

Partisan Collaboration in Policy Adoption: An Experimental Study with Local Government Officials

Yixin Liu

Supplemental Information

Contents

Appendix A	Sample Characteristics	2
Appendix B	Sample Representativeness	3
Appendix C	Survey Instruments	5
Appendix D	Subgroup Analysis	8
Appendix E	Estimated Difference in Marginal Means	13
Appendix F	Analysis of the Independent Respondents	14

Appendix A Sample Characteristics

Table A.1: Descriptive Summary

	Mean	SD	Min	Max
City Level Variables				
Population (in 1000)	117.09	397.70	30.07	8336.82
Median household income (in \$1000)	67.83	26.40	21.92	235.28
Female official ratio	34.24	17.92	0.00	100.00
Labor force participation	64.91	5.92	39.90	79.90
Home value (in \$1000)	299.11	255.25	40.44	2000.00
Unemployment rate	5.36	2.25	1.40	16.90
White percentage (residents)	71.18	17.01	5.60	95.50
Black percentage (residents)	12.98	15.64	0.10	91.80
Individual Level Variables				
Democrats	0.47	0.50	0.00	1.00
Republicans	0.25	0.43	0.00	1.00
Ideology	2.89	0.97	1.00	5.00
Tenure	2.52	0.97	1.00	4.00
White	0.78	0.41	0.00	1.00
Black	0.09	0.29	0.00	1.00
Hispanic	0.07	0.26	0.00	1.00
Asian	0.02	0.15	0.00	1.00
Other	0.03	0.18	0.00	1.00
Female	0.39	0.49	0.00	1.00
Age	56.51	12.59	19.00	89.00
Grad School	0.57	0.49	0.00	1.00

Appendix B Sample Representativeness

Figure B.1: Representativeness of Municipal Officials Who Responded

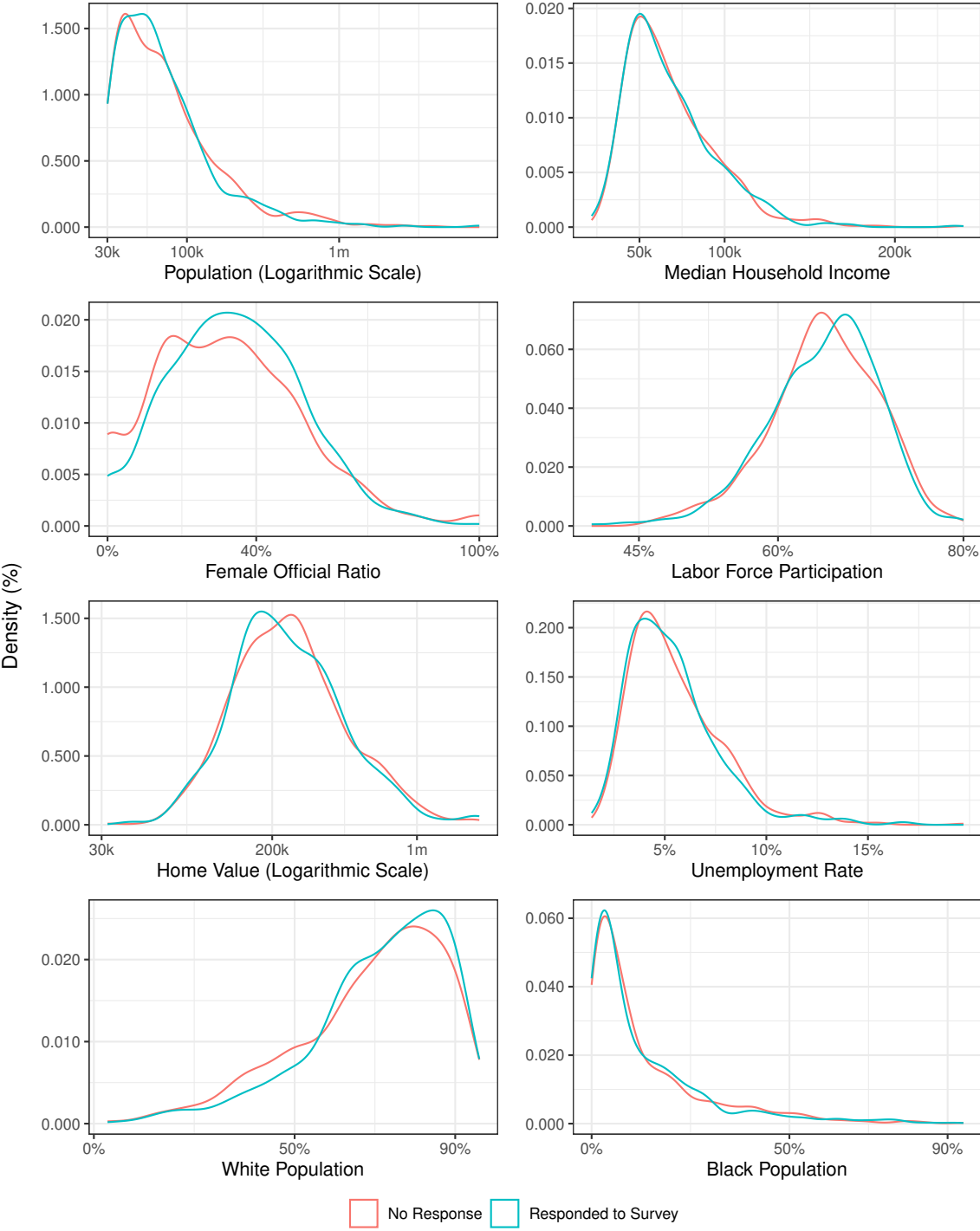


Table B.1: Representativeness of City Level Variables

	Responded Cities	No Response Cities	<i>P</i> -value
Population (in 1000)	117.09	118.82	0.93
Median household income (in \$1000)	67.83	68.34	0.74
Female official ratio	34.24	31.73	0.03
Labor force participation	64.91	64.99	0.81
Home value (in \$1000)	299.11	301.12	0.89
Unemployment rate	5.36	5.56	0.13
White percentage (residents)	71.18	68.98	0.03
Black percentage (residents)	12.98	13.23	0.78

Appendix C Survey Instruments

First, the respondents saw an introduction to the sustainable development program vignette.

Introduction

We are interested in the intergovernmental collaborative decisions of American local governments. In the following part, we will show you several **hypothetical** decision-making situations and ask you to provide opinions. Please try to be honest in answering the questions. Describe what you would **really** do if a similar situation occurs in your working life. Remember that your answers to all questions in this survey will be kept **completely confidential**.

Assuming you and your municipal government plan to collaborate with another city on an interlocal sustainable development program. The potential benefits of the program include:

- Economic development
- Community development
- Environmental protection

Based on your consideration for the best option to develop your municipality, please evaluate the following hypothetical city partners and their proposals. In total, you are asked to evaluate 3 pairs of cities in 3 separate pages. Please provide your choice in each pair.

Note: There is **no** right or wrong answer to any comparisons.

Next, the respondents completed three pairs of comparison task like the following.

Suppose you can only collaborate with one out of the two cities:

Program Attributes:	City A	City B
The program will create	500 jobs in your city	800 jobs in your city
The program is proposed by	Democrats	Republicans
Your previous working experiences with this city	Good	No experience
Cost of the program	You pay: \$250,000; This city pays: \$750,000	You pay: \$500,000; This city pays: \$500,000

Please indicate which city do you prefer to collaborate with:

City A City B



Next, the respondents answered political background questions and demographic questions.

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a . . .

- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent
- Other party (please specify)

How would you describe your political views as of today?

- Very liberal
- Liberal
- Moderate
- Conservative
- Very Conservative
- No opinion

How many years have you been in your current government position?

- Less than 1 year
- Less than 5 years
- Less than 10 years
- More than 10 years

Do you consider yourself to be...

- White, not Hispanic or Latino
- Black, not Hispanic or Latino
- Hispanic or Latino
- Asian, not Hispanic or Latino
- Other

Which of the following best describes your gender identity?

- Male
- Female

- Non-binary/third gender
- prefer not to say

Your age: _____

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Less than high school
- High school/GED
- Some college
- 2-year college degree
- 4-year college degree
- master degree
- doctoral degree
- Professional Degree (JD, MD)

Appendix D Subgroup Analysis

Figure D.1: Subgroup Analysis: Female and Male Officials

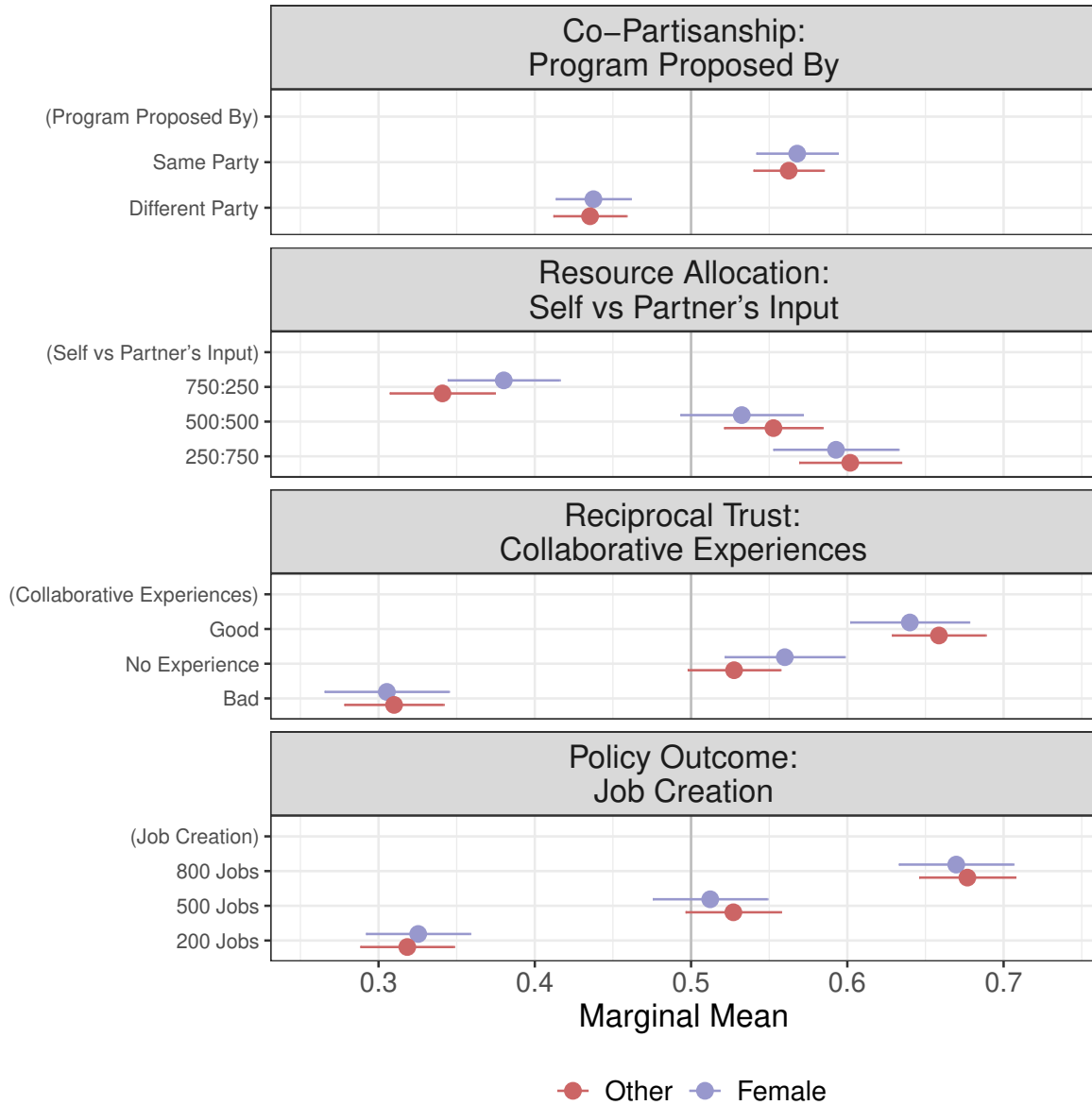


Figure D.2: Subgroup Analysis: White and Nonwhite Officials

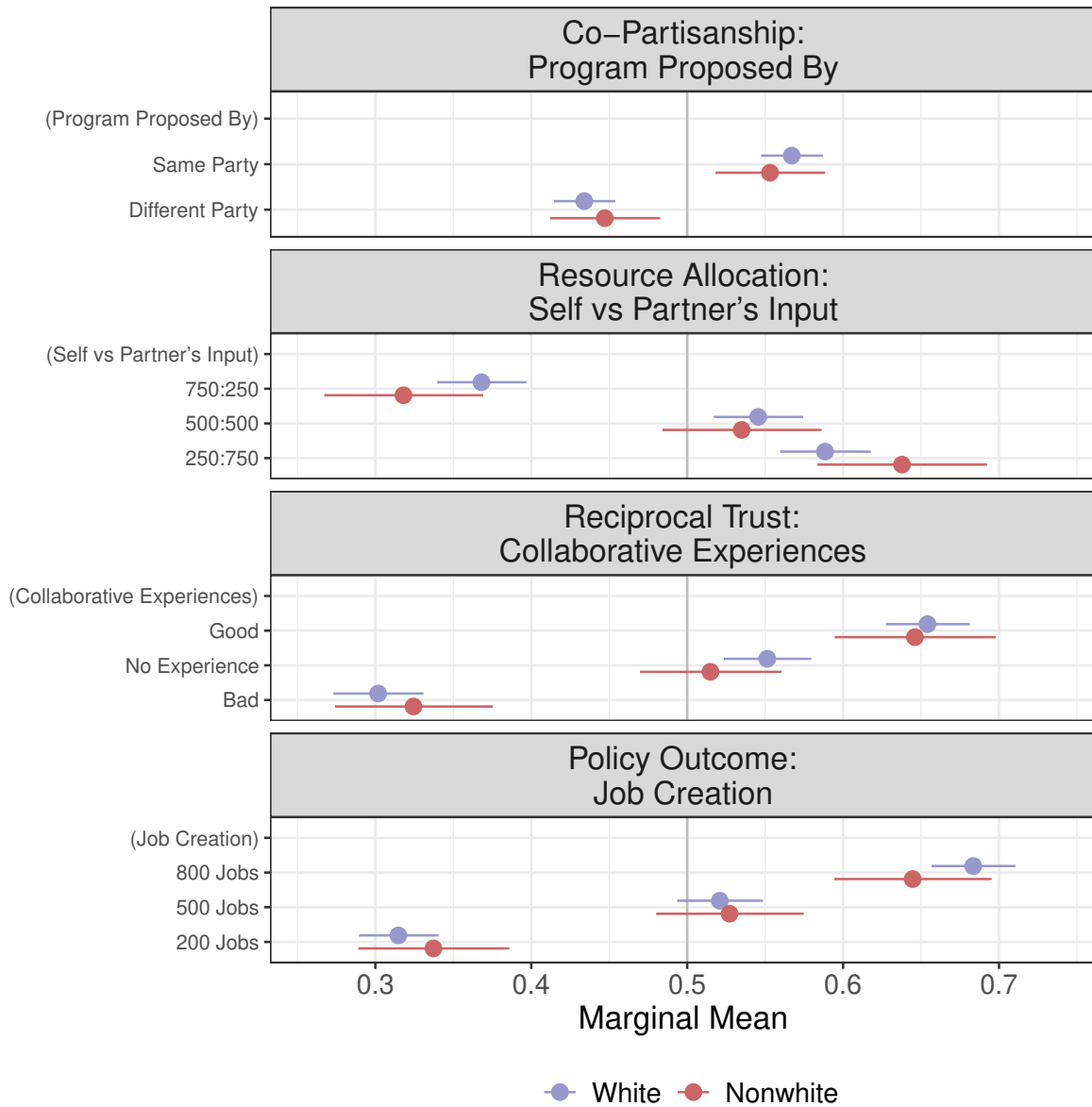


Figure D.3: Subgroup Analysis: Graduate Degree and Other Officials

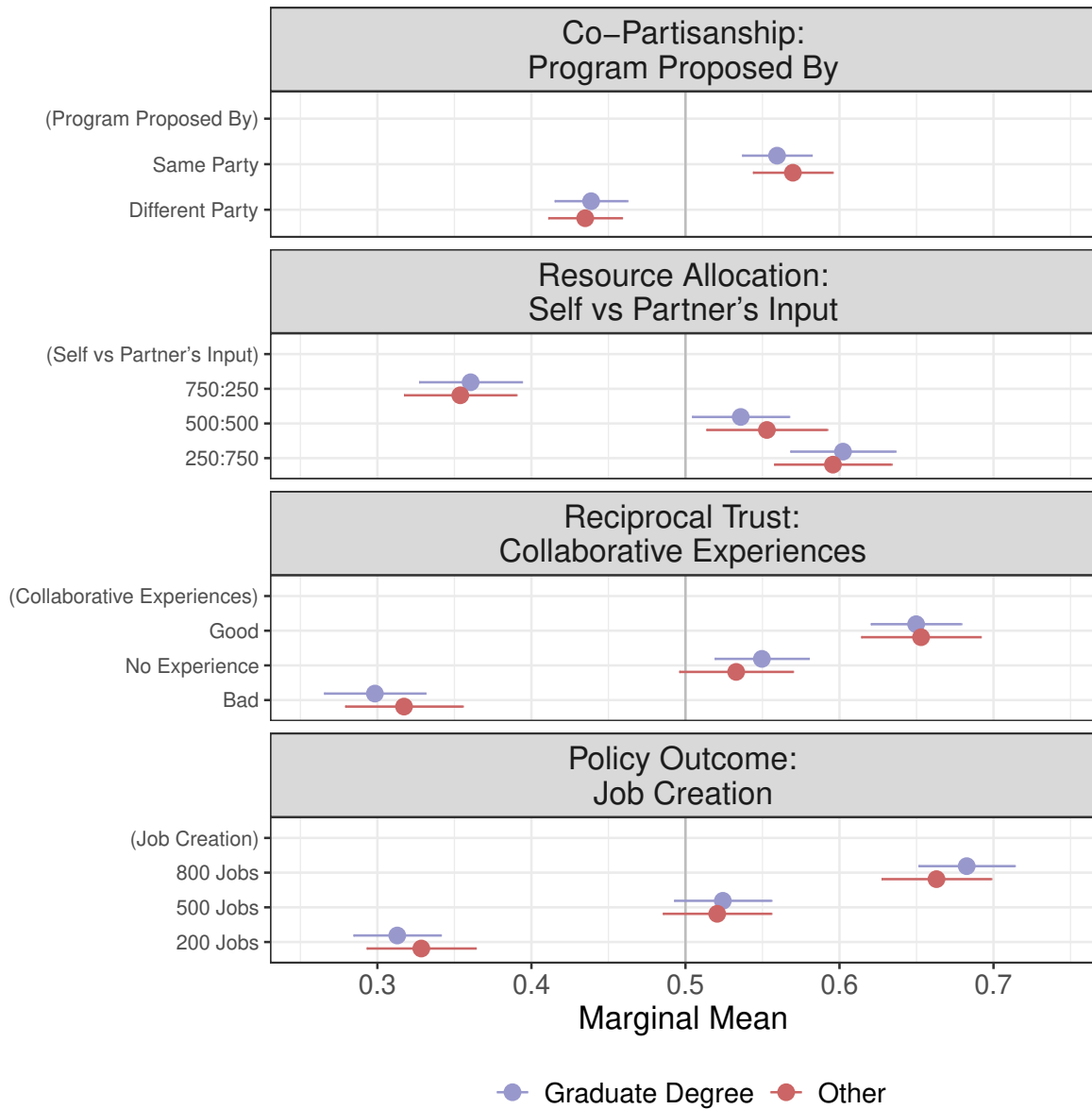


Figure D.4: Subgroup Analysis: Older and Younger Officials

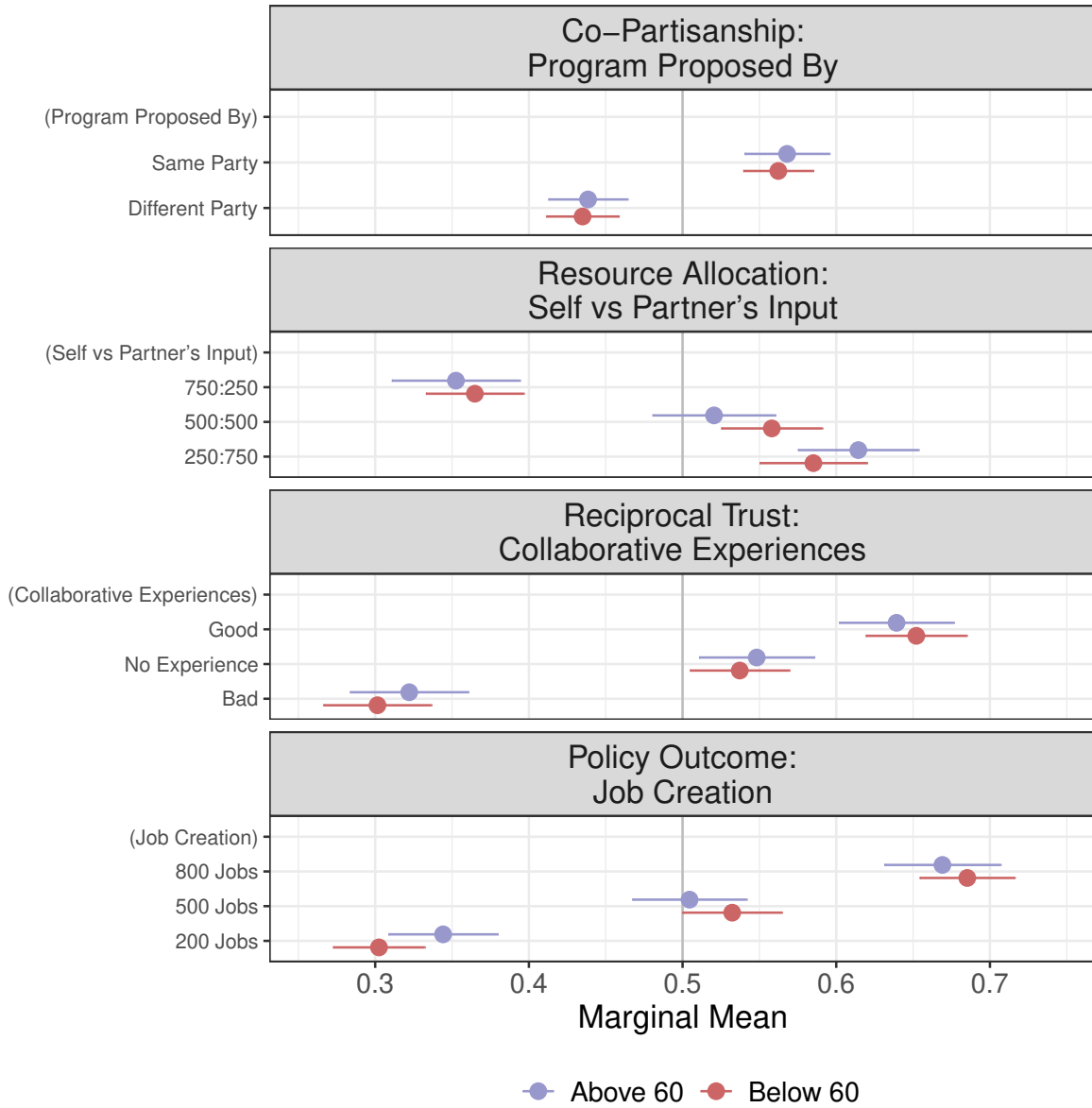
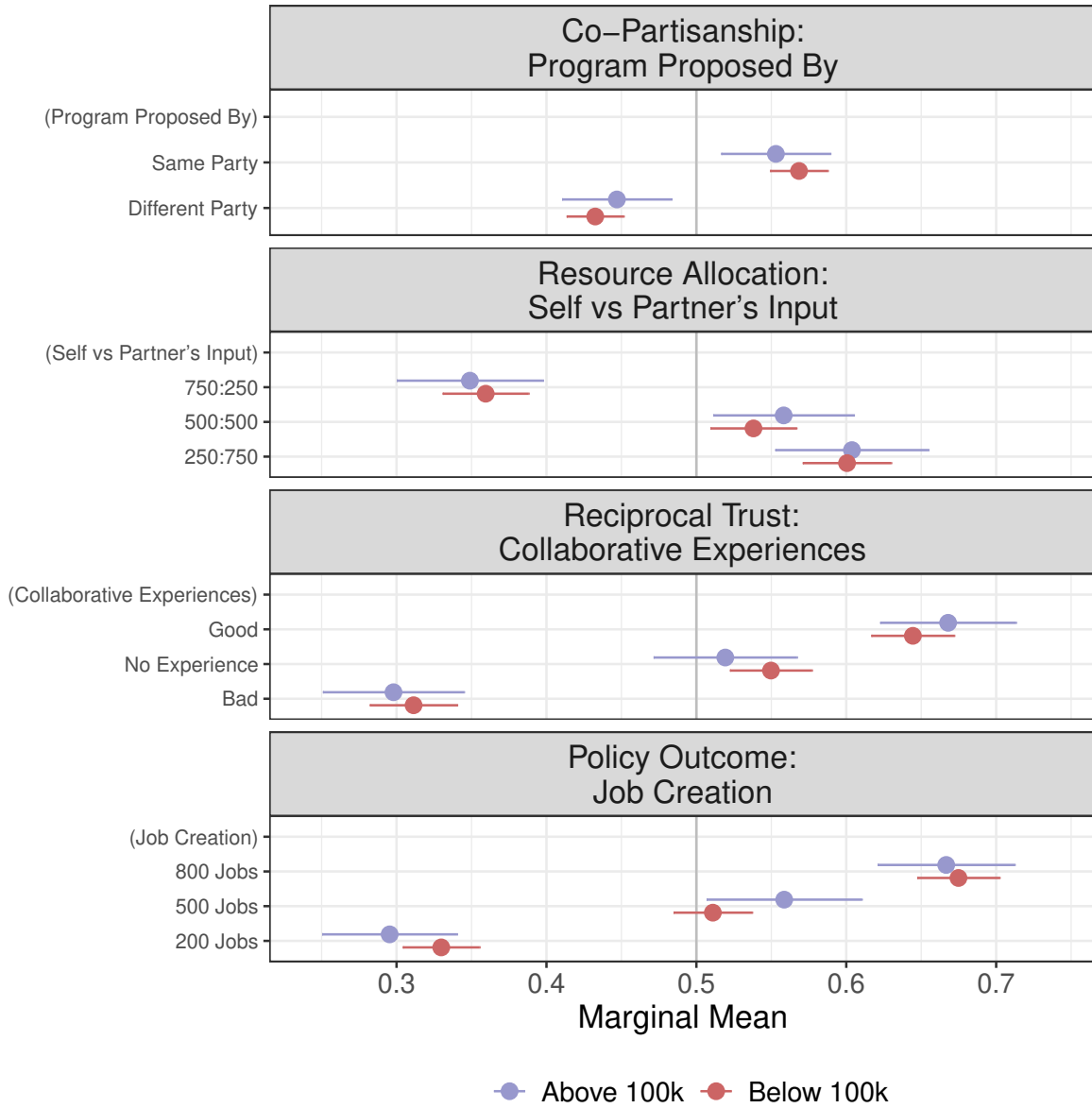
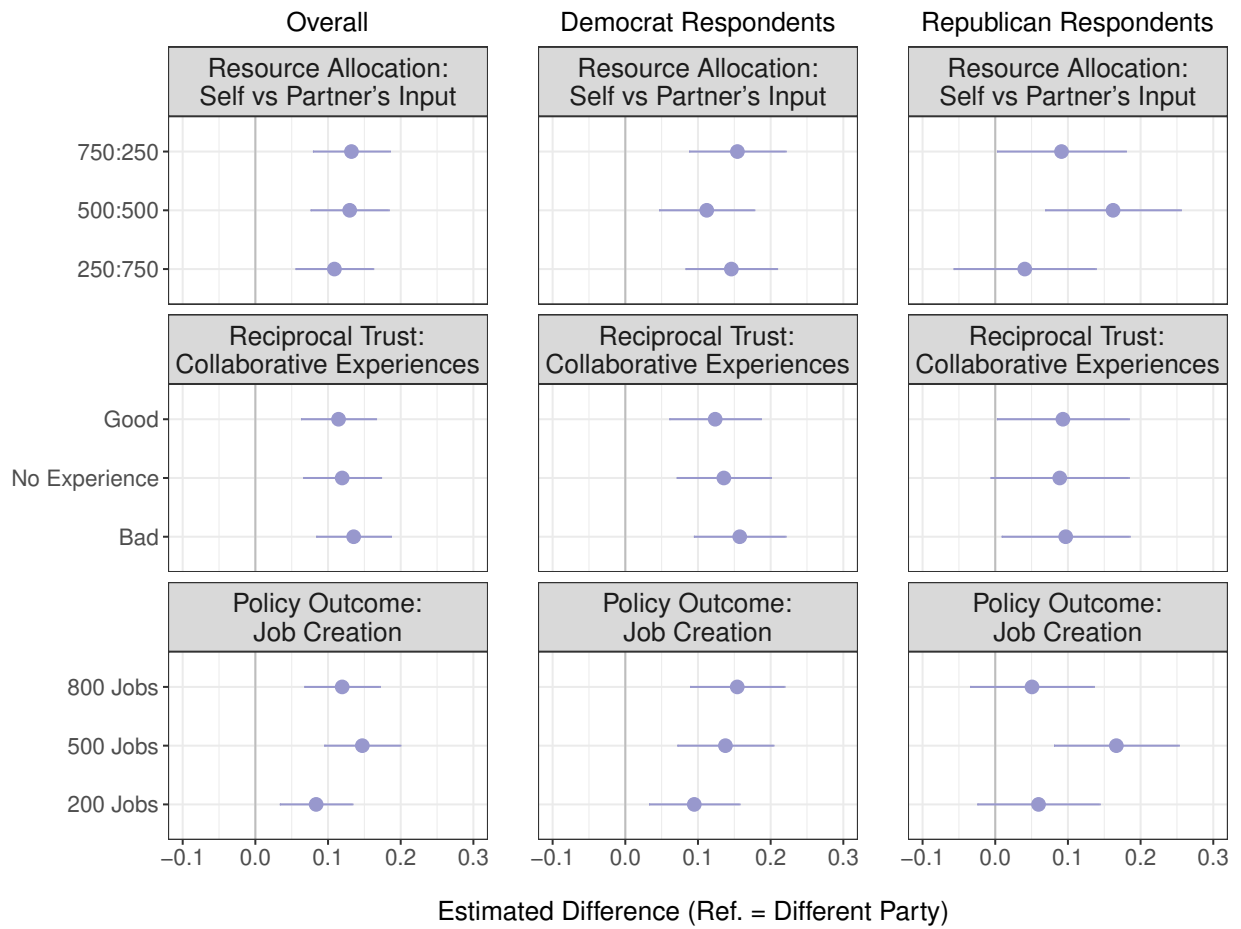


Figure D.5: Subgroup Analysis: Larger or Smaller Cities



Appendix E Estimated Difference in Marginal Means



Appendix F Analysis of the Independent Respondents

Although Independents behave differently from partisan public officials, it is worthwhile to examine their preferences in policy collaborations, especially when the potential partners are either Republicans or Democrats. In this section, I demonstrate that Independents do not show a bias in policy collaborations toward either Democrats or Republicans. In Figure F.1, if the collaborative program is proposed by officials from the Republican party in the partner city, the likelihood of program adoption is 0.51; if proposed by officials from the Democratic party, the likelihood is 0.49. However, the confidence intervals for both estimates cross the vertical baseline of 0.5, indicating that neither Republican nor Democrat partners significantly influence the Independents' favorability toward the program. And their preferences for collaborative attributes, including resource allocation, reciprocal trust, and policy outcomes, are similar to those of both Republican and Democrat respondents in the main analysis.

Figure F.1: Estimates of Party Cues and Collaborative Attributes

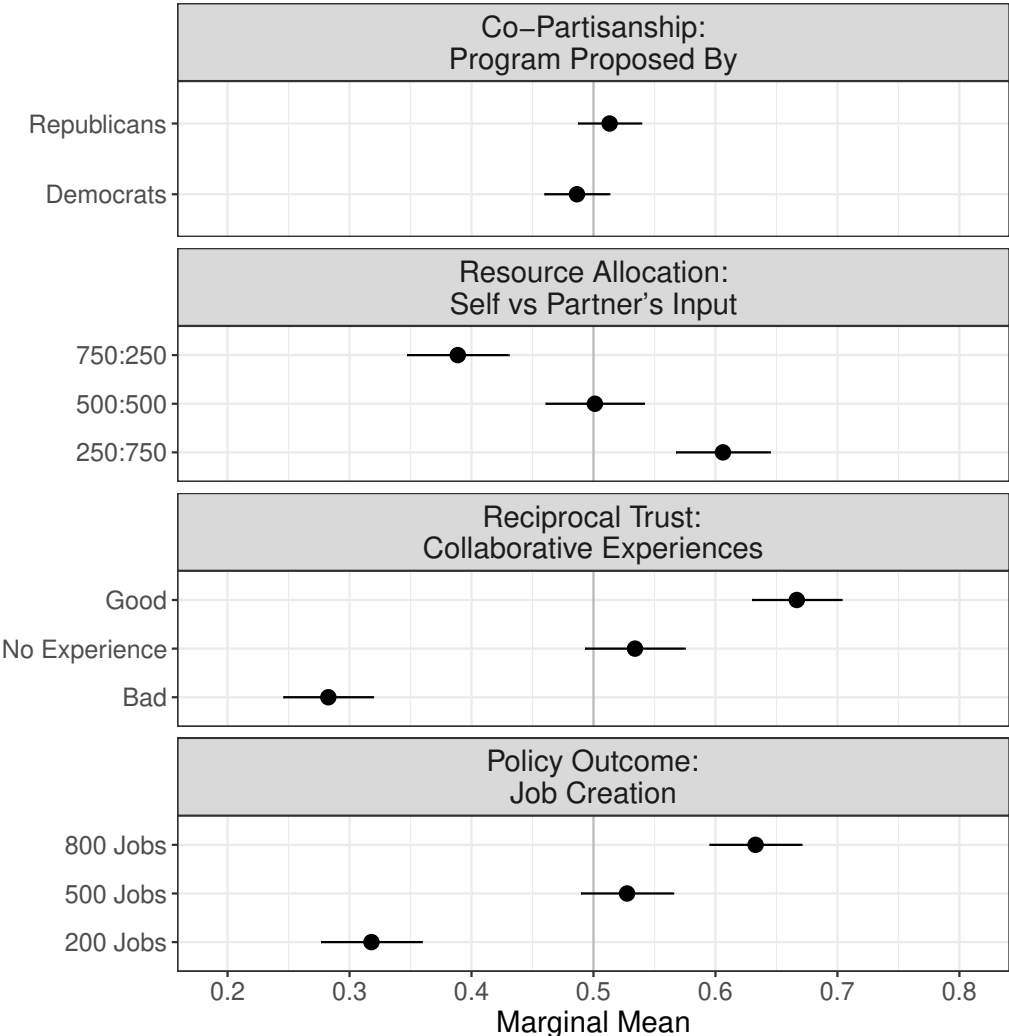


Figure F.2 shows that Independents' preferences for collaborative attributes are not conditional on party cues. The left panel of Figure F.2 suggests that Independents' preferences for different values in resource allocation, reciprocal trust, and policy outcomes are similar, whether their partners are Democrats or Republicans. The right panel of Figure F.2 further proves this similarity by presenting that the estimated differences in Marginal Means are not distinguishable from zero for all possible values of each attribute. Therefore, there are no systematic impacts of either Democratic or Republican party cues on Independents' preferences in policy collaborations.

Figure F.2: Conditional Effects of Party Cues on Collaborative Attributes

