

# Laurence O'Brien

Curriculum Vitae updated September 2023

## PERSONAL

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## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

### **Institute for Fiscal Studies**

- Research Economist: Retirement, Saving and Ageing (October 2020-)

## PAST EMPLOYMENT

### **The University of Chicago Booth School of Business**

- Research Professional for Prof. Eric Zwick (2019-2020)

## EDUCATION

MRes in Economics, University College London (2021-)

MPhil in Economic Research (Distinction), University of Cambridge (2018-2019)

BA(Hons) in Economics (1st Class), University of Cambridge (2015-2018)

## WORKING PAPERS

“The effect of tax incentives on private pension saving”. 2023. IFS WP 2023/10

“The effect of increasing the state pension age to 66 on labour market activity”. 2022. With Jonathan Cribb and Carl Emmerson. IFS WP 2022/07.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Why does raising the early retirement age affect employment? Evidence from the UK”. With Courtney Coile, Jonathan Cribb and Carl Emmerson.

“Ethnic inequalities in pension saving, before and after automatic enrolment”. With Jonathan Cribb and David Sturrock.

“The long-term effects of receiving wealth in early adulthood”. With Arjan Lejour, Kate Smith and David Sturrock.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2023: Family Finance Surveys User Conference, online.

2022: Netspar International Pensions Workshop, online; Royal Economic Society Annual Conference, online; EEA-ESEM Annual Congress, Milan.

## POLICY PUBLICATIONS

“Challenges for the UK pension system: the case for a pensions review”. 2023. With Jonathan Cribb, Carl Emmerson, Paul Johnson and Heidi Karjalainen. IFS R255.

“Data on private pension saving in UK surveys”. 2023. IFS R251.

“The gender gap in pension saving” 2023. With Jonathan Cribb and Heidi Karjalainen. IFS R250

“When and why do employees change their pension saving?”. 2023. With Jonathan Cribb. IFS R246.

“Public spending, pay and pensions”. 2022. With Bee Boileau and Ben Zaranko. In IFS Green Budget 2022.

“How did increasing the state pension age from 65 to 66 affect household incomes?”. 2022. With Jonathan Cribb. IFS R211.

“Changing patterns of work at older ages”. 2021. With Rowena Crawford, Jonathan Cribb and Heidi Karjalainen. IFS R191.

“Life-cycle patterns in pension saving”. 2021. With Rowena Crawford. IFS BN327.

“When should individuals save for retirement? Predictions from an economic model of household saving behaviour”. 2021. With Rowena Crawford and David Sturrock. IFS BN326.

## AWARDS

2019: Stevenson Prize for outstanding performance in the MPhil in Economic Research (1st out of 44 students)

2018: Economic and Social Research Council studentship for MPhil/PhD study

2018: Adam Smith Prize for best final year undergraduate performance in Economics (1st out of 151 students)

2017: Turner Prize for Labour Economics in second year of undergraduate degree

2016: Pigou Prize for best first year undergraduate performance in Economics