

Online Appendix of Additional Materials for Card-Dobkin-Maestas

This appendix contains the following materials.

1. Appendix Table 1a

This table reports alternative specifications for RD models of insurance characteristics, employment in the survey week, and the event of seeing a doctor in the past year – all fit to data from the NHIS. Separate models are presented for the overall sample, and two subgroups (white non-Hispanics with at least some college, and minority dropouts). There are 4 alternative estimates of the RD at age 65: (i) the basic RD estimate from the main tables in the paper; (ii) an RD estimate from a model with the same interacted quadratic polynomial in age, but no other controls; (iii) an RD estimate from a model fit to data for people who are 63-67 years old (a total of 16 quarters of age); (iv) an RD estimate from a local linear regression procedure. For this procedure we estimate separate linear models of the outcome as a function of age to data on people <65 and people ≥ 65 , and use the estimated constants from the regression as estimates of the limits from the left and right of the relevant regression functions. The number of observations included in the local linear regressions is computed in 2 steps, following a procedure adapted from Fan and Gijbels (1996). In the first step we estimate a fourth order polynomial model in age (separately to observations under 65 and over 65) and use this to obtain an estimate of the average squared second derivative of the regression function, and the average variance of the data around the approximating fourth order model. We then compute a rule of thumb bandwidth assuming a triangular kernel. In the second step we estimate the local linear regression using the triangular kernel and the estimated bandwidth.

Reference:

Fan, Jianqing and Irene Gijbels. *Local Polynomial Modelling and its Applications*. Chapman and Hall, London, 1996

2. Appendix Table 1b

This table reports alternative specifications for RD models fit to the log of the number of hospital admissions for all causes and for bypass surgeries and hip/knee replacement surgeries. Separate models are fit for the overall sample, and for white non-Hispanics, black non-Hispanics, and Hispanics. The format of the table is the same as Appendix Table 1a.

3. Appendix Table 2

This table reports characteristics of 65-66 year old Medicare recipients, using data from the 1999-2003 NHIS. The characteristics are: covered by private or military supplemental insurance; covered by any supplemental insurance; have both Parts A and B; and covered by a Medicare HMO.

4. Appendix Table 3

This table reports RD type models fit to individual monthly panel data from the 2001 SIPP, for the events of Medicare coverage, any health insurance, and employment. The models include a dummy being exactly 65, or 1-3 months prior to age 65, in the current month, a quadratic in age (in months) interacted with the dummy for age<65, and dummies for the calendar year of the observation. Person-month observations are included for any month a person reports valid data and who was between 55 and 71 years of age in their first month in the SIPP.

4. Appendix Table 4

This table reports the coefficient estimates for all the variables used in a selection of RD models fit to all observations in the NHIS data. Specifically, the models correspond to RD estimates reported in Table 1, row 1, columns 2, 4, 6, 8, 10; in Table 2, row 1 column 1, and in Table 3, row 1, column 6.

5. Appendix Table 5

This table reports the coefficient estimates for all the variables used in a selection of RD models fit to all observations in the Hospital Discharge data. Specifically, the models correspond to the RD estimates reported in Table 4, row 1, columns 2, 4, 6, 8; Table 4, row 13, columns 2, 4, 6, 8; and Table 4, row 14, columns 2, 4, 6, 8.

6. Appendix Figures 1-2

These figures show the age profiles of employment (as of the survey week) for men and women in the 1992-2003 NHIS. The format is the same as Figure 2 of the paper.

7. Appendix Figure 3

This figure shows the change from the past month to the current month in an indicator for employment and an indicator for health insurance coverage, using longitudinal data from the 2001 SIPP. Person-month observations are included for people who have valid data in the current and previous month, and who were between 55 and 71 years of age in their first month in the SIPP.

8. Appendix Figure 4

This figure shows the age profile of employment (as of the relevant month) for people in the 2001 SIPP. Person-month observations are included for people who have valid data in the current month, and who were between 55 and 71 years of age in their first month in the SIPP.

9. Overview of Data files.

This includes a narrative description of the NHIS, CPS, SIPP, and hospital discharge files used in the paper, along with tables of samples sizes and mean characteristics by age for the NHIS, CPS, and SIPP samples.

Appendix Table 1a: Regression Discontinuities in Insurance Characteristics and Employment from Alternative Specifications

	On Medicare (1)	Any Insurance (2)	Private Coverage (3)	2+ Forms of Coverage (4)	Managed Care (5)	Employed (6)	Employed Full Time (7)	Saw Doctor Last Year (8)
1. Overall Sample								
a. Basic RD	59.7 (4.1)	9.5 (0.6)	-2.9 (1.1)	44.1 (2.8)	-28.4 (2.1)	0.3 (0.8)	0.8 (1.2)	1.3 (0.7)
b. No Controls	59.7 (4.0)	9.2 (0.6)	-3.8 (1.2)	43.9 (2.8)	-28.7 (2.1)	-0.2 (0.8)	0.3 (1.2)	1.2 (0.8)
c. Short Window (ages 63-67)	54.4 (6.0)	8.5 (0.8)	-2.0 (1.7)	40.8 (4.1)	-26.9 (3.4)	-2.1 (0.7)	-2.6 (1.0)	2.9 (0.9)
<i>Local Linear Regression Estimates</i>								
d. Expectation from Left	14.8 (0.6)	88.0 (0.6)	70.0 (0.7)	11.8 (0.4)	56.5 (0.8)	30.9 (0.6)	23.0 (0.9)	84.0 (0.5)
e. Expectation from Right	64.7 (0.9)	95.8 (0.3)	66.2 (0.6)	50.6 (0.9)	29.5 (0.8)	28.6 (0.4)	19.0 (0.4)	86.2 (0.4)
f. Difference	49.9 (1.1)	7.8 (0.7)	-3.8 (0.9)	38.8 (1.0)	-27.1 (1.2)	-2.3 (0.7)	-3.9 (1.0)	2.2 (0.7)
2. White non-Hispanics with at Least Some College								
a. Basic RD	68.4 (4.7)	4.4 (0.5)	-2.3 (1.8)	55.1 (4.0)	-40.1 (2.6)	-1.6 (1.5)	-0.4 (2.0)	0.0 (1.3)
b. No Controls	68.4 (4.7)	4.4 (0.5)	-2.4 (1.8)	55.0 (4.0)	-39.7 (2.6)	-1.7 (1.4)	-0.6 (2.1)	0.0 (1.3)
c. Short Window (ages 63-67)	64.4 (7.1)	3.4 (0.6)	-4.4 (2.8)	50.0 (5.1)	-41.4 (3.8)	-3.5 (1.6)	-3.5 (2.7)	-0.1 (2.0)
<i>Local Linear Regression Estimates</i>								
d. Expectation from Left	6.7 (0.6)	95.1 (0.6)	85.8 (0.9)	9.8 (0.5)	68.5 (1.2)	39.0 (1.0)	27.9 (1.5)	86.7 (1.0)
e. Expectation from Right	67.7 (1.4)	98.8 (0.2)	81.8 (1.0)	57.0 (1.6)	29.5 (1.4)	36.6 (0.7)	23.4 (0.8)	87.7 (0.7)
f. Difference	60.9 (1.6)	3.7 (0.6)	-4.0 (1.4)	47.2 (1.7)	-39.0 (1.8)	-2.4 (1.2)	-4.5 (1.8)	1.0 (1.2)
3. Minority Dropouts								
a. Basic RD	44.5 (3.1)	21.5 (2.1)	-1.2 (2.5)	19.4 (1.9)	-8.3 (3.1)	2.6 (1.6)	1.5 (2.0)	5.0 (2.2)
b. No Controls	44.3 (3.1)	22.6 (2.1)	-1.3 (2.3)	19.9 (2.0)	-8.5 (3.1)	2.3 (1.5)	1.6 (1.9)	5.4 (2.2)
c. Short Window (ages 63-67)	42.1 (3.6)	21.3 (2.5)	-1.7 (3.2)	16.4 (2.5)	-7.6 (4.1)	-0.7 (2.0)	-1.9 (2.4)	4.2 (3.4)
<i>Local Linear Regression Estimates</i>								
d. Expectation from Left	20.7 (1.5)	65.0 (2.6)	28.7 (2.1)	12.2 (1.1)	34.5 (3.2)	19.8 (1.3)	15.9 (1.8)	78.2 (1.4)
e. Expectation from Right	59.6 (2.1)	85.7 (1.4)	31.3 (1.6)	29.8 (1.8)	26.6 (1.7)	19.9 (0.8)	14.4 (1.1)	83.0 (1.1)
f. Difference	38.9 (2.6)	20.7 (2.9)	2.6 (2.7)	17.5 (2.1)	-7.8 (3.6)	0.1 (1.5)	-1.5 (2.1)	4.8 (1.7)

Notes: Basic RD estimates are reproduced from Tables 1-3. No controls estimates exclude any covariates. Short window estimates use restricted age window ($63 \leq \text{age} \leq 67$) and include linear controls for age, interacted with post-65 dummy, as well as other controls used in basic RD models. Local linear regression estimates are obtained using a triangular kernel and a bandwidth estimated by the rule of thumb procedure suggested by Fan and Gijbels (1996). Estimated standard errors in parentheses.

Appendix Table 1b: Regression Discontinuities in Hospital Admissions at Age 65 from Alternative Specifications

	All Admissions (1)	Bypass Anastomosis of Heart (2)	Joint Replacement Lower Extremity (3)
1. Overall Sample			
a. Basic RD	7.570 (0.286)	15.905 (1.389)	22.694 (1.465)
b. Cubic Specification	8.791 (0.435)	18.686 (1.904)	25.284 (1.748)
c. Short Window (ages 63 - 66)	7.822 (0.492)	17.900 (2.286)	26.071 (1.912)
<i>Local Linear Regression Estimates</i>			
d. Expectation from Left	1109.230 (0.318)	709.031 (0.959)	761.223 (1.014)
e. Expectation from Right	1117.240 (0.074)	726.190 (0.891)	784.924 (0.722)
f. Difference	8.015 (0.327)	17.159 (1.309)	23.701 (1.245)
2. White non-Hispanics			
a. Basic RD	7.742 (0.325)	16.174 (1.437)	23.163 (1.596)
b. Cubic Specification	9.093 (0.471)	18.572 (1.848)	25.625 (1.811)
c. Short Window (Ages 63 - 66)	8.432 (0.559)	17.698 (2.143)	27.298 (1.903)
<i>Local Linear Regression Estimates</i>			
d. Expectation from Left	1080.850 (0.337)	695.236 (1.039)	746.000 (1.012)
e. Expectation from Right	1089.300 (0.109)	712.359 (0.881)	770.403 (0.846)
f. Difference	8.451 (0.354)	17.122 (1.362)	24.403 (1.319)
3. Black non-Hispanics			
a. Basic RD	4.393 (0.714)	5.150 (6.089)	12.144 (4.201)
b. Cubic Specification	5.660 (0.997)	6.667 (7.076)	19.412 (5.329)
c. Short Window (Ages 63 - 66)	4.160 (1.249)	6.572 (7.405)	18.078 (5.172)
<i>Local Linear Regression Estimates</i>			
d. Expectation from Left	899.255 (0.592)	395.877 (4.023)	490.107 (3.117)
e. Expectation from Right	903.832 (0.349)	400.223 (3.943)	505.890 (2.87)
f. Difference	4.577 (0.688)	4.347 (5.633)	15.783 (4.237)
4. Hispanics			
a. Basic RD	9.465 (0.547)	18.974 (5.618)	26.395 (4.691)
b. Cubic Specification	10.109 (0.677)	25.513 (8.006)	25.904 (6.265)
c. Short Window (Ages 63 - 66)	7.666 (0.773)	24.846 (9.896)	17.653 (7.003)
<i>Local Linear Regression Estimates</i>			
d. Expectation from Left	901.091 (0.376)	463.660 (3.803)	501.660 (2.674)
e. Expectation from Right	909.842 (0.342)	486.620 (2.182)	524.268 (3.271)
f. Difference	8.751 (0.508)	22.959 (4.384)	22.608 (4.225)

Notes: Basic RD estimates and include linear and quadratic controls for age, interacted with post-65 dummy. Short window estimates use restricted age window ($63 < \text{age} \leq 66$). Local linear regression estimates are obtained using a triangular kernel and a bandwidth estimated by the rule of thumb procedure suggested by Fan and Gijbels (1996). Estimated standard errors in parentheses.

Appendix Table 2: Characteristics of 65-66 Year Old Medicare Recipients

	<u>Covered by Supplemental Insurance:</u>			
	Private or Military (1)	Any (including Medicaid) (2)	Have Parts A and B (3)	Medicare- HMO (4)
1. Overall Sample	67.4 (0.9)	74.6 (0.8)	91.3 (0.5)	17.1 (0.6)
<u>Classified by Ethnicity and Education:</u>				
<i>White Non-Hispanic:</i>				
2. High School Dropout	62.5 (2.3)	74.9 (2.1)	90.6 (1.3)	14.9 (1.4)
3. High School Graduate	76.7 (1.5)	79.4 (1.5)	94.1 (0.8)	15.4 (1.1)
4. At Least Some College	82.5 (1.3)	84.7 (1.2)	90.3 (0.9)	15.3 (1.0)
<i>Minority:</i>				
5. High School Dropout	28.0 (2.4)	46.3 (2.7)	89.6 (1.6)	21.0 (1.8)
6. High School Graduate	47.1 (4.0)	59.4 (4.0)	93.6 (1.9)	26.3 (2.9)
7. At Least Some College	62.6 (3.7)	73.0 (3.4)	86.6 (2.5)	23.4 (2.7)
<u>Classified by Ethnicity Only:</u>				
8. White Non-Hispanic	76.1 (0.9)	80.7 (0.9)	91.8 (0.6)	15.3 (0.6)
9. Black Non-Hispanic (All)	43.9 (2.9)	58.1 (2.8)	90.6 (1.5)	18.9 (1.8)
10. Hispanic (All)	37.3 (2.8)	53.1 (2.8)	90.5 (1.6)	27.0 (2.1)

Note: Standard errors in parentheses. Estimates are obtained from samples of people between the ages of 65 and 66 who are on Medicare in pooled samples of 1999-2003 HIS.

Appendix Table 3: Excess Monthly Changes in Employment and Insurance Status at Age 65

	Medicare (1)	Health Insurance (2)	Employment (3)
1. Overall Sample	12.7 (0.6)	1.9 (0.3)	0.2 (0.1)
<u>Classified by Ethnicity and Education:</u>			
<i>White Non-Hispanic:</i>			
2. High School Dropout	12.9 (1.3)	3.4 (0.6)	0.4 (0.2)
3. High School Graduate	14.5 (0.7)	1.8 (0.5)	0.3 (0.2)
4. At Least Some College	14.3 (1.2)	1.3 (0.3)	0.2 (0.2)
<i>Minority:</i>			
5. High School Dropout	6.2 (0.7)	1.8 (0.5)	0.0 (0.2)
6. High School Graduate	10.0 (0.4)	3.1 (0.5)	0.2 (0.4)
7. At Least Some College	9.1 (1.1)	1.9 (0.5)	-0.6 (0.6)
<u>Classified by Ethnicity Only:</u>			
8. White Non-Hispanic	14.2 (0.7)	1.8 (0.3)	0.2 (0.1)
9. Black Non-Hispanic (All)	8.7 (1.2)	2.5 (0.4)	-0.2 (0.3)
10. Hispanic (All)	8.6 (1.2)	2.0 (0.8)	0.0 (0.3)

Note: Entries are estimated coefficients x100 of a dummy for age between 64.75 and 65 (in months). Model also include a quadratic in age, fully interacted with a dummy for age less than 64.75, and year dummies. Sample consists of 322,123 individual monthly changes in Medicare status health insurance status, and employment status, estimated for people in the 2001 SIPP who were between 55 and 71 when they entered the panel. Sample includes up to 35 monthly changes for 12,700 individuals. Standard errors (in parentheses) are clustered by age in months.

Appendix Table 4: Coefficient Estimates for Selected Regression Discontinuity Models

	Dependent Variable:						
	On Medicare (1)	Any Insurance (2)	Private Coverage (3)	2+ Forms of Coverage (4)	Managed Care (5)	Employed (6)	Saw Doctor Last Year (7)
All Coefficient Estimates and Standard Errors x 100							
1. Dummy for Age 65+	59.7 (4.1)	9.5 (0.6)	-2.9 (1.1)	44.1 (2.8)	-28.4 (2.1)	0.3 (0.8)	1.3 (0.7)
2. Age	1.5 (0.2)	-0.2 (0.2)	-1.3 (2.8)	1.1 (0.1)	-2.7 (0.4)	-7.1 (0.3)	0.5 (0.2)
3. Age-Squared (coefficient x 1000)	0.7 (0.2)	-0.3 (0.2)	-0.9 (0.3)	0.4 (0.1)	-1.5 (0.3)	-3.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.2)
4. (Age-65)xDummy 65+	3.3 (1.6)	0.8 (0.2)	1.2 (0.5)	2.7 (1.2)	0.8 (0.9)	4.3 (0.3)	-0.1 (0.3)
5. (Age-65) ² xDummy 65+ (coefficient x 1000)	-3.9 (1.4)	0.0 (0.2)	1.0 (0.5)	-2.8 (1.1)	2.8 (0.7)	4.1 (0.3)	0.0 (0.3)
6. Female	0.5 (0.3)	-0.4 (0.2)	-0.7 (0.3)	0.7 (0.3)	-2.4 (0.3)	-11.8 (0.5)	5.5 (0.4)
7. Black Non-Hispanic	-1.9 (0.8)	-2.8 (0.4)	-18.0 (0.9)	-8.1 (1.4)	-1.0 (0.9)	-2.1 (0.3)	0.7 (0.4)
8. Other Race Non-Hispanic	-5.4 (1.1)	-7.8 (0.7)	-17.0 (1.2)	-6.7 (1.3)	-0.1 (1.1)	-0.7 (0.6)	-3.4 (0.7)
9. Hispanic	-5.8 (0.7)	-11.7 (0.8)	-24.3 (1.1)	-11.8 (1.3)	3.7 (0.8)	-0.2 (0.4)	-4.4 (0.5)
10. Dropout	2.4 (0.6)	-6.0 (0.6)	-19.2 (0.7)	-2.4 (0.7)	-9.0 (0.9)	-9.1 (0.6)	-1.7 (0.3)
11. Some College	-1.7 (0.3)	1.4 (0.3)	3.7 (0.5)	0.6 (0.4)	3.8 (0.5)	3.8 (0.4)	2.0 (0.3)
12. College or More	-5.0 (0.3)	3.5 (0.3)	9.0 (0.4)	-1.4 (0.4)	6.4 (0.6)	9.6 (0.4)	4.3 (0.3)
13. Midwest Region	1.2 (0.4)	-0.8 (0.3)	2.7 (0.5)	2.5 (0.6)	-5.7 (0.7)	1.1 (0.3)	-1.5 (0.3)
14. South Region	2.5 (0.4)	-3.5 (0.4)	-7.4 (0.5)	0.2 (0.4)	-1.1 (0.7)	-0.9 (0.3)	-1.6 (0.3)
15. West Region	-0.2 (0.4)	-1.7 (0.3)	-6.2 (0.5)	-1.3 (0.5)	11.6 (0.8)	-2.6 (0.4)	-2.2 (0.3)
16. Year Dummies	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
17. Sample Size	63,051	63,078	63,321	63,321	58,117	160,499	110,876

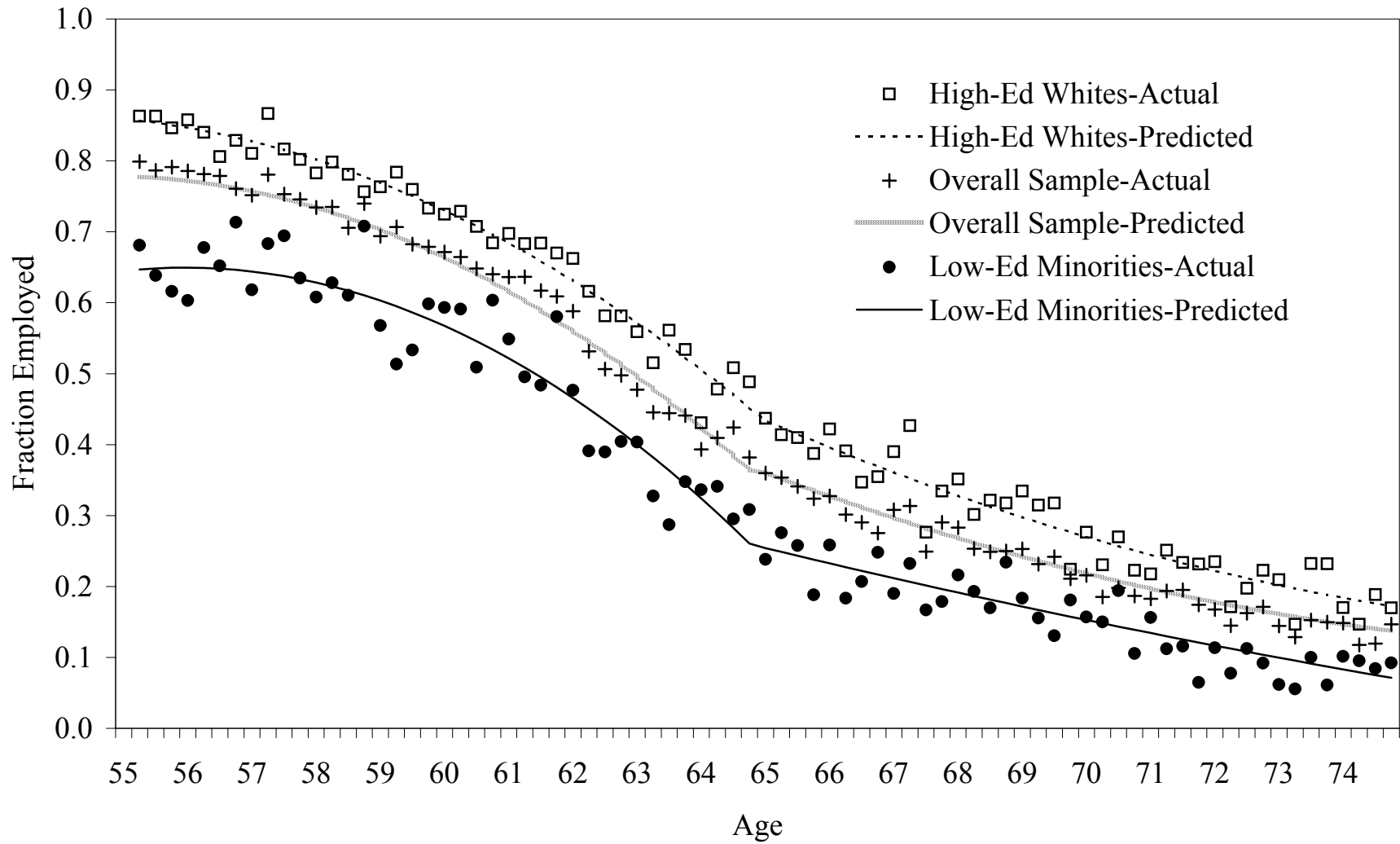
Notes: These are coefficient estimates from basic RD models shown in Tables 1-3. Estimated standard errors in parentheses. Insurance models are fit to 199-2003 data only. Employment and doctor visit models are fit to 1992-2003 data.

Appendix Table 5: Full Regressions for Select Outcomes - Hospital Discharge Models

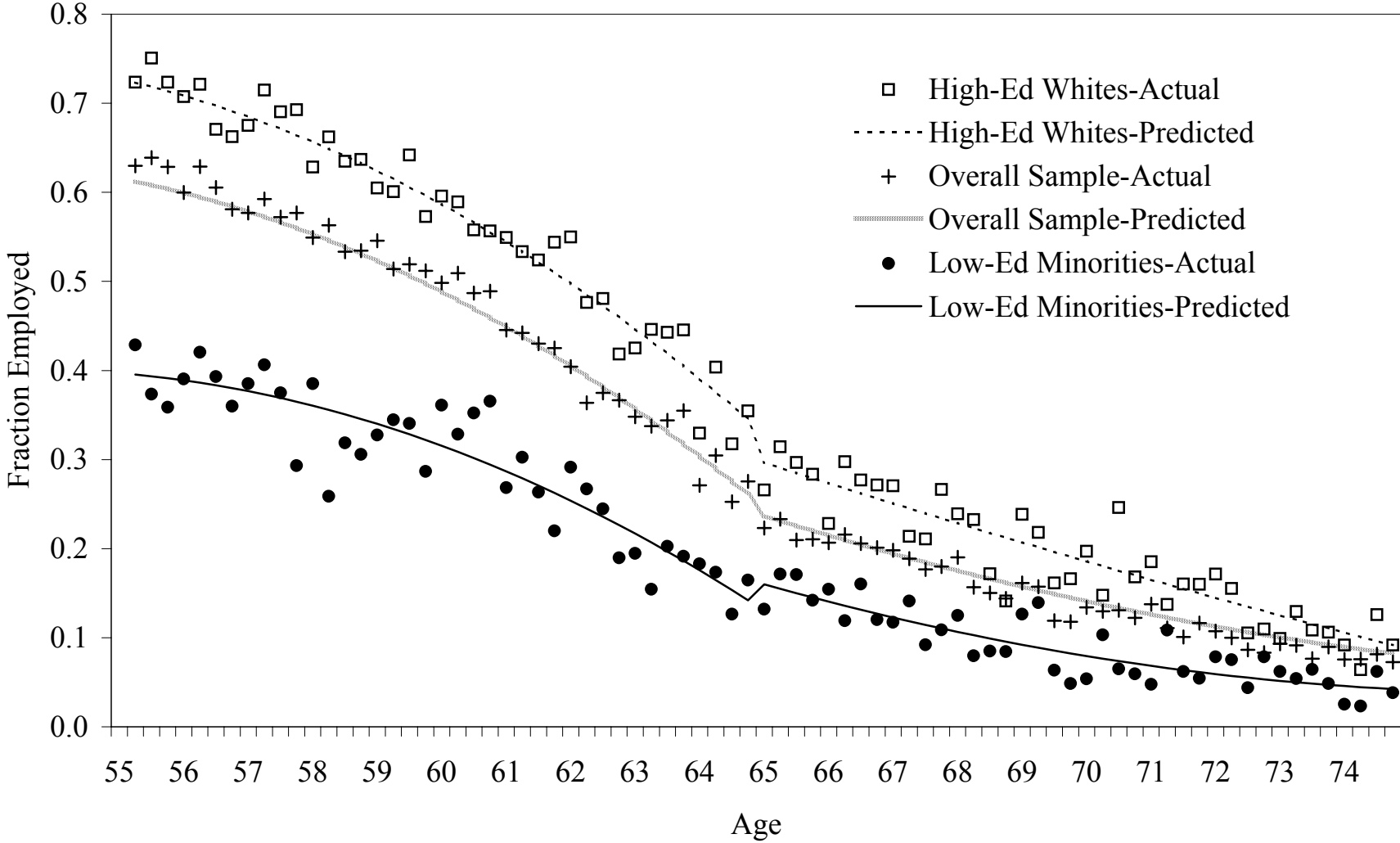
	All Admissions				Bypass Anastomosis of Heart				Joint Replacement Lower Extremity			
	All (1)	Whites (2)	Hispanics (3)	Blacks (4)	All (5)	Whites (6)	Hispanics (7)	Blacks (8)	All (9)	Whites (10)	Hispanics (11)	Blacks (12)
RD	7.57 (0.29)	7.74 (0.33)	9.47 (0.55)	4.39 (0.71)	15.91 (1.39)	16.17 (1.44)	18.97 (5.62)	5.15 (6.09)	22.69 (1.47)	23.16 (1.6)	26.40 (4.69)	12.14 (4.2)
Age	3.33 (0.25)	4.37 (0.28)	1.20 (0.43)	-0.83 (0.48)	3.63 (0.96)	3.87 (1.05)	1.31 (4.14)	3.45 (3.87)	5.01 (1.09)	5.31 (1.09)	3.16 (2.55)	2.59 (3.05)
Age Sq	0.15 (0.05)	0.18 (0.06)	0.00 (0.09)	0.06 (0.08)	-0.04 (0.18)	-0.08 (0.2)	-0.18 (0.76)	0.77 (0.76)	-0.26 (0.2)	-0.33 (0.2)	-0.27 (0.49)	0.21 (0.61)
Age*Over 65	-0.23 (0.31)	-0.06 (0.33)	-1.59 (0.59)	-0.07 (0.68)	-3.28 (1.26)	-3.19 (1.36)	-2.13 (5.07)	-7.83 (5.9)	-2.65 (1.35)	-2.75 (1.4)	-0.67 (4.15)	-1.46 (3.9)
Age Sq*Over 65	-0.05 (0.07)	-0.09 (0.07)	0.11 (0.13)	-0.07 (0.13)	0.38 (0.25)	0.44 (0.26)	0.17 (0.99)	-0.15 (1.18)	0.86 (0.27)	1.03 (0.27)	0.06 (0.78)	-0.59 (0.79)
Constant	893.25 (16.19)	797.31 (17.63)	822.18 (27.5)	952.80 (30.46)	473.36 (61.17)	443.37 (67.41)	382.55 (264.42)	173.84 (248.11)	435.33 (69.64)	400.80 (69.97)	295.51 (163.17)	325.88 (195.24)

Notes: Select outcomes from Table 4. Estimated standard errors in parentheses. The age variable is centered at 65 and all the coefficients have been multiplied by 100.

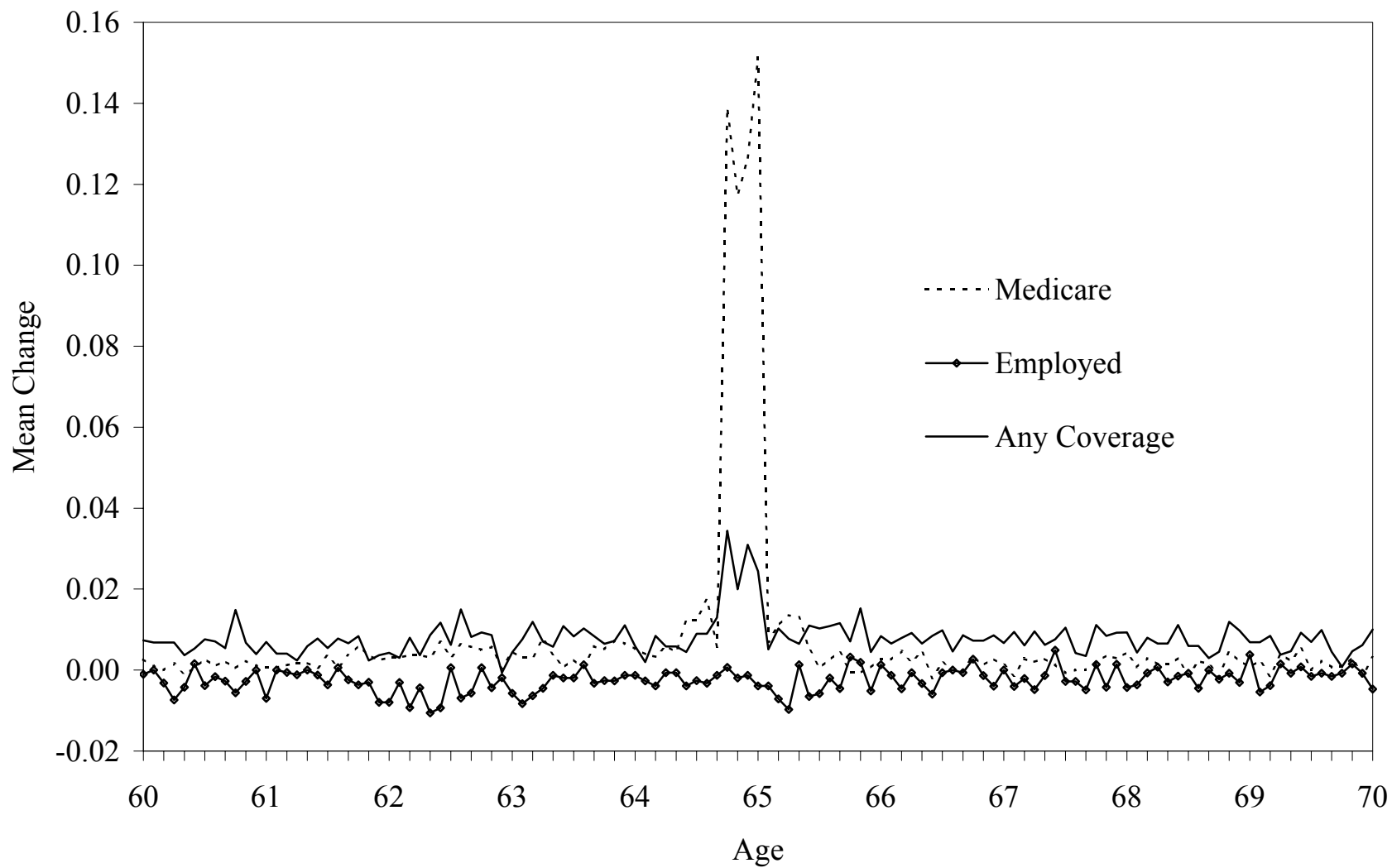
Appendix Figure 1: Employment Rates of Men by Age and Demographic Group



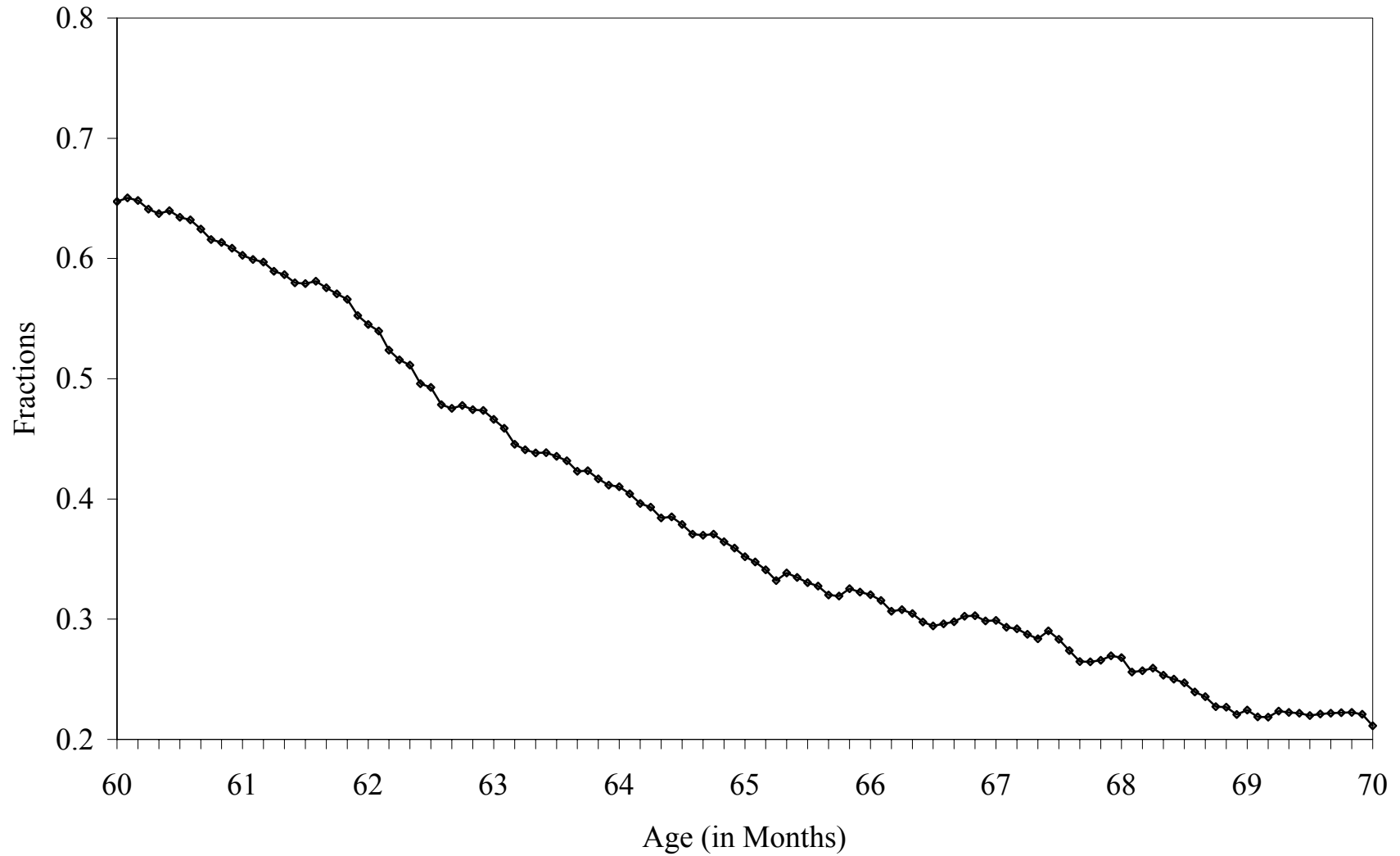
Appendix Figure 2: Employment Rates of Women by Age and Demographic Group



Appendix Figure 3: Monthly Changes in Employment and Health Insurance , 2001 SIPP Panel



Appendix Figure 4: Age Profile of Employment, 2001 SIPP (Person-month observations)



Overview of Data Files Used in Card-Dobkin-Maestas

a. National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

We use the NHIS individual and sample person records files for 1992-2003. Individuals report their birth year and birth month and the calendar quarter of the interview. We use this information to construct age in quarters at the time of the interview. By our dating convention, the sample of people who are coded as exactly 65 years and 0 quarters of age includes those who will reach their 65th birthday in the interview quarter. Assuming interviews are approximately uniformly distributed over the quarter, this means that about 1/2 the sample are 0-6 weeks younger than 65, and 1/2 are 0-6 weeks older than 65.

Our sample includes people who are over 55 and under 75: the final sample size is 160,821, although there are missing values for some variables. Around age 65, the age distribution has about 2,000 people per quarter of age. Sample counts, and mean percentages of people with health insurance, with Medicare, and working are reported in Table A.

Employment status and indicators for whether the interviewee saw a doctor last year or stayed overnight in hospital are available for 1992-2003. We use the entire 1992-2003 sample for these outcomes. There are 160,499 observations available for employment, 110,876 for seeing a doctor last year, and 160,552 observations for a hospital visit last year.

Full time employment status, and indicators for whether the interviewee delayed care or did not get care last year for cost reasons are only available for 1997 and later: thus, results for these outcomes are based on 1997-2003 data. There are 89,748 observations available for full time employment and 90,070 for delaying or not receiving care.

Detailed insurance data are only available from 1999 onward. Thus, Table 1 is based on data for 1999-2003. The sample size for insurance coverage is 63,321. Sample sizes for some other outcomes are slightly smaller.

b. March Current Population Survey (CPS)

We use the March CPS files for 1996-2004. Individuals report their age in years as of the interview. Our sample includes people who are between 55 and 75 years of age: the final sample size is 211,927. Around age 65, the age distribution has about 9,600 people per year of age. Table B shows sample counts at each age, the mean percentages of people with health insurance and Medicare, the percentages who are working or retired at the interview, and average hours worked per week (set to 0 for non-workers).

c. Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

We use the 2001 SIPP for the analysis in Appendix Figures 3 and 4. This survey includes data for up to 36 months for each interviewee. Individuals report their birth year and birth month, and the calendar month of the interview. We use this information to construct age in months at the time of the interview, assuming that the interview was conducted at the end of the month.

Under this convention, people coded as age 65 and 0 months are between 2 weeks younger than their 65th birthday and 2 weeks older.

We combine the longitudinal data for each person into a file of person-month observations. We use all person-month observations in which the person is between the ages of 60 years and 0 months, and 70 years and 0 months. For the analysis of changes in status (Appendix Figure 3) we only use person months with reported data for the previous calendar month. The sample contains 9,500 individuals who are between 60 and 70 at some point in the survey.

Table C shows the number of person-month observations for each age, the mean percentages of people with health insurance and Medicare, the percentages who are working, and average monthly earnings (set to 0 for non-workers).

d. Hospital Discharge Data

We use hospital discharge files from California, New York and Florida 1992-2002. For the three files we have age in months at the time of admission. The files are a census of discharges from state regulated hospitals. People admitted to federally regulated hospitals such as VA hospitals are not included. Our sample includes people that are 60 to 70 years old. The number of discharges for California, New York and Florida are respectively 4017325, 3121721 and 2793547 for a total sample of 9,932,593. To estimate the hospital admission rates in the figures we used the “Estimates of the Population of States by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin” from the U.S. Census Bureau. To get estimates of the population by age in months we interpolated linearly. The regressions in the paper are estimated off the log of admission counts rather than the rates.

Table A: Sample Sizes and Characteristics by Quarter of Age: NHIS Sample

Age Group	Number of Observations	Percentage of Age Group:		
		With Health Insurance	With Medicare	Working
All	160,821	92.8	45.0	39.1
55.25	2,666	87.2	4.7	71.0
55.50	2,550	87.6	4.1	70.9
55.75	2,664	87.9	4.5	70.9
56.00	2,646	87.1	4.2	69.0
56.25	2,575	87.6	4.8	70.3
56.50	2,506	88.0	5.0	68.8
56.75	2,427	87.2	5.0	66.7
57.00	2,547	87.3	5.4	66.1
57.25	2,481	86.7	5.4	68.1
57.50	2,395	87.2	5.0	65.7
57.75	2,361	88.3	5.7	65.6
58.00	2,377	87.5	6.4	63.7
58.25	2,353	88.1	6.2	64.6
58.50	2,258	87.3	7.0	61.2
58.75	2,279	86.9	5.7	62.5
59.00	2,295	88.3	5.9	61.3
59.25	2,328	89.4	7.1	60.3
59.50	2,197	88.5	6.9	59.6
59.75	2,325	89.4	6.4	59.2
60.00	2,262	88.7	7.1	57.8
60.25	2,320	88.2	7.9	58.3
60.50	2,240	88.6	6.9	56.2
60.75	2,177	88.3	7.5	55.8
61.00	2,100	87.9	7.7	53.5
61.25	2,044	89.2	7.8	53.6
61.50	2,088	87.0	7.7	51.8
61.75	1,982	87.4	8.3	51.0
62.00	2,237	88.1	9.5	49.4
62.25	2,068	87.8	10.3	44.2
62.50	2,043	89.2	8.9	43.6
62.75	2,070	87.4	9.9	43.3
63.00	2,018	87.7	10.0	40.8
63.25	1,993	89.0	10.4	38.9
63.50	2,017	87.9	11.0	38.9
63.75	2,060	87.8	9.6	39.5
64.00	1,991	87.6	12.6	32.8
64.25	1,970	88.8	13.9	35.5
64.50	2,045	88.4	16.4	33.3
64.75	2,085	89.3	20.6	32.5
65.00	2,036	94.5	61.7	28.7
65.25	2,054	97.4	81.5	28.7
65.50	2,024	97.8	83.2	27.0
65.75	1,941	97.6	83.9	26.4
66.00	2,028	98.0	85.6	26.2
66.25	1,960	98.5	87.4	25.4

66.50	1,901	98.5	86.7	24.4
66.75	1,938	98.2	87.6	23.6
67.00	1,957	98.4	89.0	24.8
67.25	1,956	98.5	88.6	24.7
67.50	1,942	99.0	90.4	20.9
67.75	1,907	98.3	89.0	23.0
68.00	1,883	98.4	89.7	23.4
68.25	1,869	98.7	89.9	19.9
68.50	1,908	98.7	90.4	19.4
68.75	1,881	98.5	89.5	19.1
69.00	1,917	98.6	90.2	20.1
69.25	1,850	99.0	91.2	19.0
69.50	1,818	98.9	92.1	17.4
69.75	1,855	98.8	92.4	15.8
70.00	1,838	98.6	90.8	17.0
70.25	1,966	98.7	92.4	15.4
70.50	1,850	98.9	91.3	16.0
70.75	1,811	99.1	93.2	15.2
71.00	1,830	99.0	93.8	15.8
71.25	1,770	99.2	93.0	14.7
71.50	1,727	99.1	92.1	14.2
71.75	1,729	99.2	93.8	14.1
72.00	1,710	98.9	93.1	13.3
72.25	1,752	99.3	93.4	12.0
72.50	1,609	99.2	94.4	12.1
72.75	1,710	99.2	93.3	12.3
73.00	1,740	99.4	94.0	11.4
73.25	1,657	99.4	93.0	10.7
73.50	1,584	99.1	93.3	10.9
73.75	1,627	99.0	93.9	11.5
74.00	1,514	99.2	95.1	10.6
74.25	1,597	99.3	94.9	9.5
74.50	1,542	99.6	94.2	9.8
74.75	1,593	99.1	95.1	10.3

Note: unweighted tabulations from 1992-2003 National Health Interview Surveys.

Table B: Sample Sizes and Characteristics by Year of Age: CPS Sample

Age Group	Number of Observations	Percentage of Age Group:				Hours per Week
		With Health Insurance	With Medicare	Working	Retired	
All	211,927	90.9	46.7	41.0	44.7	14.5
55	15,100	85.4	4.7	72.8	7.6	28.4
56	13,967	85.3	5.4	70.1	9.9	27.2
57	12,804	85.9	6.2	67.6	11.9	26.0
58	12,022	85.1	7.0	65.2	14.0	25.0
59	11,498	84.9	7.5	62.6	16.6	23.7
60	11,417	84.6	8.5	58.0	21.9	21.8
61	10,822	84.8	8.8	54.9	26.1	20.1
62	10,445	84.6	11.6	46.1	37.5	16.0
63	10,155	84.0	14.1	40.6	43.6	13.6
64	9,621	83.9	16.9	36.2	49.3	11.8
65	9,939	97.0	85.0	30.1	58.3	9.4
66	9,501	98.1	91.4	26.7	63.2	7.8
67	9,148	98.0	93.2	24.0	66.4	6.9
68	8,926	98.4	94.6	21.1	69.7	5.7
69	8,597	98.6	95.3	19.2	72.0	5.1
70	8,560	98.6	96.2	16.2	76.3	4.1
71	8,348	98.9	96.7	14.9	77.9	3.8
72	8,002	98.9	97.0	13.5	79.2	3.4
73	7,897	99.0	97.2	12.2	80.9	2.9
74	7,646	98.7	97.1	10.4	82.9	2.6
75	7,512	98.9	97.2	9.3	83.5	2.3

Note: unweighted tabulations from 1996-2004 March Current Population Surveys.

Table C: Sample Sizes and Characteristics by Month of Age: 2001 SIPP Sample

Age:		Number of Observations	Percentage of Age Group:			Mean Monthly Earnings
Years	Months		With Health Insurance	Medicare	Working	
60	0	1,971	88.7	7.8	64.7	1946
60	1	1,977	88.7	7.7	65.0	2012
60	2	1,973	88.7	7.6	64.8	2025
60	3	1,981	88.7	7.3	64.1	2020
60	4	1,961	88.5	7.3	63.7	2014
60	5	1,918	88.6	7.2	64.0	1963
60	6	1,911	88.5	7.6	63.4	1813
60	7	1,905	88.6	7.7	63.2	1780
60	8	1,888	88.9	7.8	62.4	1818
60	9	1,856	89.7	7.5	61.6	1778
60	10	1,842	89.8	7.6	61.3	1783
60	11	1,799	89.3	7.7	60.9	1678
61	0	1,784	89.3	7.8	60.3	1702
61	1	1,791	89.1	7.9	59.9	1685
61	2	1,762	88.8	7.8	59.7	1713
61	3	1,756	88.3	8.2	58.9	1735
61	4	1,751	88.2	8.0	58.7	1677
61	5	1,718	88.7	8.0	58.0	1684
61	6	1,725	88.5	8.2	57.9	1624
61	7	1,731	89.0	8.0	58.1	1626
61	8	1,720	89.0	8.5	57.6	1600
61	9	1,726	89.7	8.7	57.1	1579
61	10	1,724	89.4	9.0	56.6	1597
61	11	1,703	89.7	9.5	55.3	1522
62	0	1,710	89.4	9.6	54.5	1491
62	1	1,701	88.9	9.8	54.0	1482
62	2	1,686	88.9	10.1	52.4	1338
62	3	1,681	88.7	10.5	51.6	1271
62	4	1,682	89.1	10.8	51.1	1304
62	5	1,670	89.2	12.2	49.6	1325
62	6	1,650	89.2	12.3	49.3	1255
62	7	1,662	89.5	12.8	47.8	1207
62	8	1,647	90.3	13.5	47.5	1223
62	9	1,670	89.9	13.3	47.8	1185
62	10	1,670	89.8	13.7	47.4	1199
62	11	1,655	89.4	13.8	47.4	1249
63	0	1,645	89.2	13.9	46.6	1189
63	1	1,635	89.2	14.1	45.9	1206
63	2	1,643	89.4	14.2	44.6	1130
63	3	1,626	89.1	15.4	44.1	1037
63	4	1,618	88.6	16.0	43.8	1000
63	5	1,624	88.6	15.9	43.8	1050

63	6	1,614	88.7	16.2	43.6	1025
63	7	1,603	88.7	16.3	43.2	1100
63	8	1,605	89.2	17.3	42.3	984
63	9	1,596	89.1	17.5	42.4	987
63	10	1,577	89.3	18.1	41.7	941
63	11	1,580	89.3	18.5	41.1	967
64	0	1,587	89.0	18.6	41.0	918
64	1	1,583	88.9	18.9	40.4	970
64	2	1,600	88.7	18.7	39.6	934
64	3	1,605	88.6	18.6	39.3	912
64	4	1,601	88.6	18.6	38.4	873
64	5	1,618	88.3	19.1	38.5	874
64	6	1,613	88.1	20.1	37.9	851
64	7	1,602	88.3	21.7	37.1	865
64	8	1,598	88.9	21.8	37.0	863
64	9	1,597	91.7	37.6	37.1	804
64	10	1,605	93.3	51.3	36.4	805
64	11	1,615	95.8	65.8	35.9	767
65	0	1,614	97.5	82.9	35.2	754
65	1	1,611	97.2	84.0	34.8	771
65	2	1,616	97.3	85.5	34.1	781
65	3	1,617	97.6	87.3	33.2	733
65	4	1,590	97.7	89.1	33.8	700
65	5	1,610	97.8	89.8	33.5	668
65	6	1,616	97.9	89.7	33.0	675
65	7	1,609	97.9	90.0	32.8	655
65	8	1,606	98.1	89.9	32.0	662
65	9	1,619	98.2	89.6	31.9	643
65	10	1,629	98.3	89.7	32.5	649
65	11	1,615	98.5	90.0	32.3	645
66	0	1,598	98.7	90.2	32.0	652
66	1	1,572	98.8	90.6	31.6	642
66	2	1,565	98.7	91.1	30.7	657
66	3	1,581	98.5	91.1	30.8	622
66	4	1,582	98.4	91.7	30.5	621
66	5	1,582	98.3	91.8	29.8	595
66	6	1,576	98.4	92.0	29.4	634
66	7	1,573	98.5	92.1	29.6	665
66	8	1,561	98.9	92.2	29.8	627
66	9	1,561	98.8	92.7	30.2	620
66	10	1,562	98.7	92.7	30.3	589
66	11	1,554	98.8	92.9	29.9	608
67	0	1,542	98.7	92.9	29.9	569
67	1	1,531	99.1	92.7	29.3	531
67	2	1,527	99.1	93.1	29.2	604
67	3	1,506	99.0	92.8	28.8	562
67	4	1,502	99.2	93.1	28.4	588
67	5	1,485	99.1	93.1	29.0	635
67	6	1,497	98.7	92.5	28.3	588

67	7	1,489	98.7	92.4	27.4	561
67	8	1,477	98.6	92.3	26.5	513
67	9	1,478	98.7	92.4	26.5	473
67	10	1,467	99.1	92.9	26.6	490
67	11	1,447	99.1	93.2	27.0	510
68	0	1,440	99.2	93.5	26.8	492
68	1	1,434	99.0	93.5	25.6	487
68	2	1,423	99.2	93.7	25.7	433
68	3	1,419	99.1	93.9	25.9	482
68	4	1,420	99.1	93.8	25.4	461
68	5	1,407	99.4	94.0	25.0	490
68	6	1,388	99.2	93.8	24.7	457
68	7	1,403	99.1	93.9	23.9	431
68	8	1,388	98.8	93.7	23.6	425
68	9	1,391	98.7	93.3	22.7	404
68	10	1,376	98.9	93.9	22.7	374
68	11	1,368	99.0	93.9	22.1	342
69	0	1,363	99.1	93.8	22.5	345
69	1	1,349	99.2	94.1	21.9	336
69	2	1,359	99.2	93.8	21.9	361
69	3	1,346	99.0	94.2	22.4	314
69	4	1,344	99.0	94.4	22.2	292
69	5	1,339	99.1	95.0	22.2	312
69	6	1,346	98.8	94.9	22.0	307
69	7	1,374	98.6	94.8	22.1	346
69	8	1,370	98.5	94.6	22.2	348
69	9	1,354	98.2	94.5	22.2	390
69	10	1,335	98.4	94.8	22.2	355
69	11	1,353	98.6	94.7	22.1	355

Note: unweighted counts and averages of person-month observations in 2001 SIPP.