

Jessica H. Brown

Department of Economics
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U.S. Citizen

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Economics, University of South Carolina
Research Fellow, Institute for Labor Studies (IZA)
Faculty Affiliate, Wilson-Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities
AEA Summer Fellow, W.E. Upjohn Institute

August 2019-Present
April 2024-Present
October 2021-Present
Summer 2022

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics 2019
Princeton University
Committee: Alan Krueger (chair), Leah Boustan, Will Dobbie, Alex Mas, Ilyana Kuziemko

M.A. in Economics 2015
Princeton University

B.S. in Mathematics and Economics, magna cum laude 2011
University of Notre Dame

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Public Economics, Labor Economics, Economics of Child Care

PUBLISHED OR ACCEPTED PAPERS

“Secure Communities as Immigration Enforcement: How Secure is the Child Care Market?” with Umair Ali and Chris M. Herbst
Journal of Public Economics, Vol. 233:105101, 2024.

“The Impact of a Long-Term Care Information Campaign on Insurance Purchase”
Journal of Health Economics, Vol. 92:102822, 2023.

“Child Care over the Business Cycle” with Chris M. Herbst
Journal of Labor Economics, Vol. 40(S1): S429-S468, 2022.

“Mandated Benefits, Imperfect Information, and Moral Hazard: A Model and Application to Temporary Disability Insurance”
Southern Economic Journal, Vol. 88(3): 1037-1064, 2022.

“The Global COVID-19 Student Survey: First Wave Results” with David A. Jaeger, Jaime Arellano-Bover, Krzysztof Karbownik, Marta Martínez-Matute, John Nunley, R. Alan Seals, and 37 others
Covid Economics, Vol. 79(1): 152-217, 2021.

WORKING PAPERS

“The Labor Market Effects of Pregnancy Accommodation Laws” with Emily Battaglia (*under review*)

“Minimum Wage, Worker Quality, and Consumer Well-Being: Evidence from the Child Care Market” with Chris M. Herbst (*under review*)

“An Equilibrium Model of the Impact of Increased Public Investment in Early Childhood Education” with Jonathan Borowsky, Elizabeth E. Davis, Chloe Gibbs, Chris M. Herbst, Aaron Sojourner, Erdal Tekin, and Matthew J. Wiswall

“Does Public Pre-K Have Unintended Consequences on the Child Care Market for Infants and Toddlers?”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Public Finance II (Ph.D.), University of South Carolina	<i>Spring 2024</i>
Introductory Econometrics (Undergraduate), University of South Carolina	<i>Fall 2019-Fall 2022</i>

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Darla Moore School of Business Internal Grant (\$4,270)	<i>2023-2024</i>
Darla Moore School of Business Internal Grant (\$2,000)	<i>2020-2021</i>
Darla Moore School of Business Internal Grant (\$5,000)	<i>2019-2020</i>
Richard A. Lester Fellowship for Industrial Relations, Princeton University	<i>2017-2018</i>
Louis A. Simpson *60 Graduate Fellowship, Princeton University	<i>2013-2014</i>
Phi Beta Kappa, University of Notre Dame	<i>2011</i>
Omicron Delta Epsilon, University of Notre Dame	<i>2011</i>

SELECTED MEDIA

“Families are paying an average of 30% more for child care than they did in 2019”

NPR’s MarketPlace Morning Report, October 31, 2023

“Newest way to woo workers: Child care at airports, schools and poultry plants”

Washington Post, October 29, 2023

“Baby’s first market failure” *NPR’s Planet Money*, February 3, 2023

“California’s child care crisis: How three families are fighting to stay afloat” *L.A. Times*, January 19, 2023

“New York poised to increase child care budget by billions” *The 19th*, March 31, 2022

“Omicron is the latest disaster for working parents” *CNN Business*, January 14, 2022

“Child Care in Crisis: Can Biden’s Plan Save It?” *New York Times*, March 31, 2021

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2024: American Economic Association, Southeastern Micro Labor Workshop, Society of Labor Economists, Triangle Economics of Education Workshop (*scheduled*)

2023: University of Notre Dame Alumni Conference, Princeton University Industrial Relations Centennial, University of Virginia (Education), Southern Economic Association

2022: Association for Public Policy & Management, Clemson University, Census LED Webinar, Carolina Regional Empirical Economics Day, Southern Economic Association

2021: Association for Education Finance and Policy, Southeastern Micro Labor Workshop

2020: Eastern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Tufts University

2019: University of South Carolina, Joint Committee on Taxation, George Washington University, Upjohn Institute, Federal Trade Commission, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Association for Public Policy & Management, Southeastern Health Economics Study Group

2018: University of Notre Dame, Princeton University, Economics Graduate Students' Conference at Washington University in St. Louis, Haverford College

REFEREEING

AERA Open, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (grant reviewer), American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Journal of Public Health, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, Child & Youth Care Forum, The Economic Journal, Economica, Evaluation and Program Planning, International Journal of Child Care and Education Policy, Journal of Human Capital, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Urban Economics, LABOUR: Review of Labour Economics and Industrial Relations, Oxford Economic Papers, PLOS ONE, Review of Economics of the Household, Social Service Review