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## The role of United States Visa Waiver Program on cross-border travel

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study investigates the role of the United States Visa Waiver Program on inbound

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No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> As of January 2014, there are 38 countries (30 in Europe) eligible for the VWP. See the United States Travel Authorization Application website (<u>www.esta.us</u>) for the current list of eligible countries.
- <sup>2</sup> Jena and Reilly (2013) and Shih (2016) study the determinants of demand for UK student visas and the role of H1-B visa on inbound student mobility to the US, respectively.
- <sup>3</sup> The regression for checking the parallel trends assumption is specified as

where the parameters and variables are defined as in Equation 1. The null hypothesis of similar trend is .

<sup>4</sup> The results are available upon request. We acknowledge the potential threat to external validity associated with the statistical difference between the treatment and control groups with respect to GDP and population. However, in the context of Difference-in-Difference estimation, the essential element that needs to be addressed is the existence of a parallel trend in travel levels to the US. This has been ascertained in our case.

<sup>5</sup> The test results for parallel trends between the treatment and comparison groups

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<sup>8</sup> However, in contrast to the US case, the UK data are characterized by a large number of missing datapoints.



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