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	Collana	IMF Working Papers
	Altri autori (Persone)	BonfattiAndrea
	Disciplina	320
	Soggetti	Political science
		Budgeting
		Macroeconomics
		Public Finance
		Demography
		Single Equation Models
		Single Variables: Cross-Sectional Models
		Spatial Models
		Treatment Effect Models
		'Panel Data Models
		Spatio-temporal Models'
		National Deficit Surplus
		State and Local Budget and Expenditures
		Intergovernmental Relations
		Federalism
		Secession
		Fiscal Policy
		National Government Expenditures and Related Policies: Infrastructures
		Other Public Investment and Capital Stock
		National Budget
		Budget Systems
		Demographic Economics: General
		Economics of the Elderly
		Economics of the Handicapped
		Non-labor Market Discrimination
		National Government Expenditures and Related Policies: General
		Public finance & taxation
		Budgeting & financial management
		Population & demography

	Fiscal rules Capital spending Budget planning and preparation Population and demographics Aging Fiscal policy Expenditure Public financial management (PFM) Current spending Capital investments Budget Population Population Population aging Expenditures, Public Panel Data Models Spatio-temporal Models Italy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Sommario/riassunto	The paper provides evidence that fiscal rules can limit the political budget cycle. It focuses on the application of the Italian fiscal rule at the sub-national level over the period 2004-2006 and shows that: 1) municipalities are subject to political budget cycles in capital spending; 2) the Italian subnational fiscal rule introduced in 1999 has been enforced by the central government; 3) municipalities subject to the fiscal rule show more limited political budget cycles than municipalities not subject to the rule. In order to identify the effect, we rely on the fact that the domestic fiscal rule does not apply to municipalities below 5,000 inhabitants. We find that the political budget cycle increases real capital spending by about 35 percent on average in the years prior to municipal elections and that the sub- national fiscal rule reduces these figures by about two thirds.