

# README for Reproducibility Packages

This README is included in the reproducibility package to provide directions for replicating the results in the research paper. The sections mentioned below guide users through the replication process.

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The rest of the contents of this README file is highly desirable, but not strictly needed for reproducibility. The points above are needed.

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## Overview

This file offers a summary of the information needed to replicate the figures and tables reported in the paper titled “Firm Credit Constraints and Electronic Payments: A Global Analysis”. All the data necessary to replicate the results is provided. To run the script, new users need to change only the directory in line **11** of the main.do file.

## Data Availability

This section outlines where and how the data supporting the findings of the study can be accessed and used. This is crucial, especially for replicating the results, as only the same data will be able to produce consistent results. All data are publicly available.

All data is obtained from public repositories. Details appear below:

- **Filename 1:** New\_Comprehensive\_May\_5\_2025
  - **Source:** World Bank Enterprise Surveys
  - **URL:**  
<https://login.enterprisesurveys.org/content/sites/financeandprivatesector/en/signin.html>
  - **Access year:** May 2025.

- **Instructions:** The World Bank Enterprise Surveys are publicly available. Users should register in order to access the micro data. Users should select combined data and the following options:
  - Survey type: **Enterprise Survey**
  - Data Type: **Data**
  - Name of the database: **StandardizeNew**
- **Filename 2: ISIC\_code**
  - **Source:** United Nations Statistics Division
  - **URL:** [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesm/seriesm\\_4rev4e.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesm/seriesm_4rev4e.pdf)
  - **Access year:** 2025.
- **Filename 3: Country\_Level\_Vars**
  - **Sources:** World Bank Business Ready; World Bank World Development Indicators; IMF Financial Development Index
  - **Access year:** 2025.
    - **Business ready:** B-Ready, Financial Services Indicators: Pillar II: Accessibility of Information in Credit Infrastructure 2.1 Operation of Credit Bureaus and Registries. URL: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/businessready/data>
    - **IMF Financial Development Index:** Aggregate Financial Development Index for year 2021. URL: <https://data.imf.org/en/datasets/IMF.MCM:FDI>
    - **GDP per Capita:** World Economic Outlook Database – October 2024 - Gross domestic product per capita, constant prices, Purchasing power parity; 2021 international dollar. URL: <https://www.imf.org/en/publications/weo/weo-database/2024/october>
    - **Income Group:** World Bank classification by income for 2023. URL: <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>
    - **GDP Deflator:** World Economic Outlook Database – October 2024 - Gross domestic product, deflator. URL: <https://www.imf.org/en/publications/weo/weo-database/2024/october>

[database/2024/october/select-countries?grp=2001&sg=All%20countries](https://www.imf.org/en/publications/weo/weo-database/2024/october/select-countries?grp=2001&sg=All%20countries)

- **Local currency units per USD:** World Economic Outlook Database – October 2024 – Implied PPP Conversion Rate. URL: <https://www.imf.org/en/publications/weo/weo-database/2024/october>
- **Filename 4:** MIMIC\_p\_2020
  - **Source:** Elgin, C., M. A. Kose, F. Ohnsorge, and S. Yu. 2021. "Understanding Informality", C.E.P.R. Discussion Paper 16497, Centre for Economic Policy Research, London
  - **URL:** <https://www.worldbank.org/en/research/brief/informal-economy-database>
  - **Access year:** 2025.
  - **Note:** The MIMIC data was extracted by the data base produced by Elgin et al. The MIMIC measure was initially computed in Leandro Medina, Friedrich Schneider "Shadow Economies Around the World: What Did We Learn Over the Last 20 Years?"

### Statement about Rights

- I certify that the author(s) of the manuscript have legitimate access to and permission to use the data used in this manuscript.

### Instructions for Replicators

New users should follow these steps to run the package successfully: Update the following files with your directory paths

- `main_dofile.do`
- Ensure all required software and dependencies are installed as listed in the [Requirements](#) section.
- Run the `main_dofile.do` file.

### List of Exhibits

The provided code reproduces all tables and figures in the paper.

## Requirements

### Computational Requirements

In this section, specify operating system requirements, software dependencies, environment setup instructions, and any other relevant information essential for replicating the results. Each of these factors plays an important role in ensuring successful replication.

### Software Requirements

Software requirements are listed below.

- **Stata version 18**
  - Outreg2

### Memory and Runtime and Storage Requirements

Provide consistent information about memory resources for reliable computation. Include runtime information for replicators to assess processing times and detect potential issues with the code. It would be best to describe how much storage is required in addition to the space visible in the typical repository, for instance, because data will be unzipped, data downloaded, or temporary files written.

### Code Description

To obtain the results in the paper, there are 3 main do files.

- main.do sets file paths, installs necessary ADO packages, and executes all other dofiles.
- data\_cleaning.do loads data, handles missing values, compute and transform the variables included in the analyses.
- Descriptive\_statistics.do provide descriptive evidence
- and analysis.do performs basic statistical analysis and generate visualizations.

### Folder Structure

Details about folder structure are crucial because a well-organized layout enables replicators to navigate quickly to the desired files or directories without searching through cluttered or disorganized folders. Include only the files necessary for replication and delete any unnecessary files.

An ideal folder structure for a reproducibility package should look something like this:

## Data

- Raw
- Cleaned

## Code

- Main\_dofile.do
- Data\_cleaning.do
- Main\_results.do

## Outputs

- Main
  - Tables
  - Figures
- Annex
  - Tables
  - Manuscript