

MICHAEL T. CASSIDY

Rutgers University
Department of Economics
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EDUCATION

Rutgers University, Ph.D., Economics (Fifth Year; Expected Graduation 2020)
Princeton University, M.P.A., Economics and Public Policy, *with distinction* (2014)
University of Pennsylvania, B.A., Communication and Political Science, *summa cum laude* (2007)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Century Foundation

Fellow (2015-Present)
Policy Associate (2014-2015)
Intern (2013-2014)

New York City Office of Management & Budget

Unit Head, Administration of Justice Task Force (2012)
Analyst, Social Services Task Force (2007-2011)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS

Primary Fields

Applied Microeconomics
Labor Economics
Econometrics

Secondary Fields

Education, Health, and Welfare Economics
Public Economics
Urban Economics

GRANTS AND AWARDS

National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship (2019)

\$27,500 grant for dissertation research related to education

Peter Asch Memorial Scholarship, Rutgers Economics (2019)

Prize for distinguished performance in applied microeconomics

Sidney I. Simon Research Award, Rutgers Economics (2018)

Prize for best second year research paper

Teaching Assistantship, Rutgers Economics (2016-Present)

Competitive departmental funding for teaching and research

Presidential Fellowship, Rutgers University (2015-Present)

Annual university-wide grant for exceptional doctoral students

Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers Economics (2015)

Competitive departmental grant for first-year graduate study

George H. Frazier Award, University of Pennsylvania (2007)

Award to graduating student-athlete with the highest grade point average

Kathleen Hall Jamieson Award, University of Pennsylvania (2007)

Award to graduating Annenberg School for Communication student with the highest GPA

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Pennsylvania (2007)

Liberal arts and sciences honor society

RESEARCH PAPERS

Job Market Paper

“A Closer Look: Proximity Boosts Homeless Student Performance in New York City” (2019)

Convenience augments homeless students' educational outcomes. Homeless K--8 graders whose families are placed in shelters near their schools have 8 percent (2.4 days) better attendance, are a third (18 percentage points) less likely to change schools, and exhibit higher rates of proficiency and retention. Homeless high schoolers have 5 percent (2.5 days) better attendance, 29 percent (10 pp) lower mobility, and 8 percent (1.6 pp) greater retention when placed locally. These results proceed from novel administrative data on homeless families observed in the context of a scarcity-induced natural experiment in New York City. A complementary instrumental variable strategy exploiting homeless eligibility policy reveals a subset of proximity-elastic students benefit considerably more. Panel evidence demonstrates homelessness does not cause educational impairment as much as reflect large preexisting deficits.

“A Home Away From (or Nearby) Home: Homeless Family Responses to Exogenous Benefit Variation in New York City” (2019)

Using an original administrative panel and exploiting a scarcity-induced natural experiment, I investigate the effects of New York City's neighborhood-based shelter placement policy on homeless families. The outcomes I consider encompass shelter use, public benefit receipt, and employment. Complementary instrumental variable and regression discontinuity designs exploiting policy shocks and rules, respectively, assess heterogeneous impacts among difficult-to-place families. A family fixed effects model capitalizing on multi-spell counterfactuals delivers a third identification strategy. My results, which will be released pending agency review, yield behavioral insights that can be applied to the design of poverty alleviation programs more generally.

RESEARCH PAPERS IN PROGRESS

“Childhood Running, Academic Performance, and Health” (2019)

“The Effects Breastfeeding on Childhood and Young Adult Outcomes” (2019)

OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research Affiliations

Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI), Office of the Mayor of the City of New York, Fellow (2017-Present)

The Century Foundation, Fellow (2015-Present)

Presentations

Rutgers University, Department of Economics. Applied Microeconomics Seminar. April 13, 2017.

Conferences Attended

NBER Summer Institute. Labor Studies. Cambridge, MA. (2019)

Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA), Philadelphia, PA. (2017)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Econometrics, Rutgers University, Summer 2017, Summer 2018

Teaching Assistant

Financial and Monetary History of the United States, Rutgers, Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

European Economic History, Rutgers University, Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Personal Economics and Public Policy, Spring 2019

Economics of Taxation, Rutgers University, Spring 2018

Environmental Economics, Rutgers University, Spring 2018

Introduction to Macroeconomics, Rutgers University, Spring 2017

Public Policy Towards Business, Rutgers University, Spring 2017

Law and Economics Rutgers University, Spring 2017

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING

Data analysis for “Scoring States on Charter School Integration,” Report authored by Halley Potter and Miriam Nunberg, The Century Foundation, 2019.

“Subsidizing the Future: Landing Road Lessons Learned,” Report on the Homestretch Model of Homeless Shelter Development, Prepared for the Bowery Residents’ Committee (BRC), 2018.

SELECTED NON-ACADEMIC WRITING

“Wild Ride Through The Labor Market: Earnings Variability, Well-Being, & Assets Among Primary Earners in the United States, 2008-2013,” The Century Foundation (2016). Unpublished.

“A New Safety Net for An Era of Unstable Earnings,” (with Andrew Stettner and George Wentworth), The Century Foundation (2016).

“The Job Market Took a Vacation—So Why Can’t More Americans Do the Same?,” The Century Foundation (2016).

“Should You Buy Buying Happiness?,” The Century Foundation (2016).

“Fix for \$15,” The Century Foundation (2015).

“Where Are the Jobs?,” *Working Paper Series*, The Century Foundation (2015).

“Who Are the Unemployed?,” *Working Paper Series*, The Century Foundation (2014).

“Uncovering the Labor Market Recovery,” *Working Paper Series*, The Century Foundation (2014).

“Don’t Forget the Kinda Unemployed,” *U.S. News* (2014).

“Unemployment Rate Hides Who the Jobless Really Are,” *U.S. News* (2014).

“The Jobs Report in Black and White: The Hidden Bias in Hiring,” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Unemployment at 5.8%? Here’s the Number that Really Matters,” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Yeah, Why Are Those Bums Getting Paid So Much?,” *U.S. News* (2014).

“Time to Worry About Long-Term Unemployment,” *Real Clear Policy* (2014).

“Giancarlo Stanton’s \$325 Million Deal Isn’t as Rich as it Seems” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Madison Bumgarner: Exhibit A in Baseball’s Screwball Salary System,” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Inverting the Competition,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Jesus Was a Keynesian,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Vox’s Poor Measure of Food Affordability,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“What the Spurs Can Teach Us About Inequality,” *Real Clear Policy* (2014).

“How the World Cup Helps Us Make Better Anti-Poverty Policy,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Going the Extra 30 Percent,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“The Death Swoosh,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Hawking Yellen,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Laying the Groundwork for a Post-Partnership Health Insurance Marketplace in Illinois,” (with co-authors), Woodrow Wilson School Graduate Consulting Project (2013).

“Welfare Welcome Mats: The Evidence on Welfare Magnets in the Post-Reform Era,” The Century Foundation (2013). Unpublished.

“The Intergenerational Asset Grab,” The Century Foundation (2013).

“Red State/Black State: Taking Fiscal Strength above the Bottom Line,” The Century Foundation (2013).

“The Time of My Life: Staten Island Native Mike Cassidy Shares His Experience Finishing The NYC Marathon Hand-In Hand With His Hero Meb Keflezighi,” *LetsRun.com* (2013).

“On Immigration, the Catholic Church Gets It Right,” *Real Clear Policy* (2013).

“After Boston: Run the Recovery,” *Running Times* (2013).

“America’s Submerged Welfare State,” *Real Clear Policy* (2013).

“Long Run Pain: A Staten Islander’s View on Why the Marathon Should Not Have Been Cancelled,” *LetsRun.com* (2012).

SEMI-PROFESSIONAL DISTANCE RUNNING

2012 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials Participant

Staten Island Marathon Record Holder (2:18:52)

24th Place Overall & 11th American, 2016 New York City Marathon

18th Place Overall & 3rd American, 2016 Houston Marathon

22nd Place Overall & 4th American, 2013 New York City Marathon

11th Place Overall, 2012 Philadelphia Marathon

11th Place Overall, 2011 California International Marathon

22nd Place Overall & 6th American, 2010 ING New York City Marathon

Three-Time Staten Island Half-Marathon Champion (2011, 2012, 2013)

Two-Time Fred Lebow Manhattan Half-Marathon Champion (2014, 2018)

PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

Stata (advanced), Mata, R, Gauss, Java, LaTeX, Crystal Reports, Microsoft Office

REFERENCES

Professor Jennifer Hunt

Rutgers University
jennifer.hunt@rutgers.edu

Professor Carolyn Moehling

Rutgers University
cmoehling@sas.rutgers.edu

Professor Roger Klein

Rutgers University
klein@economics.rutgers.edu

Professor Brendan O'Flaherty

Columbia University
bo2@columbia.edu