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Evidence from a policy experiment

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**THE IMPACT OF WORKING TIME ON FUEL CONSUMPTION AND CO2 EMISSIONS
OF PUBLIC FLEETS: EVIDENCE FROM A POLICY EXPERIMENT**

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Abstract

In 2008, Utah launched a reform of working time for which workers in treated public agencies were allowed to compress workweek from 5 to 4 days, by extending working hours from 8 to 10 per day. This paper estimates the impact of the initiative on the consumption of fuel and on the production of CO₂ by public fleets. By assembling a new dataset on 43 public agencies and by adopting a difference-in-difference framework, a contraction in the consumption of fuel by 2% and a 14% decrease in the generation of CO₂ was found.

Keywords: Compressed workweek, fuel efficiency, public fleets.

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