Attendance datasets (author's own data)

The Local Council Meetings dataset (Online Appendix B) contains meeting dates and times for all Norwegian local councils, 2007–2023 (King, forthcoming). It contains no personal data. The files LCM2025_raw.dta and LCM2025_collapsed.dta are available at https://maxemilking.com/#data.

The Attendance dataset (Online Appendix C) contains meeting-by-meeting attendance for named council members in a 25% random sample of municipalities, 2015–2019. Because it

contains personal data, the identifiable version is not deposited publicly. It is available from the author on request for research, analysis or replication purposes. For the linkage to the register data, the dataset was split into two parts. The person-level part was attached to the Local Candidate Dataset as one attendance variable per meeting (`present1`, `present2`, ...) and enters the analysis through the SSB-linked file `W19_0078_LCD_V14_AVID`. Within the secure environment, the key `idMeetings_28042026.dta` maps meeting numbers to meeting dates within each council (e.g., `present3` for a given council member corresponds to that council's third meeting in the election period). The meeting-level part, which contains meeting times and agendas but no personal data, is then merged on council, date and start time.

The 107 municipalities in the Attendance dataset were drawn at random from the 428 municipalities existing in 2015. The list of sampled municipalities is provided in `sample_draw.dta` (one row per municipality, with an indicator for selection into the sample), which is included in the package and used for Online Appendix Table C1 and Figure C1. The draw can be reproduced with `7_sample_draw.do` (random seed set on line 5), which yields the same 107 municipalities. It uses the SSB-linked candidate file, but runs on the public Local Candidate Dataset with minor changes; it is commented out in `MASTER.do`.

2.4 Other data

File	Source	Included
`NSD2888.dta`	Norwegian Labour Force Survey 2019 (SSB), distributed by Sikt, study NSD2888 (Statistics Norway, 2022)	No; available from Sikt
`g1967_2024.dta`	Basic amount of the National Insurance Scheme (*grunnbeløpet*, G), 1967–2024, used to deflate income; published by NAV	Yes
`kommune_2007_2019_til_2020.dta`	Crosswalk from pre-2020 to 2020 municipality numbers, SSB (KLASS)	Yes
`FivaHalseNatvik2023.dta`	Local Government Dataset (Fiva et al., 2023): municipality-level outcomes, used for the balance checks of the random sample (Online Appendix Table C1).	No; download from `https://www.jon.fiva.no/data.html`
`norge_munic_435.dta`, `norge_coordinates_435.dta`	Municipality boundaries (pre-2020 municipal structure) from "Maps of Norway in Stata" (Fiva, n.d.), used for Online Appendix Figures B2 and C1.	No; download from `https://www.jon.fiva.no/data.html`

3 Access to the SSB data

The register data are confidential and were made available by Statistics Norway (SSB) for this research project. The author is not authorized to share the original data. Researchers at approved research institutions can apply to SSB for access to the same data; the application must include a project description, a list of the requested variables (Table 1), and a Data Protection Impact Assessment. The Local Candidate Dataset and the Attendance dataset must be linked to the register data by SSB as part of the application. Information on the application procedure is available from SSB: `https://www.ssb.no/en/data-til-forskning/utlan-av-data-til-forskere`.

The author will collaborate with researchers interested in replicating the results by providing all necessary information on how to obtain the data and by facilitating their access to the institutions that hold the data.

4 Computational requirements

- **Software:** Stata/SE 17.
- **User-written packages** (available from SSC):
  - `estout` (`eststo`, `estadd`, `esttab`)
  - `coefplot`
  - `distinct`
  - `egenmore` (`egen` functions `noccur()` and `xtile()`)
  - `blindschemes` (graph scheme `plotplain`)
  - `spmap` (maps in Online Appendix Figures B2 and C1)

  They can be installed with `ssc install estout`, etc.
- **Operating system:** the programs were run on Windows Server 2019 Standard inside TSD.
- **Runtime:** about 20 minutes for the full package on a virtual machine with an Intel Xeon Platinum 8358 CPU (2.60 GHz, 16 cores) and 128 GB RAM.
- **Storage:** about 5 GB for intermediate files.

5 Directory structure and setup

```
MASTER.do        Runs all programs in order
do/              Programs (called by MASTER.do)
ext/             External and auxiliary data files (see Section 2)
dta/             Intermediate data files (created by the programs)
tbls/            Table output (.tex)
figs/            Figure output (.pdf)
```

Before running, set the following globals at the top of `MASTER.do`:

- `root`: the replication folder;
- `dta_reg`: the folder with the SSB register files;
- `dta_lcd`: the folder with the SSB-linked candidate and attendance file.

Files that are not included in the package (see Section 2) must be obtained as described there and placed in `ext/`. The folders `dta/`, `tbls/` and `figs/` must exist before running.

6 Instructions

Run `MASTER.do`. It executes the programs in the following order:

1. `0_import.do` imports the raw data and creates the `import_*.dta` files.
2. `1_sample_main.do` and `1_sample_selection.do` build the estimation samples `sample_main.dta` (person-meeting level, 2015–2019) and `sample_selection.dta` (municipality-period level, 2007–2023).
3. The `2_*` programs produce the descriptive tables and figures.
4. `3a_est_meetings.do`, `4a_est_selection.do` and `5a_est_attendance.do` estimate the models and store the results in memory. The corresponding `3b_*`, `4b_*` and `5b_*` programs

then write the tables and figures. Each `b` program must therefore be run in the same Stata session, directly after its `a` program.

5. The `6_*` programs produce the exhibits based only on non-confidential data (the Local Council Meetings dataset, the Local Government Dataset and the list of sampled municipalities). They can be run without access to the SSB data.
6. `7_sample_draw.do` reproduces the random draw of the 107 municipalities in the Attendance dataset (see Section 2.3). It is commented out in `MASTER.do`, since the exhibits use the list provided in `sample_draw.dta`.

7 List of exhibits and programs

All output is written to `tbls/` and `figs/` with the file names given below.

Exhibit	Program	Output file / note
Main text		
Table 1	`2_table1.do`	`table1.tex`
Table 2	`5b_table2.do`	`table2.tex`
Table 3	`5b_table3.do`	`table3.tex`
Figure 1	`2_figure1.do`	`figure1.pdf`
Figure 2	`3b_figure2.do`	`figure2.pdf`
Figure 3	`4b_figure3.do`	`figure3.pdf`
Figure 4	`4b_figure4.do`	`figure4.pdf`
Figure 5	`5b_figure5.do`	`figure5.pdf`
Figure 6	`5b_figure6.do`	`figure6.pdf`
Online Appendix A		
Table A1	`3b_tableA1.do`	`tableA1.tex`
Table A2	`2_tableA2.do`	`tableA2.tex`
Table A3	`3b_tableA3.do`	`tableA3.tex`
Tables A4–A12	`5b_tableA4.do`–`5b_tableA12.do`	`tableA4.tex`–`tableA12.tex`
Figure A1	`6_figureA1.do`	`figureA1.pdf`
Figure A2	`6_figureA2.do`	`figureA2.pdf`
Figure A3	`2_figureA3.do`	`figureA3.pdf`
Figure A4	`6_figureA4.do`	`figureA4.pdf`
Figures A5–A8	`2_figureA5.do`–`2_figureA8.do`	`figureA5.pdf`–`figureA8.pdf`
Figure A9	`3b_figureA9.do`	`figureA9.pdf`
Figure A10	`4b_figureA10.do`	`figureA10.pdf`
Figures A11–A13	`5b_figureA11.do`–`5b_figureA13.do`	`figureA11.pdf`–`figureA13.pdf`
Figure A14	`2_figureA14.do`	`figureA14.pdf`
Figure A15	`2_figureA15.do`	`figureA15.pdf`
Online Appendices B and C		
Figure B1	`6_figureB1.do`	`figureB1.pdf`
Figure B2	`6_figureB2.do`	`figureB2.pdf`
Table C1	`6_tableC1.do`	`tableC1.tex`, using Fiva et al. (2023)
Figure C1	`6_figureC1.do`	`figureC1.pdf`

References

Fiva, J. H. (n.d.), Maps of Norway in Stata, available at `https://www.jon.fiva.no/data.html`.

Fiva, J. H., Halse, A. and Natvik, G. J. (2023), Local Government Dataset, available at `https://www.jon.fiva.no/data.html`.

Fiva, J. H., Sørensen, R. J. S. and Vøllo, R. (2025), Local Candidate Dataset, available at `https://www.jon.fiva.no/data.html`.

King, M.-E. M. (forthcoming), No Time to Attend? Effects of Family-Friendly Meeting Hours in Politics, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*.

Statistics Norway (2022), Labour Force Survey 2019, Additional Survey on Employment Contracts and Working Time Arrangements, version 2 [data set], Sikt – Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research, `https://doi.org/10.18712/NSD-NSD2888-V2`.

Statistics Norway (2026), Administrative register data on population, family, education, income and employment [restricted-access data], project 19/0078, accessed via Services for Sensitive Data (TSD), University of Oslo.