

Cornell FSRDC Newsletter

A report of activities of the Cornell Federal Statistical Research Data Center

Upcoming Information Sessions

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS): Jing Tian of the NCHS will be speaking to researchers interested in restricted-access NCHS data at 1pm on February 11. You can register for this webinar [here](#).

Criminal Justice Administrative Records System (CJARS): Webinars hosted on March 5 at 2pm and March 9 at 10:30am will describe the content and coverage of the CJARS infrastructure. Sessions will also explain opportunities for linking to Census data in the FSRDC. Register [here](#).

FSRDC Overview and/or Census Bureau data: Nichole Szembrot is happy to present virtual information sessions for groups of prospective researchers. If your department, class, or research group is interested, please contact Nichole at nichole.e.szembrot@census.gov.

Researcher Profile: Matt Marx



Matt Marx is the Bruce F. Failing Sr. Professor of Entrepreneurship at Cornell University. He also serves as a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Previously, he was an Associate Professor at MIT and BU.

Professor Marx's research focuses on reducing barriers to the commercialization of science and technology, which he experienced firsthand during a decade as an executive and engineer at two startups in the speech-recognition industry. His work has appeared in journals from multiple disciplines including *Management Science*, *the Review of Financial Studies*, *the American Sociological Review*, and *Science*. His work on employee non-compete agreements and job mobility played a key role in policy reforms for Hawaii and Massachusetts. Press coverage includes *the New York Times*, *BBC*, *The Economist*,

Washington Post, *Boston Globe*, *The Atlantic*, *Wired*, *Fortune*, *Forbes*, and *Bloomberg*.



Data Update: National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses

The National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses (NSSRN) is now available for RDC researchers to request. The NSSRN is sponsored by the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis of the Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Since the 1970s, the NSSRN has been the primary source of data on the nursing workforce, the largest group of health care professionals. The data from the NSSRN helps to evaluate the project the supply of and demand for nursing resources. The NSSRN also examines the characteristics of nurses, such as education and training, employment, income, and demographics. Visit <https://www.census.gov/nssrn> to learn more.

Recent Papers and Presentations

Balasubramanian, Natarajan and Mariko Sakakibara. "[Selection and Redeployability in the Incidence and Performance of Spinouts.](#)" Presented at Georgetown U (McDonough School of Business).

Eng, Amanda and Kevin Rinz. "[Income and the Take-Up of Means Tested Programs.](#)" Presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management 2020 Fall Research Conference.

Marx, Matt. "[Employee Non-compete Agreements, Gender, and Entrepreneurship.](#)" Presented at Yeshiva University.

Prenovitz, Sarah. "[What Happen When You Wait? Effects of Social Security Disability Insurance Wait Time on Health and Financial Well-Being.](#)" *Health Economics*, published online December 2020.

Wang, Xintong, Flores, Carlos A., and Flores-Lagunes, Alfonso. "[The Long-Term Health and Mortality Effects of the Vietnam Era Military Service: A Bounds Analysis](#)", IZA discussion paper No. 14045. Presented at Global Labor Organization Virtual Seminar, October 2020; XIV Encuentro Internacional de Capital Humano y Crecimiento (Monterrey, Mexico, Virtual), October 2020; Center for Aging and Policy Studies Annual Conference, Syracuse University (Virtual), October 2020.



New Active Projects

“Innovation and Market Concentration”

Lorenz Ekerdt (Rochester) and Kai-Jie Wu (Rochester), advised by Mark Bills (Rochester)

Rates of national product market concentration in the US have increased markedly since the 1980s. The primary goal of this project is to assess whether changes in firm-level innovation behavior can explain this trend. To do so, we will connect data on innovation from the Survey of Industrial Research and Development, the Business R&D and Innovation Survey, and the Business R&D Survey, together with detailed production data from other Census databases, particularly the Census of Manufactures (CMF) and Longitudinal Business Database. Using this data, we will measure innovation concentration: the distribution of innovation activity across differently sized firms. Accordingly, we will estimate empirical models that project R&D characteristics on measures of firm size. Using unique innovation information from the BRDIS and product-level sales from the CMF, we will extend our empirical analysis to innovation by type: internal (towards market areas the firm is already active in) and external (towards market areas new to the firm). Finally, motivated by our empirical findings, we will build and estimate a quantitative model of endogenous firm dynamics and employ it to analyze the contribution of different kinds of innovation to changes in market concentration.

“The Long-Term Effects of Housing Mobility on Civic and Political Participation” (Chicago)

Baobao Zhang (Cornell), David Knight (Chicago), and David B. McMillon (Chicago)

Researchers have long studied how social policy affects civic engagement, but causal identification is difficult since citizens are not randomly assigned to receive government benefits. We plan to tackle this question by using data from the Moving to Opportunity (MTO) field experiment that sought to move low-income Americans away from concentrated poverty. Our proposed study will merge voter file data with MTO data to study how receiving housing vouchers affects electoral participation for both adult subjects and former child subjects. Electoral participation has been considered a key measure of civic engagement.

We plan to improve upon an existing study by matching adult subject data with a national voter file database. We will include address -- in addition to name, date of birth, and gender -- as one of the matching variables to increase the accuracy of matches. Furthermore, we plan to expand the study to analyze the effects of the MTO program on former child subjects' political participation. (All former child subjects are now of voting age.) Former child subjects who were assigned to the experimental voucher group experienced substantial long-term educational and economic benefits. Therefore, we would like to examine if moving out of poverty also increased the political participation of these former child subjects.



Our project is aligned with the Census Bureau and HUD’s commitment to study civic engagement of Americans. The Current Population Survey, administered by the Census Bureau, releases a biannual November supplement that asks respondents’ voter registration and voting. Furthermore, the Census Bureau has also commissioned research on measuring other forms of political participation, such as attending public meetings, contacting public officials, and donating to political organizations. HUD has also invested resources to study civic engagement among Americans receiving housing assistance. The department assisted Harvard professor Claudine Gay with a similar study that examined the effect of the MTO program on electoral participation of the adult subjects. More recently, HUD has partnered with researchers to study other forms of civic engagement, such as using technology to measure the public’s feedback on city planning.

Finally, our project will also use correlational and qualitative approaches to examine other factors that are likely related to civic engagement and participation among the MTO participants and similar populations—namely, changes in receipt status for housing assistance benefits and experiences in K-12 school environments.

Today, more than 50 housing mobility programs exist, and over 5 million people depend on housing vouchers annually. Our proposed study of the long-run effects of Moving to Opportunity therefore aims to provide a deep and comprehensive portrait of the effect of housing mobility programs on the civic engagement of participants, particularly youth participants. The findings from this project will be useful to public policy aims of the Census and other federal agencies as well as to researchers who study civic engagement and ways of reducing inequality.

Continuing Active Projects

Cornell University:

“Understanding the Migration of Older Americans”

Seth Sanders and Dan Black (University of Chicago)

“Social Cohesion under Consolidation and Population Mobility”

Filiz Garip and Linda Zhao (Harvard)

“Franchising and Labor Market Outcomes”

Rosemary Batt, Can Ouyang, Tashlin Lakhani (Ohio State; former Ph.D. student), Andrew Green (OECD; former Ph.D. student), and Johannes Schmieder (Boston University)

“The Link Between Education Quality & Access and Mortality” (Internal)

Seth Sanders et al

“Does Access to Health Care Affect Teen Birth Rates and School Dropout Rates? Evidence from School-based Health Centers”



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- Michael Lovenheim, Randall Reback (Barnard), and Leigh Wedenoja (Rockefeller Institute of Government; former Ph.D. student)
- “Government Welfare and Private Provision of Public Goods: Evidence from SNAP”
Nicolas Bottan
- “Experimental Estimates of the Long-run Impacts of Welfare Reform on Participants and their Children” (Internal)
Amanda Eng, Pauline Leung, Zhuan Pei, Katherine Wen, et al
- “Multigenerational Exposure to Neighborhood Disadvantage and its Effects on Well Being”
Steven Alvarado and Alexandra Cooperstock
- “The Heterogeneous Effects of Education on Health and Productivity” (Internal)
Seth Sanders et al
- “Developing and Validating New Statistics on Intergenerational Inequality, Poverty, Mobility, and Opportunity” (Internal)
Laura Tach et al
- “Human Capital and Corporate Financing, Restructuring, and Governance”
Hyunseob Kim, Warren Bailey, Joao Vitor Costa, Antonio Falato (Fed), Edith Liu (Fed), Song Ma (Yale), David Matsa (Northwestern), Brian Melzer (Dartmouth), and Till von Wachter (UCLA)
- “The Impact of Information Technology, Management Practices, and Innovation on Environmental Performance”
Sebastian Steffen (MIT, visiting Cornell), Jianqiu Bai (Northeastern), Jordan Burt (Clark), Yue Gao (Clark), Wayne Gray (Clark), Wang Jin (MIT), Sarah Johnston (Wisconsin-Madison), Tanya Stasio (Clark), Kristina Steffenson McElheran (MIT), and Xiupeng Wang (MIT)
- “The Role of Educators on Reporting Child Maltreatment”
Maria Fitzpatrick, Cassandra Benson (U.S. Air Force Academy; former Ph.D. student), Samuel Bondurant (Census), and Christopher Wildeman
- “Validating and Improving the ASM-MOPS” (Internal)
Sebastian Steffen (MIT, visiting Cornell)
- “Immigration Impacts, Immigrant Well-Being, and Geographic Context using the 1996-2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation”
Matthew Hall and Emily Greenman (Census)
- “How Housing and Labor Market Conditions Influence the Progression of Romantic Relationships”
Laura Tach, Sharon Sassler, Mariana Amorim (Washington State; former Ph.D. student), and Emily Parker
- “The Political Economy of Medicaid: Ideology, Eligibility, and the Consequences of Cost-saving Measures”
Jee-Hun Choi (Lehigh; former Ph.D. student) and Claire S.H. Lim



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- “The Incidence of a Local Labor Demand Shock with One-Sided Migration: American Indian-Owned Casino Gaming” (Triangle)
Seth Sanders, Martha Stinson (Census), and Laurel Wheeler (Duke)
- “Effects of Education on Health and Other Outcomes Using Variation in Social Security Benefits for Children”
Barton Willage (Louisiana State University; former Ph.D. student)
- “Estimating the Determinants of Private School Enrollment: The Role of School Attendance Zone Racial and Ethnic Composition”
Arnab Basu, Gary Lin (Johns Hopkins; former Ph.D. student), Salvatore Saporito (William & Mary), and Anna Choi (Sejong; former Ph.D. student)
- “Effects of DI on Health and Well-being”
Sarah Prenovitz (Abt Associates; former Ph.D. student)

Syracuse University:

- “Research and Development Laboratories in the Production Process”
Kristy Buzard, Gerald Carlino (Philadelphia Fed), Robert Hunt (Philadelphia Fed), Tony Smith (University of Pennsylvania), and Anna Tranfaglia (Philadelphia Fed)
- “SNAP and the Human Capital Investments of Young Adults”
Sarah Hamersma and Rhea Acuña
- “The Relationship between SNAP and Mortality” (Kentucky)
Colleen Heflin, Samuel Ingram (Kentucky), Chaegyung Jun (Missouri), and James Ziliak (Kentucky)
- “A Binational Perspective on Selective Migration among Korean Immigrants” (Missouri)
Colleen Heflin, Claire Altman (Missouri), and Chaegyung Jun (Missouri)
- “Disparities in Healthcare Access and Utilization among Children with and without Special Healthcare Needs, and their Caregivers” (Missouri)
Colleen Heflin, Nancy Cheak-Zamora (Missouri), and Chinedum Ojinnaka (Arizona State)
- “Knowledge of Health Status and the Timing of Retirement and Disability Claims”
Perry Singleton
- “Education, Geography, and U.S. Adult Mortality Risk”
Jennifer Montez
- “The Effects of Pregnancy-Related Medicaid Expansions on Maternal, Infant, and Child Health”
Sarah Hamersma and Melanie Guldi (University of Central Florida)
- “A Second Look at the Health Effects of Military Service Using the Vietnam-Era Draft Lottery as a Potentially Invalid Instrumental Variable”
Alfonso Flores-Lagunes and Xintong Wang (Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania)



SUNY Albany:

“Economic Impact of Science and Engineering Workers” (Boston)

Holden Diethorn (NBER), Gerald Marschke, Erling Barth (Institute for Social Research), Richard Freeman (Harvard), Kristina Steffenson McElheran (MIT), Andrew Wang (Harvard), Sifan Zhou

“Productivity and Wage Dispersion in the Great Recession and Beyond” (Boston)

Holden Diethorn (NBER), Erling Barth (Institute for Social Research), Wang Jin (MIT), Sari Kerr (Wellesley), Kristina Steffenson McElheran (MIT), Namrata Narain (Harvard), Andrew Wang (Harvard), Xiupeng Wang (MIT)

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