Report on **Bachelor / Master Thesis**

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	**Jakub Stejskal**
Advisor:	**Mgr. Roman Kalabiška**
Title of the thesis:	**Socio-Demographic determinants of traffic accidents in the Czech Republic**

OVERALL ASSESSMENT *(provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):*

Please provide a short summary of the thesis, your assessment of each of the four key categories, and an overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

Short summary

This thesis investigates the determinants of traffic accidents, specifically their frequency and severity. The data sample is from 2017-2020 on the district level of the Czech Republic. In the linear regression, Jakub uses standard OLS estimator and thoroughly tests its assumptions. Above that, he studies specific types of accidents – those involving alcohol, police vehicle and caused by speeding.

Contribution

The main contribution of this thesis is the use of a relatively new and unused data source. Moreover, traffic accidents in the Cech Republic are not widely studied, especially on a district level. However, this identification is problematic as traffic accidents are more likely to be affected by local anomalies (junctions, road surface, visibility, etc.) than district-level statistics. Personally, I see a larger potential with used dataset (specifically the information on the time and GPS location where the accidents occurred or the car make involved in the accident) which could be utilized in further research.

Methods

Due to the problems with identification, the choice of estimation method may not be as straightforward as the thesis presents. Jakub uses the ordinary least squares estimator (OLS), which is sufficient at the bachelor level analysis. He checks assumptions and proceeds to specify the model using the general-to-specific method. The discussion of results is adequate and demonstrates Jakub's understanding of econometric techniques. However, there was a room to use more advanced methods.

Literature

Jakub proves knowledge of the current literature, cites relevant articles and compares their results against his own. The literature is cited throughout the text in a correct way.

Manuscript form

The thesis is well organized, convenient to read and satisfies all the formal requirements of the bachelor thesis. It is typeset in LaTeX, which results in a professional appearance, and all tables and figures are labeled and appropriately numbered.

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Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

In my view, the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, I recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade B.

The results of the Urkund analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources.

Question for the defense: How could you explain such high variation in dependent variables? Can this question be answered by analyzing the dataset used in this thesis?

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED *(for details, see below):*

CATEGORY		**POINTS**
Contribution	*(max. 30 points)*	22
Methods	*(max. 30 points)*	20
Literature	*(max. 20 points)*	20
Manuscript Form	*(max. 20 points)*	20
TOTAL POINTS	*(max. 100 points)*	**82**
GRADE	**(A – B – C – D – E – F)**	**B**

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Mgr. Roman Kalabiška

DATE OF EVALUATION: 16/08/2021

Digitálně podepsáno (16.8.2021)
Roman Kalabiška

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Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Overall grading:

TOTAL	**GRADE**
91 – 100	**A**
81 - 90	**B**
71 - 80	**C**
61 – 70	**D**
51 – 60	**E**
0 – 50	**F**