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Impact of Mask Mandates on COVID-19 Outcomes

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Mask Mandate Effectiveness on Covid-19 Cases

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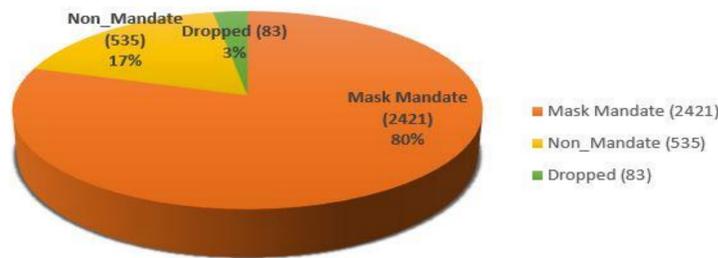
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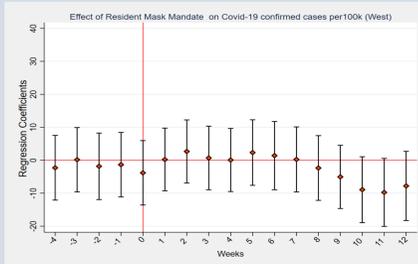
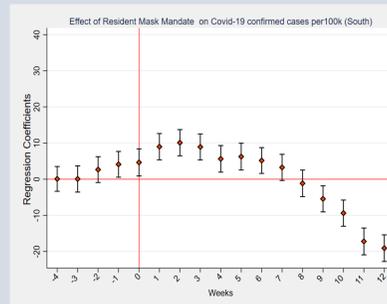
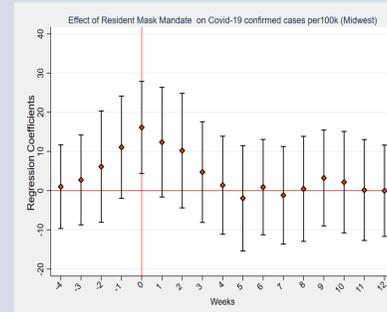
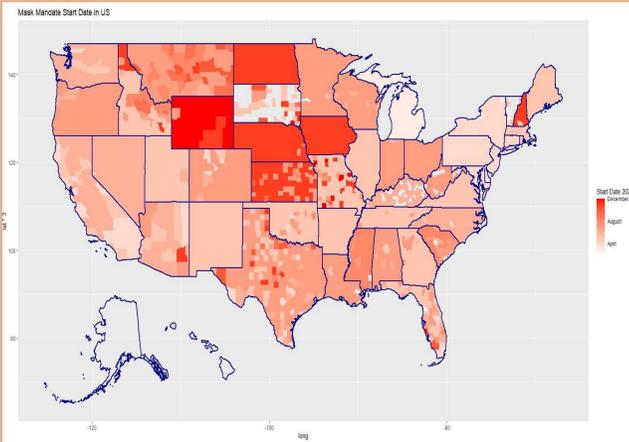
System Science & Industrial Engineering Department

Different Risk Levels differently behave with Mask Mandate Policy

US Counties with Mask Policy

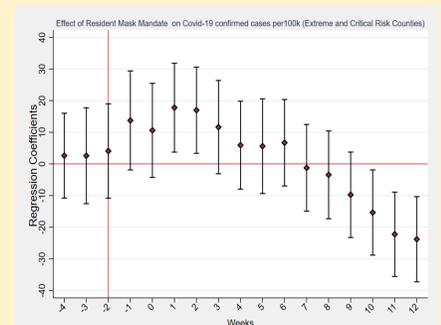
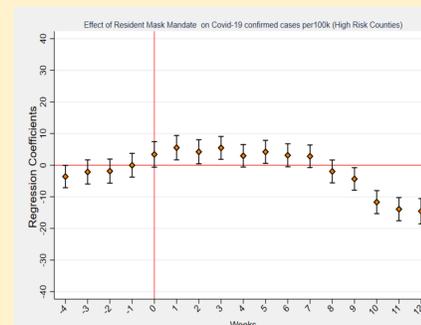
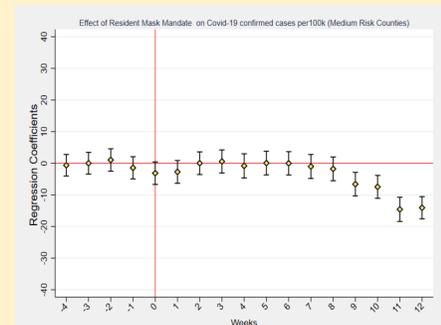
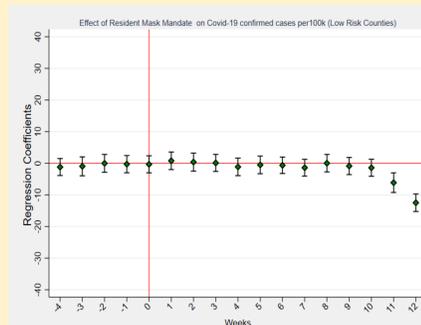


Mask Mandate Start Date



The overall Risk level is based on:

- Cases density
- Test Positive ratio
- Infection rate



Who cares?

Decision-makers need information about policies' effectiveness to decide which policies should be adopted while restarting economic activity.

METHOD:

Data: Five different time series dataset are collected (Covid-19 cases, Risk Levels, Google Mobility, Policies , Vaccination)

Model

Build an Event-based model for counties with Mask Mandates and counties without Mask Mandate

Methodology

Use counties' cases without Mask Mandate as a *baseline model*

Results

Compare changes in Covid-19 cases in both models and plot the results.

RESULTS:

- In the Midwest region, Mandate and Non-Mandate mask counties have statistically indistinguishable differences in Covid-19 confirmed cases 12 weeks after the start of the mask mandates.
- In the South region, Mask Mandate counties have a statistically distinguishable increment in Covid-19 confirmed cases 4 weeks after the start of mask mandate policy
- In the West region, Mandate and Non-Mandate mask counties have statistically indistinguishable differences in Covid-19 confirmed cases 12 weeks after the start of mask mandate policy

- In Low, Medium, High and (Critical&Extreme) Risk levels Mandate and Non-Mandate mask counties have statistically indistinguishable differences in Covid-19 confirmed cases 7 weeks after the start of the mask mandates.

- In Medium, High and (Critical&Extreme) Risk levels significantly distinguishable decrement in Covid-19 confirmed cases with Mask Mandate counties compared to Non-Mandate counties from weeks 9-12 after the start of the mask mandates.

REFERENCES

- <https://covidactnow.org/?s=32202035>
- <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/covid-cases.html>