

Judicial Favoritism of Politicians: Evidence from Small Claims Courts

Andre Assumpcao*

Julio Trecenti

June 21st, 2019

Abstract

TBU

Keywords: judicial politics; judicial bias; political economy of development; law and social science.

JEL classification: D73; K42; P48; H83.

*Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Public Policy, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Contact details: aassumpcao@unc.edu.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Institutional Background
- 3 Data
- 4 Theory
 - 4.1 Application to State Court of São Paulo
- 5 Empirical Strategy
 - 5.1 IQR
 - 5.2 DID
 - 5.3 RD
 - 5.4 Machine Predictions
- 6 Results
- 7 Robustness Checks
- 8 Prediction of Court Outcomes
- 9 Cost-Benefit Analysis
- 10 Conclusion

Tables and Figures

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics

	N	Mean	St. Dev.	Min	Max
<i>Case Level</i>					
Case Duration (in days)	5,262	361	433	1	5,416
Amount Claimed (in R\$)	5,262	11,830	10,671	35	40,000
<i>Judge Level</i>					
Male	518	.610	.488	0	1
Tenure (in days)	518	4,378	2,882	13	12,987
Wage (in R\$)	518	35,110	10,772	13,156	145,616
<i>Candidate Level</i>					
Age	2,969	44	10.3	18	78
Male	2,969	.901	.298	0	1
Political Experience	2,969	.246	.430	0	1
Elected to Office	2,969	.486	.500	0	1
Campaign Expenditures (in R\$)	2,969	54,963	621,757	11	29,958,454

Figure 1: Interquartile Range of Candidate Age by Judge

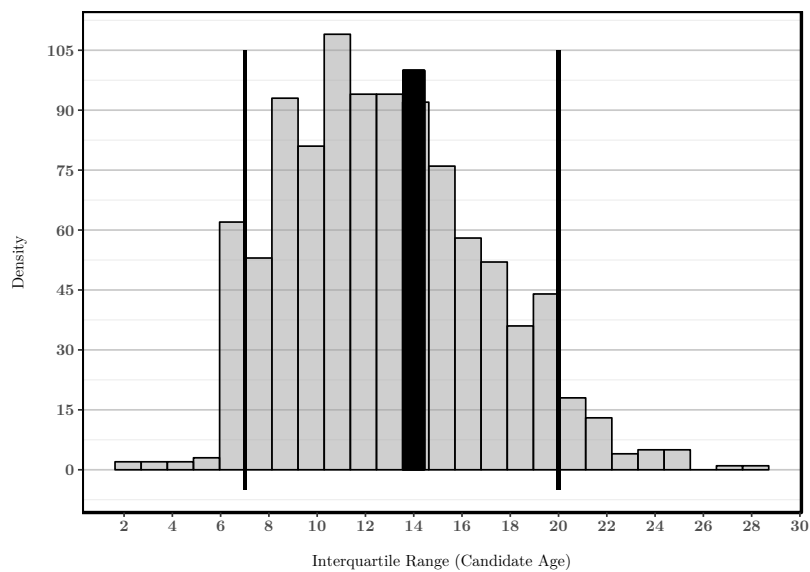


Figure 2: Mean Candidate Age by Judge

