

APPENDIX 2: Mathematical Appendix for Spending Change Calculations

Suppose we assign variables as follows, for Period 1 (before a change in the local tax rate) and Period 2 (after a change in the local tax rate):

$$\begin{aligned} A_i &= \text{Allocation in each Period} \\ E_i &= \text{Taxable expenditures in each Period} \\ S_i &= \text{Total spending in each Period} \\ T_i &= \text{Tax rate in each Period} \\ \beta &= \text{Regression coefficient from Table 4} \\ \Delta_T &= \text{Percent change in the tax rate from Period 1 to Period 2} \\ \Delta_A &= \text{Percent change in Arlington tax revenues from Period 1 to Period 2} \\ \Delta_E &= \text{Percent change in taxable expenditures from Period 1 to Period 2} \\ \Delta_S &= \text{Percent change in total spending from Period 1 to Period 2} \end{aligned}$$

$$i = 1, 2$$

We can begin by defining A_1 , E_1 , A_2 , E_2 , S_1 , and S_2 simply as:

$$A_1 = T_1 E_1 \text{ and } A_2 = T_2 E_2,$$

$$E_1 = \frac{A_1}{T_1} \text{ and } E_2 = \frac{A_2}{T_2},$$

$$S_1 = (1 + T_1)E_1 \text{ and } S_2 = (1 + T_2)E_2.$$

Additionally, we define Δ_T , Δ_A , Δ_E , Δ_S as:

$$\Delta_T = \frac{T_2}{T_1} - 1, \Delta_A = \frac{A_2}{A_1} - 1, \Delta_E = \frac{E_2}{E_1} - 1, \text{ and } \Delta_S = \frac{S_2}{S_1} - 1.$$

Then it follows naturally from the form of the regression model that our percentage change for the tax increment in question will be $\Delta_A = (\Delta_T + 1)^\beta - 1 = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^\beta - 1$.

From here, we can substitute in order to calculate the analogous percent changes in both taxable expenditures and total spending in Periods 1 and 2, beginning with A_2 :

$$A_2 = (1 + \Delta_A)A_1 = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^\beta T_1 E_1,$$

by combining the fact that $A_1 = T_1 E_1$ and $\Delta_A = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^\beta - 1$. from above.

Now, we can represent Δ_E in terms of only our elasticity from the regression model and the analogous tax rates in the two periods, beginning with substitution into E_2 from above:

$$E_2 = \frac{A_2}{T_2} = \frac{\left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^\beta T_1 E_1}{T_2},$$

Substituting this into the definition for Δ_E ,

$$\Delta_E = \frac{E_2}{E_1} - 1 = \frac{\left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^\beta T_1 E_1}{T_2 E_1} - 1,$$

and cancelling E_1 from the top and bottom,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_E &= \frac{\left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^\beta T_1}{T_2} - 1 = \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right) \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^\beta - 1 \\ &= \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right) \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right) \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^{\beta-1} - 1 \\ &= \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^{\beta-1} - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Lastly, we can evaluate a simple expression of known values for the change in total spending in the area across the two periods:

$$\Delta_S = \frac{(1 + T_2)E_2}{(1 + T_1)E_1} - 1, \text{ by substitution from } S_i = (1 + T_i)E_i,$$

$$\frac{E_2}{E_1} = \Delta_E + 1, \text{ by rearrangement from the definition } \Delta_E = \frac{E_2}{E_1} - 1,$$

$$\Delta_S = \frac{(1 + T_2)}{(1 + T_1)} (\Delta_E + 1) - 1, \text{ by substitution.}$$

We simplify this to:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_S &= \frac{(1 + T_2)}{(1 + T_1)} \left[\left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^{\beta-1} - 1 \right] + 1 - 1 \\ &= \frac{(1 + T_2)}{(1 + T_1)} \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^{\beta-1} - 1\end{aligned}$$

Once the regression model is estimated, the elasticity for the local tax rate can be substituted for β , and the known tax rates in the two periods are substituted for T_1 and T_2 . For the change from a 1.0% to a 1.5% local tax rate:

$$\begin{aligned}\beta &= 0.893, \\ T_1 &= 0.010 \\ T_2 &= 0.015\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta_A = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^\beta - 1 = \left(\frac{0.015}{0.010} \right)^{0.893} - 1 \approx 0.4363 = \mathbf{43.63\%},$$

$$\Delta_E = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^{\beta-1} - 1 = \left(\frac{0.015}{0.010} \right)^{0.893-1} - 1 \approx -0.0425 = \mathbf{-4.25\%},$$

$$\Delta_S = \frac{(1 + T_2)}{(1 + T_1)} \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^{\beta-1} - 1 = \frac{(1 + 0.015)}{(1 + 0.010)} \left(\frac{0.015}{0.010} \right)^{0.893-1} - 1 \approx -0.0377 = \mathbf{-3.77\%}.$$

Similarly, for the change in the local tax rate from 1.25% to 1.75%:

$$\begin{aligned}\beta &= 0.893, \\ T_1 &= 0.0125 \\ T_2 &= 0.0175\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta_A = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^\beta - 1 = \left(\frac{0.0175}{0.0125} \right)^{0.893} - 1 \approx 0.3505 = \mathbf{35.05\%},$$

$$\Delta_E = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^{\beta-1} - 1 = \left(\frac{0.0175}{0.0125} \right)^{0.893-1} - 1 \approx -0.0354 = \mathbf{-3.54\%},$$

$$\Delta_S = \frac{(1 + T_2)}{(1 + T_1)} \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1} \right)^{\beta-1} - 1 = \frac{(1 + 0.0175)}{(1 + 0.0125)} \left(\frac{0.0175}{0.0125} \right)^{0.893-1} - 1 \approx -0.0306 = \mathbf{-3.06\%}.$$