

# Elliott Serna

Ithaca, NY

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## Education

Cornell University, Jeb E. Brooks School of Public Policy

B.S. in Public Policy

Ithaca, NY

May 2027

**Selected Coursework:** Causal Reasoning, Research Methods, Data Science II, Data & the State

**Activities:** Cornell Policy Group, Cornell Data Journal, Brooks School Student Ambassador

**Honors:** McNair Scholar, Cornell Institute of Politics & Global Affairs Scholar, Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar

## Experience

Cornell University Labor Dynamics Institute

Ithaca, NY

*Research Assistant*

August 2024 – Present

- Assist the American Economic Association's (AEA) Data Editor in replicating forthcoming economic research.
- Assess compliance of data and code with accessibility and reproducibility standards across nine AEA journals.
- Develop guidance material for the lab's internal replication manual (e.g., tips on running Mosek code).

Cornell Policy Group

Ithaca, NY

*Domestic Policy Center Director*

May 2024 – Present

- Support policy analysts with research guidance, project management, and provide edits on written deliverables.
- Jumpstart the CPG Applied Policy Lab to expand undergraduate engagement in empirical policy research.
- Design and lead a workshop series to train lab members in R, research methods, and topics in causal inference.

Cornell University Brooks School of Public Policy

Ithaca, NY

*Research Assistant*

March 2024 – November 2024

- Researched housing policy for Maine People's Alliance under the Brooks School's Sr. Associate Dean of Public Engagement, Dr. Jamila Michener.
- Produced literature reviews and policy analyses on social housing, synthesizing quantitative and qualitative data.
- Engaged MPA membership with our research process through presentations and focus group discussions.

Future Caucus

Washington, DC

*Policy Intern*

January 2024 – April 2024

- Wrote fact-based talking points and policy briefs for a nationwide network of 1,800+ young lawmakers.
- Compiled comprehensive demographic and legislative data sets of all state and federal lawmakers under 45.

## Projects

"The Social Security Insolvency Crisis"

Cornell Data Journal

*Data Journalist*

September 2024 – December 2024

- Constructed three data-driven personas of Social Security beneficiaries using ACS data to illustrate the real-world impact of insolvency for a print article..
- Generated synthetic income data from ACS-provided proportions to approximate continuous income distributions, enabling kernel density visualizations for Pasadena, TX; Ithaca, NY; and NYC.
- Built interactive dashboards to model how changes in FICA taxes impact Social Security insolvency rates.

## Publications

- Serna, E. (2023). Expanding High-Speed Rail in the Northeast to Reduce US Carbon Emissions. Cornell Policy Group Journal of Affairs, 1(20), 19–22.
- Serna, E. (2024, March 30). "Missing Middle Housing" Wasn't Always Missing. It's Time We Bring It Back. Cornell Policy Group.
- Serna, E. (2024). Establishing Public Campaign Support Programs to Diversify State Legislatures. Cornell Policy Group Journal of Affairs, 1(21), 24–26.

## Languages & Skills

- Languages: Spanish (Native)
- Technical: STATA, R, Python, MATLAB, JupyterBook, Git, LaTeX, HTML/CSS, Javascript
- Professional: Causal Inference, Data Collection & Analysis, Data Visualization, Project Management