

**Online Appendix: Supplemental Security Income for Children, Maternal Labor Supply,
and Family Well-Being: Evidence from Birth Weight Eligibility Cutoffs**

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Appendix Table 1: SSA Birth Weight Eligibility Cutoffs by Gestational Age

<i>Gestational age (in weeks)</i>	<i>Birth weight (in grams)</i>	<i>Birth weight (in lbs. and oz.)</i>
≥ 37–40	≤ 2000	4 lbs 6.55 oz
≥ 36	≤ 1875	4 lbs 2.14 oz
≥ 35	≤ 1700	3 lbs 11.97 oz
≥ 34	≤ 1500	3 lbs 4.91 oz
≥ 33	≤ 1325	2 lbs 14.74 oz
≥ 32	≤ 1250	2 lbs 12.09 oz
Any	< 1200	2 lbs 10.33 oz

Notes: Data source is the SSA Program Operations Manual System (POMS).

Appendix Table 2: Summary Statistics

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Panel A: ECLS-B^a	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Obs.
Birth weight in grams	1261.417	547.902	227.0	3969.0	650
Gestational age	28.539	2.704	17.0	32.0	650
Child is male	0.508	---	0.0	1.0	650
Child is nonwhite	0.653	---	0.0	1.0	650
Mother not married	0.606	---	0.0	1.0	650
Mother's age at birth	24.818	6.458	15.0	43.0	650
Apgar score	7.657	1.524	1.0	10.0	550
First birth	0.427	---	0.0	1.0	650
Winter birth	0.270	---	0.0	1.0	650
SSI/SSDI receipt	0.314	---	0.0	1.0	600
Any health insurance coverage	0.980	---	0.0	1.0	650
Without insurance any time	0.076	---	0.0	1.0	650
Any services	0.243	---	0.0	1.0	650
Number of services	3.025	1.527	1.0	6.0	150
Mother works	0.353	---	0.0	1.0	650
Mother works full time	0.231	---	0.0	1.0	650
Mother works part time	0.122	---	0.0	1.0	650
Mother's hours paid work	35.168	11.194	5.0	80.0	250
Father works	0.883	---	0.0	1.0	400
Father works full time	0.078	---	0.0	1.0	400
Father works part time	0.804	---	0.0	1.0	400
Father's hours paid work	43.890	11.439	3.0	89.0	300
Family hours paid work	51.620	20.813	4.0	122.0	450
Maternal Depression Scale	6.492	6.151	0.0	36.0	600
NCATS parent score	32.976	4.462	17.0	47.0	500
Infant fair or poor health	0.094	---	0.0	1.0	650
Bayley Mental score	43.105	---	-16.7	92.6	600
Bayley Motor score	45.001	11.369	-3.7	80.0	600
NCATS child score	14.734	2.788	7.0	23.0	500
Panel B: FL-SSA^b	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Obs.
Birthweight in grams	1202.639	116.305	1000	1400	11,942
Gestational age	28.793	2.118	20	32	11,942
Child is male	0.515	--	0	1	11,942
Mother not married	0.654	--	0	1	11,942
Mother HS graduate	0.639	--	0	1	11,942
Birth year	2002.521	7.569	1990	2015	11,942
Receive WIC	0.309	--	0	1	11,942
WIC missing	0.516	--	0	1	11,942
SSI receipt	0.313	--	0	1	11,942
Panel C: BC-L^c	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Obs.
Birth weight in grams	1732.017	941.744	227	5387	60,460
Gestational age	28.804	3.213	20	32	60,460
Apgar score	7.435	2.398	0	10	47,513
Cesarean delivery	0.409	--	0	1	60,294
Mother drank during pregnancy	0.018	--	0	1	54,042

Induction of labor	0.084	--	0	1	60,164
Child is male	0.535	--	0	1	60,460
Mother's age at birth	24.836	6.550	14	45	60,460
Mother is nonwhite	0.615	--	0	1	60,460
Any pregnancy risk	0.487	--	0	1	59,817
Child is singleton	0.837	--	0	1	60,460
Mother not married	0.609	--	0	1	60,460
Mother smoked during pregnancy	0.206	--	0	1	54,184
First birth	0.390	--	0	1	60,460
Winter birth	0.247	--	0	1	60,460
Infant mortality (days 0-364)	0.135	--	0	1	60,460
Neonatal mortality (days 0-27)	0.114	--	0	1	60,460
Post neonatal mortality (days 28-364)	0.020	--	0	1	60,460

Notes: ^a All variables from the ECLS-B 9-month wave, with the exception of SSI/SSDI receipt. SSI/SSDI receipt asked in the 2-year wave ("Has anyone in the household received SSI/SSDI since the 9-month wave?"). Observations rounded to the nearest 50 as per NCES confidentiality restrictions. Sample limited to infants born in 2001 with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mother had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 grams and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Total number of observations is 650.

^b All variables from birth records from the state of Florida Bureau of Vital Statistics, linked to the SSA's main files for the SSI program (the Supplemental Security Record) for the years 1990 to 2015. Sample limited to infants with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mother had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 grams and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample.

^c All variables from NCHS 2001 Birth Cohort Linked Birth-Infant Death Data Files. Sample limited to infants with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mother had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Total number of observations is 60,460.

Appendix Table 3: Manipulation of Gestational Age Around 1200-gram Threshold (BC-L)

	(1) Gestational age < 32 weeks	(2) Cesarean delivery	(3) Induction of labor
Birth weight <1200 grams	0.0002 (0.016) [0.991]	0.008 (0.018) [0.874]	-0.009 (0.009) [0.644]
Observations	12,657	12,629	12,580
Control Group Mean	0.649	0.575	0.076

Notes: All variables from NCHS 2001 Birth Cohort Linked Birth–Infant Death Data Files. Regressions check for evidence of manipulation of gestational age around the 1200-gram threshold. Sample limited to infants whose mother had a high school degree or less, but sample is not limited by gestational age. Control group mean is calculated for those infants above the 1200 gram cutoff within the bandwidth. Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < 0.10$. Family-wise p -values that adjust for the number of outcome variables in each family [in brackets] are estimated with the `-wyong-` Stata command, using the Westfall and Young (1993) step-down procedure and 10,000 bootstrap replications.

Appendix Table 4: Pretreatment Characteristics at the 1200-gram Cutoff (BC-L)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
	Child is male	Mother's race is nonwhite	Mother is not married	Apgar score	First birth	Winter Birth	Cesarean delivery	Mother drank while pregnant	Induction of labor	Mother's age at birth	Any pregnancy risk	Child is singleton	Mother smoked while pregnant
Birth weight <1200 grams	-0.044	0.024	0.005	-0.032	0.026	-0.005	0.023	-0.002	-0.007	-0.462	0.010	0.006	-0.033
	(0.020)**	(0.020)	(0.020)	(0.076)	(0.020)	(0.017)	(0.020)	(0.006)	(0.010)	(0.269)*	(0.020)	(0.017)	(0.017)*
	[0.297]	[0.892]	[0.997]	[0.997]	[0.882]	[0.997]	[0.892]	[0.997]	[0.997]	[0.613]	[0.997]	[0.997]	[0.478]
Observations	9,880	9,880	9,880	7,946	9,880	9,880	9,856	8,893	9,815	9,880	9,751	9,880	8,921
Control Group Mean	0.538	0.592	0.586	7.726	0.393	0.234	0.551	0.018	0.062	25.510	0.547	0.768	0.221

Notes: All variables from NCHS 2001 BC-L Data Files. Sample limited to infants born in 2001 with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mother had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Control group mean is calculated for those infants above the 1200 gram cutoff within the bandwidth. Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < 0.10$. Family-wise p -values that adjust for the number of outcome variables in each family [in brackets] are estimated with the -wyong- Stata command, using the Westfall and Young (1993) step-down procedure and 10,000 bootstrap replications.

Appendix Table 5: Effects of SSI Eligibility on Participation in other Public Programs measured at the 9-month wave of the ECLS-B

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	TANF	Food Stamps	WIC
Birth weight <1200 grams	-0.074 (0.108) [0.829]	0.042 (0.130) [0.829]	0.058 (0.111) [0.829]
Observations	250	250	250
Control Group Mean	0.183	0.417	0.792

Notes: Data source is ECLS-B 9-month wave. All regressions limited to infants with mother with a high school degree or less and gestational age ≤ 32 weeks. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Control group mean is calculated for those infants above the 1200 gram cutoff within the bandwidth. All sample sizes rounded to nearest 50 as per NCES confidentiality restrictions. Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < 0.10$. Family-wise p-values that adjust for the number of outcome variables in each family [in brackets] are estimated with the `-wyoung-` Stata command, using the Westfall and Young (1993) step-down procedure and 10,000 bootstrap replications.

Appendix Table 6a: Effects Over Time of SSI Eligibility on SSI Receipt Measured in Each ECLS-B Wave

	(1) SSI/SSDI receipt Wave 2 (2 year)	(2) SSI/SSDI receipt Wave 3 (preschool)	(3) SSI/SSDI receipt Wave 4 (kindergarten)
Birth weight <1200 grams	0.252 (0.119)**	0.191 (0.126)	0.046 (0.117)
Observations	250	200	150
Control Group Mean	0.165	0.186	0.171

Notes: Data source is ECLS-B. All regressions limited to infants with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mother had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Control group mean is calculated for those infants above the 1200 gram cutoff within the bandwidth. All sample sizes rounded to nearest 50 as per NCES confidentiality restrictions. Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < 0.10$.

Appendix Table 6b: Effects Over Time of SSI Eligibility on Maternal Labor Supply Measured in Each ECLS-B Wave, Whether Mother Works

	(1) Mother works Wave 1 (9 month)	(2) Mother works Wave 2 (2 year)	(3) Mother works Wave 3 (preschool)	(4) Mother works Wave 4 (kindergarten)
Birth weight <1200 grams	0.016 (0.126)	0.065 (0.130)	0.034 (0.149)	-0.087 (0.176)
Observations	250	200	200	150
Control Group Mean	0.336	0.398	0.563	0.600

Notes: Data source is ECLS-B. All regressions limited to infants with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mother had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Control group mean is calculated for those infants above the 1200 gram cutoff within the bandwidth. All sample sizes rounded to nearest 50 as per NCES confidentiality restrictions. Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < 0.10$.

Appendix Table 6c: Effects Over Time of SSI Eligibility on Mother’s Hours of Paid Work (ECLS-B)

	(1) Paid hours Wave 1 (9 month)	(2) Paid hours Wave 2 (2 year)	(3) Paid hours Wave 3 (preschool)	(4) Paid hours Wave 4 (kindergarten)
Birth weight <1200 grams	-19.925 (5.272)***	-4.668 (6.357)	-4.639 (5.661)	0.473 (5.377)
Observations	100	100	100	100
Control Group Mean	36.200	35.214	35.130	38.295

Notes: Data source is ECLS-B. All regressions limited to infants with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mother had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks weighing between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Regressions are limited to mothers who report a positive number of hours worked. Control group mean is calculated for those infants above the 1200 gram cutoff within the bandwidth. All sample sizes rounded to nearest 50 as per NCES confidentiality restrictions. Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < .10$.

Appendix Table 7: Robustness to Alternate Specifications (ECLS-B)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dependent Variable	+/- 200-gram bandwidth	+/-150-gram bandwidth	Data driven bandwidth	+/- 200-gram bandwidth with covariates
SSI receipt	0.252 (0.119)**	0.298 (0.141)**	0.317 (0.161)**	0.257 (0.133)*
Any health insurance coverage	0.007 (0.050)	-0.018 (0.064)	-0.003 (0.071)	0.017 (0.066)
Without insurance any time	-0.104 (0.064)	-0.088 (0.072)	-0.104 (0.064)	-0.119 (0.064)*
Receiving any services	0.099 (0.106)	0.178 (0.121)	0.175 (0.130)	0.108 (0.122)
Number of services (if any)	1.147 (0.832)	1.589 (0.978)	1.491 (1.075)	0.969 (0.867)
Mother works	0.016 (0.126)	-0.096 (0.147)	0.005 (0.163)	-0.063 (0.144)
Mother works full time	-0.174 (0.104)*	-0.220 (0.120)*	-0.177 (0.135)	-0.228 (0.124)*
Mother works part time	0.189 (0.093)**	0.124 (0.109)	0.184 (0.110)*	0.166 (0.100)*
Mother's hours paid work	-19.925 (5.272)***	-16.828 (5.574)***	-18.372 (6.101)***	-15.115 (5.605)***
Father works	-0.133 (0.122)	-0.165 (0.138)	-0.148 (0.144)	-0.005 (0.113)
Father works full time	-0.222 (0.144)	-0.336 (0.168)**	-0.335 (0.167)**	-0.157 (0.136)
Father works part time	0.089 (0.097)	0.171 (0.117)	0.218 (0.139)	0.151 (0.097)
Father's hours paid work	-3.228 (5.486)	-0.841 (6.839)	-4.045 (6.267)	-4.225 (6.014)
Family hours paid work	-19.877 (6.702)***	-19.594 (7.765)**	-21.221 (8.759)**	-17.872 (7.361)**
Maternal Depression Scale	0.356 (1.656)	0.311 (1.974)	0.188 (2.290)	-1.181 (1.629)
NCATS parent score	3.808 (1.604)**	3.787 (1.919)*	4.008 (2.074)*	3.320 (1.767)*
Infant fair or poor health	0.013 (0.070)	0.063 (0.085)	0.040 (0.077)	-0.016 (0.084)
Bayley Mental score	-0.496 (3.548)	-1.234 (4.185)	0.600 (4.340)	-1.860 (4.387)
Bayley Motor score	2.279 (2.662)	4.074 (2.949)	5.775 (3.124)*	1.949 (3.004)
NCATS child score	0.761 (0.850)	0.587 (0.960)	0.958 (1.037)	-0.034 (0.958)

Notes: Data source for row 1 is the ECLS-B 2-year wave. SSI/SSDI receipt is not asked in the 9-month wave. Data source for all other rows is the ECLS-B 9-month wave. All regressions limited to infants with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mothers had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Robust standard errors in parentheses. Data-driven bandwidth regressions use the methodology of Calonico, Cattaneo, Farrell, and Titiunik (2018), and bandwidths range from 167.8 to 300.8 with a mean of 216.9. Covariates included in column 4 are: the child's gender and race, mother's marital status, pregnancy risk factors, whether the infant is a twin or a higher-order multiple, whether a smoker lives in the home, whether a drug user lives in the home, and whether English is the primary language spoken at home. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < .10$.

Appendix Table 8: Robustness to Alternative Samples and Falsification Tests (ECLS-B)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Dependent Variable	Baseline	Only Ounce Heaps	Without NY	900 gram cutoff	1000 gram cutoff	1100 gram cutoff	1300 gram cutoff	Mothers with at least some college
SSI receipt	0.252 (0.119)**	0.321 (0.135)**	0.239 (0.119)**	-0.051 (0.139)	0.074 (0.129)	-0.145 (0.131)	-0.138 (0.111)	0.023 (0.087)
Any health insurance coverage	0.007 (0.050)	-0.038 (0.047)	0.004 (0.054)	0.029 (0.020)	-0.061 (0.051)	-0.004 (0.022)	0.068 (0.051)	-0.016 (0.041)
Without insurance any time	-0.104 (0.064)	-0.091 (0.066)	-0.104 (0.067)	-0.000 (0.082)	-0.050 (0.061)	0.048 (0.056)	0.052 (0.074)	-0.014 (0.014)
Receiving any services	0.099 (0.106)	0.112 (0.130)	0.122 (0.112)	-0.106 (0.116)	-0.089 (0.107)	-0.077 (0.117)	-0.185 (0.114)	-0.012 (0.123)
Number of services (if any)	1.147 (0.832)	0.790 (0.950)	1.170 (0.852)	0.920 (0.835)	0.417 (0.773)	-0.855 (0.797)	-0.454 (0.788)	-1.137 (1.017)
Mother works	0.016 (0.126)	-0.043 (0.157)	0.029 (0.133)	-0.017 (0.128)	-0.059 (0.127)	0.245 (0.127)*	0.082 (0.131)	-0.131 (0.155)
Mother works full time	-0.174 (0.104)*	-0.202 (0.125)	-0.187 (0.108)*	0.066 (0.113)	-0.096 (0.113)	0.287 (0.115)**	0.091 (0.121)	-0.052 (0.158)
Mother works part time	0.189 (0.093)**	0.160 (0.124)	0.217 (0.099)**	-0.083 (0.084)	0.038 (0.086)	-0.042 (0.088)	-0.009 (0.073)	-0.079 (0.116)
Mother's hours paid work	-19.925 (5.272)***	-19.808 (6.779)***	-20.720 (5.333)***	1.628 (3.771)	-9.269 (5.583)	11.271 (5.636)**	5.914 (4.308)	2.279 (5.371)
Father works	-0.133 (0.122)	-0.151 (0.151)	-0.157 (0.128)	0.023 (0.091)	-0.036 (0.072)	0.127 (0.110)	0.011 (0.135)	0.034 (0.061)
Father works full time	-0.222 (0.144)	-0.249 (0.178)	-0.176 (0.141)	0.168 (0.122)	-0.170 (0.116)	0.125 (0.124)	0.083 (0.153)	0.102 (0.068)
Father works part time	0.089 (0.097)	0.098 (0.119)	0.020 (0.073)	-0.145 (0.088)	0.134 (0.098)	0.002 (0.065)	-0.072 (0.088)	-0.068* (0.036)
Father's hours paid work	-3.228 (5.486)	-3.155 (6.124)	0.892 (4.463)	0.840 (4.200)	0.854 (2.641)	-2.408 (4.374)	3.325 (4.193)	3.234 (3.432)
Family hours paid work	-19.877 (6.702)***	-25.729 (8.992)***	-17.177 (6.773)**	7.503 (6.210)	-7.470 (5.864)	16.452 (5.914)***	2.891 (7.311)	0.135 (7.494)

Maternal Depression Scale	0.356 (1.656)	-0.331 (1.583)	0.575 (1.709)	1.224 (2.172)	-1.124 (1.504)	-1.153 (1.771)	-2.872 (1.336)**	2.127 (1.634)
NCATS parent score	3.808 (1.604)**	3.189 (1.990)	3.454 (1.663)**	-0.712 (1.434)	-1.550 (1.335)	-1.434 (1.479)	-2.018 (1.372)	-2.063 (1.585)
Infant fair or poor health	0.013 (0.070)	0.006 (0.095)	0.025 (0.075)	0.021 (0.081)	0.029 (0.066)	-0.027 (0.069)	-0.073 (0.093)	-0.048 (0.070)
Bayley Mental score	-0.496 (3.548)	-3.481 (4.305)	-0.401 (3.753)	-0.569 (3.926)	3.498 (3.603)	4.074 (3.612)	1.348 (3.970)	-4.406 (3.620)
Bayley Motor score	2.279 (2.662)	2.940 (3.320)	1.215 (2.808)	-1.060 (3.244)	3.867 (2.934)	1.405 (2.860)	-2.399 (2.734)	-1.339 (3.322)
NCATS child score	0.761 (0.850)	1.031 (0.923)	0.256 (0.868)	-0.667 (0.825)	0.032 (0.862)	-0.289 (0.899)	-0.338 (0.774)	-1.092 (0.927)

Notes: Data source for row 1 is the ECLS-B 2-year wave, as SSI/SSDI receipt is not asked in the 9-month wave. Data source for all other rows is the ECLS-B 9-month wave. All regressions limited to infants with gestational age ≤ 32 weeks whose mothers had a high school degree or less. Infants born at 32 weeks between 1200 and 1250 grams were dropped from the sample. Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < .01$, ** $p < .05$, * $p < .10$.