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Titolo: Firm-level Effects of Being Randomly Assigned to Slow Judges

“Does a firm die more if it is randomly assigned to a slow judge? We answer this question exploiting the random allocation of cases to judges in the labor court of Rome coupled with the fact that there are fast and slow judges. The setting considered creates a natural experiment in the duration of the trials experienced by otherwise identical firms. We do not that firms are negatively affected by long trials and more precisely we estimate that a 6% increase in trial length increases the hazard rate of firms closure by 0.8%.”