# Seizing Opportunities: Small Businesses, Social Capital, and Banks

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This Version: March 2022

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#### ABSTRACT

Why do small businesses exploit business opportunities better in some areas than others? In a sample of 1.2 million consumer-facing establishments, stores differ significantly across neighborhoods and census tracts in the uptake of risk-free positive NPV forgivable loans to which they are entitled. Local social capital strongly predicts loan uptake after controlling for close-by bank branches, income, and education. Increasing our social capital measures by one standard deviation increases the loan uptake by 7.8 percent of the sample mean, accounting for 25 percent of the variation at the zip code level. The effect is about 2.5 times as high as having a bank branch within 1000 yards. Large, low-growth stores in less-dynamic areas benefit more from strong social capital, while small, high-growth stores in more-dynamic areas benefit more from bank branches. Virtual connections act similarly to in-person social connections and have the greatest effect on loan uptake in already advantaged locations. Both types of connections predict the use of local banks over FinTech lenders. High levels of social capital and bank access have a larger effect in ethnically diverse neighborhoods.

Keywords: Small Business, Social Capital, Virtual Connections, Local Banks, PPP, Business Dynamism, Reciprocity

# 1 Introduction

Why do small businesses exploit business opportunities better in some locations than others? Are outcomes in a locality, such as growth and profitability, determined by the availability of investment opportunities and financial intermediation infrastructure, or are they also modified by the deeper characteristics of localities and the people who live there?

It is now well established that the access to loans in specific locations depends on the characteristics of banks and the technology they use for the evaluation of soft and hard information about potential borrowers (e.g. Petersen and Rajan (1994, 2002), Berger and Udell (1995)), and many others.) Less is known about locational characteristics of borrowers and how they access financial institutions. Guiso, Sapienza, and Zingales (2004), Glaeser, Kerr, and Kerr (2015) and Barrios, Hochberg, and Macciocchi (2021), among others argue that local culture shapes entrepreneurship. Dougal, Parsons, and Titman (2015, 2021) argue that public firms' locations predict their ability to create value. The relation between the local environment and value creation is increasingly important given the recent debate on spatial economic polarization and differences in business dynamism.

A major challenge in addressing these questions is the extent to which new investment opportunities are themselves endogenous and may vary across localities. In this paper, we take advantage of a natural experiment by measuring the uptake of a virtually risk-free non-competitive investment project distributed by the U.S. federal government to small businesses across all locations in the United States. The scheme, the Payment Protection Plan (PPP), was a forgivable interest-free loan offered to small businesses from financial intermediaries without material underwriting requirements.

Intuitively, the PPP program can be viewed as a real-life analogue of the famous "helicopter money" concept in Friedman (1969).<sup>1</sup> It is a "drop" of positive NPV loans

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Let us suppose now that one day a helicopter flies over this community and drops an additional \$1,000 in bills from the sky, which is, of course, hastily collected by members of the community. Let us suppose

subject to minimal financing frictions. Thus, the uptake of these positive NPV projects can be used to identify the predictors of small business dynamism across locations.

Our focus is on the interaction between the social capital in a location and the functioning of financial intermediaries. Putnam (2001) defines social capital as "connections among individuals – social connections and the norms of reciprocity and trustworthiness that arise from them" and argues that social capital is predictive of a range of social outcomes. In particular, civic capital, the community's adherence to the norms of reciprocity and propensity to form in-person connections, has been found to predict both entrepreneurial activities (Guiso, Sapienza, and Zingales (2004)) and the effectiveness of local governments (Knack (2002)). We compare the role of social capital with that of local and FinTech financial intermediaries, acting as motivated brokers incentivized with facilitating access to financing, controlling for (a) the immediate local neighborhood of an establishment (agglomeration, presence of other small independent businesses, level of foot traffic, number of brand vs. non-brand stores); (b) community demographics (income, education, diversity); and (c) more broadly, the virtual social ties between the community and other locations predict whether a store takes up a PPP loan.

Our analysis is focused on consumer-facing sectors in the U.S.<sup>2</sup> Retail is of significant social and economic significance, and independently owned retail establishments are ubiquitous across the country. The skills required to run such establishments are widely dispersed. In addition, highly granular geographic and performance data on over 1.2 million establishments is available during our sample period.

We find a great deal of heterogeneity in the uptake of PPP at the county and zip code levels, as well as the very granular census block group and the 200-yard immediate neighborhood levels. Figure 1 below shows that conditional on industry fixed effects (based on 4-digit NAICS), the marginal increase in the R-square from adding county and zip code fixed effects is 2.28%. In contrast, conditional on industry and zip code fixed effects, the census tract fixed effects increase the R-square by 3.88% and adding census block group

further that everyone is convinced that this is a unique event which will never be repeated....." Friedman and numerous subsequent macro-economists used this mental experiment to analyze aggregate demand and the liquidity trap.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>For brevity, we refer to these sectors as "retail" and establishments in these sectors as "stores." We describe the industries in the Data Section.

(CBG) fixed effects provides an additional 5.72% increase in R-square.

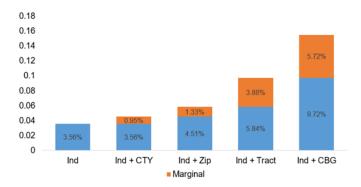


Figure 1: **Variance Decomposition.** The figure presents R-square from regressing the indicator of receiving a PPP loan at the store level on various fixed effects. We first regress the PPP indicator on industry fixed effects and incrementally add county, zip code, census tract, and census block group fixed effects. The orange bars show the incremental increase in R-square when an additional set of fixed effects is added.

We have four main findings.

First, we find that social capital in a locality increases the uptake of PPP. We consider four main measures of social capital, including civic capital, social connections, pride in the local area, and trust of banks. As Figure 2 illustrates, all four measures are positively related to PPP uptake at the zip-code level after controlling for county-industry fixed effects. but civic capital has the greatest effect.

Loan uptake is also higher when a large percentage of residents participate in associations (civic, business, sports, etc.) and are socially connected. We find similar positive effects from other measures of social capital used in the literature by Barrios, Benmelech, Hochberg, Sapienza, and Zingales (2020), Chetty, Hendren, Kline, and Saez (2014), and others.<sup>3</sup> We find a smaller independent effect of pride in the local community.<sup>4</sup> We also find that local distrust of banks, specifically, reduces stores uptake of PPP. Collectively, these four social capital measures explain 25 percent of the variation of PPP uptake at the zip code level.

Second, variations in civic capital are as economically important as the presence of bank branches. Increasing the civic capital by one standard deviation increases loan uptake by 4.9 percent of the sample mean after controlling for store and neighborhood characteristics

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>See Guiso, Sapienza, and Zingales (2011) for a discussion of social capital metrics used in the literature.

<sup>4</sup>See Chuluun and Graham (2016) for evidence of the positive relation between local satisfaction and firm investment, and Bernstein, Mcquade, and Townsend (2021) who show that risk of personal financial distress reduces innovation at work.

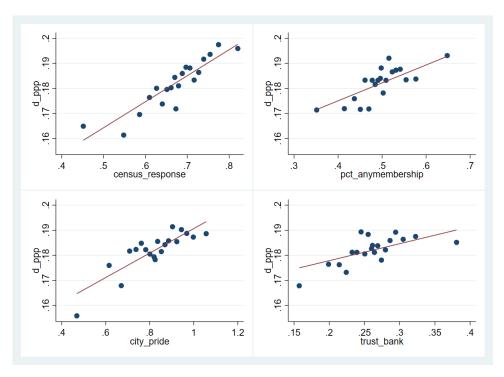


Figure 2: Correlation between Social Capital Measures and the PPP Uptake. This figures shows the bin-scatter plots of the PPP percentage and our social capital measures at the zip code level, controlling for county x industry fixed effects. The social capital measure include (clock-wise) the Census response rate, the percentage of membership, the percentage of residents that feel proud of their city, and the percentage of residents who trust banks for their financial decisions.

and bank access. The effect is about 1.7 times as high as the effect of having a bank branch within 1000 yards of the store. We find that the effect of bank branches is higher in areas of moderate civic capital. By contrast, the effect of social connections is a partial substitute for the proximity of bank branches: with higher connections the addition of a nearby bank has a smaller incremental effect on PPP uptake.

Third, nearby bank branches and high social connections operate through different channels. Proximity to bank branches of non-community banks is particularly beneficial to small businesses in high density and high growth locations with high business turnover. By contrast, community bank branches are associated with higher PPP uptake in less educated and less business-dense areas.

Different components of social capital interact differently with local characteristics in predicting the uptake of PPP. Civic capital has a more significant association with PPP uptake in highly educated neighborhoods with with many stores that are stable with low business turnover. By contrast, the prevalence of local associations has a greater association

with PPP in less store-dense and in minority neighborhoods but is otherwise less sensitive to zip code characteristics.

Interestingly, the association between trust in banks and PPP is greater in areas with few bank branches. It is likely that in such areas a low level of trust makes it harder to justify the higher transactions costs in seeking a loan from a distant bank.

Pride in the local area is particularly associated with PPP in less educated areas growing slowly and in areas with high minority populations. Local trust in banks is also more important in less educated and slow-growing areas. Interestingly, the effect of bank access is less in areas with very low social capital, suggesting that formal financial intermediaries likely perform better when social capital is above a certain level.

Virtual connections on Facebook extend in-person social connections and predict PPP uptake. In particular, higher within county, and especially within-zip virtual connections are associated with large increases in PPP uptake. The effect is highest for larger stores in more affluent, educated, and faster-growing locations. Thus, virtual connections are associated with higher takeup of PPP in already relatively advantaged areas. There is some evidence connections with outside zips are associated with higher PPP in communities with fewer nearby stores and lower education and income levels. As we in-person connections, there is a substitution effect between bank branches and virtual social connection. Interestingly, virtual connections do not affect the relation between in-person social capital and PPP uptake.

Fourth, our methodology enables us to examine the economic effect of bank access and social capital on the demand side in high minority communities. We find that the economic effect of bank proximity is positive in zip codes and census tracts with a higher percentage of minorities, although the absolute effect is quite modest. By contrast, the variation in civic capital in high-minority locations has a larger association with PPP uptake compared to low-minority areas. Interventions that increase social capital by one level, moving the low-social capital group to medium and the medium to high, increase the PPP uptake 4.7 times more in high-minority zips than in low-minority zips.

Our results on social capital can be contrasted to Knack (2002) who finds that civic

capital predicts local government efficiency in the US, but that connectedness does not. In our setting, civic capital is the most important social capital component, but the other components are also positively related to the take up of loans. This difference can be rationalized by the fact that community investment in government quality is a pure public good, whereas PPP loans are a private good. Thus, while a culture of reciprocity may facilitate optimal PPP uptake, weaker ties such as simple information sharing through connectedness and local pride may also do so for some groups.

We also track the uptake of PPP from FinTech lenders as well as banks. We find that all measures of social capital and virtual connections strongly predict uptake from a local bank branch over FinTech. The presence of local bank branches, in contrast, predicts higher PPP rate from both banks and FinTech lenders. These results suggest that virtual connections are unlikely to be a substitute for in-person social capital or physical bank branches in underserved areas.

Small businesses across localities in the US significantly differ in the uptake of net present value risk-free projects, even in the absence of project risk, financial constraints, information asymmetries, or credit risk. Besides the presence of close-by bank branches and predicted effects of income and education, differences in uptake are highly sensitive to differences in social capital. Thus, policies and entrepreneurship research on geographic economic polarization needs to address granular differences in social capital on the demand side as well as the distribution and informational efficiency of financial intermediaries on the supply side.

Overall, the heterogeneity is predicted by demographic factors, access to financial institutions, social capital, and virtual connections. Predictors of economically thriving communities - education, income, dynamism, non-minority population - and social capital have significant explanatory power even for a simple project as a forgivable guaranteed zero-interest loan with minimal underwriting. This finding implies that the solutions for frictions that we observe in local financial markets may not stem only from subtle imperfections of the financial infrastructure, such as how information is processed within banks, but may reflect differences in economic fundamentals across locations.

# 2 Discussion

# 2.1 The Payment Protection Plan

The Payment Protection Plan was a program instituted by the U.S. Federal government to stabilize the economy following the onset of the 2020 Covid pandemic.<sup>5</sup> Specifically, the PPP was intended to facilitate the support of businesses and employees whose normal function was disrupted by the pandemic, the subsequent stay-at-home orders, and the associated production declines. Another goal was to keep workers attached to employers through the pandemic, thereby mitigating organizational capital destruction from mass layoffs.

The PPP enabled small businesses (500 or fewer employees) to take out forgivable loans administered through the federal Small Business Administration (SBA). These loans were guaranteed by the federal government equal up to 2.5 months of average payroll in the prior year, 2019. To qualify for loan forgiveness, at least 75% of the loan had to be used on the payroll. Up to 25% could be used on mortgage interest, rent, and utilities. Originally, borrowers had eight weeks to use the money. Loans that did not meet forgiveness criteria had to be repaid at a 1% interest rate. Over time, Congress created additional forgivable expenses and the covered period was extended to up to 24 weeks. The original appropriation, in early April 2020, was for \$350 billion, and was increased to \$650 billion later that month. The loans were administered through the banking system, with additional non-bank lenders such as FinTech firms. Borrowers were not quantity constrained: when the enrollment period into PPP ended, \$6 billion still remained available. It is noteworthy that in the end almost all small loans were forgiven without routine audits.

To apply to the program, businesses had to complete a two-page application. Businesses also had to provide payroll information for 2019 in the form of either 2019 tax filings or payroll documentation. In addition, borrowers had to provide enough information so that the commercial lenders could comply with the Banks Secrecy Act and Anti Money Laundering requirements. Since the Federal Government guaranteed the loans, lenders did not have to make any decisions based on the perceived creditworthiness of the applicant,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>The next two paragraphs rely heavily on Faulkender, Jackman, and Miran (2021) and Faulkender (2021), which contain further discussion of the institutional framework.

as would be the case with standard commercial loans.

The PPP provides positive net value projects for borrowers. Any business that planned to keep employees on the payroll (up to 2019 levels) could get these employees fully paid for by the Federal Government and use the additional 25% of this amount to pay for rent, utilities, etc. Thus, even if the Covid pandemic reduced demand for a firm's output leading to fewer required workers, the firm should still find it profitable to keep all of its workers and apply for a PPP loan to fund its payroll and other expenses.

Alternatively, it may be optimal for such businesses to lay off some, especially low-wage employees who can benefit more from the unemployment benefit and at the same time to retain high-wage employees, perhaps granting them temporarily higher "hazard" pay during the pandemic to maintain the value of the total payroll at 2019 levels. In this case, in addition to the direct benefit to the business, there would also be an additional financial benefit to employees: higher pay to the employees who remained with the business, and an attractive level of federal government unemployment support for those who were furloughed or let go.

In either case, applying for a PPP loan is a positive NPV strategy for qualifying businesses. The fact that PPP a loan is a non-rivalrous positive NPV opportunity where the dominant strategy for the business is to obtain a loan eliminates the need to model competitive interactions across firms in predicting PPP uptake. However, whether a firm takes advantage of the loan depends on the firm and location characteristics which we investigate.<sup>7</sup>

Our identification strategy depends on two assumptions. First, the same project is presented to firms in all locations. We argue below that PPP's contractual features, together with granular spatial fixed effects, satisfy that requirement. Second, we make the plausible assumption that Covid and PPP shocks were not expected when establishments chose their locations. We use civic capital measures and other locational measures that predate both. It is possible that our estimates may be subject to omitted variable bias - for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>The Federal component of unemployment benefit during the pandemic paid \$600 week. We discuss this further and provide supporting estimates below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Analogously, Bernstein, Colonnelli, Iverson, and Hoffman (2022) show that the lack of knowledge of bankruptcy laws, addressable by the provision of educational materials, lead some firms to fail to take advantage of the provisions of the bankruptcy code.

example, a bank office is located in an area where it is easier for its potential customers to access financial information. The effect of endogenous bank location, if any, is unclear and might depend on the specifics of the banks' location decisions. To mitigate this potential bias, we employ granular fixed effects at the industry x location levels and obtain consistent results at different levels of aggregation - county, zip code, census tract, or census block group.

#### 2.2 Social Capital

The concept of social capital is elaborated by Sander (2015) as "the collective value of all social networks (who people know), and the inclinations that arise from these networks to do things for each other (norms of reciprocity)." As a result, social capital creates "specific benefits that flow from the trust, reciprocity, information, and cooperation associated with social networks...[and] creates value for the people who are connected, and for bystanders as well."

Several studies have found a relation between social capital and economic and financial development, among the first being Guiso, Sapienza, and Zingales (2004) and Knack (2002), and more generally, that local culture predicts entrepreneurship (Barrios et al. (2021)). Our work builds on this earlier literature and argues that locations with high social capital have higher levels of small business dynamism, with small businesses taking advantage of business opportunities at a higher rate. Specifically, we measure high levels of business dynamism by the rate of uptake of PPP across localities.

In our context, there are two main channels through which social capital might, in principle, affect business dynamism across locations. Generalized reciprocity, or civic capital, which Guiso, Sapienza, and Zingales (2011) define as the "set of values and beliefs that help a group overcome the free-rider problem in the pursuit of socially valuable activities", facilitates the directed flow of advice and information and efficient contracting that lead to fast exploitation of investment opportunities. Following Knack (2002) we measure civic capital by the rate of completion of the 2010 Census form by the population

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>See for example, Oberfield, Rossi-Hansberg, Sarte, and Trachter (2020) for the complex trade-offs involved in the location of establishments.

in the location.<sup>9</sup> Filling out the Census form is a public good for the community in that it informs long-term decision making and may increase the flow of federal resources to community members. However, at this same time, it is also subject to the free-rider problem in that it does not offer a direct marginal benefit to individuals. This measure is particularly well suited for our purposes, since completing a Census form and completing a PPP application are very similar activities, the former producing a public good, and the latter a clear private benefit.<sup>10</sup>

A second channel by which social capital facilitates business is information flows across the community through informal associations and connections, even when such associations do not develop civic capital. The commonly used social capital indicators based on Rupasingha, Goetz, and Freshwater (2006) contain several metrics of connectedness and have been used by Chetty et al. (2014) and Barrios et al. (2020).

The informational channel of social connections is likely to assume differential importance depending on the granular aggregation, existence of nearby bank branches, and virtual connections. Bank branches are incentivized to provide information and support to potential clients in their localities. Similarly, information is more likely to flow between stores that are co-located in the same micro-environment. Virtual connections, such as Facebook connections, extend interactions from in-person to online and are also likely to transmit information. Therefore, we predict that all information channels, nearby banks, local social connections, and virtual connections will likely have substantive effects. How these information channels affect different types of stores is an open question that we address below.

Connections through association membership may create reciprocity norms within localities, creating a causal link between civic capital and social connections. To understand the direct role of social network in facilitating information flows unrelated to the creation of reciprocity norms, we proceed in two steps. First, we examine the civic capital and social connections separately within communities, noting whether direct metrics of civic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Using the 2020 Census gives very similar, albeit somewhat stronger, results.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Barrios, Benmelech, Hochberg, Sapienza, and Zingales (2020) use another metric, voter turnout, targeted to picking up civic capital. We use this measure for robustness. The construction of each of our measures is discussed in the data section below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>This "economy of agglomeration" has been studied in the literature, for example, by Arzaghi and Henderson (2008), Glaeser and Gottlieb (2009), and Rosenthal and Strange (2020).

capital add explanatory power. Second, we study online social connectedness between communities, on the maintained hypothesis that such links are less likely to build local civic capital. We contrast the role of virtual connectedness between distant counties and within the county.

We consider two other variables related to the above measures of social capital. First, we assess the extent to which inhabitants of a locality express pride in the locality. Prior work suggests that satisfaction with ones locality is associated with better business outcomes (Chuluun and Graham (2016)). In our context, local pride is related to social capital, in that we expect that it is easier to set up norms of reciprocity and create social bonds in locations where individuals exhibit local pride. However, our measure of civic capital, the completion of the Census form, requires a comparatively more sophisticated understanding of how to translate a positive emotion into a public good. Thus, we expect local pride, while a positive emotion, to have a smaller direct effect on PPP uptake.

Second, we also consider a targeted measure of civic capital, the extent to which inhabitants in a location trust banks. This is of direct relevance, since the PPP program, and most external financing to small businesses are delivered through banks. The higher the trust in banks, the more likely it is that local inhabitants apply for the PPP, resulting in a value-enhancing transaction. Of particular interest is the interaction of this variable with indicators of bank branch proximity. As the distance from a bank branch increases, transactions costs increase and we would expect that individuals with low trust in banks would less likely to explore PPP access.

While we expect higher social capital to predict higher PPP uptake, we expect that each of the components will have a different effect in dissimilar locations and for different size of stores. We discuss these interactions below.

#### 2.3 Literature Review

The spatial heterogeneity of entrepreneurial firm formation and small business outcomes across locations has received a great deal of attention (for example, Moretti (2012), Chatterji et al. (2014), Autor (2020), Lychagin et al. (2016) Fazio et al. (2021), Glaeser et al. (2010). Observers have noted an increase in the polarization of economic opportunities

over time (Economic Innovation Economic Innovation Group (2017)). However, finding an explanation for the observed variation has been challenging.

Guiso, Sapienza, and Zingales (2004), Glaeser, Kerr, and Kerr (2015) and Barrios, Hochberg, and Macciocchi (2021), among others, have connected entrepreneurial outcomes with local culture and social capital in specific contexts creative instruments. This type of analysis is challenging in that as Chatterji et al. (2014) note, "clustering due to natural advantages being empirically difficult to distinguish from clustering due to economic interactions among firms." In particular, it is difficult to separate the effect of location from the value of an investment opportunity at that location. By offering all small businesses across the U.S. the same forgivable PPP loan and using very localized fixed effects, we are able to substantially control for this heterogeneity using large samples of very granular contemporary data.

Multiple aspects of the PPP program have been examined by Faulkender et al. (2021), Granja et al. (2021), Chetty et al. (2020), Bartik et al. (2020a), Bartik et al. (2020b), and Maksimovic and Yang (2021) among others. Our paper differs from this work in that it takes PPP loans as an exogenous positive-NPV loan opportunity available to small enterprises across all locations in the U.S., and studies how social capital, in conjunction with local market characteristics and nearby bank presence, affects the uptake of these projects. Howell et al. (2021) and Chernenko and Scharfstein (2021) examine discrimination in access to PPP for minority owned businesses.

Our work also builds on the extensive literature on the effects of local banks on businesses. Among papers that have addressed explored this issue are Black and Strahan (2002), Cetorelli and Strahan (2006), Gilje (2019), Guiso et al. (2004), and Kerr and Nanda (2009). Several papers (Agarwal and Hauswald (2010), Nguyen (2019), Laderman (2008), and Amel and Brevoort (2005), among others) find that most small businesses borrow from nearby bank branches. Erel and Liebersohn (2020) have looked at the substitution of FinTech for local banks in the context of PPP loans. Consistent with this literature, we show that the presence of small banks in the neighborhood facilitates PPP uptake and then show the interactions with social capital.

Agarwal and Hauswald (2010), Nguyen (2019), Laderman (2008), and Amel and Brevoort

(2005), among others, find that most small businesses borrow from nearby banks. This pattern suggests that being distant from retail banking locations can be costly. In measuring uptake across locations, we control for the proximity of bank branches. Our granular data enables us to control for bank branch location very precisely (e.g., below we use gradations such as "within 200 yards"), to classify banks across different categories, and to observe lending prior relationships using SBA-guaranteed loans.

The provision of banking services, and in particular the proximity of bank branches and its effect on economic outcomes in underserved and minority communities has received a great deal of attention (Friedline, Despard, and Birkenmaier, 2018). Celerier and Matray (2019) and Brown, Cookson and Heimer (2019) point to the benefits realized by policy initiatives that promote bank services in underserved communities. By contrast, Begley and Purnandam (2021) and Agarwal, Benmelech, Bergman, and Seru (2012) identify possible negative unintended consequences, such as misselling, of mandated increases in the provision of financial services to such localities. Since the location of bank branches was given prior to PPP, our study the effect of the proximity of bank branches on the uptake of a particular product is not associated with bank's decision to enter a market or potential gains from misselling.

In contrast to most existing studies on bank lending to small businesses, banks that process PPP loans do not assume credit risk. Thus, critical issues such as the use of hard and soft information in underwriting and information asymmetry are not directly relevant, and our analysis can abstract from customer and client financial liquidity and creditworthiness. As agents, banks play an informational role in this market. We can thus contrast the role of social capital in localities with the role of profit-motivated financial intermediaries in predicting the take up of PPP loans. We can also compare local financial intermediaries with FinTech loan providers.

Our paper focuses on the investment by small retail businesses. There is a large literature that shows how the constraints facing small businesses firms differ from those facing larger firms (Beck, Demirgüç-Kunt, and Maksimovic (2005), Schoar (2009), Haltiwanger, Jarmin, and Miranda (2013), Alesina and Giuliano (2015)). More broadly, Decker, Haltiwanger, Jarmin, and Miranda (2016), Ayyagari and Maksimovic (2017) and Astebro, Braguinsky,

and Ding (2020) discuss declines in business dynamism in the U.S.

# 3 Data

#### 3.1 SafeGraph data

We construct our sample of small retail businesses using data from SafeGraph. SafeGraph collects GPS location information from 45 million mobile devices, about 10% of total devices in the United States, whose users have opted into an app and given permission for their location to be tracked. All physical locations people can visit with the exception of private residences are recorded and defined as "points of interest" (POIs) by Safegraph. SafeGraph provides baseline information for 6 million commercial POIs within the U.S., including location name, street address, geographic coordinates, industry classification (6-digit NAICS code) and categorical coding, open hours, brand, and other business attributes. SafeGraph also updates granular information on raw counts of visits to POIs from mobile location data panel weekly, answering how often people visit, how long they stay, where they live, where else they go, among other things. Thus, we can observe the nearly real-time establishment-level foot traffic of businesses and the neighborhood in which they are located.

SafeGraph data covers a variety of sectors such as retail trade, accommodation, food services, educational services, health care, manufacturing and more. In this paper, our primary interest is in consumer-facing sectors, namely, retail (NAICS code 44-45), arts, entertainment, and recreation (NAICS code 71), accommodation and food services (NAICS code 72), and other services (NAICS code 82). For the primary analysis in the paper, we focus on establishments in 20 industries (4-digit NAICS) that usually operate as a brick-and-mortar store and rely on foot traffic. A list of industries and the sample distribution can be found in Panel A of Table 1.

To reduce measurement error, we drop stores that recorded no more than 10 total visits in January 2020. We exclude brand stores given our focus on independent retail stores and drop stores whose last nonzero visit week is earlier than the PPP launch date for potential closures before the pandemic. Our final sample includes more than 1.2 million stores in

over 14,000 zip codes (over 2,800 counties) across all 50 states and Washington D.C. Table

1 Panel B presents the distribution of stores in our final sample by state. Figure 3 Panel

A presents a heat map of our sample coverage at the county level.

Figure 3: [INSERT FIGURE HERE]

We use store-level weekly foot traffic data from 2018 to 2020 to capture key store and

neighborhood characteristics, including size, growth trend, and the magnitude of shock

experienced during the COVID pandemic. For our analysis, we use relative foot traffic,

which is measured as the log difference of the same-store visits relative to the same week

a year ago to avoid any potential seasonal bias.

Table 1: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

Matching PPP Data at the Store Level 3.2

We obtain loan-level PPP data released by the Small Business Administration (SBA). The

data provide borrower information, including business name, street address and NAICS

categorical coding; loan information, including approval date and loan amount; and lender

information, including the names of the financial institutions that facilitated the loan

application and distribution.

We then match the borrowers of PPP loans with stores in SafeGraph using an algorithm

optimizing a similarity metric that compares business name, street address, geographic

coordinates, and NAICS codes. We first clean the data by removing all punctuation and

common suffixes in the business names, expanding all commonly used street suffix or

abbreviations in both data sets, and geocoding the street addresses of PPP borrowers

to find the latitude and longitude. We join data sets to see all possible matches based

on industry and a broad geographic category. This step is meant to generate a relatively

large but noisy set of candidates, proving the next step with as much scope as possible

to find the match. To disambiguate the noisy matches, we conduct the TF-IDF fuzzy

string matching to calculate the similarity score for each pair of business names and street

names. To find the best match, we combine the string similarity of names and addresses

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with other information, including NAICS code, street number, zip code, and geographic distance. Since the name of a business used to apply for PPP loans is not necessarily the same as the store name, we assign higher weights on the location information. We conduct multiple rounds of matching to find the best match and manually check the matching quality with a randomly-selected subsample. We provide more details on the match in the Appendix.

Figure 3 Panel B presents a heat map of the PPP uptake ratio at the county level. To quantify the matching rate, we compare the number of SafeGraph stores matched to the PPP data with the total number of PPP loans reported by the SBA at the zip code level. We take the ratio of their difference to the total number of stores from the SafeGraph as the non-match rate. In our final sample, the deviation (non-matched rate) is about 16%. Considering PPP loans reported by the SBA include the loans given to businesses without foot traffic, such as sole proprietors, independent contractors, and self-employed, making them unlikely to be tracked by SafeGraph, the non-match rate is reasonable. As a robustness check, we re-run our main regressions in a subsample of zip codes, in which, the average non-matched rate is 8% (i.e., best-matched sample) and find very similar results. The results are reported in the Appendix Table A6.

We also collect data on Unemployment Insurance claims in each locality from state government websites  $^{12}$ .

#### 3.3 Bank Access

We match the PPP lenders to bank identifiers in the Call Reports from the FDIC website by name and address. We classify large banks as those with total assets of more than \$1 billion by the end of 2019 and use the community bank identifier from the Call reports. Following Erel and Liebersohn (2020), we define FinTech lenders as the non-depository financial institutions and depository financial institutions with only one branch.

To identify nearby banks, we use the Summary of Deposits (SOD) from the FDIC, which lists branch office locations, their reported deposits as of June 30 each year, holding company or institution, and geographic location. We use the geo-coded address provided

 $<sup>^{12}</sup> https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/LMID/UI\_Claims.html$ 

in the SOD to calculate the distance between bank branches and stores in our sample and locate bank branches within a radius of 200, 500, or 1000 yards from the focal store (D\_Bank200, D\_Bank500, D\_Bank1000.) Faulkender et al. (2021) show that community banks played an important role in PPP lending. So, we also identify local community bank branch within a radius of 200, 500, or 1000 yards from the focal store (D\_CBank200, D\_CBank500, D\_CBank1000). In our sample, about 66% of stores have access to bank branches within 1000 yards, and 23% of stores have at least one bank branch within 200 yards. Not surprisingly, the percentage is the highest in urban areas and the lowest in rural and small towns. We also aggregate the banking measures at the Census Block Group, Census tract zip code, and county levels.

To capture the local lending environment for small businesses, we obtain data on small business lending from the 7(a) Loan Program, SBA's most common loan program, in the past three years (from 2017 to 2019). Using the geo-coded address of loan recipients, we calculate the percentage of local businesses (within 200 or 500 yards of our focal store) that received SBA loans (Pct of SBA Loans (200 yards) and Pct of SBA(500 yards))<sup>13</sup>. On average, about 6.4 percent of 200-yd peers have received at least one SBA loan in the last three years.

# 3.4 Social Capital Measures

We measure the civic capital by the rate of completion of Census forms by individuals following Knack (2002). Completing a Census form is an act of cooperation that is costly to an individual but is beneficial to the locality. As a result, an individual has a private incentive to free-ride by not completing a form. We collect the tract-level census response rate directly from the Census Bureau's website.<sup>14</sup>. To measure the response rate at the zip code level, we use the tract-to-zip mapping by residential ratio to allocate the census-responding population in each tract to corresponding zips. Then we aggregate the census-responding population at the zip level and divide the number by the total population in

 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$ To calculate the percentage, we first match local recipient reported by SBA with stores in our sample using similar algorithms as that used to match PPP loan borrowers. The percentage is calculated as the ratio between the number of stores that received SBA loans and the total number of stores in the SafeGraph)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2010/dec/2010-participation-rates.html, https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/decennial-response-rates/2020.html

the zip code.

An alternative measure for civic capital is voter turnover rate. Voter turnout at the zip code level is not directly available. Therefore, we construct the zip-level measure using presidential precinct data for the 2020 general election from Upshot. Specifically, we obtain the coordinates describing the precinct boundaries using the nationwide precinct map and the coordinates describing the zip boundaries using the nationwide zip code map. We then aggregate the number of election returns from the precinct level to the zip level, and estimate the zip-level voter turnout rate by taking the ratio of total votes to the voting-age population (VAP) reported by the US Census. Census.

We measure social connections among individuals within the community using (1) the percentage of residents that participate in local civic, business, or sports associations, (2) the percentage of residents with any religious affiliation, and (3) the percentage of residents that participate in Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA). Putnam (1995) and Chetty et al. (2014) use the fraction of religious individuals as a proxy for social capital, and the PTA participation rate is used as a proxy for social capital in Putnam (2001). We collect these measures from SimmonsLOCAL Consumer Survey in 2018 at the zip code level using samples of about 30,000 participants.<sup>17</sup> We expect to see a higher PPP rate in areas with greater social connections.

In addition, we consider two other variables related to the social capital mentioned above.

First, we assess the extent to which local residents express pride in their community (City\_Pride) using responses from the Gallup Daily Tracking Survey. Chuluun and Graham (2016) find that the average local happiness is positively related to R&D intensity and firm investment and attribute their finding to a higher level of satisfaction and happiness. Second, we consider a targeted measure of civic capital, the extent to which residents

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>http://www.nytimes.com/upshot

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>The precinct boundaries are in generally very accurate but can be rough in no- or very-low-population places like business parks or uninhabited rural land, and therefore we also winsorize the zip-level total votes to reduce the influence of outliers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>We calculate the percentage of association participation using the response to three questions: "Do you belong to any civic clubs?", "Do you belong to any business clubs?" and "Do you belong to any sports associations?" For religious affiliation, we use the response to the survey question, "Do you belong to any church, temple, synagogue, mosque?" For the PTA membership, we use the response to the survey question "Do you belong to the PTA?"

in a location trust banks (Trust\_of\_banks) using survey responses from Simmons LOCAL Consumer Insights. Since banks are the primary facilitator of PPP loans, we expect areas with stronger trust towards banks to experience higher PPP uptake.

Figure 4 presents the geographic distribution of our four principal social capital measures, including the census response rate (Census Response Rate), the percentage of residents who participate in local associations (Pct. of Membership), the percentage of residents that feel proud of the city (City Pride), and the percentage of residents that trust banks (Trust of Banks). There is a significant amount of heterogeneity across counties. The pairwise correlation among these measures ranges from 27 to 38 percent.

Figure 4: [INSERT FIGURE HERE]

Virtual connections extend social interactions from in-person to online and are likely to transmit information. We obtain Facebook Social Connectedness Index from the Humanitarian Data Exchange. With 1.96 million daily active users in North America, Facebook is the biggest social networking platform. The index is constructed using a snapshot of Facebook users and their friendship networks to measure the intensity of connectedness between locations. Locations are assigned to users based on their information and activity on Facebook, including the stated city on their Facebook profile, and device and connection information. We focus on Social Connectedness Index at the zip-pair level.

#### 3.5 Other Data Sources

Our primary specification include county-industry fixed effects, so we obtain local characteristics at the zip code level from the Census Bureau. We use Zip Business Patterns (ZBP) to measure annual statistics for businesses, including the number of establishments, total employment, and total annual payroll, and use the American Community Survey (ACS) for information on population, median household income, the number of households, age composition, education levels, minority rate, and unemployment rate. We also use the Business Dynamics Statistics (BDS) to get annual measures of business dynamism, including

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>https://data.humdata.org/dataset/social-connectedness-index

 $<sup>^{19}</sup>$  https://s21.q4cdn.com/399680738/files/doc\_financials/2021/q3/FB-Earnings-Presentation-Q3-2021.pdf

job creation and destruction, establishment births and deaths, and firm startups and

shutdowns. We define business turnover as the sum of the percentage of entry and the

percentage of exit. The BDS data is only available at the county level. For some of the

analysis, we control for more granular demographic information at the census-tract level

using data from the American Community Survey (ACS).

Table 2 presents the summary statistics of variables used in the paper.

Table 2: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

We standardize all variables to have the mean as zero and the standard deviation as

one.

Main Results  $\mathbf{4}$ 

County-Level Results 4.1

First, we present some initial evidence at the county level. Figure 5 shows the scatter

plot between the rate of PPP uptake and county characteristics. Counties with higher

education, lower poverty rate, low employment rate, higher income, more banks, and higher

business entry and exit rates take more PPP loans. The general pattern is consistent with

the hypothesis that businesses in localities with better access to information and more

business turnover also participate more in the positive-NPV PPP project offered during

the pandemic.

Figure 1 shows that country x industry fixed effects explain about 4.5% of the variations

in store-level PPP uptake. For the rest of the paper, we will include county x industry fixed

effects, unless otherwise specified. Thus, we control for variations at the county level and

focus on the effect of demographics, access to financial intermediaries, and social capital

at a more granular level.

Figure 5: [INSERT FIGURE HERE]

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#### 4.2 Neighborhood Effect

We define a neighborhood as a micro business environment (within a radius between 200 and 1000 yards) that surrounds the focal store. For each neighborhood, we measure the size - number of stores (Ln(# of Stores)), the density - the average number of visitors in 2019 (Ln(Avg Visits)), and the composition - the percentage of brand stores (Pct of Brand Stores). We also calculate changes in foot traffic for neighboring stores at the beginning of the pandemic (Chg\_Visits\_Peers) to control for the impact of Covid on the immediate surroundings.<sup>20</sup>

We include several variables to control for characteristics at the zip-code level, including population density (Pop Density), the number of households (Ln(# of Households)), the number of business establishments (Ln (# of Estabs)), the median income (Ln(Median Income)), the percentage of minorities (Pct of Minorities), and the percentage of residents with at least a college degree (Pct of Edu\_BA). We also use four indicator variables to represent the market segment of the zip code (D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2ndCity, and D\_Rural).

We also control for store characteristics. Large stores may have better access to information and resources and thus are more likely to receive PPP. We measure store size using its average foot traffic in 2019. Stores that were hit harder at the onset of the pandemic and stores on a positive growth trajectory before the pandemic may be in greater need of capital. So we include year-to-year changes in foot traffic at the beginning of the pandemic (in March) (Chg\_Visits\_Self) and changes in foot traffic last year from 2018 to 2019 (Chg\_Visits\_LastYr). Table 3 presents our findings.

Table 3 column 2 shows that stores located in less-densely populated zip codes with fewer minorities receive more PPP loans. Stores in higher-income and higher-education zip codes received more PPP loans. Stores in residential zip codes are more likely, while stores in business zip codes are less likely to receive PPP loans. Towns and rural areas have more PPP uptake compared to urban or suburban zip codes. Turning to characteristics of the immediate neighborhood, we find that stores located in busier neighborhoods with more stores and higher per-store foot traffic receive more PPP loans. The finding here on

 $<sup>^{20}\</sup>mathrm{We}$  measure changes in total foot traffic in March from 2019 to 2020.

high PPP likelihood in high-traffic area is consistent with the information channel whereby storekeepers learn from their neighbours.<sup>21</sup> PPP uptake is also higher if the immediate neighborhood has more brand stores. One possibility is that managers of nearby brand

stores may receive information about financing opportunities from their headquarters and

that filters through to nearby non-brand stores. In addition, Maksimovic and Yang (2021)

show that neighborhoods with more brand stores are premium locations with different

stores and consumers.

Store characteristics also matter for PPP uptake. As expected, large stores and stores

on growing trajectories before Covid are more likely to get PPP. Not surprisingly, there is

a significant correlation between Covid impact and PPP loans. Stores that were harder hit

at the beginning of the pandemic are more likely to receive PPP loans. Interestingly, we

do not find the initial Covid impact of peer stores having a significant effect on the PPP

uptake of the focal store.

Table 3: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

4.3 The Role of Banking

Unlike standard small-business loans, banks that process PPP loans do not assume credit

risk. Therefore, in our context, local bank branches serve as the medium of information

about PPP loans and agents to process the loans without the need to evaluate creditworthiness

of the borrower. There is considerable evidence that most small businesses borrow locally.

Agarwal and Hauswald (2010) estimate that the firm's median distance to the lending

branch is under three miles. Laderman (2008) finds that approximately 90 percent of

small business lending is from banks with branches in the local market using filings from

the Community Reinvestment Act. We expect that access to local banks is associated with

higher PPP uptake. Table 4 provides our findings.

Table 4: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

<sup>21</sup>Maksimovic and Yang (2021) show that there is a strong peer effect in PPP uptake through the

information channel.

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We find a strong bank effect in PPP uptake. Having access to a local bank branch significantly increases the likelihood that a store will receive PPP loans, and the effect is stronger the closer the branch is to the store. For example, stores with at least one bank branch within 200 yards experience a 9.3 percent higher probability of receiving PPP loans relative to the sample mean, controlling for local and store characteristics. In comparison, the effect is about half (5.2 percent) if the bank branch is between 200 and 500 yards and one-third (2.7 percent) if the branch is between 500 and 1000 yards.

Community bank branches provide an additional boost in PPP uptake. The marginal effect of having a community bank branch in the nearby micro-environment is more than half of the general bank branch effect.

We also find that exposure to prior small business lending increases the likelihood of PPP uptake. A store is more likely to receive PPP when neighboring stores had borrowed more SBA loans in the past. One standard deviation increase in the previous SBA loan exposure increases the PPP likelihood by 4.5 percent relative to the sample mean, controlling for bank locations. Interestingly, exposure to finance professionals, even in a non-business setting, is positively related to PPP uptake. A store is more likely to receive PPP if it is in a census tract with a higher percentage of finance professionals. Thus, our findings suggest that physical access to local bank branches and previous experiences in getting business loans both help stores receive PPP loans during the pandemic. Our estimates are robust when we include zip code x industry instead of county x industry fixed effects.

How does the bank effect vary by store or local characteristics? In Table 5, we interact bank indicators (D\_Bank\_1000 and D\_CBank1000) with store, neighborhood, zip, and county characteristics.<sup>22</sup> We find that small stores that grew fast before Covid benefit more from nearby bank branches. The evidence is consistent with the idea that small, high-growth firms are more likely to be financially constrained due to limited access to financing and high demand for capital. Recall that large stores are more likely to receive PPP loans on average. Thus, our finding here suggests that access to local bank branches helps mitigate the gap of receiving PPP loans between small and large stores. We also find

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>Results are qualitatively similar when we further separate banks by 200, 500, or 1000 yards.

that local bank branches are more important for stores in high-traffic neighborhoods.

Faulkender et al. (2021) show that community banks play a pivotal role in facilitating PPP loans, especially early in the program. We also find that community banks are more beneficial in low-traffic areas and areas with low education levels. This finding is consistent with the consensus that community banks help serve remote areas. On the other hand, at first glance, our estimation appears that community banks benefit more large stores, although banks in general, are more beneficial to small stores. However, further exploration shows that the effect is only present in cases where the community bank is the only bank in the zip code. For community banks that co-exist with other banks, consistent with the

general bank indicator, the interaction of store size and the community bank indicator is

marginally negative.

In Panel B, we show that zip codes with lower education levels and more minorities, both of which are shown to have less exposure to PPP loans, benefit more from local bank branches. In addition, bank access is more beneficial to stores in zip codes with higher business turnover. Finally, conditional on bank access with any bank, access to community banks provides additional benefits to low-education zip codes. Taken together, our findings suggest that local bank branches help promote PPP loans for stores and communities that have higher demand or less access to financing.

Table 5: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

#### 4.4 Social Capital

#### 4.4.1 Main Effects

As discussed in Section 2, we focus on two channels through which social capital could affect small business dynamism, such as the uptake of PPP - the generalized reciprocity or civic capital as defined by Guiso et al. (2011), and the information facilitation through connections and social network as defined by Putnam (2001). Civic capital facilitates the directed flow of advice and information to benefit individual shopkeepers, and ultimately, benefit the community through spillovers, while social connections facilitate business information flow through information association and connections. In addition, residents who are more

satisfied with their localities may provide business opportunities and those have more trust in banks may be more likely to apply for PPP loans. We use measures from all four social capital components - the census response rate for civic capital, the percentage of membership for social connections, the percentage of residents with city pride for local satisfaction, and the percentage of residents who trust banks for trust.

In Table 6, we estimate the effect of social capital on PPP uptake in a regression setting, controlling for store and neighborhood characteristics, bank access, and county x industry fixed effects. We standardize all measures to have a mean of zero and a standard deviation of one, so the coefficient can be interpreted as the economic effect given one standard deviation increase of the corresponding social capital measure.

We find that all four social capital measures (census response rate, the percentage of membership, city pride, and trust of banks) are positively correlated with the PPP, individually or collectively. The census response rate, a measure of civic capital, has the biggest economic magnitude. One standard deviation increase in the census response rate increases the PPP uptake by 5.1 percent of the sample mean. The effect is almost twice as big as having a bank branch within 1000 yards of the store. Column 5 includes all four social capital measures in the regression. All coefficients remain positive significant at 5 percent level. Collectively, one standard deviation in the social capital increases the PPP uptake by 1.5 percentage points (7.8 percent of sample mean and 25% of the standard deviation of PPP percentage across zip codes<sup>23</sup>), controlling for county x industry fixed effects.

#### Table 6: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

For brevity, we only include one variable from each social capital category in Table 6. Figure 6 presents the estimated coefficients for alternative measures of social capital using the same specification as that used in Table 6, including voter participation and charity donation for civic capital, percentage of residents who are religious and percentage of residents participating in the Parent-Teacher Association for social connections, and percentage of residents who think highly of their communities and feel safe in their communities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>The mean of PPP is 19% and the standard deviation of PPP percentage across zip codes is 6.38%.

for local pride. All of the variables exhibit a positive association with PPP uptake, with the census response rate having the largest economic effect.

# Figure 6: [INSERT FIGURE HERE]

In unreported tables, we re-estimate our specification using the social capital index used in Rupasingha et al.  $(2006)^{24}$ . Since all factors are measured at the county level, we include state x industry instead of county x industry fixed effects and include additional county-level control variables, including median income, population density, changes in population in the last decade, the percentage of population by age group, the education level, unemployment rate, and crime rate. We find a positive relation between social capital and PPP uptake while the estimated coefficient for social capital has a smaller magnitude than that from the zip-level analysis presented in Table 6, suggesting that most of the variation is driven by variation at the more granular level.

As a robustness check, we exclude zip codes with a high percentage of vacant homes for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use- and might thus be associated with low Census response rates. The local businesses in these areas where residents only visit seasonally may differ from typical businesses and thus may not apply for PPP loans. We construct a subsample of stores in the zip codes with no more than 0.5% percentage vacant homes and rerun our main specification on this subsample. We find qualitatively similar results. Appendix Table A4 Column 2 presents our results.

#### 4.4.2 Social Capital and Bank Access

So far, we showed that bank access and social capital help promote the PPP uptake, a positive NPV project. But, do these two factors interact with each other? Are they complements or substitutes? In this section, we examine the potential interplay between social capital and bank access. Specifically, we are interested in investigating whether local access to banks have heterogeneous effects in areas endowed with different levels of social capital.

We use the indicator of bank branch within 1000 yards (D\_Bank\_1000) to measure local

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>https://aese.psu.edu/nercrd/community/social-capital-resources

bank access and sort zip codes into three equal-sized groups - low, medium, and high using the social capital measure. We then construct dummy variables for each group and include their interaction terms with the local bank indicator. The low social capital group is treated as the benchmark in regressions. We use all four social capital measures individually for this test. Table 7 presents our results.

#### Table 7: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

Column 1 examines the effect of the civic capital, proxied by the census response rate. Both bank access and high social capital remain to be positively associated with the PPP rate. We find a positive interaction between the census response rate and the local bank access indicator, suggesting that civic capital and formal financial institutions are complements. Interestingly, the interaction is only significant at the 1 percent level for zip codes with medium social capital but is not statistically different from zero for the high civic capital group. One possibility is that since the PPP uptake is significantly higher in high civic capital areas, proximity to banks makes little difference at the margin. On the other hand, the benefit of locating near a bank branch is significantly higher for medium-than low-civic capital areas. The non-monotonicity of the interaction term suggests that formal financial intermediaries likely perform better, in the context of PPP, when civic capital is in a certain band.

In contrast, we find a substitution effect between social connections and bank access. Column 2 shows that the benefit from having a local bank branch decreases with social connections (proxied by the percentage of residents that belong to any associations). The marginal effect of a local bank branch is about four times higher in zip codes with low social connections than in zip codes with high social connections. Our finding suggests that a stronger social network can help mitigate the information disadvantage in neighborhoods without formal financial intermediaries.

We showed in the previous section that when residents have more trust in banks, the area has a higher PPP uptake. This is not surprising since the PPP loans are facilitated by banks. Column 4 shows that the benefit from local bank access is lower when residents have a higher trust of banks, suggesting a substituting effect between trust of banks and

local bank access. It is likely that when individuals trust banks, they are more likely to work with more distant banks to apply for PPP loans, despite higher transaction costs.

On the other hand, we do not find any significant interaction between local pride and bank access. For robustness check, we also repeat the analysis using continuous measures of social capital (instead of the categories) and find similar results. The results can be found in Appendix Table A1.

#### 4.4.3 Cross-Sectional Effects

Next, we examine the differential effect of civic capital across the store, neighborhood, and zip characteristics in Table 8. We use measures from all four civic capital components - the census response rate for civic capital, the percentage of membership for social connections, the percentage of residents with city pride for local satisfaction, and the percentage of residents who trust banks for trust. Similar to the previous section, we use dummy variables to indicate the level of social capital, Low, Medium, and High. The Low level of social capital is treated as the benchmark in regressions. Table 8 presents our results.

# Table 8: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

Social capital, collectively, benefits large, low-growth stores in areas with lower business turnover. This is in clear contrast with bank access, which was shown to be more beneficial to small high-growth stores in more dynamic business areas. On the other hand, similar to bank access, social capital is more beneficial to stores located in low-education and more ethnically-diverse neighborhoods.

Looking at each component of social capital separately, we find that it is medium civic capital that has the greatest interplay with demographic characteristics. Increasing the store density in the neighborhood, increasing the education level, and increasing the ethnicity diversity, are associated with greater increases of PPP in medium civic capital zips than in low or high civic capital zips. On the other hand, the social connectedness through local associations benefits stores in communities with fewer neighbors, fewer minorities (thus more homophily), and less business turnover.

We find that stores in high-traffic areas benefit more from civic capital and local pride,

while a strong social network has a greater effect on neighborhoods with fewer stores. The latter suggests that strong social connections compensate for having fewer peers in the neighborhood by promoting information flow within the community through informal association and connections. We find pride in the local area is particularly associated with PPP in less educated areas that are growing slowly and in areas with high minority populations. Local trust in banks is also more important in less educated and slow-growing areas.<sup>25</sup>

# 4.4.4 More Granular Analysis at the Census Tract Level

In this section, we perform analyses on civic capital at the census tract level. Census tracts are small statistical subdivisions that have a population size between 1,200 and 8,000 people, with a targeted size of 4,000 people<sup>26</sup>. The more granular level allows us to focus on localities that are homogeneous in culture and business environment. However, of the four social capital measures, only the civic capital measure, census response rate, is available at the tract level. We obtain demographic information at the census tract level from the ACS.

Table 9 column 1 repeats the analysis in Table 6 column 1, confirming our previous finding that social capital is positively related to the rate of PPP. The estimated coefficients are similar in magnitude between zip-level and tract-level analysis. Column 2 focuses on the interaction between civic capital and local access. Again, we find consistent results as that from the zip-level analysis (Table 7) such that benefits from local bank access are higher for zip codes in the medium-social-capital group. Columns 3 to 8 repeat our analyses in Table 8. Again, we find qualitatively similar results, using tract- or zip-code level variables on civic capital.

Table 9: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>We repeat the analysis on cross-sectional effects of social capital using the continuous measures and find consistent results. The tables are reported in Appendix Table A2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/about/glossary.html

#### 4.5 Discussion and Policy Implications

The proximimity of bank branches affects small business outcomes (Agarwal and Hauswald (2010), Nguyen (2019), and Qi, De Haas, Ongena, and Straetmans (2019)) has attracted a great deal of attention from policymakers. In particular, Birkenmaier, Despard, and Friedline (2018)), Celerier and Matray (2019) and Brown, Cookson, and Heimer (2019) point to the advantages of policy initiatives that promote bank services in underserved and minority communities. By contrast, Begley and Purnanandam (2021) and Agarwal, Benmelech, Bergman, and Seru (2012) identify possible negative unintended consequences, such as misselling, of mandated increases in the provision of financial services to such localities. Our analysis of the PPP program provides a counterpoint to these these studies and enables us to examine the effect of bank access on the demand side. Taking the incidence of bank branches as given, we analyze the increase in the take-up of regulated standard loans where banks acts as the government's agents, and do not impose their own underwriting criteria or internal incentives. Thus, we can study the effect of the proximity of bank branches on the uptake of a particular product that was not associated with bank's decision to enter a market or with the bank's potential gains from misselling.

We estimate the economic effects of civic capital and bank access on the PPP uptake. First, we sort all zip codes into 3x3 groups based on the census response rate (3 groups) and the average local bank access (measured as the percentage of stores with at least one bank within 1000 yards) (3 groups). Next, we use the estimated coefficients from Table 7 Panel A to compute marginal economic effects for all groups, with the baseline group containing zip codes that rank the lowest by civic capital and local bank access.

Figure 7: [INSERT FIGURE HERE]

Figure 7 shows that civic capital and local bank access are both associated with higher PPP uptake. Moving up one group in civic capital is related to an increase of 0.5 to 1 percentage point in PPP uptake, while for a given level of civic capital, moving up the groups for local bank access has a more modest effect, with the effect being the highest when civic capital is in the medium category. We also observe a weak correlation between civic capital and bank access. Zip codes with more local bank access tend to have higher

civic capital. However, the effect is very modest.

Next, we examine whether the role of local bank access and social capital varies from low to high-minority zip codes. First, we sort all zip codes into 3x3 groups based on the percentage of minorities (3 groups) and the average local bank access (measured as the percentage of stores with at least one bank within 1000 yards) (3 groups). Then, We estimate a model similar to that in Table 7, but to categorize the percentage of minorities and access to banks at the zip level. The regression results are presented in Appendix Table A4. The average percentages of minorities in the three groups, low, medium, and high are 6.2%, 18.7%, and 50.4%, respectively. Lastly, we use the estimated coefficients to compute the economic effects, The baseline group contains zip codes that rank the lowest by local bank access and the highest by the percentage of minorities.

Figure 8 Panel A presents the economic effect of bank access by individual stores, aggregated to the zip level, with the zips categorized by different minority levels and bank access. For zips in medium- and high-minority groups, greater local access leads to higher PPP uptake, especially for zip codes with low bank access. At the same time, the effect is flat for low-minority zips. Given that the PPP uptake is significantly higher in low-minority zip codes than in the other two groups, the marginal effect of local bank access may be small given other local characteristics (education, income, etc.)

# Figure 8: [INSERT FIGURE HERE]

Figure 8 Panel B presents the economic effect of civic capital across zip codes with different percentage of minorities. As before, we sort all zip codes into 3x3 groups based on the percentage of minorities (3 groups) and the census response rate (3 groups) and estimate the economic effects of variation in civic capital levels and the percentage of minorities. Here, we see a consistent pattern across all groups that higher civic capital is related to higher PPP uptake, and the effect is stronger for high-minority zips. For example, moving from low to medium civic capital group is related to an increase in PPP uptake of 0.7 percentage point for the low-minority zips, but the same movement is associated with an increase of 1.6 percentage points for high-minority group, about 9.5% of the predicted mean for the low civic-capital and the high-minority zips.

There is a significant negative relation between our civic capital measure and the percentage of minorities. 57% of the zip codes in the low-minority group are in the high civic capital group, but for high-minority group, only 8% of the zip codes are in the high civic capital group. Using the point estimates and the population distribution shown in Figure 8, we find that the impact of moving one level up in civic capital to PPP uptake is 4.7 times greater in the high-minority group than in the low-minority group.<sup>27</sup> Thus, higher civic capital is associated with positive-NPV investment opportunities, and the effect is more pronounced in high-minority area.

We repeat our analysis in Figure 8 at the census tract level (instead of the zip code level) with five groups in (instead of three) and find qualitatively similar results. Figure A1 in the Appendix presents our findings.

We caution that while the empirical finding of a stronger relation between our civic capital measure and PPP uptake in higher minority communities is clear, its interpretation for policy is complex given the historical and sociological context.<sup>28</sup> In particular, the fact that uptake of PPP is higher in locations with high civic capital areas in no way contradicts findings that there is discrimination against minority applicants, as in Howell et. al. (2021).

Taken together, these results point to a rather low payoff from increasing bank penetration in most locations, and higher payoffs from initiatives that might assist in social cohesion and increases in civic capital.

#### 4.6 Virtual Connections

In the section 4.4, our results indicate a positive association between PPP uptake and social connections. The social environment in which a person lives expands far beyond local neighborhoods. Thus, social capital expressing the existence of social relations and values, emerges in virtual connections. In this section, we turn to study the role of virtual social ties in explaining PPP uptake, and explore the interaction of virtual connections

 $<sup>^{27}</sup>$  The effects of moving one category up in civic capital are (0.7%, 0.5%, 0%) for low-minority group and (1.6%, 1.1%, 0%) for high-minority group. The distribution low-, medium, and high civic capital is (14%, 29%, 57%) for low-minority group and (56%, 36%, 8%). The population effect of moving up one category equals 0.23% (0.7%  $\times$  14% + 0.5%  $\times$  29% + 0%  $\times$  57%) and 1.31% (1.6%  $\times$  56% + 1.1%  $\times$  36% + 0%  $\times$  8%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>For a review of on-going research analyzing the origins of trust differences across ethnically diverse communities see, for example, Meer and Tolsma (2014).

with attributes of the local community a store is located in. We also investigate to what extent the explanatory power of social capital shown in the Section 4.4 might change when we explicitly control for the channel of virtual social connections.

The measures of virtual connections we use are based on Facebook friendship network. Facebook has become an online social platforms for more than a billion users, which makes it a good proxy for people's virtual network. Prior research by Bailey, Cao, Kuchler, Stroebel, and Wong (2018) introduced a Facebook-based measure of social connectedness, the Social Connectedness Index (SCI), and made the data publicly available. We utilize the version of SCI representing the relative frequency of Facebook friendship links between every zip-pair in the United States. We calculate the social connection measure for each zip code using SCI standardized by population. Specifically,

$$Connections_i = \frac{\sum_j (Facebook\ Connections_{i,j})}{Population_i} \tag{1}$$

We also measure the virtual links with zip codes within the same county (inside-county connections) and the link with zip codes in other counties (outside-county connections), adjusting for population. We further divide the inside-county connections into inside-zip connections and connections with other zips in the same county.

$$Inside\ Connections_i = \frac{Facebook\ Connections_{i,i}}{Population_i} \tag{2}$$

$$Outside\ Connections_i = \frac{\sum_{j \neq i} (Facebook\ Connections_{i,j})}{Population_i} \tag{3}$$

We first study whether virtual connections bring in additional advantage in terms of taking PPP loans on top of the impact of neighborhood, zip code characteristics, and access to local bank branches. We regress the indicator of PPP uptake on the log of connection measures. To make a point that virtual connections can capture an extra component of social capital besides what is represented by the "traditional" proxies discussed in the previous section, we include both virtual connections and four social capital measures described above, the Census response rate, the percentage of membership, the percentage of residents that feel proud of their city, and the percentage of residents who trust banks

for their financial decisions. Table 10 presents our findings.

# Table 10: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

The findings in Table 10 in general show a positive effect of virtual connections on the likelihood to get PPP. Importantly, our previous results on social capital hold when controlling for virtual connections. The estimated coefficients of each social capital component are comparable in magnitude as before. Civic capital proxied by census response rate barely changes in magnitude. Local social connections measured by memberships changes the most and drops to 0.0022 from 0.0025, indicating a potential substituting relationship between virtual and physical connections. However, the effect is very limited.

When decomposing virtual connections into inside and outside links, we find that inside connections that matter for PPP uptake, while outside connections have no effect. Decomposing the inside connections into two parts, we find that both inside-zip connections and connections with other zips in the same county matter. In particular, inside-zip connections have the largest impact, with a magnitude close to the effect of census response rate. One standard deviation increase in the inside-zip connections increases the PPP uptake by 4.9 percent of the sample mean. One standard deviation increase in the connections with other zips in the same county increases the PPP uptake by 2.7 percent of the sample mean. The effects of other social capital components are consistent across specifications, suggesting that virtual connection do not impact the effect of local social capital on PPP uptake. Instead, virtual ties, can be viewed as an expansion of in-person connections.

Next, we go back to the granular community where stores are located. Specifically, we test whether the effect of virtual connections vary by store, neighborhood, and zip code characteristics. Similar to our analysis of in-person social capital, we sort zip codes into three equal-sized groups - low, medium, and high using the inside and outside connection measures. We then construct dummy variables for each group and include their interaction terms with store size, growth rate, number of stores in the neighborhood, median household income, education level and percentage of minority in the zip code area. The low social capital group is treated as the benchmark in regressions. We include county x industry fixed effect and the full set of variables that have been discussed in the previous sections.

Column 1 to 7 in Table 11 present our results.

Table 11: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

We find that inside virtual connections are associated with higher uptake of PPP in

already relatively advantaged areas. Specifically, inside connections benefit the PPP uptake

of stores with large size and high-growth and a high level of inside connections further

enhance the PPP uptake in the zip codes with higher education. On the other hand, though

outside connections as a whole do not make a difference in the PPP uptake, connecting

with outside zips do differentially benefit stores in communities with fewer retail peers and

with lower education and income levels.

To examine the potential interplay between virtual connections and local access to bank,

we interact dummy variables for each virtual connection group with the local bank indicator

(D\_Bank\_1000), the results of which are reported in the Column 8. As with physical

social connections, virtual connections, inside and outside of the county, also exhibit a

substitution effect with bank access. The benefit from having a local bank branch decreases

with virtual connections, suggesting that beside physical connections, virtual connections

also help mitigate the information disadvantage in neighborhoods without formal financial

intermediaries.

5 Robustness Checks

5.1 PPP by Lender Type - Banks vs. FinTech

In section 4, we show that access to financial institutions, social capital, and virtual

connections all have a positive effect on firms' uptake of a positive NPV project, in our

context, the PPP loans. The PPP loans administered through the banking system as well

as non-bank lenders such as FinTech firms. Erel and Liebersohn (2020) show that FinTech

lenders are disproportionately used in the zip codes with low income, high minority share

and fewer bank branches. A natural question that arises is whether the effect of social

capital or virtual connections varies by lender type? Are areas with higher social capital

or more virtual connections associated with more PPP uptake issued by FinTech lenders?

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In this section, we explore whether very granular locality affects stores' uptake of PPP from certain types of lenders. Specifically, we focus on the access to local bank branch in the immediate neighborhoods. Then we examine whether various forms of social capital and virtual connections further make a difference in explaining remaining heterogeneity in PPP uptake by lender type.

Following Erel and Liebersohn (2020), we define FinTech lenders as the non-depository financial institutions and depository financial institutions with only one branch. In our sample, among the firms that received PPP loans, 10.5 percent received their PPP loans from non-bank lenders. To study the unconditional effects in borrowing PPP from different types of lenders, we employ the multinomial logistic regression. The dependent variable is defined as an indicator variable that equals 1 if a store received a PPP loan from a bank, 2 if a store received a PPP loan from a FinTech lender, and zero otherwise. To make it computationally feasible, we only include state and industry fixed effects in this specification. We control for county characteristics to eliminate potential confounding factors that might vary by region, including median household, population density, population change relative to the previous year, population distribution by age, education level, unemployment rate, crime rate, and rural-urban measure. In all specifications in this section, we control for the pattern of Internet usage using an indicator for whether people in the zip code use Amazon frequently. Table 12 presents our findings.

## Table 12: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

In columns 1 and 2 of Table 12, we find stores in the zip codes with more bank branches are more likely to receive PPP loans from bank lenders than FinTech lenders, consistent with Erel and Liebersohn (2020), which shows that FinTech is disproportionately used in zip codes with fewer bank branches. Moreover, using our granular data, we show that access to a local bank branch in the immediate neighborhood increases the likelihood of a store receiving PPP loans from both banks and FinTech institutions. The effects comparable, whereas they are slightly higher in magnitude for FinTech lenders. As before, we find that the bank effects are stronger when a local branch is located closer to the store. We also again find that community bank branches provide an additional boost in PPP uptake.

However, the boost applies only for borrowing from banks. Having a community bank branch nearby doesn't improve, and even reduces the likelihood that as store receives PPP from FinTech lenders. The divergence might come from community banks' particular focus on serving local businesses and individuals who live nearby.

Next, we exploit variation in PPP uptake from geographic variation in the social capital and virtual connections. In columns 3 and 4 of Table 12, we include our four main measures for social capital. We find that three measures of social capital, the Census response rate, the percentage of membership, and trust in banks predict increased borrowing from local banks. Again, the census response rate has the highest effect. None of the social capital measures predict are associated with higher FinTech borrowing.

In the last two columns, we study the role of virtual connections. Inside-county connections strongly predict the uptake of PPP from bank branches instead of FinTech lenders. The effect is of the similar magnitude as that of the Census response rate. Outside-county connections do not matter.

Taken together, our findings suggest that the access to local bank branch helps stores access PPP loans from both banks and FinTech lenders, while proximity to community bank, and various forms of social capital including civic capital, trust in banks, local connections and virtual connections predict the use of banks over FinTech lenders. The results also verify that our approach to separating the different components of social capital holds consistently across live and virtual connections.

#### 5.2 Alternative Location Controls

We include more granular location fixed effects such as census tracks or census block groups (CBG) to control for unobservable neighborhood characteristics. Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county delineated by local participants as part of the U.S. Census Bureau's Participant Statistical Areas Program. Census tracts generally have between 1,500 and 8,000 people, with an optimum size of 4,000 people defined by census. A census tract has at least one census block group. Census block groups are the smallest geographical units for which the census publishes sample data and generally contain between 600 and 3,000 people, with an optimum size of 1,500 people.

Table 13 presents our results. As we include more granular fixed effects, the magnitude of the coefficient on the bank variables declines. For example, the coefficient drops from 1.8% to 1.53%, 1.34%, and 1.11%, when we go from county to zip, track, and CBG x industry fixed effects, respectively. Nevertheless, the estimated coefficient remains positive and significant at 1% level. Given the result, as more granular fixed effects help control for the heterogeneity of neighborhood characteristics, it is unlikely that the bank effect we document is entirely driven by other unobserved location characteristics.

Table 13: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

## 5.3 Unemployment Insurance and PPP Loans

As noted above, it may be optimal for some businesses to both take out PPP loans and to partially lay off part of the workforce. The laid off workers would receive unemployment insurance (UI). Thus, the two programs may interact. To explore this interaction and to see whether it affects our estimates, we repeat our main analysis, explicitly controlling for the UI claims.

Specifically, we focus on the initial UI claims, that is claims filed by newly-unemployed individuals after a separation from an employer from the week right after the first state issued a stay-at-home order<sup>29</sup> to the end of May, when most of PPP loans have been approved<sup>30</sup>.

We repeat the regression of PPP uptake on a full set of variables and county X industry fixed effects for CA's stores in Column 1, add UI claims as the additional control variable in Column 2, and control both UI claims and civic capital in Column 3. We find consistent results with the full-sample tests across specifications. Comparing Column 2 and Column 3 with Column 1, we see the coefficients are of similar magnitude as those of the benchmark model. Granular effects still matter greatly in the same direction as before. Specifically, large stores with more neighboring stores located in the area with higher income, higher education and less minority are more likely to take up PPP. Civic capital increases the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup>On March 19, California issued Statewide Stay-at-Home Order as pandemic control measure. California was the first state to issue a stay-at-home order, mandating all residents to stay at home except to go to an essential job or shop for essential needs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup>Majority of PPP loans (97.19%) were approved by the end of May 2020.

uptake of PPP, after controlling for UI claims. We find that stores in the area with higher level of UI claims during the early weeks of pandemic are also more likely to get PPP. Unemployment Insurance could be viewed as another proxy of local demand for external funding or resources, but UI cannot be driving our results on PPP loans.

### Table 14: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

### 5.4 Alternative Measures for Census Response Rate

In our main specifications, we use the completion of 2010 Census forms as our measure of civic capital. The 2010 Census occurred ten years before the PPP program; it is unlikely to be subject to the simultaneity problem such that omitted variables drive both the census response rate and the PPP uptake. However, social capital may have evolved over time. In this section, we examine the relation between PPP uptake and civic capital using alternative census response rate measures.

The PPP program was implemented concurrently with the 2020 Census. Thus, the response rate from the 2020 Census might be better to capture the up-to-date status of the community. Column 1 of Table 15 uses the 2020 Census response rate as a measure of social capital. It shows a significant positive effect - a one standard deviation increase in the census response rate is associated with an increase in the PPP uptake by 6.5 percent of the sample mean. The economic effect is about 30% higher when we use the 2020 Census response rate, compared to estimates using the 2010 Census response rate shown in the previous section. We find a similar pattern when we include all four measures of social capital reported in Column 4.

Although the more recent Census response rate appears to explain more variation of PPP uptake, there might exist omitted variables that affect both behaviors, completing the Census form and taking the PPP, at the same time. To overcome the challenge, we instrument the 2020 Census response rate by the 2010 Census rate to isolate plausibly exogenous variation in local social capital. Column 2 to 3 and 5 to 6 of Table 15 report the IV estimates. The first stage regressions (Columns 2 and 5), demonstrate a large and statistically significant effect of the 2010 Census rate on 2020 Census rate, with first-

stage F statistics equal to 1215, which is far above relevant thresholds. The relevance

of the instrument indicates the long-term nature of social capital embedded in the local

community. The instrumented 2020 Census response rate (Columns 3 and 6) shows a

positive and larger effect on PPP uptake than in the OLS estimates.

Taken together, these estimates validate the positive effect on PPP uptake of local civic

capital and suggest the baseline results we have shown for the 2010 Census response rate

are not overstated.

Table 15: [INSERT TABLE HERE]

Conclusion 6

Small business dynamism varies greatly across locations in the U.S. It is unclear how

much these differences arise because of different investment opportunities, skill levels,

social capital, as well as differential access to finance and underwriting criteria in different

locations. We take advantage of a natural experiment to analyze the uptake of risk-

free positive net present value financing opportunities by retail stores across different

geographies. The setting enables us to abstract from addressing endogenous business

projects and loan underwriting. The industry, retail, is widely distributed across the

country and does not require rare skills.

We use granular data to measure how local agglomeration, demographics, nearby banks,

local social capital, and localities' virtual connections on Facebook, relate to the uptake

of positive NPV projects. For social capital, we separate metrics measuring civic capital,

the "set of values and beliefs that help a group overcome the free-rider problem in the

pursuit of socially valuable activities," from metrics measuring social connections, which

may merely transmit information.

We find very wide variation in uptake, much of it at the census tract and block group

level. There is a large and economically significant relation between store agglomeration,

bank proximity, and project uptake. Controlling for these, we also find a large and

economically significant relation between social capital and loan uptake. Disaggregating

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social capital measures, we find large positive effects of metrics predicting a population's ability to overcome the free-rider problem in pursuit of socially valuable activities and metrics predicting increased information flows in the community through social connections. Increasing the civic capital metric by one standard deviation increases the PPP loan uptake by 4.9 percent of the sample mean and this magnitude is about twice of the effect of having a bank branch within 1000 yards.

Trust in banks, local connections, and local pride are also positively associated with project uptake. Different components of social capital interact differently with geographic and population characteristics characteristics in predicting the uptake of PPP. Civic capital has a greater association with PPP uptake in neighborhoods with many stores that are stable with low business turnover and in high minority areas. By contrast, the prevalence of local associations has a greater association with PPP in less store-dense neighborhoods and fewer banks, and it is more important for larger stores. Virtual connections benefit predict uptake more strongly in richer, better-educated locations with low minority populations. The association between trust in banks and PPP is greater in areas with few bank branches. These four measures of social capital collectively explain about 25 percent of the variation of PPP uptake at the zip code level.

The presence of nearby banks is particularly beneficial for very small businesses and businesses in high business density and high growth locations with high business turnover. We find the association of increasing bank branch proximity and loan take-up is highest in areas of moderate civic capital. By contrast, in the context of PPP, nearby banks and social connectedness appear to be substitutes in predicting PPP uptake. These results suggest that profit-motivated financial intermediaries have a comparative advantage of accessing a particular profile of entrepreneur and that they are complements of certain components of social capital (civic capital) and substitutes with other components (social connectedness). We also find limited evidence that higher bank density in high minority areas is associated with economically significant gains in loan uptake. Our results also indicate that social capital - civic, local connections, and virtual connections, are all positively associated with PPP uptakes from banks - local or out of state. On the other hand, we do not find a significant relation between social capital measures and PPP from FinTech lenders.

There is much interest in promoting small business development in minority areas. Our estimates suggest that that the economic effect of bank proximity is positive in locations with a higher percentage of minorities. The absolute effect is quite small. By contrast, the differences in our metric of civic capital in high-minority locations have a larger association with PPP uptake.

Overall, locations in the U.S. differ significantly and predictably in their uptake of financing opportunities beyond the well-studied differences in the availability of investment opportunities and differences in underwriting in banks across locations. These differences are policy relevant, and may grow if the polarization of economic opportunities in the U.S. continues. Some trade-offs, such as changing access to bank branches to compensate for low social connections in a neighborhood are now clear. However, further research is required on how to compensate for low civic capital.

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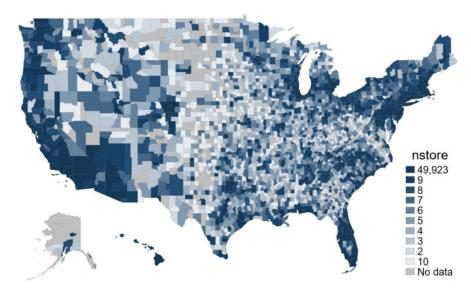
Appendix: Variable Definitions	
Variable	Definition
Census Response Rate	Zip-level 2020 Census self-response rates
Census Response Rate 2010	Zip-level 2010 Census self-response rates
Census Response Rate 2010 (tract)	Tract-level 2010 Census self-response rates
Chg Visits LastYr	Growth rate of foot traffic in 2019 for a store itself
	Average hange of monthly foot traffic in March from the same month
Chg Visits Peers	last year for nearby stores within 200 yards
<u> </u>	Change of monthly foot traffic in March from the same month last year
Chg Visits Self	for a store itself
	Zip-level average agreement to the statement "The city or area where I
City Perfect	live is a perfect place for me" from Gallup survey
	Zip-level average agreement to the statement "I am proud of my
City Pride	community or the area where I live" from Gallup survey
	Zip-level average agreement to the statement "I always feel safe and
City Safe	Secure" from Gallup survey
Crime Rate Of The County	Crime rate in the county
	Indicator variable that equal one if the percentage of second city
D_2nd City	households is greater than 50% in the zip code
D_AMZ	Indicator for whether people in the zip code use Amazon frequently
D_Bank (1000 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of any bank within 1000 yards
D_Bank (200 - 500 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of any bank within 200 to 500 yards
D_Bank (200 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of any bank within 200 yards
D_Bank (500 - 1000 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of any bank within 500 to 1000 yards
D Community Bank (1000 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of community banks within 1000 yards
D Community Bank (200 - 500 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of community banks within 200 to 500
D Community Bank (200 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of community banks within 200 yards
D Community Bank (500 -1000 Yds)	Indicator for local presence of community banks within 500 to 1000
	Indicator variable that equals one if the percentage of town and rural
D_Rural	households is greater than 50% in the zip code
	Indicator variable that equals one if the percentage of suburban
D_Suburb	households is greater than 50% in the zip code
	Indicator variable that equals one if the percentage of urban
D_Urban	households is greater than 50% in the zip code
Donation	Log number of household average cash donation to charities in the zip
Ln (# of Banks in the County)	Log number of banks in the county
	Log number of banks outside of the 1000-yards neighborhood in the
Ln (# of Banks in the Zip - Beyond 100	zip code
Ln (# of Banks in the Zip)	Log number of banks in the zip code
Ln (# of Estabs)	Log number of establishments in the zip code
Ln (# of Households)	Log number of households in the zip code
Ln (# of Nearby Stores)	Log number of nearby stores within 200 yards
Ln (Avg. # of Visits in Nearby Store)	Log number of average visits for nearby stores within 200 yards
Ln (Median Income)	Log median household income in the zip code
Ln (Median Income) (county)	Log median household income in the county
Ln (Median Income) (tract)	Log median household income in the tract
Ln (Pop Density)	Log population density in the zip code
Ln (Pop Density) (county)	Log population density in the county
Ln(Conn CTY)	Log number of Facebook connections per capita within the county

	Log number of Facebook connections per capita within the county
Ln(Conn_CTY_excl_ZIP)	excluding own zip code
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY)	Log number of Facebook connections per capita out of the county
Ln(Conn_outside_STATE)	Log number of Facebook connections per capita out of the state
	Log number of Facebook connections per capita within the state
Ln(Conn_State_excl_CTY)	excluding own county
Ln(Conn_ZIP)	Log number of Facebook connections per capita within the zip code
Log(Total Jobs in census tract)	Log number of total jobs in all industries in the census tract
Pct (Jobs in Finance in census tract)	Percentage of jobs in the finance industry in the census tract
Pct of Any Membership	Percentage of population with any club membership in the zip code
Pct of Brand Stores	Percentage brand store within 200 yards
Pct of Community Banks (county)	Percentage of community banks in the county
Pct of Edu (At Least BA) (county)	Percentage of population with at least a bachelor's degree in the county
Pct of Edu (At Least BA) (tract)	Percentage of population with at least a bachelor's degree in the tract
Pct of Edu_BA	Percentage of population with at least a bachelor's degree in the zip
Pct of Minorities	Percentage of minority in the zip code
Pct of Minorities (tract)	Percentage of minority in the tract
Pct of Population Age 17 To 34 (county	Percentage of population aged from 17 to 34 in the county
Pct of Population Age 35 To 49 (county	Percentage of population aged from 35 to 49 in the county
Pct of PTA Membership	Percentage of population with PTA membership in the zip code
Pct of Religious Affiliation	Percentage of population with religious affiliation in the zip code
	Number of SBA loans approved within 200 yards, divided by the
Pct of SBA Loans (200 Yds)	number of nearby stores
	Number of SBA loans approved within 500 yards, divided by the
Pct of SBA Loans (500 Yds)	number of nearby stores
Pop Change (county)	Population growth rate in the county
Rural-Urban Code (county)	Code indicating rural-urban degree of the county
Size	Log average weekly visits in 2019 plus 1
Trust of Banks	Percentage of population trusting money to a bank in the zip code
Unemployment Rate (county)	Unemployment rate in the county
Voter Turnout Rate	Zip-level 2020 presidential election voter turnout rate

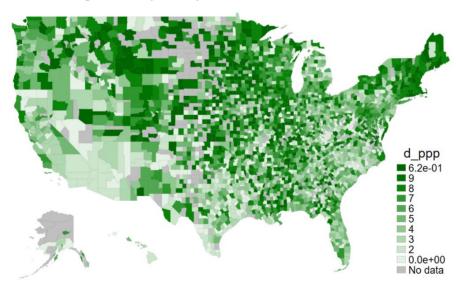
# Figure 3: Sample Distribution

Panel A presents the distribution of stores at the county level in our sample, and Panel B presents the percentage of stores that received PPP loans by county.

Panel A: Stores by County

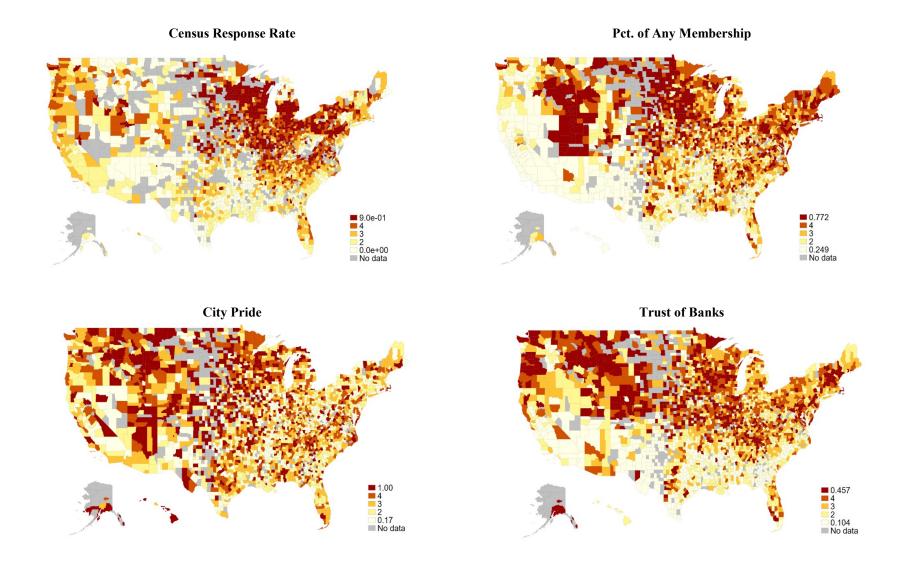


Panel B: The Percentage of PPP by County



**Figure 4: Social Capital Measures** 

The figure below presents the distribution of four social capital measures, including the Census response rate, the percentage of residents with any membership, the percentage of residents that feel proud of their local community, and the percentage of responses that trust banks by county.



## Figure 5: PPP Percentage and County Characteristics

The figures below present the bin-scatter plots between the percentage of stores that received PPP loans and county characteristics, including (1) the percentage of adults with less than high-school education, (2) poverty rate, (3) the percentage of adults not working, (4) the median income ratio (relative to the national average), (5) the logarithm of the number of banks, (6) the entry rate of establishments, (7) the exit rate of establishments, and (8) the turnover rate of establishments. In all regressions, we control for the logarithm of the county population.

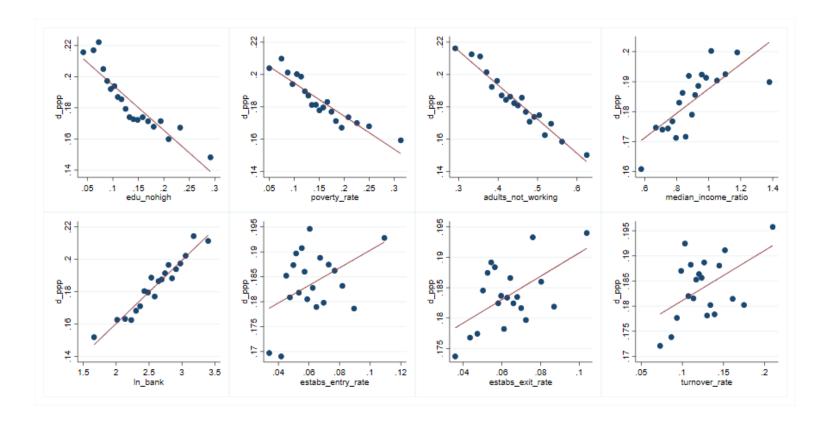
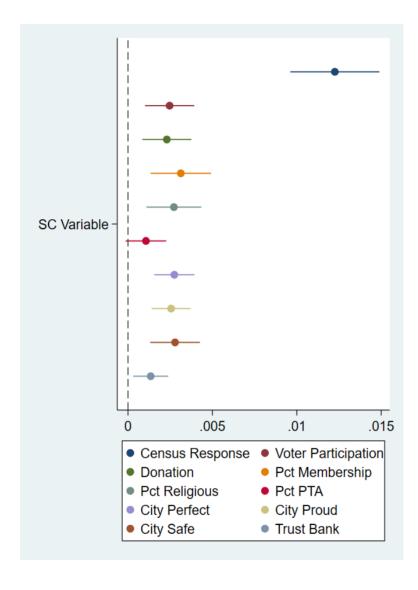


Figure 6: Measures of Social Capital and PPP Uptake

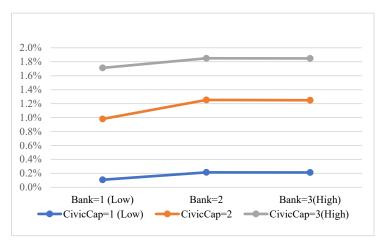
This figure shows the estimated coefficients of various social capital measures on the likelihood of PPP uptake using the same model as in Table 6.



#### Figure 7: The Role of Local Bank Access and Civic Capital

Panel A shows the economic effects of local bank access (measured as the average of D\_Banks\_1000) and civic capital (measured by the 2010 census response rate) on PPP uptake. The economic effects are estimated from the regression coefficients of census response rates, local bank access, and their interactions, reported in Appendix Table A4. Panel B describes the sample distribution of zip codes that belong to each cohort.

Panel A: Economic Effects



Panel B: Sample Distribution

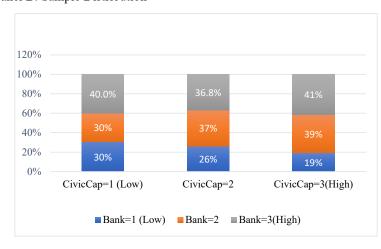
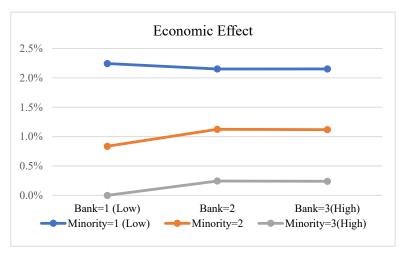
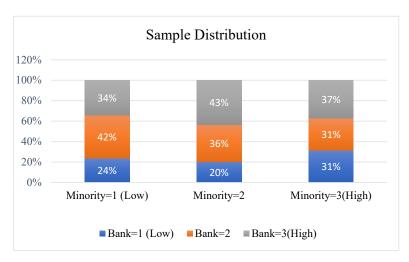


Figure 8: The Role of Local Bank Access and Civic Capital on PPP Uptake: Low vs. High-Minority Zip Codes

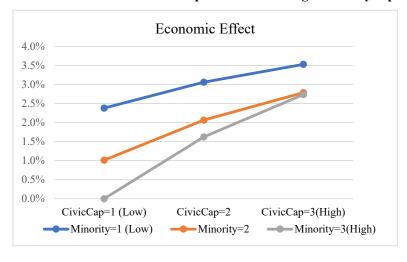
These figures present the economic effects of local bank access (measured as the average of D\_Banks\_1000) and social capital (measured by the 2010 census response rate) on PPP uptake by minority cohorts. The economic effects reported in Panel A are estimated from the regression coefficients of minority, local bank access, and their interactions. The economic effects reported in Panel B are estimated from the regression coefficients of minority, census response rate, and their interactions. The corresponding regressions are reported in Appendix Table 4.

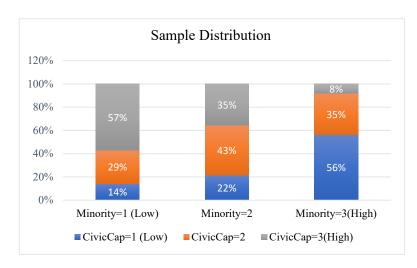
Panel A: Economic Effects of Local Bank Access on Low vs. High Monority Zip Codes





Panel B: Economic Effects of Civic Capital on Low vs High Minority Zip Codes





**Table 1: Sample Distribution** 

This table presents the sample distribution over industry (panel A) and

**Panel A: Distribution over Industries** 

NAICS	NAICS Description	N	Percent
4411	Auto Dealers	34,730	2.81
4412	Other V Dealer	17,183	1.39
4413	Auto Parts	35,479	2.87
4421	Furniture Stores	23,785	1.92
4441	<b>Building Material</b>	44,556	3.60
4451	Grocery Stores	54,762	4.43
4453	Liquor Store	26,478	2.14
4461	Personal Care Store	63,982	5.17
4471	Gas Station	43,449	3.51
4481	Clothes Store	35,093	2.84
4482	Shoe Store	5,111	0.41
4483	Jewelry Store	16,399	1.33
4511	Sporting Hobby	58,647	4.74
4512	Book Store	9,518	0.77
4531	Florists	22,777	1.84
7139	Amusement Recreation	103,522	8.37
7211	Hotels	26,036	2.11
7225	Restaurants	434,979	35.17
8111	Auto Repair	98,673	7.98
8121	Personal Care SVC	81,685	6.60
Total		1,236,844	100

Panel	R	Dist	ribution	over !	States

State	N	Percent State	N	Percent
AK	2,733	0.2 MS	10,516	0.9
AL	17,533	1.4 MT	4,764	0.4
AR	10,994	0.9 NC	36,273	2.9
AZ	23,903	1.9 ND	2,616	0.2
CA	171,496	13.9 NE	6,837	0.6
CO	23,396	1.9 NH	5,528	0.4
CT	15,128	1.2 NJ	39,813	3.2
DC	3,709	0.3 NM	7,091	0.6
DE	3,540	0.3 NV	10,807	0.9
FL	87,085	7 NY	84,376	6.8
GA	37,087	3 OH	36,981	3
HI	7,548	0.6 OK	13,836	1.1
IA	10,787	0.9 OR	18,828	1.5
ID	7,020	0.6 PA	48,587	3.9
IL	45,803	3.7 RI	5,393	0.4
IN	21,035	1.7 SC	19,514	1.6
KS	9,719	0.8 SD	3,109	0.3
KY	13,059	1.1 TN	23,992	1.9
LA	18,437	1.5 TX	103,829	8.4
MA	30,234	2.4 UT	10,326	0.8
MD	19,168	1.5 VA	26,208	2.1
ME	5,253	0.4 VT	2,766	0.2
MI	35,441	2.9 WA	28,323	2.3
MN	16,774	1.4 WI	21,534	1.7
MO	20,903	1.7 WV	4,615	0.4
		WY	2,597	0.2
Total			1,236,844	100

**Table 2: Summary Statistics** 

Panel A provides the summary statistics for variables used in the paper. Panel B provides the correlation matrix between social capital measures used in the paper and other key variables at the zip-code level.

**Panel A: Summary Statistics** 

Panel A: Summary Statistics	3.4	Ct I D	3.6 11	D2.5	D7.5
Stone and Neighborhood Characteristics	Mean	Std. Dev.	Median	P25	P75
Store and Neighborhood Characteristics Size	3.314	1.063	3.327	2.541	4.043
Chg Visits Self	-0.214	0.541	-0.235	-0.54	0.086
Chg Visits Peers	-0.214	0.341	-0.233	-0.403	0.080
Chg Visits LastYr	0.184	0.313	0.179	0.403	0.353
Ln (# of Nearby Stores)	1.666	1.053	1.792	0.693	2.398
	4.44	2.028	5.108	4.357	5.648
Ln (Avg. # of Visits in Nearby Store) Pct of Brand Stores Nearby	0.217	0.275	0.1	4.337	0.364
ret of Brand Stores Nearby	0.217	0.273	0.1	U	0.304
Zip Code Characteristics					
Ln (# of Households)	9.169	0.787	9.341	8.814	9.697
Ln (# of Estabs)	6.506	0.831	6.625	6.023	7.088
Ln (Median Income)	11.153	0.378	11.138	10.905	11.412
Ln (Population Density)	7.166	1.842	7.502	5.892	8.454
Pct of Minority	0.306	0.217	0.252	0.134	0.436
Pet Edu (≥BA)	0.198	0.092	0.184	0.124	0.262
D Urban	0.246	0.431	0.101	0.121	0.202
D Suburb	0.213	0.41	0	0	0
D 2ndCity	0.125	0.331	0	0	0
D Rural	0.123	0.458	0	0	1
D_Kului	0.5	0.436	O	V	1
Bank Access					
D_Bank (200 yds)	0.214	0.41	0	0	0
D Bank (200 - 500 yds)	0.222	0.416	0	0	0
D Bank (500 - 1000 yds)	0.203	0.403	0	0	0
D_Bank (1000 yds)	0.203	0.403	0	0	0
D CBank (200 yds)	0.087	0.281	0	0	0
D CBank (200 - 500 yds)	0.129	0.335	0	0	0
D CBank (500 -1000 yds)	0.153	0.36	0	0	0
D CBank (1000 yds)	0.368	0.482	0	0	1
Ln (# of Banks in Zip)	2.008	0.743	2.079	1.609	2.565
Ln (# of Banks in Zip - excl. 1000 yds)	1.603	0.901	1.792	1.099	2.303
Pct of SBA Loans (200 yds)	0.064	0.193	0	0	0.043
Pct of SBA Loans (500 yds)	0.069	0.148	0.026	0	0.091
Social Capital Variables	0.720	0.070	0.740	0.700	0.701
Census Response Rate 2010	0.739	0.078	0.749	0.700	0.791
Census Response Rate 2020	0.676	0.111	0.689	0.607	0.760
Tract-Level Census Response Rate 2010	0.732	0.091	0.743	0.68	0.792
Tract-Level Census Response Rate 2020	0.663	0.128	0.679	0.586	0.756
Pct of Any Membership	0.478	0.086	0.487	0.431	0.533
Pct of Being Proud of the City	0.804	0.147	0.828	0.714	0.913
Pct of Trusting Banks	0.255	0.055	0.255	0.221	0.287
Virtual Connections Variables					
Ln(Conn CTY)	7.217	0.444	7.244	6.945	7.507
Ln(Conn ZIP)	5.485	0.956	5.489	4.869	6.114
Ln(Conn CTY excl ZIP)	6.756	1.078	6.955	6.504	7.303
Ln(Conn outside CTY)	8.095	0.313	8.106	7.923	8.291
Ln(Conn State excl CTY)	7.136	0.695	7.228	6.88	7.523
Ln(Conn outside STATE)	7.507	0.412	7.228 7.519	7.248	7.789
En(Conn_outside_51711E)	7.507	0.712	7.517	7.270	1.109
Observations	1,236,847				
	-,, ,				

**Panel B: Correlation Matrix** 

	Census Response Rate	Pct. of Membership	Pct of Being Proud of the City		Ln (Population Density)	Ln (Median Income)	Pct of Minority	Pct of Education > BA	Ln(# of Banks)
Census Response Rate	1								
Pct of Any Membership	0.378***	1							
Pct of Being Proud of the City	0.290***	0.271***	1						
Pct that Trust the Bank	0.327***	0.412***	0.304***		1				
Ln (Population Density)	-0.151***	-0.312***	-0.147***	-0.152***	1	-			
Ln (Median Income)	0.446***	0.328***	0.446***	0.353***	0.102***	1	[		
Pct of Minority	-0.452***	-0.451***	-0.406***	-0.471***	0.437***	-0.310***		1	
Pct of Education BA	0.251***	0.247***	0.438***	0.362***	0.332***	0.712***	-0.194***	1	
Ln (# of Banks)	0.134***	0.0757***	0.118***	0.128***	0.240***	0.224***	-0.101***	0.372***	1

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Significant at 1% level.

Table 3: Neighborhood Characteristics and PPP Uptake

This table reports regression results to predict the PPP uptake at the store level. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

·	(1)	(2)	(3)
DEP VAR = D PPP	(1)	(2)	(3)
Size	0.0357***	0.0365***	0.0406***
	(0.0009)	(0.0008)	(0.0010)
Chg_Visits_Self	-0.0016***	-0.0017***	-0.0020***
6	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0005)
Chg_Visits_Peers	0.0006	0.0003	-0.0001
6	(0.0005)	(0.0005)	(0.0005)
Chg_Visits_LastYr	0.0040***	0.0029***	0.0021***
<u> </u>	(0.0005)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)
Ln (# of Nearby Stores)	0.0283***	0.0270***	0.0271***
,	(0.0008)	(0.0008)	(0.0009)
Ln (Avg. # of Visits in Nearby Store)	0.0004	0.0019***	0.0018***
,	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0007)
Pct of Brand Stores Nearby	0.0039***	0.0022***	0.0023***
•	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0007)
Ln (# of Households)	, ,	0.0078***	, ,
		(0.0011)	
Ln (# of Estabs)		-0.0026**	
		(0.0011)	
Ln (Median Income)		0.0050***	
		(0.0016)	
Ln (Pop Density)		-0.0036**	
		(0.0016)	
Pct of Minorities		-0.0106***	
		(0.0011)	
Pct_Edu (≥BA)		0.0062***	
_ , ,		(0.0011)	
D_Urban		0.0005	
		(0.0029)	
D_Suburb		0.0007	
		(0.0019)	
D_2nd City		0.0061**	
		(0.0025)	
D_Rural		0.0036*	
		(0.0021)	
Constant	0.2068***	0.2053***	0.2088***
	(0.0002)	(0.0014)	(0.0003)
	1.000.045	1.007.070	1 101 014
Observations	1,228,845	1,227,963	1,181,814
R-squared	0.0880	0.0893	0.1673
FE	County x Ind	County x Ind	Zip x Ind

## **Table 4: Local Bank Access and PPP Uptake**

This table reports regression results to predict the PPP uptake at the store level based on local bank access. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, and D\_Rural. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

DEP VAR D. D. D.D.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
DEP VAR = D_PPP						
D_Bank (1000 Yds)	0.0062*** (0.0011)			0.0055*** (0.0012)		
D_Bank (200 Yds)	` ,	0.0177*** (0.0018)	0.0177*** (0.0018)	` ,	0.0161*** (0.0021)	0.0161*** (0.0021)
D_Bank (200 - 500 Yds)		0.0098*** (0.0016)	0.0097*** (0.0016)		0.0087*** (0.0017)	0.0086*** (0.0017)
D_Bank (500 - 1000 Yds)		0.0051*** (0.0012)	0.0050*** (0.0012)		0.0049*** (0.0015)	0.0048*** (0.0015)
D_CBank (1000 Yds)	0.0036*** (0.0011)	,	,	0.0027** (0.0014)	,	,
D_CBank (200 Yds)	,	0.0080*** (0.0021)	0.0081*** (0.0021)	,	0.0072*** (0.0025)	0.0072*** (0.0025)
D_CBank (200 - 500 Yds)		0.0043*** (0.0016)	0.0043*** (0.0016)		0.0036* (0.0019)	0.0036** (0.0019)
D_CBank (500 -1000 Yds)		0.0031** (0.0013)	0.0032** (0.0013)		0.0019 (0.0016)	0.0019 (0.0016)
Ln (# of Banks In The Zip)	0.0048*** (0.0008)	(0.00.00)	(*******)		(3.3323)	(0.0000)
Ln (# of Banks In The Zip - Beyond 1000 Yds)		0.0072*** (0.0009)	0.0072*** (0.0008)		0.0061*** (0.0013)	0.0061*** (0.0013)
Pct of SBA Loans (200 Yds)	0.0087*** (0.0004)	0.0086*** (0.0004)	0.0086*** (0.0004)	0.0080*** (0.0005)	0.0079*** (0.0005)	0.0079*** (0.0005)
Pct of SBA Loans (500 Yds)	0.0041*** (0.0004)	0.0041*** (0.0004)	0.0041*** (0.0004)	0.0036*** (0.0004)	0.0036*** (0.0004)	0.0036*** (0.0004)
Pct (Jobs in Finance in census tract)	, ,	, ,	0.0030*** (0.0007)	` ,	, ,	0.0016* (0.0009)
Observations	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,536	1,181,050	1,181,050	1,180,655
R-squared	0.0902	0.0904	0.0904	0.1678	0.1679	0.1678
FE	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	ZIP x Ind	ZIP x Ind	ZIP x Ind

#### **Table 5: Access to Local Banks - Cross-Sectional Effects**

This table reports the estimated effects of bank access to PPP uptake by store or zip code characteristics. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, and D\_Rural. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

Panel A: Store Characteristics	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
VAR	S	Size		Prior Growth		es in 200 yds)
D_Bank_1000 x VAR	-0.0044*** (0.0011)	-0.0062*** (0.0013)	0.0018** (0.0007)	0.0014 (0.0009)	0.0019* (0.0010)	0.0054*** (0.0011)
D_CB_1000 x VAR	, ,	0.0031** (0.0013)		0.0008 (0.0010)	,	-0.0062*** (0.0014)
D_Bank_1000	0.0050*** (0.0012)	0.0048*** (0.0013)	0.0063*** (0.0011)	0.0062*** (0.0011)	0.0069*** (0.0012)	0.0061*** (0.0012)
D_CB_1000	0.0036*** (0.0011)	0.0041*** (0.0012)	0.0035*** (0.0011)	0.0036*** (0.0012)	0.0036*** (0.0011)	0.0050*** (0.0011)
Observations	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963
R-squared	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902
FE	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind

Panel B: Zip Characteristics	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
VAR	Median	Median Income		u (≥BA)	Pct of M	Iinorities	Business Turnover	
D_Bank_1000 x VAR	-0.0002	0.0003	-0.0019*	0.0005	0.0027***	0.0021**	0.0075***	0.0078***
	(0.0009)	(0.0011)	(0.0010)	(0.0011)	(0.0009)	(0.0009)	(0.0023)	(0.0028)
D_CB_1000 x VAR		-0.0008		-0.0045***		0.0012		-0.0005
		(0.0013)		(0.0016)		(0.0012)		(0.0026)
D_Bank_1000	0.0062***	0.0061***	0.0059***	0.0055***	0.0058***	0.0060***	0.0087***	0.0087***
	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0012)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)
D_CB_1000	0.0036***	0.0037***	0.0037***	0.0044***	0.0041***	0.0040***	0.0041***	0.0041***
	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0012)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)
Ln (# of Banks In The Zip)	0.0048***	0.0048***	0.0048***	0.0048***	0.0047***	0.0046***	0.0004	0.0001
	(0.0008)	(0.0008)	(0.0008)	(0.0008)	(0.0008)	(0.0008)	(0.0021)	(0.0025)
Pct of SBA Loans (200 Yds)	0.0087***	0.0087***	0.0087***	0.0088***	0.0087***	0.0087***	0.0040***	0.0045**
	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0012)	(0.0022)
Pct of SBA Loans (500 Yds)	0.0041***	0.0041***	0.0041***	0.0041***	0.0041***	0.0041***	0.0047***	0.0047***
	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0008)	(0.0008)
Constant	0.2002***	0.2001***	0.2005***	0.2005***	0.2003***	0.2002***	0.2001***	0.2001***
	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)
Observations	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963	1,227,963
R-squared	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902	0.0902
FE	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind

### Table 6: Social Capital and PPP Uptake

This table reports regression results to predict the PPP uptake at the store level based on social capital measures. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Community\_Bank (1000 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (200yds), and Pct of SBA Loans (500yds) in both panels. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
DEP VAR = D_PPP					
Census Response Rate	0.0097***				0.0094***
-	(0.0012)				(0.0011)
Pct. of Membership		0.0034***			0.0027***
		(0.0009)			(0.0010)
City Pride			0.0027***		0.0018***
			(0.0006)		(0.0006)
Trust of Banks				0.0013**	0.0010*
				(0.0005)	(0.0005)
D_Bank (1000 Yds)	0.0056***	0.0059***	0.0059***	0.0060***	0.0054***
_	(0.0012)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)
Observations	1,159,364	1,220,572	1,224,278	1,218,469	1,150,403
R-squared	0.0882	0.0902	0.0903	0.0903	0.0883
FE	County x Ind				

#### Table 7: Social Capital and Bank Access

This table reports results to predict the interaction between the social capital and bank access on the PPP uptake. The dependent variable is an indicator variable that equals 1 and zero otherwise. We categorize social capital variables with three levels, Low, Medium, and High, based on terciles of the zip-code level social capital measure. The Low level of social capital is treated as a benchmark in regressions. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg Visits Self, Chg Visits Peers, Chg Visits LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu BA, D Urban, D Sub, D 2nd City, and D Rural. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
DEP_VAR = D_PPP				
Census Response Rate - Medium	0.0070***			
	(0.0019)			
Census Response Rate - High	0.0157***			
	(0.0027)			
Census Response Rate - Medium x D_Banks_1000	0.0052***			
Common Description III to D. Devilor 1000	(0.0020)			
Census Response Rate - High x D_Banks_1000	0.0010 (0.0024)			
Pct of Membership - Medium	(0.0024)	0.0031*		
rr		(0.0018)		
Pct of Membership - High		0.0084***		
		(0.0023)		
Pct of Membership - Medium x D_Banks_1000		-0.0030		
		(0.0019)		
Pct of Membership - High x D_Banks_1000		-0.0073***		
		(0.0022)		
City Pride - Medium			0.0020	
City Deida High			(0.0017) 0.0049**	
City Pride - High			(0.0020)	
City Pride - Medium x D Banks 1000			0.0023	
City Tride Mediani X D_Banks_1000			(0.0019)	
City Pride - High x D_Banks_1000			0.0007	
, , , , , ,			(0.0021)	
Trust of Banks - Medium			, ,	0.0016
				(0.0017)
Trust of Banks - High				0.0042**
				(0.0020)
Trust of Banks - Medium x D_Banks_1000				-0.0027
Tout of Dealer High - D. Dealer 1000				(0.0019)
Trust of Banks - High x D_Banks_1000				-0.0036* (0.0021)
D Bank (1000 Yds)	0.0033**	0.0088***	0.0049***	(0.0021) 0.0078***
D_Daile (1000 145)	(0.0016)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0016)
D CBank (1000 Yds)	0.0036***	0.0038***	0.0037***	0.0038***
	(0.0012)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)
	1.150.064	1.000.550	1.004.050	1 210 460
Observations  Propugged	1,159,364 0.0882	1,220,572 0.0902	1,224,278 0.0903	1,218,469 0.0903
R-squared FE	0.0882 County x Ind	0.0902 County x Ind	0.0903 County x Ind	0.0903 County x Ind
1 L	County x ma	County x ma	County X IIId	County x ma

#### **Table 8: Social Capital - Cross-Sectional Effects**

This table reports the estimated effects of social capital on PPP uptake by store or zip code characteristics. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. We categorize social capital variables with three levels, Low, Medium, and High, based on terciles of the zip-code level social capital measure. The Low level of social capital is treated as a benchmark in regressions. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (200yds), and Pct of SBA Loans (500yds). Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

Panel A	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	Ln (# of Stores in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Business Turnover
							_
Census Response Rate - Medium	0.0110***	0.0096***	0.0095***	0.0100***	0.0095***	0.0091***	0.0113***
	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0015)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0014)
Census Response Rate - High	0.0177***	0.0152***	0.0148***	0.0132***	0.0147***	0.0136***	0.0169***
	(0.0026)	(0.0025)	(0.0025)	(0.0023)	(0.0022)	(0.0025)	(0.0021)
Census Response Rate - Medium x VAR	0.0068***	-0.0003	0.0034***	0.0018	0.0037***	0.0026*	-0.0054**
•	(0.0013)	(0.0009)	(0.0011)	(0.0013)	(0.0012)	(0.0014)	(0.0023)
Census Response Rate - High x VAR	0.0110***	-0.0004	0.0007	0.0043**	0.0028	-0.0015	-0.0073*
	(0.0016)	(0.0010)	(0.0014)	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0026)	(0.0044)
Observations	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364
R-squared	0.0884	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0884
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

Panel B	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	Ln (# of Stores in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Business Turnover
Pct of Membership - Medium	0.0025*	0.0011	0.0011	0.0013	0.0013	0.0015	0.0019
	(0.0015)	(0.0014)	(0.0014)	(0.0014)	(0.0014)	(0.0014)	(0.0013)
Pct of Membership - High	0.0042**	0.0032*	0.0030	0.0024	0.0032*	0.0021	0.0042**
	(0.0020)	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0018)	(0.0017)	(0.0019)	(0.0017)
Pct of Membership - Medium x VAR	0.0072***	0.0010	-0.0016*	-0.0020	-0.0021	-0.0001	-0.0027
•	(0.0013)	(0.0009)	(0.0010)	(0.0015)	(0.0017)	(0.0014)	(0.0022)
Pct of Membership - High x VAR	0.0054***	0.0001	-0.0033**	0.0012	-0.0008	-0.0042**	-0.0051*
. 0	(0.0015)	(0.0010)	(0.0013)	(0.0018)	(0.0020)	(0.0018)	(0.0028)
Observations	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572
R-squared	0.0905	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

Panel C	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	Ln (# of Stores in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Business Turnover
City Pride - Medium	0.0029**	0.0028**	0.0033***	0.0028**	0.0022*	0.0026**	0.0038***
City Daide High	(0.0013) 0.0042**	(0.0012) 0.0045***	(0.0013) 0.0050***	(0.0012) 0.0046***	(0.0013) 0.0050***	(0.0012) 0.0039**	(0.0013) 0.0052***
City Pride - High	(0.0017)	(0.0015)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0017)	(0.0039	(0.0017)
City Pride - Medium x VAR	-0.0017)	-0.0031***	0.0018*	-0.0021	-0.0028**	0.0017)	-0.0032
City Tride Wediani A Ville	(0.0013)	(0.0009)	(0.0009)	(0.0014)	(0.0012)	(0.0013)	(0.0022)
City Pride - High x VAR	-0.0029**	-0.0051***	-0.0000	-0.0017	-0.0044***	0.0005	-0.0028
	(0.0012)	(0.0011)	(0.0013)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0021)	(0.0033)
Observations	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278
R-squared	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind
Panel D	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	Ln (# of Stores in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Business Turnover
Trust of Banks - Medium	0.0006	-0.0002	-0.0001	-0.0000	-0.0005	-0.0002	0.0006
	(0.0013)	(0.0013)	(0.0013)	(0.0013)	(0.0013)	(0.0013)	(0.0014)
Trust of Banks - High	0.0017	0.0016	0.0019	0.0013	0.0025*	0.0010	0.0026*
	(0.0014)	(0.0013)	(0.0014)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0014)	(0.0015)
Trust of Banks - Medium x VAR	0.0032***	-0.0009	-0.0025**	-0.0034**	-0.0039***	0.0021	-0.0027
	(0.0012)	(0.0010)	(0.0010)	(0.0015)	(0.0014)	(0.0013)	(0.0022)
Trust of Banks - High x VAR	-0.0005	-0.0021*	-0.0024**	-0.0007	-0.0048***	-0.0009	-0.0039
	(0.0013)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0018)	(0.0024)
Observations	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469
R-squared	0.0905	0.0904	0.0904	0.0905	0.0905	0.0904	0.0904
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

#### **Table 9: Social Capital - Tract level**

This table reports the estimated effects of tract-level social capital - census response rate- on PPP uptake by store or zip code characteristics. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. We use the continuous measure of census response rate in Column 1. We categorize social capital variables with three levels, Low, Medium, and High, based on terciles of the tract-code level social capital measure in Columns 2 to 8. The Low level of social capital is treated as a benchmark in regressions. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (200yds), and Pct of SBA Loans (500yds). Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
VAR =	All	D Bank 1000	Size	Prior Growth	Ln (# of Stores in	Tract-Level	Tract-Level	Tract-Level
VAIX -	All	D_Dalik_1000	Size	Thoi Glowth	200 yds)	Median Income	Pct Edu (>BA)	Pct Minority
Tract-Level Census Response Rate	0.0093***							
	(0.0009)							
Tract-Level Census Response Rate - Medium		0.0070***	0.0116***	0.0097***	0.0100***	0.0099***	0.0098***	0.0088***
		(0.0017)	(0.0015)	(0.0014)	(0.0013)	(0.0015)	(0.0014)	(0.0014)
Tract-Level Census Response Rate - High		0.0148***	0.0180***	0.0154***	0.0156***	0.0125***	0.0132***	0.0131***
		(0.0021)	(0.0020)	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0020)	(0.0019)	(0.0020)
Tract-Level Census Response Rate - Medium x VAR		0.0057***	0.0078***	-0.0027***	0.0038***	0.0034***	0.0045***	0.0018
		(0.0020)	(0.0012)	(0.0010)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)
Tract-Level Census Response Rate - High x VAR		0.0030	0.0102***	-0.0037***	0.0022	0.0056***	0.0046***	-0.0001
		(0.0022)	(0.0014)	(0.0010)	(0.0014)	(0.0015)	(0.0017)	(0.0018)
Observations	1,161,226	1,177,501	1,177,501	1,177,501	1,177,501	1,174,165	1,176,126	1,176,279
R-squared	0.0885	0.0881	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0884	0.0884	0.0883
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

#### Table 10: Virtual Connections and PPP Uptake

This table reports regression results to predict the PPP uptake at the store level based on virtual connections measures. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (500yds), Census response rate, Pct of Membership, Pct of City Proud, and Pct of Trust Bank. We use county-industry fixed effects and include county characteristics. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

DEP VAR = D_PPP	(1)	(2)	(3)
Ln(Conn)	0.0011		
Lii(Collii)			
In(Comp. CTV)	(0.0012)	0.0062***	
Ln(Conn_CTY)			
I (C 7ID)		(0.0012)	0.0003444
Ln(Conn_ZIP)			0.0093***
I (C CTV 1 TV)			(0.0013)
Ln(Conn_CTY_excl_ZIP)			0.0051**
			(0.0021)
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY)		-0.0016	-0.0010
		(0.0012)	(0.0013)
Census Response Rate	0.0091***	0.0085***	0.0086***
	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)
Pct. of Membership	0.0022**	0.0020**	0.0018*
	(0.0010)	(0.0010)	(0.0009)
City Pride	0.0017***	0.0019***	0.0016***
•	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)
Trust of Banks	0.0011**	0.0011**	0.0011**
	(0.0005)	(0.0005)	(0.0005)
Constant	0.1979***	0.1975***	0.1986***
	(0.0015)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)
Observations	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894
R-squared	0.0883	0.0883	0.0884
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

#### **Table 11: Virtual Connections - Cross-Sectional Effects**

This table reports the estimated effects of virtual connection on PPP uptake by store or zip code characteristics. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. We categorize virtual connections variables with three levels, Low, Medium, and High, based on terciles of the zip-code level virtual connections measure. The Low level of social capital is treated as a benchmark in regressions. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (500yds), Census response rate, Pct of Membership, Pct of City Proud, and Pct of Trust Bank. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	Ln (# of Stores in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Business Turnover	D_Banks_1000
Ln(Conn CTY) - Medium	0.0045***	0.0039**	0.0038**	0.0027*	0.0029*	0.0038**	0.0043**	0.0058***
· – /	(0.0017)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0017)	(0.0021)
Ln(Conn CTY) - High	0.0105***	0.0092***	0.0089***	0.0075***	0.0079***	0.0088***	0.0092***	0.0114***
· = /	(0.0026)	(0.0025)	(0.0025)	(0.0023)	(0.0023)	(0.0025)	(0.0025)	(0.0028)
Ln(Conn_CTY) - Medium x VAR	0.0044***	0.0023**	-0.0006	0.0027	0.0025	-0.0012	-0.0010	-0.0034
	(0.0014)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0016)	(0.0020)	(0.0022)
Ln(Conn_CTY) - High x VAR	0.0096***	0.0043***	-0.0008	0.0025	0.0048**	-0.0013	-0.0030	-0.0043*
	(0.0017)	(0.0010)	(0.0014)	(0.0019)	(0.0021)	(0.0018)	(0.0030)	(0.0023)
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY) - Medium	-0.0007	-0.0009	-0.0014	-0.0012	-0.0023	-0.0010	-0.0008	0.0028
	(0.0016)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0019)
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY) - High	-0.0035*	-0.0026	-0.0026	-0.0027	-0.0022	-0.0025	-0.0017	-0.0007
	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0020)	(0.0020)	(0.0024)
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY) - Medium x VAR	0.0036**	0.0016	-0.0042***	-0.0021	-0.0032*	0.0003	-0.0013	-0.0067***
	(0.0016)	(0.0011)	(0.0012)	(0.0015)	(0.0018)	(0.0015)	(0.0016)	(0.0022)
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY) - High x VAR	-0.0018	0.0010	-0.0054***	-0.0027*	-0.0068***	-0.0011	-0.0036	-0.0045**
	(0.0017)	(0.0011)	(0.0012)	(0.0016)	(0.0019)	(0.0015)	(0.0026)	(0.0023)
Observations	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894
R-squared	0.0884	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0883	0.0881
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

#### Table 12: PPP Uptake - Banks vs Fintech

This table reports results to predict the PPP uptake by lender type at the store level based on nearby banks, social capital, and virtual connections. The dependent variable is an indicator variable equal to 1 if a store received a PPP loan from a bank, 2 if a store received a PPP loan from non-bank institutions, and zero otherwise. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, and D\_Rural. In addition, we control for county-level control variables. Standard errors clustered by state x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

-	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	D PPP Lender					
VARIABLES	=Bank	=FinTech	=Bank	=FinTech	=Bank	=FinTech
D Bank (200 yds)	0.120***	0.136***	0.113***	0.130***	0.113***	0.130***
D_Bank (200 yds)	(0.0171)	(0.0295)	(0.0173)	(0.0305)	(0.0173)	(0.0304)
D Bank (200 - 500 yds)	0.0798***	0.0993***	0.0749***	0.0984***	0.0742***	0.0993***
D_Bank (200 - 300 yds)	(0.0150)	(0.0293)	(0.0150)	(0.0304)	(0.0148)	(0.0306)
D Bank (500 - 1000 yds)	0.0483***	0.0730***	0.0442***	0.0718***	0.0437***	0.0716***
B_Bain (500 1000 yas)	(0.0116)	(0.0215)	(0.0117)	(0.0223)	(0.0117)	(0.0223)
Ln (# of Banks in Zip - excl. 1000 yds)	0.0703***	0.0457***	0.0697***	0.0485***	0.0699***	0.0494***
(* , , )	(0.00618)	(0.0107)	(0.00575)	(0.0111)	(0.00549)	(0.0119)
D CBank (200 yds)	0.0480***	-0.0194	0.0429***	-0.0154	0.0429***	-0.0119
_	(0.0143)	(0.0267)	(0.0148)	(0.0276)	(0.0147)	(0.0284)
D CBank (200 - 500 yds)	0.0274***	-0.0539***	0.0272***	-0.0447**	0.0272***	-0.0456**
_	(0.0101)	(0.0208)	(0.0100)	(0.0213)	(0.00991)	(0.0214)
D CBank (500 -1000 yds)	0.0240***	-0.00180	0.0246***	0.00192	0.0237**	0.00195
	(0.00917)	(0.0229)	(0.00948)	(0.0231)	(0.00942)	(0.0231)
% of SBA Loans (200 yds)	0.0529***	0.0608***	0.0524***	0.0609***	0.0527***	0.0609***
	(0.00290)	(0.00656)	(0.00291)	(0.00673)	(0.00293)	(0.00675)
% OF SBA loans (500 yds)	0.0309***	0.0133*	0.0298***	0.0103	0.0306***	0.00996
	(0.00294)	(0.00751)	(0.00294)	(0.00760)	(0.00291)	(0.00754)
Pct (Jobs in Finance in census tract)	0.00885*	0.0446***	0.0121**	0.0488***	0.0142***	0.0477***
	(0.00481)	(0.0115)	(0.00508)	(0.0119)	(0.00489)	(0.0108)
Census Response Rate			0.0596***	0.00136	0.0525***	-0.0003
			(0.00791)	(0.0117)	(0.00822)	(0.0117)
Pct of Any Membership			0.0286***	0.0143	0.0222***	0.0106
			(0.00685)	(0.0104)	(0.00611)	(0.0111)
City Pride			0.00512	0.00924	0.00925**	0.00864
			(0.00454)	(0.0100)	(0.00444)	(0.0107)
Trust of Banks			0.00715*	0.0134	0.00831**	0.0136
			(0.00385)	(0.0101)	(0.00375)	(0.0100)
Inside-County Connections					0.0667***	0.0103
					(0.0116)	(0.0180)
Outside-County Connections					-0.0116	-0.00317
					(0.00850)	(0.0225)
D_AMZ	0.0169**	0.00818	0.00700	0.00398	0.0103*	0.00464
	(0.00683)	(0.00992)	(0.00601)	(0.00992)	(0.00588)	(0.0101)
Observations	1,226,653	1,226,653	1,155,503	1,155,503	1,152,676	1,152,676
FE	0.0588	0.0588	0.0591	0.0591	0.0594	0.0594
R-square	0.0588	0.0588	0.0591	0.0591	0.0594	0.0594

Table 13: Bank Effects with Different Fixed Effects

This table reports regression results to predict the PPP uptake at the store level based on bank access with different fixed effects. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, and D\_Rural. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
D_Bank (200 Yds)	0.0180***	0.0153***	0.0134***	0.0111***
	(0.0018)	(0.0018)	(0.0020)	(0.0024)
D_Bank (200 - 500 Yds)	0.0098***	0.0073***	0.0061***	0.0046**
	(0.0015)	(0.0015)	(0.0018)	(0.0022)
D_Bank (500 - 1000 Yds)	0.0053***	0.0038***	0.0035**	0.0025
	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0015)	(0.0018)
D_Community_Bank (200 Yds)	0.0091***	0.0087***	0.0092***	0.0097***
	(0.0021)	(0.0021)	(0.0024)	(0.0029)
D_Community_Bank (200 - 500 Yds)	0.0047***	0.0046***	0.0040**	0.0033
	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0019)	(0.0023)
D_Community_Bank (500 -1000 Yds)	0.0035***	0.0023*	0.0008	0.0005
	(0.0013)	(0.0013)	(0.0016)	(0.0019)
Ln (# of Banks In The Zip - Beyond 1000 Yds)	0.0077***	0.0059***	0.0065***	0.0052***
	(0.0008)	(0.0011)	(0.0016)	(0.0019)
Pct of SBA Loans (200 Yds)	0.0089***	0.0085***	0.0081***	0.0078***
	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0005)	(0.0005)
Pct of SBA Loans (500 Yds)	0.0042***	0.0037***	0.0032***	0.0029***
	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.0005)
Observations	1,235,877	1,235,902	1,232,418	1,206,311
R-squared	0.0574	0.0689	0.1135	0.1683
FE	County, Ind	Zip, Ind	Tract, Ind	CGB, Ind

Table 14: Robustness Check - Controlling for UI Claims

This table reports regression results to predict the PPP uptake at the store level controlling for UI claims based on store, zip, and local bank access. This table uses the subsample of non-brand firms in California. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

DEP VAR = D PPP	(1)	(2)	(3)
UI Claims (Zip*Industry)		0.0007	0.0011
or elams (zip industry)		(0.0040)	(0.0038)
Census Response Rate		,	0.0073***
			(0.0027)
D_Bank (200 Yds)	0.0105***	0.0105***	0.0097***
B B 1 (200 500 1/1)	(0.0033)	(0.0033)	(0.0033)
D_Bank (200 - 500 Yds)	0.0118***	0.0117***	0.0111***
D Bank (500 - 1000 Yds)	(0.0032) 0.0065**	(0.0032) 0.0065**	(0.0031) 0.0060**
D_Balik (300 - 1000 1 ds)	(0.0026)	(0.0026)	(0.0027)
Ln (# Of Banks In The Zip - Beyond 1000 Yds)	0.0091***	0.0090***	0.0085***
1 3	(0.0019)	(0.0019)	(0.0018)
D_Community_Bank (200 Yds)	0.0065	0.0065	0.0064
	(0.0060)	(0.0061)	(0.0061)
D_Community_Bank (200 - 500 Yds)	-0.0032	-0.0032	-0.0031
	(0.0040)	(0.0039)	(0.0038)
D_Community_Bank (500 -1000 Yds)	-0.0024	-0.0025	-0.0024
	(0.0037)	(0.0036)	(0.0035)
Pct of SBA Loans (200 Yds)	0.0109***	0.0109***	0.0109***
D . (CD) 1 . (CO) 1(1)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)
Pct of SBA Loans (500 Yds)	0.0045***	0.0045***	0.0044***
Det (I-les in Einen en in en en et)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)
Pct (Jobs in Finance in census tract)	0.0003	0.0003	0.0008
Size	(0.0023) 0.0301***	(0.0023) 0.0301***	(0.0023) 0.0302***
Size	(0.0038)	(0.0038)	(0.0038)
Chg Visits Self	-0.0031*	-0.0031*	-0.0031*
Chg_vishs_5ch	(0.0016)	(0.0016)	(0.0017)
Chg Visits Peers	0.0015	0.0015	0.0012
	(0.0016)	(0.0017)	(0.0016)
Chg_Visits_LastYr	0.0015	0.0015	0.0014
<u> </u>	(0.0014)	(0.0014)	(0.0013)
Ln (# of Nearby Stores)	0.0333***	0.0333***	0.0333***
	(0.0020)	(0.0021)	(0.0021)
Ln (Avg. # of Visits in Nearby Store)	-0.0002	-0.0002	-0.0003
	(0.0019)	(0.0020)	(0.0020)
Pct of Brand Stores Nearby	0.0008	0.0008	0.0008
	(0.0020)	(0.0020)	(0.0020)
Ln (# of Households)	0.0051*	0.0050*	0.0048*
I (# CE (1)	(0.0027)	(0.0029)	(0.0028)
Ln (# of Estabs)	-0.0118***	-0.0122***	-0.0120***
Ln (Median Income)	(0.0029) 0.0121***	(0.0028) 0.0122***	(0.0027) 0.0087**
Lii (Median income)	(0.0040)	(0.0043)	(0.0036)
Ln (Pop Density)	0.0040)	0.0002	-0.0000
Zii (i op Denoity)	(0.0036)	(0.0036)	(0.0036)
Pct of Minorities	-0.0036*	-0.0037*	-0.0035*
	(0.0021)	(0.0020)	(0.0020)
Pct_Edu (≥BA)	0.0079**	0.0078**	0.0090**
	(0.0033)	(0.0033)	(0.0036)
D_Urban	0.0071	0.0070	0.0062
	(0.0067)	(0.0066)	(0.0065)
D_Suburb	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0001
	(0.0052)	(0.0052)	(0.0052)
D_2nd City	0.0186**	0.0186**	0.0186**
	(0.0078)	(0.0078)	(0.0078)
D_Rural	0.0049	0.0047	0.0063
	(0.0074)	(0.0075)	(0.0074)
Observations	154 200	154 200	154 200
Observations R-squared	154,309 0.0607	154,309 0.0607	154,309 0.0608
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind
· L	O I I A IIIU	CIIAIIIU	CIIAIII

#### **Table 15: Robustness Check - Census Response Rate**

This table reports regression results using the census response rate in 2020. Columns 1 and 4 report OLS estimates, and columns 2-3 and columns 5-6 report the IV estimates, in which we instrument the census response rate in 2020 based on the census response rate in 2010. We include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, in all specifications, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (200yds), and Pct of SBA Loans (500yds) in both panels. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
DEP VAR = D_PPP	OLS	IV: 1st stage	IV: 2nd stage	OLS	IV: 1st stage	IV: 2nd stage
Census Response Rate 2020 (zip)	0.0123***		0.0195***	0.0120***		0.0186***
Census Response Rate 2020 (Zip)						0.0200
	(0.0013)		(0.0024)	(0.0013)		(0.0022)
Census Response Rate 2010 (zip)		0.4908***			0.4914***	
		(0.0141)			(0.0140)	
Pct. of Membership				0.0026***	0.0198***	0.0022**
_				(0.0009)	(0.0053)	(0.0009)
City Pride				0.0017***	0.0138***	0.0014**
				(0.0006)	(0.0043)	(0.0006)
Trust of Banks				0.0012**	-0.0151***	0.0012**
				(0.0005)	(0.0054)	(0.0005)
Observations	1,211,382	1,148,254	1,148,254	1,200,895	1,139,891	1,139,891
F-stat (weak instrument)			1215			1228
R-squared	0.0907		0.0133	0.0908		0.0134
Fixed Effects	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

# **Appendix**

## Matching PPP Data with Safegraph POI

This section explains the steps we take to link businesses from PPP loan borrower with SafeGraph POI. We exploit the information of business name and street address in the PPP data and SafeGraph to match the loan borrowers with stores. Specifically, the algorithm optimizes a similarity metric that compares business name, street address, geographic coordinates, and NAICS codes.

We obtain loan-level PPP data released by the Small Business Administration (SBA). The data provide borrower information, including business name, street address and NAICS categorical coding; loan information, including approval date and loan amount; and lender information, including the names of the financial institutions that facilitated the loan application and distribution.

The first step is to find the geographic coordinates of business locations using the street address and zip code in PPP data through address geocoding. We successfully obtain the latitudes and longitudes of 91.4% businesses through a valid street address, and for the remaining businesses, we obtain the coordinates of their zip codes. Since SafeGraph already provides geographic coordinates of all POIs, we can calculate the geographic distance between any potential match.

The second step is to preprocess and standardize the business name and address in two datasets. We clean the data by removing all punctuation and common suffixes in the business name. Then we correct the spelling errors in city and state and convert all commonly used street suffix or abbreviations in the address to the full expansion according to the list by USPS. <sup>31</sup>

The third step is to form a sample of potential matches. We join two data sets to see all possible matches based on NAICS code and a broad geographic category. State is used in this step to ensure a full scan of all possible matches, since city and postal code can be inconsistent across different data sets for the same business. For example, a store located in the area on the periphery of a large town might be linked with the name of suburb in one

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup>https://pe.usps.com/text/pub28/28apc<sub>0</sub>02.htm

date set while with the name of the downtown in another. This step is meant to generate a relatively large but noisy set of candidates, proving the next step with as much scope as possible to find the match.

The fourth step is to measure the string similarity between business names and addresses for all pairs of matching candidates. We conduct the TF-IDF fuzzy string matching to calculate the similarity score for each pair of business names and street names. TF-IDF analyzes the corpus of words as a whole and weights each token as more important to the string if it is less common in the corpus. This means that if two strings have a relatively rare term (such as proper nouns "Red Roof" and "Starbucks") in common, this outweighs the importance of two more common terms (such as "north" and "street" in the street address and "Inn" and "Cafe" in the business name).

The final step is to use all the information we just obtained to disambiguate the noisy matches and find the best match. We combine the string similarity of names and addresses with other information, including street number, zip code, and geographic distance. Since the name of a business used to apply for PPP loans is not necessarily the same as the store name, we assign higher weights on the location information. We conduct multiple rounds of sensitive matching.

Specifically, in the first round, we pick the store-borrower pairs as the best match when both the street addresses and names are almost perfectly matched. For the remaining stores without a first-best match, we moderately relax the restriction on name similarity and require a perfect matching on street address and geographic distance. In the third-round matching, we moderately relax the restriction on street address similarity and require a good matching on business name and geographic distance. In the fourth-round matching, for the remaining stores without any previous match, we focus on the candidate borrower with the highest street address similarity, same first digit of street number, and very short distance. To weed out false positive, we only view them as a match if the store is the only business in its NAICS category located at the address and the PPP borrower also is the only business in the same NAICS category located at the address.

To check the matching quality, we also manually check a randomly-selected subsample of stores in Maryland. For stores with PPP loans, we compare the information from SafeGraph and PPP data to make sure they are not false positive. For stores without PPP loans, we search the PPP database for any business in MD with the same NAICS code that has at least one word in common in terms of their business name. And then we search these PPP borrowers online for their detailed business information including the stores they own and their locations and compare them with the SafeGraph store. It is rare to find them matched.

[Appendix Figure 1: The Role of Local Bank Access and Social Capital on Minority]

[Appendix Table A1: Social Capital and Bank Access - Continuous]

[Appendix Table A2: Social Capital - Cross-Sectional Effects - Continuous]

[Appendix Table A3: Virtual Connections - Cross-Sectional Effects - Continuous]

[Appendix Table A4: Economic Effects of Local Bank Access and Social Capital on PPP:

Low vs High Minority Zip Codes]

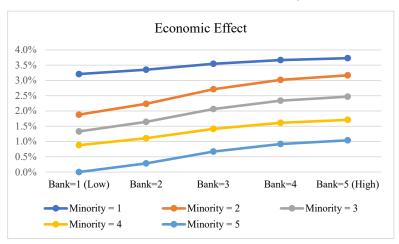
[Appendix Table A5: Economic Effects of Local Bank Access, Social Capital and Minority at the Tract Level on PPP]

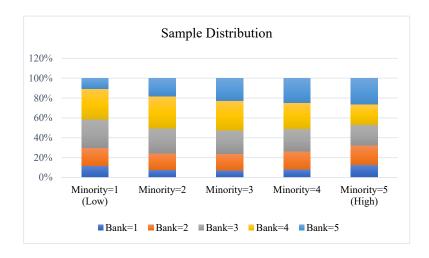
[Appendix Table A6: Robustness Checks: Subsamples]

#### Appendix Figure 1: The Role of Local Bank Access and Social Capital on Minority

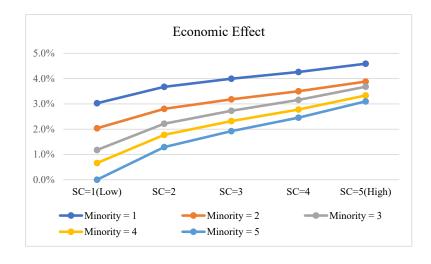
These figures show the economic effects of local bank access (measured by the average of D\_Banks\_1000 at the tract level) and social capital (measured by tract-level census response rate) on PPP uptake by minority cohorts. For each variable of interest – local bank access, census response rate, and the percentage of minorities, we separate census tracts into 5 cohorts. The economic effects reported in Panel A are estimated from the regression coefficients of minority, local bank access, and their interactions. The economic effects reported in Panel B are estimated from the regression coefficients of minority, census response rate, and their interactions. The corresponding regressions are reported in Appendix Table A5.

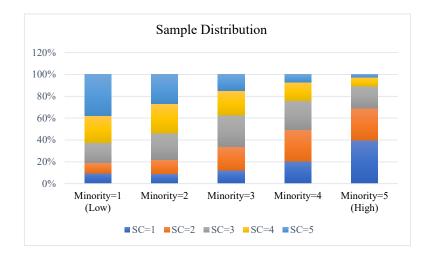
Panel A: Economic Effects of Local Bank Access on Minority





Panel B: Economic Effects of Social Capital on Minority





### Table A1: Social Capital and Bank Access - Continuous

This table reports results to predict the interaction between the social capital and bank access on the PPP uptake. The dependent variable is an indicator variable that equals 1 and zero otherwise. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, and D\_Rural. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
0.0000			
` ,			
(0.0009)			
	0.0050***		
	(0.0010)		
	-0.0023***		
	(0.0009)		
		0.0023***	
		(0.0007)	
		0.0006	
		(0.0008)	
		,	0.0024***
			(0.0008)
			-0.0015*
			(0.0009)
0.0056***	0.0057***	0.0060***	0.0058***
			(0.0011)
,		` /	0.0038***
			(0.0011)
(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)
1,159,364	1,220,572	1,224,278	1,218,469
0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09
			County x Ind
	0.0092*** (0.0013) 0.0008 (0.0009)  0.0056*** (0.0012) 0.0035*** (0.0012) 1,159,364	0.0092*** (0.0013) 0.0008 (0.0009)  0.0050*** (0.0010) -0.0023*** (0.0009)  0.0057*** (0.00012) (0.0011) 0.0035*** (0.0012) (0.0012) 1,159,364 0.09 1,220,572 0.09	0.0092*** (0.0013) 0.0008 (0.0009)  0.0050*** (0.0010) -0.0023*** (0.0009)  0.0023*** (0.0007) 0.0006 (0.0008)  0.0056*** 0.0057*** 0.0060*** (0.0012) 0.0035*** 0.0038*** 0.0038*** (0.0012) 0.0012) 0.0012) 0.0012) 1,159,364 1,220,572 1,224,278 0.09 0.09

Table A2: Social Capital - Cross-Sectional Effects - Continuous

This table reports the estimated effects of social capital on PPP uptake by store or zip code characteristics. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (200yds), and Pct of SBA Loans (500yds). Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

Panel A	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
			Ln (# of Stores				Business
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Turnover
Census Response Rate	0.0099***	0.0093***	0.0093***	0.0093***	0.0092***	0.0093***	0.0104***
	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0011)
Census Response Rate x VAR	0.0043***	-0.0003	0.0012**	0.0010	0.0011	0.0013**	-0.0031
	(0.0006)	(0.0005)	(0.0005)	(0.0007)	(0.0007)	(0.0007)	(0.0019)
Observations	1 150 264	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,159,364	1 150 264
	1,159,364						1,159,364
R-squared	0.0885	0.0884	0.0884	0.0884	0.0884	0.0884	0.0884
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind
Panel B	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
			Ln (# of Stores				Business
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Turnover
Pct of Membership	0.0037***	0.0031***	0.0033***	0.0032***	0.0033***	0.0033***	0.0038***
Tet of Memoership	(0.0009)	(0.0009)	(0.0009)	(0.0010)	(0.0010)	(0.0009)	(0.0010)
Pct of Membership x VAR	0.0032***	-0.0002	-0.0009*	-0.0002	-0.0005	-0.0010	-0.0023
Tet of Membership x VAR		(0.0002)	(0.0005)		(0.0010)		
	(0.0007)	(0.0006)	(0.0003)	(0.0009)	(0.0010)	(0.0009)	(0.0020)
Observations	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572	1,220,572
R-squared	0.0905	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904	0.0904
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

Panel C	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
			Ln (# of Stores				Business
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Turnover
City Pride	0.0024***	0.0022***	0.0025***	0.0024***	0.0019***	0.0022***	0.0026***
,	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)
City Pride x VAR	-0.0004	-0.0020***	-0.0003	-0.0004	-0.0016***	0.0009*	-0.0012
	(0.0005)	(0.0004)	(0.0005)	(0.0005)	(0.0006)	(0.0005)	(0.0012)
Observations	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278	1,224,278
R-squared	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905	0.0905
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind
Panel D	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
			Ln (# of Stores				Business
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Turnover
Trust of Banks	0.0014**	0.0011**	0.0016***	0.0015**	0.0020***	0.0013**	0.0015***
	(0.0005)	(0.0005)	(0.0005)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0005)	(0.0006)
Trust of Banks x VAR	0.0003	-0.0010**	-0.0010***	-0.0005	-0.0020***	0.0001	-0.0010
	(0.0005)	(0.0005)	(0.0004)	(0.0007)	(0.0007)	(0.0006)	(0.0010)
Observations	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469	1,218,469
R-squared	0.0904	0.0904	0.0905	0.0904	0.0905	0.0904	0.0904
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

Table A3: Virtual Connections - Cross-Sectional Effects - Continuous

This table reports the estimated effects of virtual connection on PPP uptake by store or zip code characteristics. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (500yds), Census response rate, Pct of Membership, Pct of City Proud, and Pct of Trust Bank. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
			Ln (# of Stores				Business	D Banks 1000
VAR =	Size	Prior Growth	in 200 yds)	Median Income	Pct_Edu (>BA)	Pct_Minority	Turnover	D_Baliks_1000
Ln(Conn_CTY)	0.0071***	0.0065***	0.0064***	0.0059***	0.0062***	0.0070***	0.0060***	0.0070***
	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0014)
Ln(Conn_CTY) x VAR	0.0051***	0.0020***	0.0001	0.0019***	0.0029***	-0.0014**	0.0005	-0.0012
	(0.0007)	(0.0004)	(0.0006)	(0.0007)	(0.0009)	(0.0007)	(0.0014)	(0.0010)
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY)	-0.0018	-0.0014	-0.0010	-0.0025**	-0.0032***	-0.0003	-0.0011	-0.0007
	(0.0012)	(0.0011)	(0.0013)	(0.0010)	(0.0011)	(0.0012)	(0.0012)	(0.0015)
Ln(Conn_outside_CTY) x VAR	-0.0006	0.0001	-0.0027***	-0.0022**	-0.0034***	-0.0010	-0.0027*	-0.0023**
, – – ,	(0.0007)	(0.0006)	(0.0005)	(0.0009)	(0.0008)	(0.0007)	(0.0015)	(0.0009)
Observations	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894	1,147,894
R-squared	0.0884	0.0883	0.0884	0.0884	0.0884	0.0883	0.0883	0.0882
FE	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind	CTY x Ind

Table A4: Economic Effects of Local Bank Access and Social Capital on PPP: Low vs High Minority Zip Codes

This table reports the regressions of local bank access (measured by the average of D\_Bank\_1000), social capital (measured by 2020 zip-level census response rate), and minority on PPP uptake. The estimated coefficients are used to generate Figure 7 and Figure 8. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (200yds), and Pct of SBA Loans (500yds). Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

	(1)	(2)	(3)
DED VAR DE DED	CRR vs Bank1000	•	Minority vs Bank1000
$\underline{DEPVAR} = \underline{D}_{PPP}$	LHS=d_ppp	LHS=d_ppp	LHS=d_ppp
Census Response Rate - Medium	0.0070***		
•	(0.0019)		
Census Response Rate - High	0.0157***		
	(0.0027)		
Census Response Rate - Medium x D Banks 1000	0.0052***		
	(0.0020)		
Census Response Rate - High x D_Banks_1000	0.0010		
	(0.0024)		
Pct of Minorities - Medium		-0.0106***	-0.0180***
		(0.0021)	(0.0022)
Pct of Minorities - High		-0.0160***	-0.0259***
		(0.0025)	(0.0028)
Pct of Minorities - Medium x Census Response Rate		0.0030*	
		(0.0018)	
Pct of Minorities - High x Census Response Rate		0.0076***	
		(0.0018)	
Pct of Minorities - Medium x D_Banks_1000			0.0119***
			(0.0024)
Pct of Minorities - High x D_Banks_1000			0.0105***
			(0.0023)
Pct of Minorities	-0.0077***		
	(0.0010)		
Census Response Rate		0.0055***	
		(0.0015)	
D_Banks_1000	0.0033**		-0.0029
	(0.0016)		(0.0021)
Observations	1,159,364	1,159,364	1,227,536
R-squared	0.0882	0.0884	0.0902
FE	County x Ind	County x Ind	County x Ind

Table A5: Economic Effects of Local Bank Access, Social Capital and Minority at the Tract Level on PPP

This table reports the regressions of local bank access, social capital (measured by 2020 tract-level census response rate), and minority on PPP uptake. The estimated coefficients are used to generate Appendix Figure 1. We only include non-brand stores in the sample. Fixed effects included in each regression are indicated in the column. In addition to the variables shown, we control for Size, Chg\_Visits\_Self, Chg\_Visits\_Peers, Chg\_Visits\_LastYr, Ln(# of Stores), Ln(Avg # of visits), Pct of Brand Stores, Ln(# of Households), Ln(# of Estabs), Ln(Median Income), Ln(Pop Density), Pct of Minorities, Pct of Edu\_BA, D\_Urban, D\_Sub, D\_2nd City, D\_Rural, D\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Ln(# of banks in the zip - beyond 1000 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (200-500 yds), D\_Community\_Bank (500-1000 yds), Pct of SBA Loans (200yds), and Pct of SBA Loans (500yds). Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%,

	(1)	(2)
	Minority vs CRR	Minority vs Bank1000
$DEP VAR = D_PPP$	LHS=d_ppp	LHS=d_ppp
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 2	-0.0133***	-0.0083***
	(0.0022)	(0.0018)
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 3	-0.0188***	-0.0132***
	(0.0023)	(0.0019)
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 4	-0.0233***	-0.0174***
	(0.0026)	(0.0021)
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 5	-0.0321***	-0.0216***
	(0.0027)	(0.0024)
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 2 x D_Banks_1000	0.0077***	
	(0.0028)	
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 3 x D_Banks_1000	0.0062**	
	(0.0028)	
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 4 x D_Banks_1000	0.0031	
	(0.0028)	
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 5 x D_Banks_1000	0.0052*	
	(0.0030)	
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 2 x Census Response Rate (Tract)		0.0010
		(0.0018)
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 3 x Census Response Rate (Tract)		0.0033**
		(0.0017)
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 4 x Census Response Rate (Tract)		0.0039**
		(0.0019)
Pct of Minorities (Tract) - Quintile 5 x Census Response Rate (Tract)		0.0054***
		(0.0019)
D_Banks_1000	0.0014	
	(0.0023)	
Census Response Rate (Tract)		0.0055***
		(0.0014)
Observations	1,176,279	1,160,012
R-squared	0.0880	0.0886
FE	County x Ind	County x Ind

#### Table A6: Robustness Checks: Subsamples

This table reports regression results to predict the PPP uptake at the store level using two subsamples. In Column 1, we only include non-brand stores in the best-matched zips, where the average missing rate is 8.6%. In Column 2, we exclude zips in which more than 0.5% of homes are vacant - for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. We use county-industry fixed effects and include corresponding county characteristics. Standard errors clustered by county x industry are reported in parentheses. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*\* represent significance at 10%, 5%, and 1%, respectively.

Subsample: est-Matched  0.0099*** (0.0014) 0.0030** (0.0013) 0.0003 (0.0008) 0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	Subsample: Excl. Zips with High Pct of Seasonal-Homes  0.0100*** (0.0014) 0.0019** (0.0010) 0.0015** (0.0006) 0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011) 0.0036***
0.0099*** (0.0014) 0.0030** (0.0013) 0.0003 (0.0008) 0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	Homes  0.0100*** (0.0014) 0.0019** (0.0010) 0.0015** (0.0006) 0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
(0.0014) 0.0030** (0.0013) 0.0003 (0.0008) 0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	(0.0014) 0.0019** (0.0010) 0.0015** (0.0006) 0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
(0.0014) 0.0030** (0.0013) 0.0003 (0.0008) 0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	(0.0014) 0.0019** (0.0010) 0.0015** (0.0006) 0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
(0.0013) 0.0003 (0.0008) 0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	0.0019** (0.0010) 0.0015** (0.0006) 0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
0.0003 (0.0008) 0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	0.0015** (0.0006) 0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
(0.0008) 0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	(0.0006) 0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
0.0005 (0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	0.0011* (0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
(0.0010) 0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	(0.0006) 0.0039*** (0.0011)
0.0041*** (0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	0.0039*** (0.0011)
(0.0015) 0.0047*** (0.0016)	(0.0011)
0.0047*** (0.0016)	
. `	(0.0012)
0.0039***	0.0044***
(0.0012)	(0.0008)
0.0086***	0.0084***
(0.0006)	(0.0005)
	0.0036***
	(0.0004) 0.0026***
	(0.0008)
· /	0.0370***
	(0.0009)
	-0.0017***
(0.0006)	(0.0005)
0.0002	-0.0001
(0.0006)	(0.0005)
	0.0033***
	(0.0004) 0.0274***
	(0.0008)
'	0.0011*
	(0.0007)
· /	0.0022***
(0.0007)	(0.0006)
-0.0005	0.0038***
(0.0019)	(0.0011)
	-0.0055***
	(0.0013)
	0.0019
	(0.0017) -0.0035*
	(0.0019)
	-0.0062***
(0.0015)	(0.0011)
0.0079***	0.0057***
(0.0015)	(0.0012)
	0.0032
· /	(0.0028)
	-0.0015 (0.0019)
	(0.0019) 0.0060**
	(0.0027)
0.0032	0.0020
(0.0029)	(0.0023)
	0.2026***
(0.0020)	(0.0017)
577 002	1 000 401
	1,000,681 0.0876
	County x Ind
	0.0035*** (0.0006) 0.0008 (0.0010) 0.0437*** (0.0001) -0.0012** (0.0006) 0.0002 (0.0006) 0.0030*** (0.0011) -0.0012 (0.0008) 0.0037*** (0.0001) -0.0012 (0.0008) 0.0037*** (0.0007) -0.0005 (0.0019) -0.0025 (0.0018) 0.0059*** (0.0021) -0.0017 (0.0021) -0.0061*** (0.0015) 0.0079*** (0.0015) 0.0079*** (0.0015) 0.0018 (0.0035) -0.0000 (0.0028) 0.0091*** (0.0032) 0.0032 (0.0029) 0.2111***