

Assignment_Three Q2

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December 2, 2022

```
name<- Sys.info()
name[7]
  user
"erico"
```

```
library(rlang)
library(dplyr)
library(kableExtra)
library(ggdag)      # For plotting DAGs
library(dagitty)    # For working with DAG logic
library(modelsummary) # For making regression tables
library(AER) # this package has lots of applied metrics packages
library(foreign)
# Helpful for reading in data from Stata or other code languages
library(lubridate) # For figures
library(stargazer) # For tables
library(data.table) #data manipulation and wrangling
library(lme4)
library(psych)
library(readxl) # Read in data
library(expss) #value labelling from spss style
library(readstata13)
library(marginaleffects) # To calculate marginal effects
library(knitr) # Alternative table package
library(ggplot2)

#####
```

```
#### 0. Load the packages we will need for this file ####
library(tidyverse) # load the installed package for each new session of R
library(broom)
library(causaldata) # Useful toy data sets
library(here) # Helpful in working with directories and projects
library(zoo) # Helpful packages for organizing dates
library(tidysynth) # For synthetic controls
library(gsynth) # For synthetic controls
library(gghighlight) # For figures
library(binsreg) # For binscatters
library(nprobust) # Local linear regression

library(fixest)

set.seed(032620) # random number generators; same numbers across machines
```

```
mydata<- read_excel("C:/Users/erico/Desktop/ACADEMICS/MY UofT COURSES/YEAR TWO/SEMESTER

#View(mydata)

#regdata$the_date<-mydata$date # I will use this data later

#table(mydata$date)
#table(mydata$hits)
table(mydata$keyword)

      cereal sandwich      soup sourdough
      214      214      214      214
table(mydata$time)

2020-01-01 2020-08-01
              856
table(mydata$gprop)

web
856
table(mydata$category)

0
856
table(mydata$geo)
```

US
856

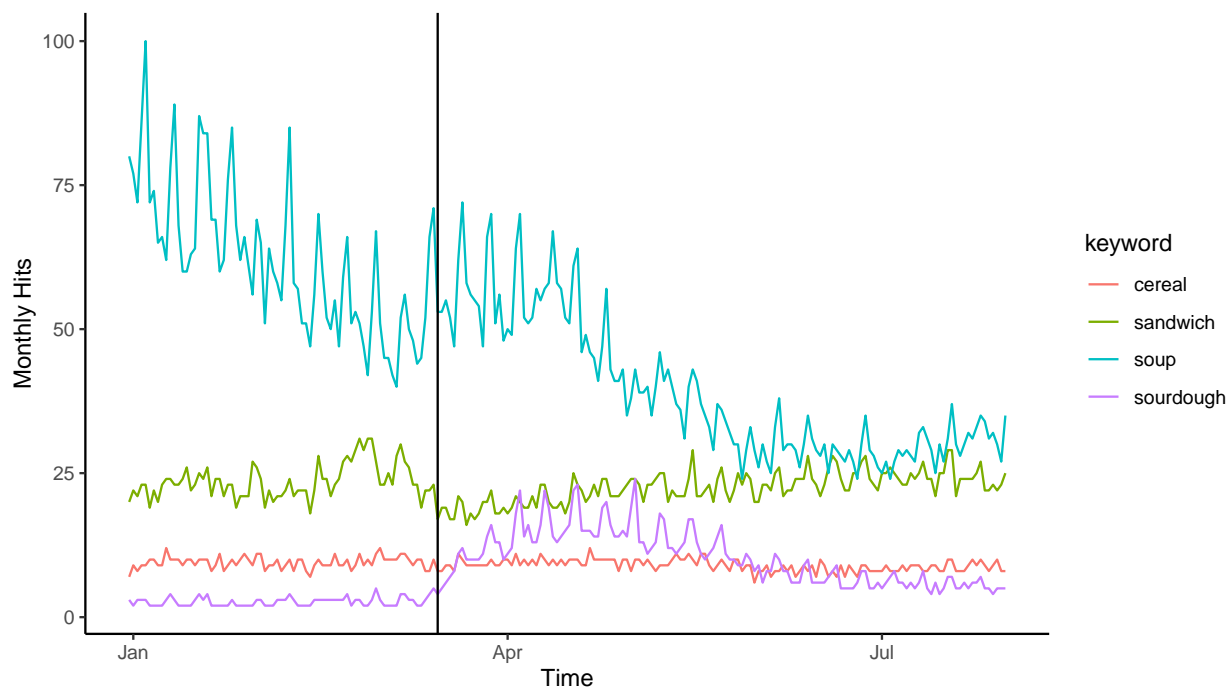
```
mydata<-mydata%>%mutate(date=as.Date(date, format="YYYY-MM-DD"))  
#View(mydata)
```

#QUESTION ONE A:

- (i) Based on the line graph, it could be hypothesized that, after the pandemic, the popularity of the search term “sourdough” increased relative to the controls such as cereal which remained constant over time. Nonetheless, the potential effect of the pandemic on the popularity of the search term “sourdough” seems to be temporal as it declines over time.
- (ii) Based on the line graph, soup and sandwich do not seem to be good controls as their search on google or hits were not constant over time.

```
# Group to month level
#mydata <- mydata %>% group_by(date, keyword) %>% summarize(hits = sum(hits,na.rm=T))

#Show hits over time for each Keyword
ggplot(mydata,aes(x=date,y=hits,group=keyword, col=keyword)) + geom_line() +
  theme_classic() + labs(x="Time",y="Monthly Hits")+
  geom_vline(xintercept = as.Date('2020-03-15'),color='black')
```



QUESTION ONE B:

Prior trends differ significantly between the treated and control groups. I will drop the soup and sandwich (in Model 2) as they are not good controls based on the graph.

```
table(mydata$keyword)

      cereal sandwich      soup sourdough
       214       214       214       214

#View(mydata)
# Definition of key variables
mydata <- mydata %>% mutate(treated = ifelse(keyword == "sourdough", 1, 0),
                           interaction = ifelse(keyword == "sourdough", date, 0))

# Statistical tests: are the two groups' trends different?
pretrend_t <- lm(hits ~ date + interaction, data=mydata)

#using better control variable and dropping others
# Regression data -- just cereal and sourdough
mydata <- mydata %>% filter(keyword %in% c("sourdough", "cereal"))

pretrend_test <- lm(hits ~ date + interaction, data=mydata)
msummary(list(pretrend_t, pretrend_test),
          vcov=c(rep("robust", 2)),
          stars=c('*' = .1, '**' = .05, '***' = .01)) # Interpret each coefficient here
```

	Model 1	Model 2
(Intercept)	953.138*** (175.484)	-194.787*** (41.776)
date	-0.050*** (0.010)	0.011*** (0.002)
interaction	-0.001*** (0.000 05)	-0.000 08*** (0.000 02)
Num.Obs.	856	428
R2	0.231	0.070
R2 Adj.	0.229	0.065
AIC	7170.9	2353.3
BIC	7189.9	2369.6
Log.Lik.	-3581.446	-1172.668
F		18.312
RMSE	15.88	3.75
Std.Errors	HC3	HC3

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01

QUESTION ONE C:

```
# Definition of key variables

mydata$date <- as.yearmon(mydata$date)

mydata <- mydata %>% mutate(the_keyword = ifelse(keyword == "sourdough",1,0))
mydata <- mydata %>% mutate(After = ifelse(date >= "Mar 2020",1,0))
#mydata <- mydata %>% mutate(inter = keyword * post)

table(mydata$hits)

  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 22 23 24
35 30 12 22 21 15 57 80 75 26 10 10 10  5  6  3  2  3  1  3  1  1
table(mydata$After)

  0  1
122 306
table(mydata$the_keyword)

  0  1
214 214
```

```
# transform the data #Run pre trends again?
mydata <- mydata %>% mutate(logy = log(hits))

# First, construct relative time variable
mydata <- mydata %>% mutate(relative_month = round((as.numeric(date) - 2020.211)*12))

#View(mydata)
```

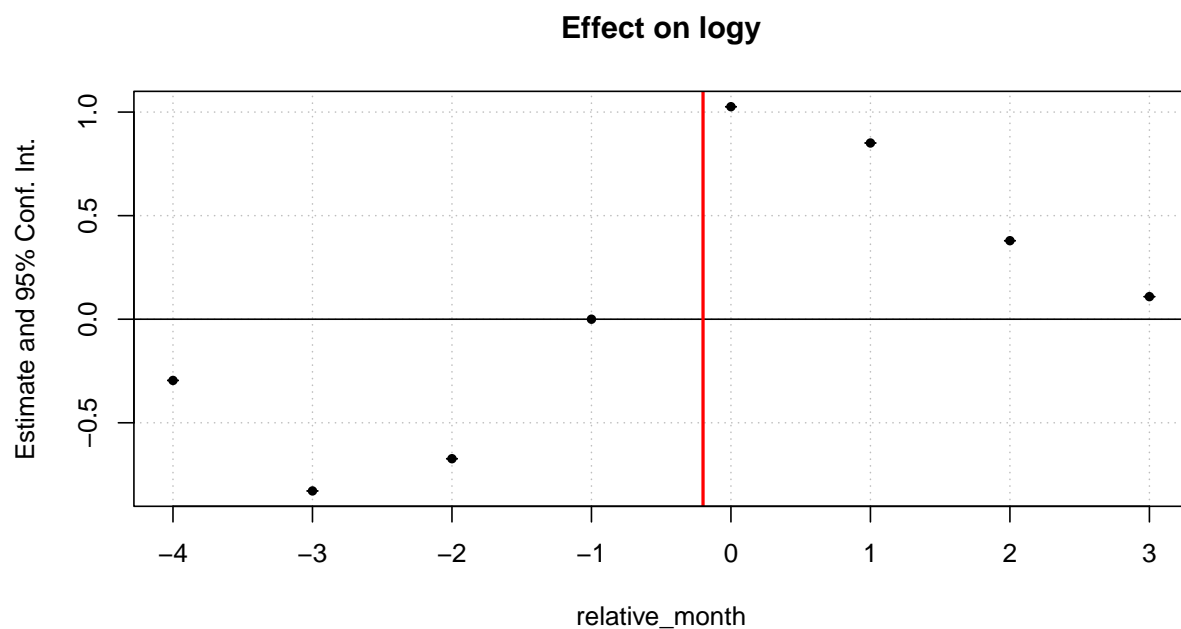
#QUESTION ONE D

There is a positive and significant effect of the pandemic on the popularity of the search term “sourdough”.

```
#difference-in-difference estimate of the effect of lockdown on sourdough popularity.  
#mydata <- mydata %>% mutate(logy = log(hits))
```

```
dte <- feols(logy ~ i(relative_month, the_keyword, ref = -1) |  
             date + keyword, data = mydata)
```

```
# And use coefplot() for a graph of effects  
iplot(dte, ref.line=-0.2,  
       ref.line.par=list(col="red", lty=1, lwd=2))
```



```
msummary(list(dte),  
          vcov=c(~keyword),  
          stars=c('*' = .1, '**' = .05, '***' = .01)) # Interpret each coefficient here
```


	Model 1
relative_month = -4 × the_keyword	-0.296*** (1 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)
relative_month = -3 × the_keyword	-0.829*** (2 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)
relative_month = -2 × the_keyword	-0.673*** (2 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)
relative_month = 0 × the_keyword	1.026*** (2 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)
relative_month = 1 × the_keyword	0.851*** (2 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)
relative_month = 2 × the_keyword	0.379*** (1 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)
relative_month = 3 × the_keyword	0.109*** (1 × 10 ⁻¹⁴)
Num.Obs.	428
R2	0.807
R2 Adj.	0.800
R2 Within	0.630
R2 Within Adj.	0.624
RMSE	0.25
Std.Errors	by: keyword
FE: date	X
FE: keyword	X

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01

#QUESTION TWO

#A The rate of living organ donations for Louisiana and other states is stable over time.

```
mydata2<- read_excel("C:/Users/erico/Desktop/ACADEMICS/MY UofT COURSES/YEAR TWO/SEMESTER  
#View(mydata2)
```

```
summary(mydata2$LivingDonors)  
  Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.  
   0.0   18.0   72.5  118.1  162.0   743.0
```

```
summary(mydata2$AllDonors)  
  Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.  
   0.0   48.0  192.0  272.2  357.0  1822.0
```

```
summary(mydata2$WaitinglistAdditions)  
  Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.  
   0.0  115.0  551.5  993.0 1210.0  7878.0
```

```
#population-adjusted  
mydata2$LivingDonors<-mydata2$LivingDonors/mydata2$Population*1000000  
mydata2$AllDonors<-mydata2$AllDonors/mydata2$Population*1000000  
mydata2$WaitinglistAdditions<-mydata2$WaitinglistAdditions/mydata2$Population*1000000  
  
mydata2$GDP_percapita<-mydata2$GDP/mydata2$Population*1000000  
  
mydata2$GDP_percapita_mean<-mean(mydata2$GDP_percapita)  
  
#install.packages("table1")  
library(table1)  
table1(~GDP_percapita+LivingDonors+AllDonors+WaitinglistAdditions, data=mydata2) #or
```

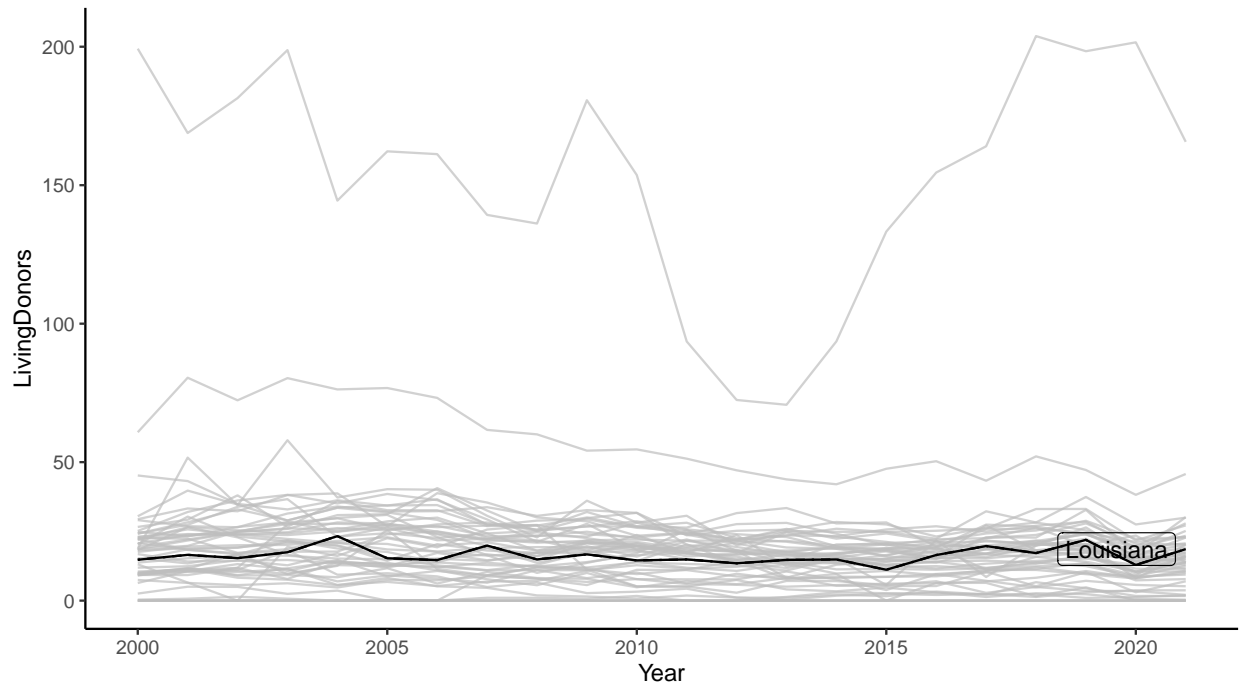
	Overall
	(N=1122)
GDP_percapita	
Mean (SD)	52500 (19700)
Median [Min, Max]	48700 [30600, 188000]
LivingDonors	
Mean (SD)	19.4 (22.7)
Median [Min, Max]	16.8 [0, 204]
AllDonors	
Mean (SD)	42.8 (46.3)
Median [Min, Max]	38.4 [0, 400]
WaitinglistAdditions	
Mean (SD)	143 (151)
Median [Min, Max]	133 [0, 1710]

```
#rate of living organ donations
#table(mydata2$rate_LivingDonors)

#The mean for all variables

# Some descriptive figures
View(mydata2)

linegraph2<-ggplot(mydata2, aes(x = Year,
                                y = LivingDonors,
                                group = State)) +
  geom_line() +
  gghighlight(State=="Louisiana",
              label_params = list(fill = NA, alpha=1))
linegraph2+
  geom_line(aes(xintercept=2015),
            linetype=4, colour="black")+
  theme_classic()
```



#B

A typical difference-in-difference will not suffice here because, based on the line graph, the rates of living organ donations seems to be mimicking each other for the various states. There is no clear cut effect of a policy. It could be that most states have the policy and hence they may not serve as good controls. Hence, it will be advisable to create a “synthetic control” variable to measure the effect of the policy.

#C

Based on poking around the data, I believe that Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Vermont, and Wyoming should be dropped as the rate of living organ donations were zero for each of them. Our focus is to examine whether a change from tax deductions to tax credit affects living organs donations hence such states where there are no donations may not be helpful in our analysis.

```
#drop those with zeros for living donors
```

```
`%!in%` <- Negate(`%in%`)  
mydata2 <- mydata2 %>% filter(State %!in% c("Alaska", "Idaho", "Montana",  
                                             "Vermont", "Wyoming"))
```

#D

The synthetic control weights for lagged GDP and Delaware were relatively higher.

```
mydata2$centered_year<-mydata2$Year-2015
# Construct Synthetic Controls
donation_out <-
  mydata2 %>%
  # initial the synthetic control object
  synthetic_control(outcome = LivingDonors, # outcome
                    unit = State, # unit index in the panel data
                    time = Year, # time index in the panel data
                    i_unit = "Louisiana", # unit where the intervention occurred
                    i_time = 2015, # time period when the intervention occurred
                    generate_placebos=T # generate placebo synthetic controls (for inference)
  ) %>%
  generate_predictor(time_window = 2000:2014,
                    lagged_state_population=mean(Population, na.rm=T),
                    lagged_state_GDP=mean(GDP, na.rm=T),
                    lagged_totaldonations = mean(AllDonors, na.rm=T)) %>%
  # Generate the fitted weights for the synthetic control
  generate_weights(optimization_window = 2000:2014, # time to use in the optimization
                  margin_ipop = .02, sigf_ipop = 7, bound_ipop = 6 # optimizer options
  ) %>%
  # Generate the synthetic control
  generate_control()

#relative weights

# Which states are we using, and what weights are they given?
donation_out %>%
  grab_unit_weights() %>%
  mutate(weights = round(weight, digits = 4)) %>%
  select(unit, weights) %>%
  filter(weights>0.0001) %>%
  as.data.frame() %>%
  stargazer(summary = FALSE, rownames = FALSE, type="text")

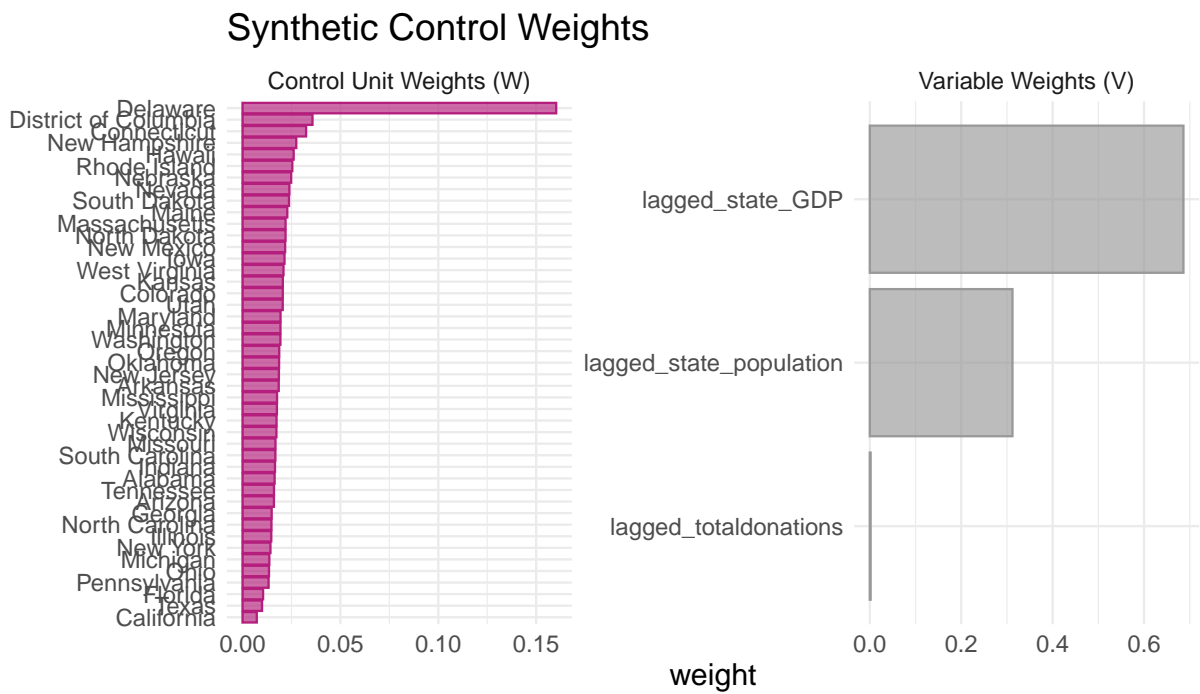
=====
unit                weights
-----
Alabama             0.016
```

Arizona	0.016
Arkansas	0.018
California	0.007
Colorado	0.020
Connecticut	0.032
Delaware	0.160
District of Columbia	0.036
Florida	0.011
Georgia	0.015
Hawaii	0.026
Illinois	0.015
Indiana	0.017
Iowa	0.021
Kansas	0.021
Kentucky	0.017
Maine	0.023
Maryland	0.019
Massachusetts	0.022
Michigan	0.014
Minnesota	0.019
Mississippi	0.018
Missouri	0.017
Nebraska	0.025
Nevada	0.024
New Hampshire	0.027
New Jersey	0.019
New Mexico	0.022
New York	0.014
North Carolina	0.015
North Dakota	0.022
Ohio	0.014
Oklahoma	0.019
Oregon	0.019
Pennsylvania	0.013
Rhode Island	0.025
South Carolina	0.017
South Dakota	0.024
Tennessee	0.016
Texas	0.010
Utah	0.020
Virginia	0.018
Washington	0.019
West Virginia	0.021
Wisconsin	0.017


```

# What about the independent variables?
donation_out %>%
  plot_weights() +
  labs(title="Synthetic Control Weights")

```



#E

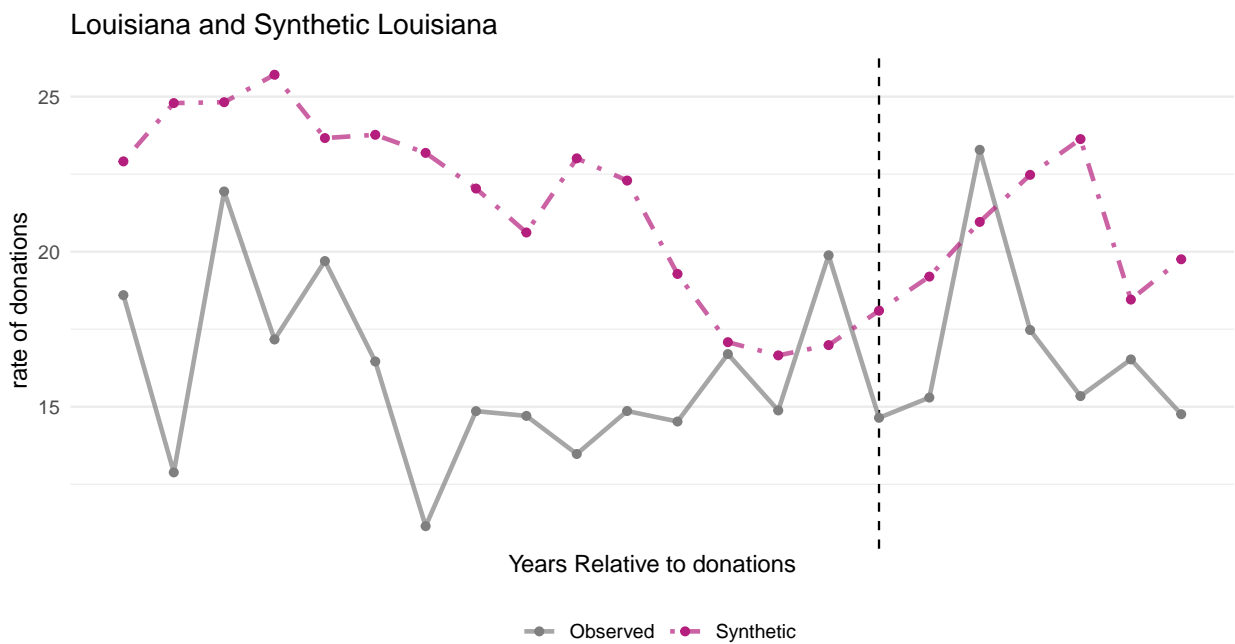
The synthetic control construction was not successful because, graphically, the “before the policy” trend were not close to each other. The reason could be that the real or observed Louisiana trend of living organs donations may be affected by time varying factors which do not affect the synthetic trend.

```
# Balance Table
donation_out %>%
  grab_balance_table() %>%
  mutate(difference = Louisiana - synthetic_Louisiana) %>%
  select(variable, Louisiana, synthetic_Louisiana, difference, donor_sample) %>%
  as.data.frame() %>%
  stargazer(summary = FALSE, rownames = FALSE,
             caption = "Balance Table",
             label = "balancetable", type="text") #

=====
lagged_state_GDP          230,341.000   230,340.900   0.089   325,360.800
lagged_state_population 4,512,806.000 4,512,810.000 -4.484 6,489,964.000
lagged_totaldonations     43.279      43.279      -0.0001   45.120
-----

=====
Balance Table
-----

donation_out %>% plot_trends() +
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(-15,-10,-5,0,5)) +
  labs(
    title = "Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana",
    caption = "Timing of The donations",
    x="Years Relative to donations",
    y="rate of donations"
  )
```



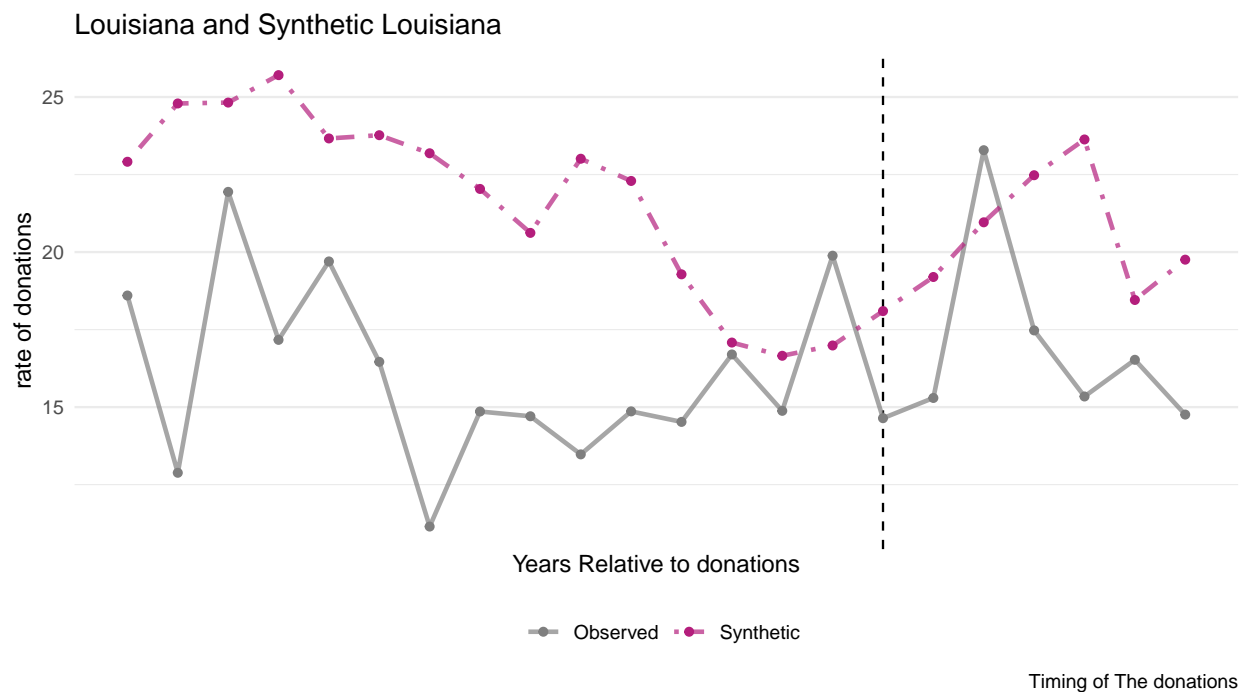
Timing of The donations

#F Checking effectiveness

It can be realised that the policy only had a temporal positive effect on the rate of living organs donations but it declines over time.

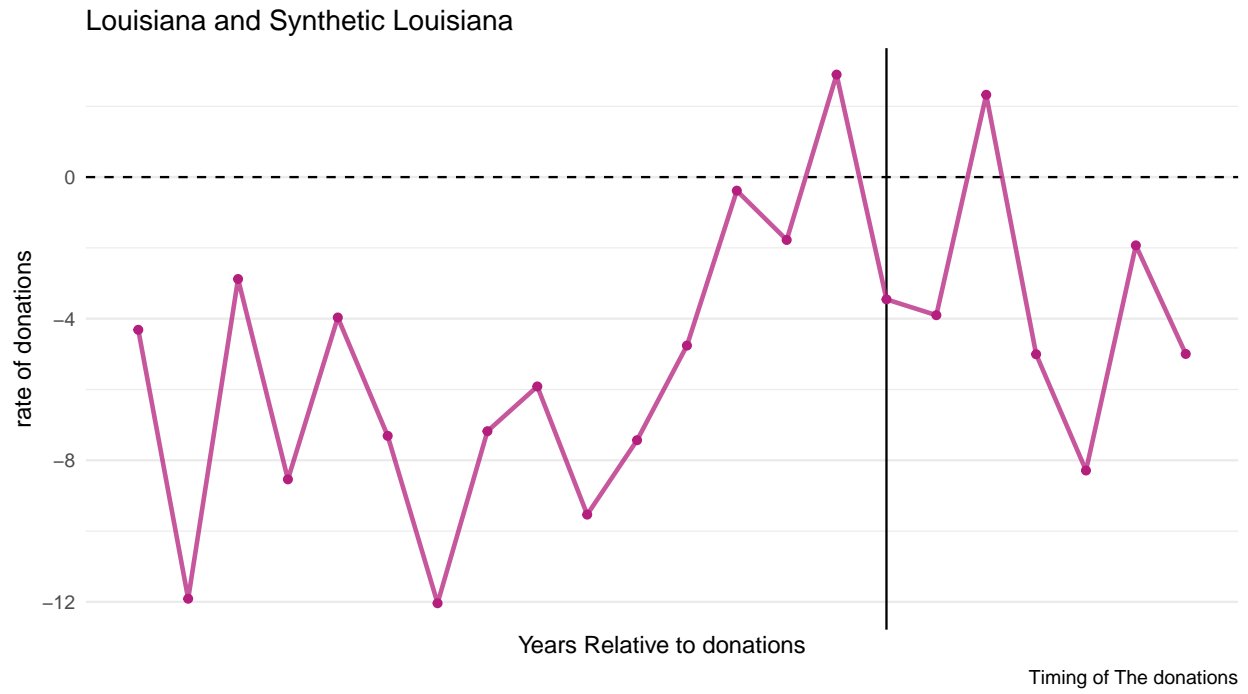
#So what's the effect? To find out, let's compare Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana over

```
donation_out %>% plot_trends() +  
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(-15,-10,-5,0,5)) +  
  labs(  
    title = "Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana",  
    caption = "Timing of The donations",  
    x="Years Relative to donations",  
    y="rate of donations"  
  )
```



#So what's the effect? To find out, let's compare Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana over
Plot Model Differences

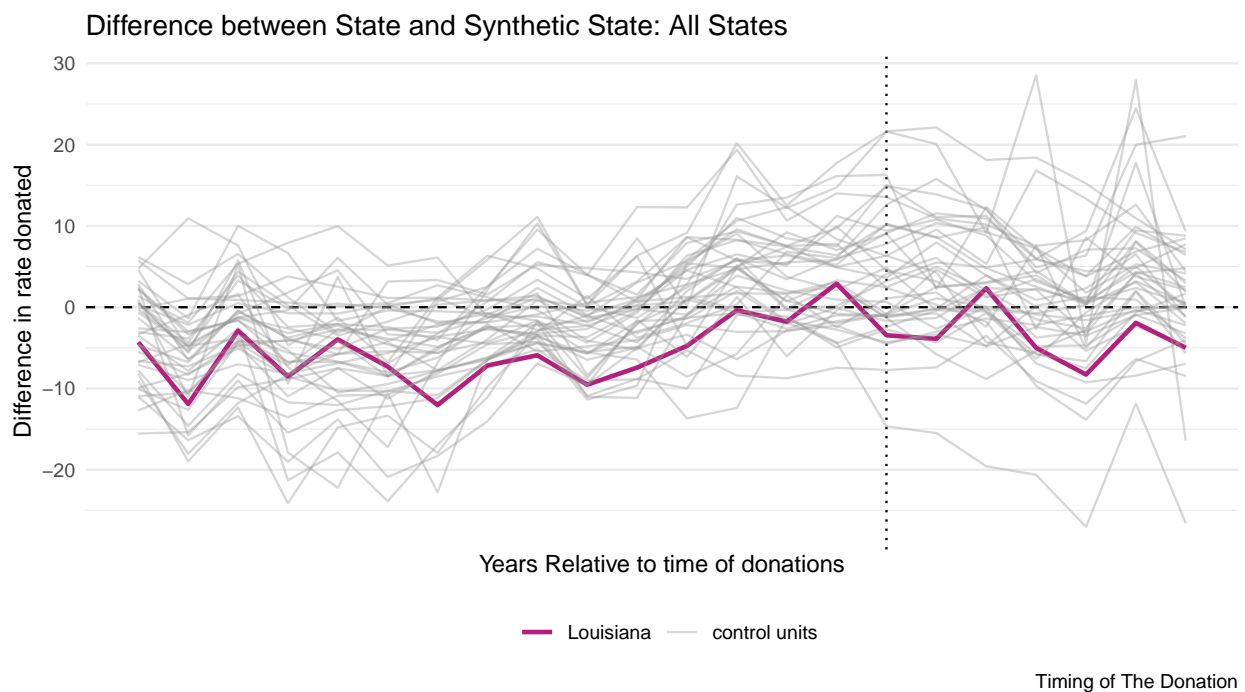
```
donation_out %>% plot_differences() +  
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(-15,-10,-5,0,5)) +  
  labs(  
    title = "Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana",  
    caption = "Timing of The donations",  
    x="Years Relative to donations",  
    y="rate of donations"  
  )
```



#G

The change of date of implementation do not have any impact on the effectiveness of the policy. It is still not increasing the rate of living organ donations.

```
#i:  
# Plot placebos of different states' assignments  
### Inference  
#How do we get a sense of whether the effect was significant? To do this, let's plot t  
  
donation_out %>% plot_placebos() +  
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(-15,-10,-5,0,5)) +  
  labs(  
    title = "Difference between State and Synthetic State: All States",  
    caption = "Timing of The Donation",  
    x="Years Relative to time of donations",  
    y="Difference in rate donated"  
  )
```



#ii

This test shifts the pre-treatment window back five years

```

placebo_out <-
  mydata2 %>%
  filter(Year <= 2018) %>%
  # initial the synthetic control object
  synthetic_control(outcome = LivingDonors, # outcome
                    unit = State, # unit index in the panel data
                    time = Year, # time index in the panel data
                    i_unit = "Louisiana", # unit where the intervention occurred
                    i_time = 2018, # time period when the intervention occurred
                    generate_placebos=T # generate placebo synthetic controls (for inference)
  ) %>%
  generate_predictor(time_window = 2000:2017,
                    lagged_state_population2=mean(Population, na.rm=T),
                    lagged_state_GDP2=mean(GDP, na.rm=T),
                    lagged_totaldonations2 = mean(AllDonors, na.rm=T)) %>%
  # Generate the fitted weights for the synthetic control
  generate_weights(optimization_window = 2000:2017, # time to use in the optimization
                  margin_ipop = .02, sigf_ipop = 7, bound_ipop = 6 # optimizer options
  ) %>%
  # Generate the synthetic control
  generate_control()

#####

#relative weights

# Which states are we using, and what weights are they given?
placebo_out %>%
  grab_unit_weights() %>%
  mutate(weights = round(weight, digits = 4)) %>%
  select(unit, weights) %>%
  filter(weights>0.0001) %>%
  as.data.frame() %>%
  stargazer(summary = FALSE, rownames = FALSE, type="text")

=====
unit                weights
-----
Alabama             0.018
Arizona             0.017
Arkansas            0.022
California          0.007
Colorado            0.020
Connecticut         0.026

```

Delaware	0.081
District of Columbia	0.033
Florida	0.011
Georgia	0.015
Hawaii	0.031
Illinois	0.014
Indiana	0.017
Iowa	0.023
Kansas	0.023
Kentucky	0.019
Maine	0.029
Maryland	0.019
Massachusetts	0.020
Michigan	0.014
Minnesota	0.019
Mississippi	0.021
Missouri	0.018
Nebraska	0.028
Nevada	0.025
New Hampshire	0.032
New Jersey	0.017
New Mexico	0.025
New York	0.012
North Carolina	0.015
North Dakota	0.044
Ohio	0.014
Oklahoma	0.021
Oregon	0.020
Pennsylvania	0.013
Rhode Island	0.033
South Carolina	0.019
South Dakota	0.038
Tennessee	0.017
Texas	0.009
Utah	0.023
Virginia	0.017
Washington	0.018
West Virginia	0.026
Wisconsin	0.018

What about the independent variables?

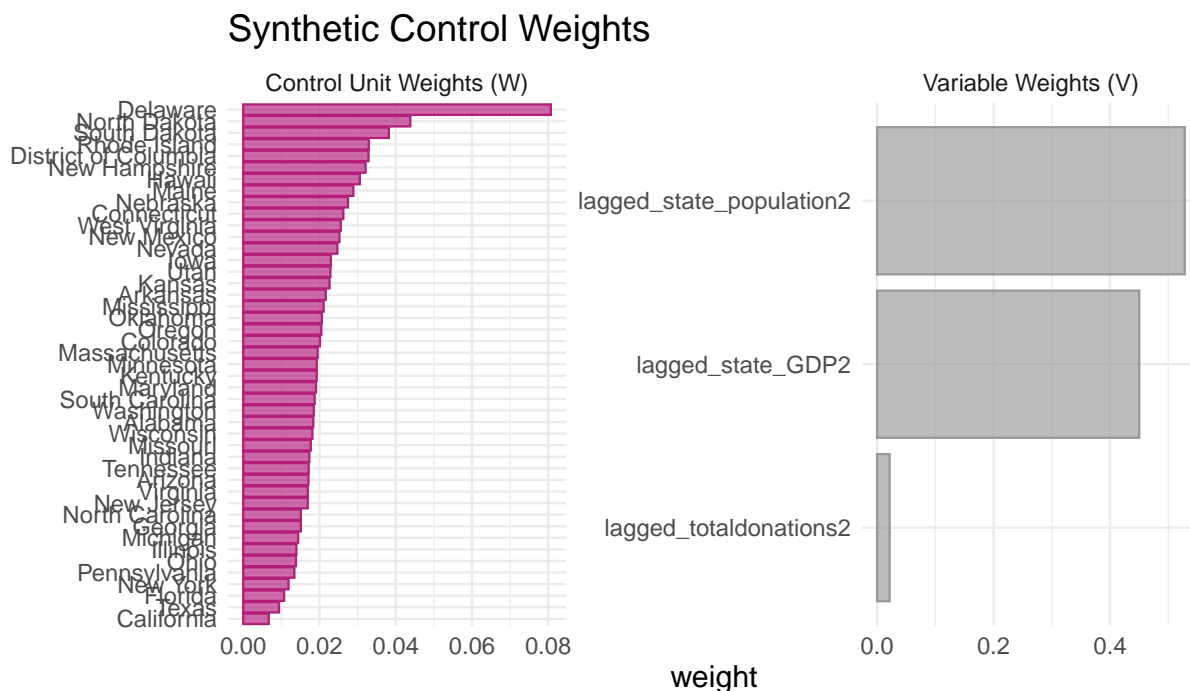
```

placebo_out %>%
  plot_weights() +

```



```
labs(title="Synthetic Control Weights")
```



```
# Balance Table
placebo_out %>%
  grab_balance_table() %>%
  mutate(difference = Louisiana - synthetic_Louisiana) %>%
  select(variable, Louisiana, synthetic_Louisiana, difference, donor_sample) %>%
  as.data.frame() %>%
  stargazer(summary = FALSE, rownames = FALSE,
             caption = "Balance Table",
             label = "balancetable", type="text") #
```

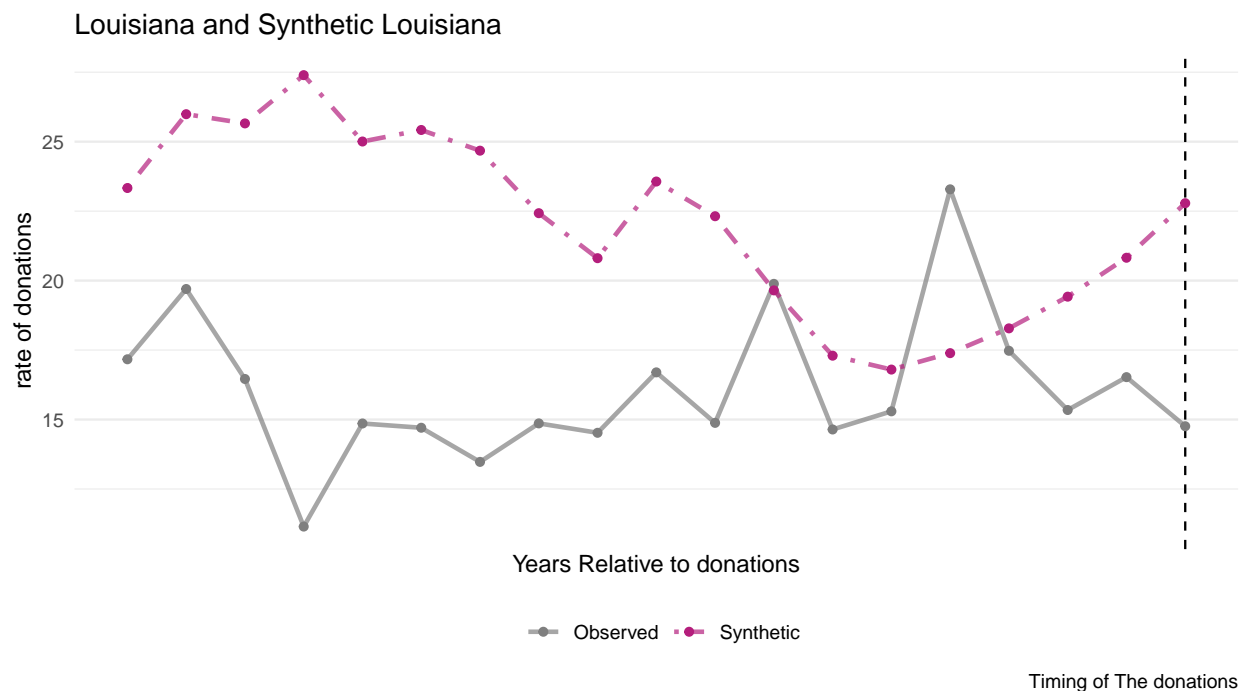
```
=====
lagged_state_GDP2          230,574.100    230,574.000    0.047    334,483.200
lagged_state_population2  4,539,189.000  4,539,190.000   -1.056    6,569,455.000
lagged_totaldonations2     44.403         44.403     -0.00000    45.428
-----
```

```
=====
Balance Table
-----
```

```

placebo_out %>% plot_trends() +
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(-15,-10,-5,0,5)) +
  labs(
    title = "Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana",
    caption = "Timing of The donations",
    x="Years Relative to donations",
    y="rate of donations"
  )

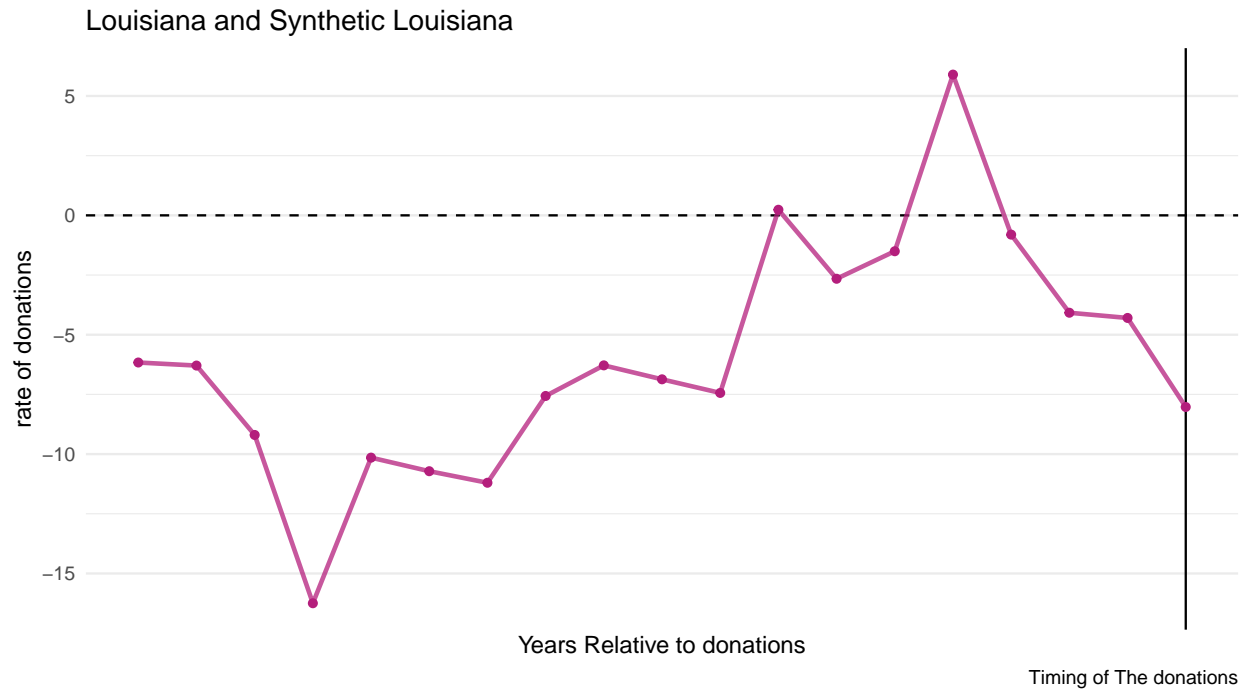
```



```

#So what's the effect? To find out, let's compare Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana over time
# Plot Model Differences
placebo_out %>% plot_differences() +
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(-15,-10,-5,0,5)) +
  labs(
    title = "Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana",
    caption = "Timing of The donations",
    x="Years Relative to donations",
    y="rate of donations"
  )

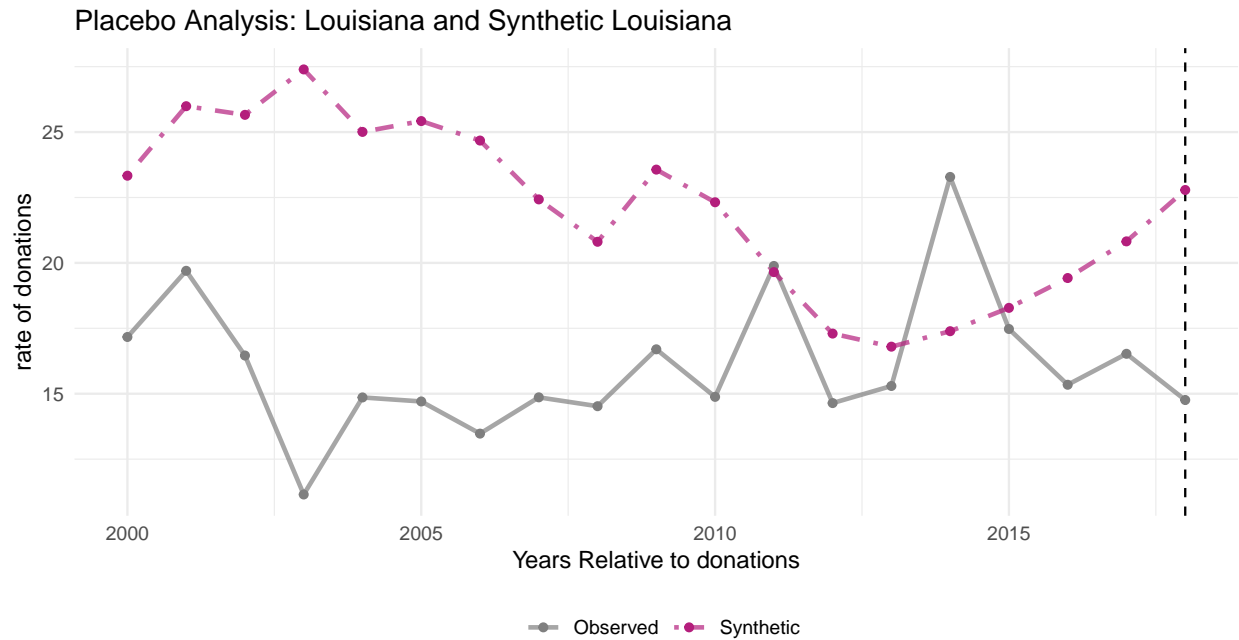
```



```
#####
```

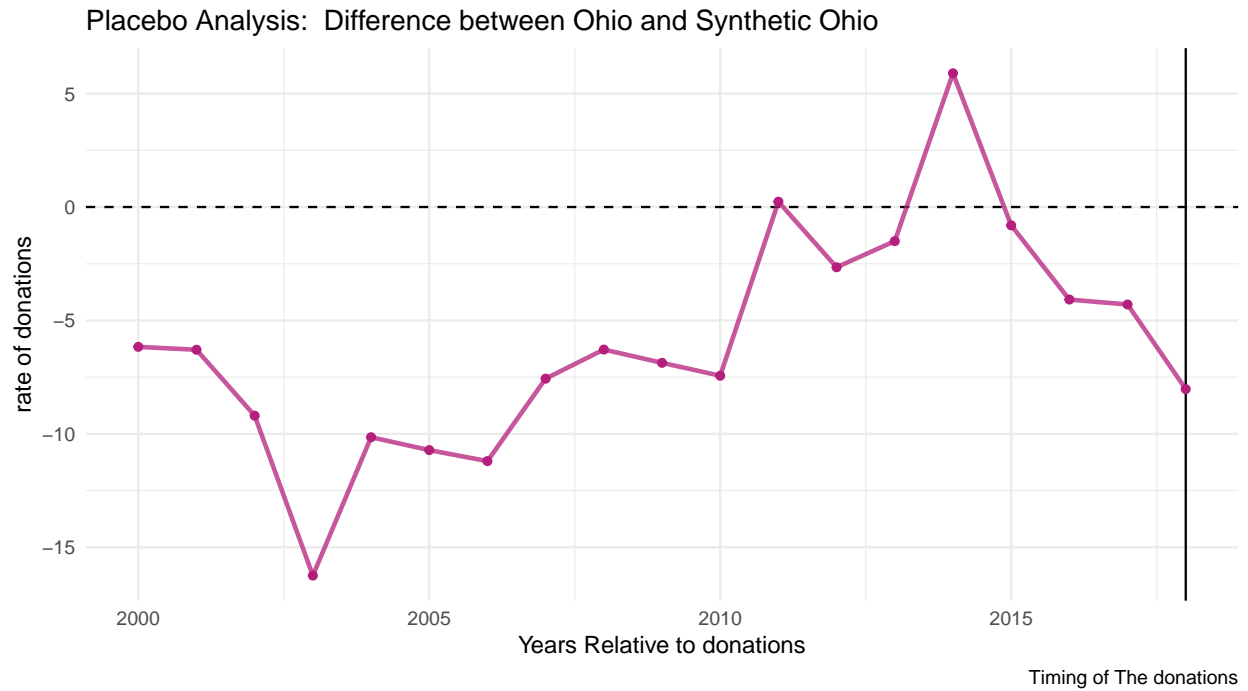
```
#####
```

```
placebo_out %>% plot_trends() +
  labs(
    title = "Placebo Analysis: Louisiana and Synthetic Louisiana",
    caption = "Timing of The donations",
    x="Years Relative to donations",
    y="rate of donations"
  )
```



Timing of The donations

```
placebo_out %>% plot_differences() +
  labs(
    title = "Placebo Analysis: Difference between Ohio and Synthetic Ohio",
    caption = "Timing of The donations",
    x="Years Relative to donations",
    y="rate of donations"
  )
```



```
#placebo_out %>% grab_significance() %>% filter(unit_name=="Louisiana")  
#placebo_out %>% grab_unit_weights() %>% arrange(desc(weight))  
  
#placebo_out %>% plot_mspe_ratio()
```

#H

Moving from tax deductions to tax credits may have a long-term detrimental effect on the rate of living organ donations.

```
packages <- knitr::write_bib(file = 'packages.bib')
packages
```

```
$AER @Manual{R-AER, title = {AER: Applied Econometrics with R}, author = {Christian Kleiber and Achim Zeileis}, year = {2022}, note = {R package version 1.2-10}, url = {https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=AER}, }
```

```
$base @Manual{R-base, title = {R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing}, author = {{R Core Team}}, organization = {R Foundation for Statistical Computing}, address = {Vienna, Austria}, year = {2022}, url = {https://www.R-project.org/}, }
```

```
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$car @Manual{R-car, title = {car: Companion to Applied Regression}, author = {John Fox and Sanford Weisberg and Brad Price}, year = {2022}, note = {R package version 3.1-1}, url = {https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=car}, }
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