

Do Judges Flip A Coin

Judicial Inattention in the US Asylum Courts

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Outline

1 Introduction

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Inspiration

Immigration court ruling

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- High stake: granted asylum or deported

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Are judges doing their job **careful** enough?

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- The heterogeneity in judicial inattention
- Can we nudge judges to pay more attention?

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- **There is evidence of behavioral anomalies:** judges show different level of early predictability
- **Attentiveness can be proxied:** leveraging appeal court decisions, I create a proxy for attentiveness of lower court judges
- **Judicial inattention can be improved:** observational evidence suggests several channels for further nudging RCTs

Data

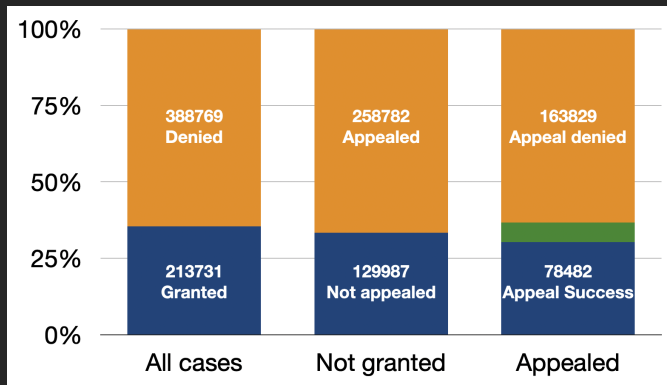


Figure 1: Data Structure

- **Total cases:** 602,500 cases (35% granted)
- **Appeal cases:** 242,466 appeals (32.4% successful) after removing recent appeals and appeal by the government

References I

