Allison E. Green

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Graduate Studies

Princeton University

2019-present

PhD Candidate in Economics

Expected Completion Date: May 2025

References

Professor Lean Boustan
Department of Economic
Princeton University
lboustan@princeton.edu

Professor Ilyana Kuziemko Department of Economics Princeton University kuziemko@princeton.edu Professor Steve Redding Department of Economics Princeton University reddings@princeton.edu

Prior Education

University of California Berkeley

2013-2017

B.A. in Economics and Applied Mathematics, with Highest Honors

Fields

Labor, Urban, and Economic History

Publications (including accepted & forthcoming)

1. "Measuring movement and social contact with smartphone data: a real-time application to COVID-19" With Victor Couture, Jonathan Dingel, Jessie Handbury, and Kevin Williams. *Journal of Urban Economics: JUE Insight*, 2022.

"Networks and Geographic Mobility: Evidence from World War II Navy Ships" 2024.

This paper uses random assignment to Navy ships during World War II as a natural experiment to study how personal networks shape migration patterns. Using novel data on 1.4 million sailors, I measure exposure to geographically diverse shipmates and estimate its impact on postwar migration. A one standard deviation increase in shipmates from different states raises out-migration by 4-5% by 1950. Effects on directed migration are larger but heterogeneous by destination, increasing moves to fast growing Census divisions by over 15%. A discrete choice migration model with embedded networks reveals that Navy ties encouraged long-distance moves, substituting for some short-distance migration. Using variation from Navy networks to construct instruments for the probability of migrating, I estimate large returns to network-facilitated migration, suggesting Navy-formed ties enabled moves to higher-opportunity areas.

Working Papers

1. "Demographic Preferences and Income Exposure." With Victor Couture, Jonathan Dingel, and Jessie Handbury. 2024.

We investigate whether demographic preferences explain income segregation in shared spaces. To distinguish preferences over demographic composition from preferences over other venue characteristics, we study venue choices within business chains. We find two notable regularities: racial homophily does not vary by income, and preferences for high-income copatrons are similar across racial groups. These demographic preferences are economically large, explain much of the cross-group variation in exposure to high-income co-patrons, and correlate with movers' neighborhood choices.

2. "Municipality Size and Local Public Good Provision: Evidence from the Post-War Annexation Boom." Kaan Cankat. 2024.

How does municipality size affect local government performance? Using newly digitized data and a stacked difference-in-differences design, we examine the impacts of large municipal boundary expansions on municipal finance in the post-war United States. We document that these annexations were significant in magnitude: the average boundary expansion in our sample reflects a 20% increase in population. Our results suggest that annexations resulted in modest returns to scale, reflected by lower per capita current expenditures, total employment, and total revenue. In contrast, policing and fire protection demonstrate reductions in spending per capita only in the short run. In the medium run, these per capita gains are offset by increases in total spending on these public goods, reflecting gradual adjustments by the city to accommodate annexed territory. We also find suggestive evidence that enlarged tax bases may have granted cities leverage in securing access to debt.

Research Experience

2020 Research Assistant to Prof. Owen Zidar 2017-2019 Research Assistant to Prof. Victor Couture

Teaching

Princeton ECO 100: Undergraduate Introductory Microeconomics (TA, S2023, S2022, F2021)

ECO 355: Economics of Food and Agriculture (TA, S2022)

Professional Activities

Presentations and Seminars

2024 Princeton University, Yale University, NBER Development of the American Economy Summer Institute

2021 NBER Urban Summer Institute

Refereeing

American Economic Journal: Applied Micro, Journal of Urban Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Regional Studies, Regional Science and Urban Economics.

Other

President of Graduate Economics Club	2021-2022
Graduate Economics Club Cohort Representative	2019-2021

Honors, Scholarships, Fellowships, and Grants

Prize Fellowship in the Social Sciences, Princeton University	2023 – 2025
Social Justice and Inequality Prize (Third Year Paper Prize)	2022

Last updated: October 2024