

# James M. Reeves

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## Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Michigan, 2019 – Present

M.A. in Economics, University of Colorado Denver, 2017

M.S. in Finance and Risk Management, University of Colorado Denver, 2017

B.A. in Economics/Mathematics, Western Washington University, 2015

## Research

Labor Economics, Public Economics, Crime, Econometrics

### *Publications*

“Voting and Political Participation in the Aftermath of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic” with Hani Mansour, *Forthcoming at Journal of Human Resources*.

**Abstract:** This study examines the effect of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the public health response to it on political behaviors. Using data on elections to the U.S. House of Representatives and leveraging cross-district variation in HIV/AIDS mortality during the period 1983-1987, we find that, beginning with the early 1990s, exposure to HIV/AIDS mortality increased the vote share, voter turnout, and contributions made to Democratic candidates. The increased support for Democrats is larger in competitive districts. The results are consistent with HIV/AIDS mortality impacting cultural attitudes and leading to broader and persistent changes in voting patterns and political participation.

“JUE Insight: Condominium Development Does Not Lead to Gentrification” with Leah P. Boustan, Robert A. Margo, Matthew M. Miller, and Justin P. Steil, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 133: 103524, 2023.

**Abstract:** Many politicians and voters believe that condominium development hastens gentrification. Indeed, there is a strong positive correlation between the presence of condos in a neighborhood and resident socio-economic status. We leverage the introduction of municipal regulations to study the causal effect of condo conversions on neighborhood attributes. Cities that restricted condo conversions experience a persistent decline in the condo share of the housing stock, relative to their neighboring suburbs and compared to metropolitan areas without such restrictions, even at city/suburb borders. Yet, areas with a higher condo share due to local regulations do not have residents with higher income or education levels.

### *Working Papers*

“Agency Incentives and Disparate Revenue Collection: Evidence from Chicago Parking Tickets” with Elizabeth Luh and Benjamin Pyle.

**Abstract:** We examine enforcement patterns in administering parking tickets for failure to purchase vehicle registration, colloquially known as the sticker fine, across ticketing agencies in Chicago. Leveraging a sharp 2012 sticker fine increase in an event-study framework, we find that Chicago police increased their enforcement of sticker non-compliance across Black relative to non-Black neighborhoods, but find no disparate response in the ticketing behavior of other parking enforcement agents. This significant disparity in ticketing by police officers is not driven by changes in compliance or differences in neighborhood characteristics, but rather differential enforcement. We present suggestive evidence of differences in officer incentives and marginal parking enforcement costs as key mechanisms. An officer-specific decomposition provides evidence that disparate enforcement is not concentrated among a small handful of officers, but is instead a broader departmental phenomenon. We link this disparate enforcement to a widening of the financial instability gap across neighborhoods, including increased rates of ticket non-payment and bankruptcy filings.

“Gender Differences in Political Career Progression” with Ryan Brown, Hani Mansour, and Stephen D. O’Connell, *IZA Discussion Paper No. 12569*, *CESifo Working Paper No. 7821*.

**Abstract:** We quantify the gender gap in political career progression from state to national levels among U.S. politicians and study its underlying causes. Using a close elections strategy, we find that an additional state legislature term increases the probability of ever running for Congress by twice as much for men as it does for women in otherwise comparable elections. The effect on winning a Congressional race is four times larger for men than women. These gaps emerge early in legislators’ careers, widen over time, and are seen alongside a higher propensity of female politicians to continue running for the state legislature. The gap cannot be attributed to differences in experience, career-family tradeoffs, election or constituency characteristics, nor preferences for part-time public service careers.

## *Work in Progress*

“Multitasking, Expectations, and Police Officer Behavior”

“The Direct and Intergenerational Impacts of Criminal History-Based Safety-Net Bans in the U.S.” with Michael Mueller-Smith, Kevin Schnepel, and Caroline Walker.

## Research Experience

University of Michigan, 2020 – Present  
Criminal Justice Administrative Records System

Graduate Student Research Assistant

Princeton University, 2017 – 2019  
Industrial Relations Section

Research assistant for Leah Boustan, Will Dobbie, Alan B. Krueger, and Alexandre Mas

University of Colorado Denver, 2016 – 2017  
Department of Economics

Research assistant for Ryan Brown and Hani Mansour

Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, 2014

Research Analyst Intern

## Teaching Experience

University of Michigan, 2020 – 2021  
Department of Economics  
Graduate Student Instructor

Econ 101: Principles of Economics I

University of Colorado Denver, 2015-2017  
Department of Economics  
Teaching Assistant

Econ 5823: Econometrics II (Master's level)

Econ 5813: Econometrics I (Master's level)

Summer Math Camp (Master's level)

Econ 3811: Statistics with Computer Applications (3 times)

Econ 2022: Principles of Microeconomics

Econ 2012: Principles of Macroeconomics

## Honors and Awards

Outstanding Third Year Paper Award, 2022

Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund Predoctoral Fellow, 2019

University of Colorado Denver College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Outstanding M.A. Graduate Student, 2017

Settlemyer Family Scholarship, 2013

Western Washington University College of Business and Economics Distinguished Scholar, 2012

Western Washington University President's Scholar, 2012

## Affiliations

United States Census Bureau, Special Sworn Status, 2020 – Present

Last updated: October 28, 2023