

Emily Parker

Updated August 2025

558 Civic Square Building, Rutgers University
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New Brunswick, NJ 08901
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Rutgers University–New Brunswick** 2023–
Assistant Professor, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
- Graduate Faculty, Department of Sociology
 - Faculty Affiliate, Ralph W. Voorhees Center for Civic Engagement
 - Faculty Affiliate, Housing & Health Equity Cluster
- University of Michigan** 2021-2023
NIA Postdoctoral Fellow, Population Studies Center

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Public Policy, **Cornell University** (*formerly Policy Analysis and Management*) 2021
- Concentration in Sociology and minor in Demography
 - Dissertation: “Politics, Stigma, and the Market: Access to Health Care for the Poor in the United States, 1965-2020”
- M.S., Public Policy, **Cornell University** 2018
- B.A., Sociology, **American University** 2012
Honors: *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

Health and Social Policy, Poverty and Inequality, Gender and Family, Spatial Demography

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Tach, Laura, **Emily Parker**, Alexandra Cooperstock, and Sam Dodini. 2025. [U.S. Federal Place-Based Policy and the Geography of Inequality, 1990-2019](#). *Social Forces*.

Parker, Emily, Rebecca Anna Schut, and Courtney Boen. 2025. [The Promise and Limits of Inclusive Public Policy: Federal Safety Net Clinics and Immigrant Access to Health Care in the U.S.](#) *Social Forces* 103(3):992–1017.

Parker, Emily. 2024. [Poverty Governance in the Delegated Welfare State: Privatization, Commodification, and the U.S. Health Care Safety Net](#). *Social Problems*.

Glass, Jennifer, Sharon Sassler, Kara Takasaki, **Emily Parker**. 2023. [Finding a Job: An Intersectional Analysis of Search Strategies and Outcomes Among STEM Graduates](#). *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 83:100758.

Parker, Emily, Laura Tach, and Cassandra Robertson. 2022. [Do Federal Place-Based Policies Improve Economic Opportunity in Rural Communities?](#) *RSF: Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(4):125–54.

Robertson, Cassandra, **Emily Parker**, and Laura Tach. 2022. [Historical Redlining and Contemporary Federal Place-Based Policy: A Case of Compensatory or Compounding Neighborhood Inequality?](#) *Housing Policy Debate* 33(2):429–52.

Parker, Emily. 2021. [Spatial Variation in Access to the Health Care Safety Net for Hispanic Immigrants, 1970-2017](#). *Social Science & Medicine* 273:113750.

Parker, Emily, Sharon Sassler, and Laura Tach. 2021. [Fatherhood and Racial-Ethnic Differences in the Progression of Romantic Relationships](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family* 83(4):985–1003.

Parker, Emily. 2021. [Gender Differences in the Marital Plans and Union Transitions of First Cohabitations](#). *Population Research and Policy Review*. 40(4):673–94.

Manuscripts in Preparation or Under Review

Parker, Emily. “Market Failures and Moral Politics: Diverging Trajectories of U.S. Health Policy for the Poor, 1965-2001.” *Under Review*.

- Winner of Best Comparative Policy Paper Award, APPAM
- Winner of Ronald Burt Outstanding Student Paper Award, Economic Sociology Section, ASA

Sassler, Sharon and **Emily Parker**. “Early Transitions into the Work Force among Engineering Majors: Does Gender Matter?” *Under Review*.

Tach, Laura and **Emily Parker**. “The Gentrification State: Federal Place-Based Policy and Racial Stratification in the Public-Private Era, 1990-2017.”

Parker, Emily. “Geography of the U.S. Health Care Safety Net and Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Mortality.”

Dodini, Sam, Laura Tach, and **Emily Parker**. “The Long-Run Effects of Federal Empowerment Zones on Disadvantaged Neighborhoods”

Hays, Jake and **Emily Parker**. “Geographic Variation in Marriage Prevalence Across U.S. Counties, 1990-2017.”

GRANTS

National Institute on Aging (R01AG080483), Collaborator, “Addressing the Midlife Mortality Crisis: Place-Based Modeling, Trend Analysis and Policy Interventions,” PI: Dr. Myron Gutmann (2022-present)

New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Co-Investigator, “Evaluating the Disability Automated Benefits Processing System Data,” PI: Dr. Andrea Hetling (2025-2027): \$230,000

Marshall Weinberg Endowment Fund, “How Socioeconomic and Racial-Ethnic Variation in Access to Safety Net Clinics Affects Health Disparities over the Life Course,” Population Studies Center Small Grant, University of Michigan (2022): \$3,600

Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation, Doctoral Dissertation Grant (2019): \$5,000

Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy, Doctoral Dissertation Grant (2019): \$7,500

Cornell Office of Engagement Initiatives, Engaged Cornell Graduate Student Grant (2019): \$15,000
Cornell Center for the Study of Inequality, Graduate Student Seed Grant (2019): \$1,000
Cornell University, American Studies Graduate Student Research Grant (2018): \$1,000
Cornell University Graduate School, Research Travel Grant (2018): \$2,000
Cornell Population Center and Cornell Graduate School, Conference Travel Grants (2015-2021)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Population Association of America, Best Poster Award (2025)
University of Michigan Postdoctoral Association, Professional Development Award (2022)
American Sociological Association, Ronald Burt Outstanding Student Paper Award (2021)
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Best Comparative Policy Paper Award (2020)
Engagement Scholarship Consortium, Emerging Engagement Scholar (2019)

INVITED TALKS

Washington State University, Thomas S. Foley Institute for Public Policy & Public Service (Nov. 2025)
University of Chicago, Center for Health Administration Studies, Michael M. Davis Lecture (May 2025)
University of Pennsylvania, Population Studies Center Colloquium (March 2025)
University of Colorado–Anschutz, Eugene S. Farley Jr. Health Policy Center (March 2025)
University of Colorado–Boulder, Institute of Behavioral Science Speaker Series (March 2025)
Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health (Oct. 2024)
Rutgers University, Rutgers Equity Alliance for Community Health, Housing Conference (Oct. 2024)
Cornell University, Housing Equity Lab (Feb. 2024)
Cornell Population Center, Pro-Seminar, Mixed Methods and Qualitative Research in Demography (2019)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Person-Based and Place-Based Investment in Children and Families, 1998-2019,” with Alexandra Cooperstock, Margot Jackson, and Laura Tach.

Population Association of America (2025), *Washington, D.C.* ***Won Best Poster Award**
American Sociological Association (2025)

“The Promise and Limits of Inclusive Public Policy: Federal Safety Net Clinics and Immigrant Access to Health Care in the U.S.,” with Rebecca Schut and Courtney Boen.

Population Association of America (2023), *New Orleans, LA*
International Sociology Association (2023), *virtual presentation*
American Sociological Association (2023), *Philadelphia, PA*

“Geography of the U.S. Health Care Safety Net and Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Mortality”

American Sociological Association (2022), *Los Angeles, CA*
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2022), *Washington, DC*

Population Association of America (2023), *New Orleans, LA*
 Social Science History Association (2023), *Washington, DC*
 RC28 Summer Meeting (2024), *Providence, RI*

“Geographic Variation in Marriage Prevalence Across U.S. Counties, 1990-2017,” with Jake Hays.
 American Sociological Association (2023), *Philadelphia, PA*
 Population Association of America (2024), *Columbus, OH*

“The Gentrification State: Federal Place-Based Policy and Racial Stratification in the Public-Private Era,”
 with Laura Tach.
 Population Association of America (2022), *Atlanta, GA*
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2022), *Washington, DC*
 American Sociological Association (2022), *Los Angeles, CA*
 Urban Affairs Association (2024), *New York, NY*

“The Market Failure Paradox: Political Contention in the U.S. Welfare State, 1965-2001.”
 Social Science History Association (2021), *Philadelphia, PA*
 American Sociological Association (2021), *virtual presentation*
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2020), *virtual presentation*
 International Association for Population Health Science (2020), *virtual presentation*

“Do Federal Place-Based Policies Improve Economic Opportunity in Rural Communities?”
 American Sociological Association (2021), *virtual presentation*
 Population Association of America (2021), *virtual presentation*
 Russell Sage Foundation Conference, Growing Up in Rural America: How Place Shapes Education,
 Health, Family, and Economic Outcomes (2020), *virtual presentation*

“How the Community Health Center Program Addresses Poverty, Inequality, and Stigma.”
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2020), *virtual presentation*
 International Association for Population Health Science (2020), *virtual presentations*
 American Sociological Association (2020), *virtual presentation*

“Mixed Methods and Qualitative Research in Demography” with Maureen Waller (Invited talk)
 Cornell Population Center Graduate Training Seminar (2019), *Ithaca, NY*

“Spatial Variation in Access to the Health Care Safety Net for Hispanic Immigrants, 1970-2017.”
 American Sociological Association (2019), *New York City, NY*
 Population Association of America (2019), *Austin, TX*

“Historical Redlining and Contemporary Federal Place-Based Policy: A Case of Compensatory or
 Compounding Neighborhood Inequality” with Laura Tach and Cassandra Robertson.
 American Sociological Association (2019), *New York City, NY*
 APPAM International Conference (2019), *Barcelona, Spain*

“The Place-Based Turn in Federal Policymaking, 1990-2015” with Laura Tach, Sam Dodini, and Alexandra
 Cooperstock.
 Urban Affairs Association (2019), *Los Angeles, CA*
 Population Association of America (2019), *Austin, TX*

“How Housing and Labor Market Conditions Influence the Progression of Romantic Relationships” with
 Laura Tach, Sharon Sessler, and Mariana Amorim.

Population Association of America (2019), *Austin, TX*

“Early Transitions into the Workforce Among Engineering Majors: Does Gender Matter?” with Sharon Sassler.

American Sociological Association (2019), *New York City, NY*

Population Association of America (2018), *Denver, CO*

“Gender Differences in the Marital Plans and Union Transitions of First Cohabitations.”

Population Association of America (2018), *Denver, CO*

American Sociology Association Annual Meeting (2017), *Montreal, QB*

“Fatherhood and Racial-Ethnic Differences in the Progression of Romantic Relationships” with Sharon Sassler and Laura Tach.

American Sociology Association Annual Meeting (2017), *Montreal, QB*

Population Association of America (2017) *Chicago, IL*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

New York State Health Foundation, <i>Program Assistant</i>	2012-2015
Developed and managed a portfolio of \$5.2 million in grants. Research specializations in expanding health insurance coverage; improving primary care access & capacity; and integration of health care with housing, mental health, and social services.	

TEACHING

Rutgers University

Advanced Qualitative Methods (Graduate)	Fall 2023, Fall 2024
Health and Public Policy (Undergraduate)	Spring & Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Health Care Policy (Graduate)	Spring & Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Advanced Topics in Health Disparities (Undergraduate)	Spring 2025
Health Disparities (Graduate)	Spring 2025

Cornell University

Teaching Assistant, Population and Public Policy	Spring 2016
Teaching Assistant, U.S. Health Care System	Fall 2015

MENTORING

Rutgers University

Bloustein Honors Research Program, Mentor	2023-2025
New Jersey Policy Lab Summer Internship Program, Mentor	2024

Cornell University

Graduate Student Mentor, Cornell Office of Academic Diversity and Inclusion	2018-2021
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MEDIA

[The Daily Targum](#), “Rutgers professor published study on health centers for immigrant communities” 2024
[EJB Talks Podcast](#): "Understanding the Politics of Community Health Centers" 2024

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Program Committee, PAA Annual Meeting, Race and Ethnicity 2025
Poster Judge: Bloustein Research Day 2025
Reviewer: Krueckeberg Scholarship, Rutgers University 2025
Co-Organizer, Bloustein Research Seminar Series 2024-2025
Session Organizer: Family, Law, and Public Policy, PAA 2025
Session Discussant: Migrant Health, APPAM 2023
Session Discussant: Social Policy, Poverty, and Inequality, PAA 2023
Session Discussant: New Perspectives on Political Conflicts, APPAM 2022
Session Discussant: Infant Health and Mortality in Context, PAA 2022
Session Chair: Social Relationships and Health Disparities, PAA 2022
Session Chair: Politics of Markets, Social Science History Association 2021
Session Discussant: Immigrant and Immigration Policy, PAA 2021
Co-editor of the Newsletter Student Section, ASA Medical Sociology Section 2019-2020
Graduate Student Fellow, Finger Lakes Chapter of Scholars Strategy Network 2017-2018
President, Graduate Students in Policy Analysis and Management 2016-2017

Occasional Reviewer

American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Social Forces, Demography, Social Problems, Journal of Marriage and Family, International Migration Review, Social Science & Medicine, Population Research and Policy Review, Health and Place, Sociological Science, Social Science & Medicine—Population Health, Housing Policy Debate, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Social Service Review, The Milbank Quarterly, National Science Foundation, Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association, Population Association of America, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Social Science History Association, Scholars Strategy Network