Working with the Social Connectedness Index (SCI) Data

In "Social Connectedness: Measurement, Determinants and Effects", published in the Summer 2018 issue of the Journal of Economic Perspectives, Michael Bailey, Ruiqing Cao, Theresa Kuchler, Johannes Stroebel, and Arlene Wong introduce a new measure of social connectedness between U.S. county-pairs, as well as between U.S. counties and foreign countries. This measure, called the "Social Connectedness Index" (SCI), is based on the number of friendship links on Facebook, a global online social networking service.

An interactive map produced by the New York Times allows researchers to explore these data. Researchers interested in working with the raw SCI data are invited to submit a 1-page research proposal to **sci_data@fb.com**. The data will be shared for approved research projects under the terms of an NDA between Facebook and approved researchers.