

Caitlin Kearns

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SUMMARY

Economics PhD candidate
and expert in quasi-experimental
techniques seeking roles in
data science

HIGHLIGHTS

9 years of data analysis
(4 years full time)

Skilled in causal inference with
large observational datasets

Experienced with real estate,
finance, health, & education data

EDUCATION

UC Berkeley

PhD candidate in Economics
Fields: Labor, Public Finance
Expected Grad. May 2020

Wellesley College

B.A. in Economics

SKILLS

Methods

Quasi-experimental designs,
Time series econometrics,
Natural language processing,
Statistical learning,
Longitudinal data analysis,
Survey data analysis

Statistical Languages:

R, pandas, MATLAB,
Stata, SAS

Databases:

SQL (Presto, Hive)

GIS:

ArcGIS, GeoPandas

Other:

LaTeX, TikZ

RESEARCH

What's in a review? Using computational text analysis to understand how parents value schools.

Uses unsupervised NLP methods to identify topics in reviews posted on a large website and estimate differences between public and private schools.

Can school spending integrate districts? School finance reforms, home prices, & neighborhood change.

Quantifies effect of reforms on home prices and neighborhood income using event study design, difference-in-differences, and synthetic controls.

Options and Opportunity in LAUSD: Evaluating Zones of Choice.

(w/ C. Campos) Uses event study design and random (lottery) variation in student assignments to quantify effects of school choice on achievement.

EXPERIENCE

Uber

Data Science Intern, Policy Economics

May - Aug 2019

San Francisco, CA

- Quantified impact of instant payment option on driver supply hours.
- Produced report on driver debit card spending using transaction-level data.

Petrus Center for Health Care Markets

Economics and Policy Researcher

Jan 2018 – May 2019

Berkeley, CA

- Efficiently analyzed 1 billion+ inpatient and outpatient claims.
- Coordinated publication of hospital price findings in NY Times (link).

Fisher Center, Haas School of Business

Graduate Student Researcher

Jun 2016 - Aug 2017

Berkeley, CA

- Performed quasi-experimental analysis of large housing and stock trading data (McDash, DataQuick, TAQ, ANcerno).

Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

Senior Associate Economist

Jun 2010 - Jun 2014

Chicago, IL

- Quasi-experimental analysis of large mortgage, credit, and survey datasets.
- Implemented 2SLS, regression discontinuity, matching, parametric survival.
- Managed 10+ long-term projects, coordinated with outside academics.

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKING PAPERS

"Competing with Charter Schools - Student Selection, Retention, and Achievement in Los Angeles Pilot Schools."

(w/ D. Lauen and B. Fuller) 2018.

"Access to Refinancing and Mortgage Interest Rates: HARPing on the Importance of Competition."

(w/ G. Amromin) FRB of Chicago Working Paper No. 2014-25.

"Giving Till it Helps? Alumnae Giving and Children's College Options."

(w/ K. Butcher and P. McEwan) Research in Higher Ed., 54(5) 2013, 499-513.

AWARDS

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, Fall 2014 - Spring 2019

Fisher Center for Real Estate Research Grant, Fall 2017 - Spring 2018