Data sources

- The INPS social security data that we use (our data file INPS_temp_noPA.dta) are proprietary, and can only be accessed in a secure LAB environment. There is an established procedure for researchers, including from abroad, to access the data through the VisitINPS program (https://www.inps.it/nuovoportaleinps/default.aspx?itemdir=47212).

- Local politicians' (municipal, provincial, and regional) individual data is available here: https://dait.interno.gov.it/elezioni/anagrafe-amministratori. National politicians' individual data is available here: http://dati.camera.it/it/. Electoral data for any level of government is available here: https://elezionistorico.interno.gov.it/. All these data were then merged to produce our data file POL19852011_cat_CF1.dta.

- Municipalities' budget and demographic data (our data file DEMO_cat.dta) was obtained from Gagliarducci and Nannicini (2013), "Do Better Paid Politicians Perform Better? Disentangling Incentives from Selection."

- Public sector dependence by sector (our data file sectors.dta) was obtained from Pellegrino and Zingales (2014), "Diagnosing the Italian Disease."

- Data on the district elections of the *Associazione Nazionale Magistrati* (our data file DEMO_distretto.dta) is available here: http://www.associazionemagistrati.it/doc/59/storico-elezioni-cdc.htm.

List of dofiles

- Create Data.do: produces the main sample (mergedCF1_noPA.dta)

- Tables 1-2-3-4-6.do: produces Tables 1-2-3-4-6

- Table 5.do: produces Table 5

- Table 7.do: produces Table 7

- Table 8.do: produces Table 8

- Tables A1-A2-A3.do: produces Tables A1-A2-A3

- Graphs.do: produces all the figures