

# Brendan Houg

## Contact Information

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Web: [linkedin](#), [CV](#), [google scholar](#)

## Summary

Data Scientist (Insight Specialist) at Ambulance Victoria. Engaged in analytic sprints to provide insights to internal customers and executive management, communicating complex concepts through visualisations and statistical analyses. Previously, 12 years of combined experience as an applied economist in public policy research and in competition regulation.

## Education

Ph.D. Economics

University of Melbourne (2018)

B. Commerce/ B. Software Engineering

University of Melbourne (2005)

## Technical Skills

Statistics/Econometrics, Machine Learning, Data Visualisations & Geospatial Analysis. R, Python, Stata, PHP, SQL, bash, RMarkdown & Jupyter notebooks. See for example [R version](#) of Microsoft's TrueSkill algorithm. Recently completed CSIRO/Data61's 3 day applied functional programming course in Haskell.

## Work Experience

**Insight Specialist, Ambulance Victoria (AV),**  
Doncaster Melbourne, October 2018 - Present

Joined AV as part of their Analytics Uplift project to improve AV's advanced analytic capability, resulting in the creation of AV's Insights Centre. Engaged in 4-6 week analytic sprints to provide insights for internal customers and executive management using a Scrum Agile framework.

- Built an interactive audit automation tool using Python, SQL & Flask Web framework to run audits of the administering of complex medications by paramedics, reducing organisational risk.
- Analysis of potential paramedic bias through estimating the impact of patient and case information received by paramedics on Turnout Time, the time taken by paramedics to acknowledge receipt of cases - with KPMG.
- Design Sprint on geographic profiling of Victoria's healthcare and ambulance services in collaboration with Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet's Insight Centre.

**Research Officer, Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic & Social Research,**  
University of Melbourne, January 2009 - August 2018

Conducted and collaborated on public policy research mostly in the area of Economics of Education for the Victorian Department of Education, and completed a PhD in Economics. Experienced in data analysis, report writing and presentations for academic and general audiences. Refer to [CV](#) for further details.

**Graduate/Project Officer, Australian Competition & Consumer Commission,**  
February 2006 - July 2008

Contributed to investigations of merger transactions after completing the graduate program in the telecommunications, energy and mergers branches at the Australian competition regulator. Analysed price data to assess the potential change in local competition arising from proposed transactions.

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