

Arian Seifoddini

Department of Economics
University of California, Davis

seifoddini@ucdavis.edu
(414) 828-1616
ArianSeifoddini.com

Citizenship: USA

Education

University of California, Davis
Ph.D. Economics

Expected, June 2022

University of Wisconsin-Madison
B.A. Mathematics and Economics with comprehensive honors

May 2012

Employment

University of California, Davis
Graduate Student Researcher

June 2018-July 2021

Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
Senior Associate Economist

June 2012-July 2015

Value Added Research Center
Junior Economist

May 2011-August 2011

Job Market Paper

How Does the Earned Income Tax Credit Affect Household Expenditures for Vulnerable Households (*job market paper*)

Prior literature has established clear short- and long-run benefits of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), but the mechanism behind these effects is unclear. I examine the impact of the EITC on the nondurable expenditures of single female headed households. Using longitudinal data with a dynamic difference-in-differences design and a pooled estimation model, I comprehensively study all EITC policy changes over time. This paper additionally estimates the marginal propensity to consume out of transfer income, providing new evidence on the elasticity of household expenditures to a large lump-sum transfer. I find that an increase of \$1.00 of EITC benefits leads to \$0.39 more of food expenditures, significantly higher than the proportion of disposable income typically spent on food. Additionally, spending decisions are substantially different as a result of EITC receipt, due to the combination of the large size of EITC refunds to single women with children and the increases in labor income caused by the work incentivizing design. This research strengthens our knowledge of how public assistance changes the spending decisions of low-income households and our understanding of a population not typically the focus of the household finance literature.

Publications

Health Impacts of Food Assistance: Evidence from the United States
with Marianne Bitler, *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, 2019

Changing Labor Force Composition and the Natural Rate of Unemployment
with Daniel Aaronson, Daniel Sullivan, and Luojia Hu, *Chicago Fed Letter*, 2015

Declining Labor Force Participation and Its Implications for Unemployment and Employment Growth
with Daniel Aaronson, Daniel Sullivan, and Luojia Hu, *Economic Perspectives*, 2014

Research in Progress

The Relationship Between Public Cash Transfer Programs and Asset Holdings

Effects of the Safety Net on Spending and Well-being: The COVID-19 Crisis Response
with Marianne Bitler and Dana Horn

Determinants and Effects of WIC Rollout: Evidence from Newly Digitized Data from the National Archives
with Marianne Bitler, Dana Horn, Esra Kose, and Maria Fernanda Rosales-Rueda

Other Research

Updating Risk Preferences after Job Loss Throughout the Life Cycle (*March 2018*)

Job search model with Bayesian updating of beliefs about employment and unemployment duration to predict subsequent job quality

Estimating Labor Supply Elasticity with Imputed Desired Hours (*December 2013*)

Exploiting features of the Current Population Survey questions to impute desired hours of work

Differences in Earning Potential Between Various Post-Secondary Educational Paths
(*Senior Honors Thesis, May 2012*)

Comparison of adult earnings between two-year, four-year, and two-year transfers to four-year institutions

Awards and Affiliations

Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship (*2021-2022*)

Graduate Student Affiliate UC Network on Child Health, Poverty, and Public Policy

Invited Talks

Dec 2021: Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

Sep 2021: UC Davis Center for Poverty & Inequality Research

Sep 2021: All-Cal Labor Economics Conference, Poster Session

Jun 2021: Western Economics Association International 96th Annual Conference

Teaching Assistant Experience

Intermediate Microeconomics, Energy Economics, Financial Economics, Labor Economics, Honors International Macroeconomics

Updated October 2021