Lynn Bergeland Morgan

lynn.morgan@utdallas.edu

800 W. Campbell Rd
Google Voice: +1 469-909-0789

University of Texas at Dallas
https://lbergelandmorgan.github.io

Richardson, TX 75080
twitter: @LynnBergMorgan

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Dallas, Ph.D. Candidate in Economics — 2019- 2024 (expected)

University of North Texas, M.S. in Economics — 2011-2013

Texas Christian University, B.S. in Economics and Political Science — 2003-2007
  Summa Cum Laude

FIELDS

Health Economics, Public Economics, Applied Econometrics

RESEARCH

Job Market Paper

Long-Run Determinants and Idiosyncratic Factors of Social Security Disability Insurance Benefit Rates

Despite general improvements in health, and legislation designed to facilitate labor force participation among Americans with disabilities, the percentage of working-age adults receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) increased nearly 150% from 1986 to 2013. SSDI award is a function not only of health, but also an individual's employment potential. In 2013, nearly one in twenty working-age adults was out of the labor force and receiving SSDI. Since 2013, however, the increasing trend reversed, and the number of SSDI recipients has been persistently falling. States and counties display the same general trend in disability rates, however, there exists a large degree of state and county level variation across the US. In 2013 state SSDI rates ranged from 2.75% to 8.6%, and county rates ranged from 0.64% to 21.28%. I find that the percent of the population between the ages of 55 and 59 is what drives the long-run trend in the percent of adults receiving SSDI, and I use this finding to forecast future national and state SSDI rates. Additionally, I show that non-health forces are important determinants of county-level SSDI rates by demonstrating that local exposure to negative employment shocks leads to increases in SSDI rates five years later.

Working Papers

Policy Evaluation with Nonlinear Trended Outcomes: COVID-19 Vaccination Rates in the US
Lynn Bergeland Morgan, P.C.B Phillips, D. Sul

This paper discusses pitfalls in two-way fixed effects (TWFE) regressions when the outcome variables contain stochastic trend components. If a policy change shifts trend paths of outcome variables TWFE estimation can distort results and invalidate inference. A robust solution is proposed by allowing for dynamic club membership empirically using a relative convergence test procedure. The determinants of respective club memberships are assessed by panel ordered logit regressions. The approach allows for policy evolution and shifts in outcomes over time according to a convergence cluster framework with transitions over time and the possibility of eventual convergence to a single cluster as policy impacts mature. An application to new weekly US COVID-19 vaccination policy data reveals that Federal-level vaccine mandates produced a merger of State vaccination rates into a single convergence cluster by mid-September 2021.

Works in Progress
County-Level Pollution Exposure and Future Disability Rates
Evaluating Covid-19 Vaccination Policies in the US (with D. Sul)
Dynamic Automatic Clustering Mechanism (Stata Program)

Teaching Experience

Instructor, University of Texas at Dallas   Spring 2022-Spring 2023
   ECON 2302, Principles of Microeconomics

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Dallas   Fall 2019 - Fall 2021, Fall 2023
   ECON 3311, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Professor Donggyu Sul
   ECON 6306, Applied Econometrics, Professor Kurt Beron
   ECON 3315, Sports Economics, Professor Kurt Beron
   ECON 3312, Money and Banking, Professor Victor Valcarcel
   ECON 2301, Principles of Macroeconomics, Professor Victor Valcarcel

Adjunct Professor of Economics, Texas Christian University   Fall 2014 - Spring 2019
   ECON 30233, Intermediate Macroeconomics
   ECON 10233, Introductory Macroeconomics
   ECON 10223, Introductory Microeconomics

Adjunct Professor of Economics, Weatherford College   Fall 2014 - Fall 2018
   ECON 2302, Principles of Microeconomics
   ECON 2301, Principles of Macroeconomics

Teaching Fellow, University of North Texas   Fall 2012
   ECON 1110, Principles of Macroeconomics

Teach for America Corps Member, Denver Public Schools   Fall 2007 - Spring 2009
   9th and 10th grade math teacher

Fellowships, Grants, Honors, and Awards

Distinguished Instruction by a Teaching Assistant Award, UT, Dallas   2023
Economics Department Scholarship, University of North Texas   2012-2013
CSAP Student Test Scores Exceed Expectations Bonus, Denver Public Schools   2008, 2009
Phi Beta Kappa, Texas Christian University   2007
Senior Scholar of Economics (awarded annually to one student), Texas Christian University   2007
Dean's scholarship, Texas Christian University   2003-2007

Conferences and Presentations (includes scheduled)

2023: Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (presenter), American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference (poster), CINCH-dggö Academy in Health Economics (presenter)

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Donggyu Sul, University of Texas at Dallas   Summer 2021

Research Assistant, Michael McPherson, University of North Texas   Fall 2011 - Spring 2011

Research Assistant, Janice Hauge, University of North Texas   Fall 2013

Professional Activities and Service

Contributor to American Society of Health Economists Newsletter	Fall 2023
"Plenary and Awards Luncheon and Follow up Interviews with the 2023 Award Winners"	
Successfully Navigating Your PhD, Health economics mentoring workshop (mentee)	Fall 2023
Annual Retirement and Disability Research Center Meeting (attendee)	Fall 2023
Reviewer: *Journal of Economic Surveys*	Spring 2023
Federal Reserve of St. Louis Women in Economics Symposium (attendee)	Spring 2021

Other Educational Activities

Universidad de Sevilla, study abroad	Spring 2006
The University of Colorado, Boulder, non-degree coursework in mathematics	Summer 2005

Affiliations

American Economic Association

American Society of Health Economists

Southern Economic Association

Other

Programming:

Proficient in Stata (and MATA), Matlab, Microsoft Excel, and LaTeX
Experience with R

Languages: English (native), Spanish (intermediate)

Citizenship: United States

References

Donggyu Sul (Chair)
John Kain Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
University of Texas at Dallas
d.sul@utdallas.edu
+1 972-883-2920

Anne M. Burton (Co-Chair)
Assistant Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
University of Texas at Dallas
anne.burton@utdallas.edu
+1 972-883-4941

Kurt Beron (Committee Member)
Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
University of Texas at Dallas
kurt.beron@utdallas.edu
+1 972-883-2929

Seth Giertz (Committee Member)
Associate Professor of Economics
PhD Advisor of Economics
Department of Economics
University of Texas at Dallas
seth.giertz@utdallas.edu
+1 972-883-6234