

Matthew V. Zahn

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Citizenship: USA

Employment

Assistant Professor, Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business, 2025–present
Bates White Economic Consulting, 2015–2018, 2024–2025
Senior Economist (24–25); Senior Consultant (18); Consultant II (16–17); Consultant (15–16)

Affiliations

Hopkins Business of Health Initiative, Johns Hopkins University, 2021–present
Affiliate Scholar, 2024–present
Affiliate Trainee, 2021–2024
Center for Health Systems and Policy Modeling, Johns Hopkins University, 2024–present

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Johns Hopkins University, 2024
M.A. Economics, Johns Hopkins University, 2020
B.S. Economics and Political Science *magna cum laude*, George Washington University, 2015

Interests

Industrial Organization, Healthcare, Public Economics

Research

Working Papers

[Entry and Competition in Insurance Markets: Evidence from Medicare Advantage](#), March 2025.

Submitted. 2024 International Health Economics Association Best Student Paper

[Who Protests, What Do They Protest, and Why?](#) (with Erica Chenoweth, Stefanie DeLuca, Barton H. Hamilton, Hedwig Lee, Nicholas W. Papageorge, and Stephen Roll), December 2024, NBER Working Paper No. 29987.

R&R *American Journal of Sociology*. Press: [The Atlantic](#)

[Marginal Treatment Effects as a Random Coefficients Model, with an Application to the Labor Supply Effects of Welfare Program Participation](#) (with Robert A. Moffitt), June 2025, NBER Working Paper No. 26028.

Resubmitted *Journal of Human Resources*.

[Modeling Dynamic Disease-Behavior Feedbacks for Improved Epidemic Prediction and Response](#) (with Hongru Du, Sara Loo, Tijs Alleman, Shaun Truelove, Bryan Patenaude, Lauren Gardner, Nicholas W. Papageorge, and Alison Hill), November 2024, medRxiv.

R&R *PLOS Computation Biology*.

Publications

[Socio-Demographic Factors Associated with Self-Protecting Behavior during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#) (with Nicholas W. Papageorge, Michéle Belot, Eline van den Broek-Altenberg, Syngjoo Choi, Julian C. Jamison and Egon Tripodi), 2021, *Journal of Population Economics*, 34 (2): 691–738.

NBER Working Paper No. 27378. Press: [MarketWatch](#), [VoxEU](#)

Work in Progress

Do Hospital Mergers Make Patients Less Safe? (with Michael Darden and Zenon Zabinski)

Healthcare Plans and Patient Outcomes: Evidence from Bankruptcy-Induced Random Assignment in Colombia (with Leonardo Bonilla, Manuela Cardona, Christian Posso, and Nicholas W. Papageorge)

Optimal Risk Adjustment (with Aaron Banks, Pietro Tebaldi, and Benjamin Vatter)

Grants

\$20,000 grant from the Hopkins Business of Health Initiative for “Do Hospital Mergers Make Patients Less Safe?” (with Michael Darden and Zenon Zabinski).

\$3,000 grant from the Johns Hopkins SNF Agora Institute for “Who Protests, What Do They Protest, and Why?” (with Nicholas W. Papageorge).

Other Works

[Modeling to Inform Economy-Wide Pandemic Policy: Bringing Epidemiologists and Economists Together](#) (with Michael Darden, David Dowdy, Lauren Gardner, Barton H. Hamilton, Karen Kopecky, Melissa Marx, Nicholas W. Papageorge, Daniel Polsky, Kimberly Powers, and Elizabeth Stuart), 2022, *Health Economics*, 31 (7): 1291–1295.

NBER Working Paper No. 29475. Press: [The New York Times](#)

[Behavior During a Pandemic](#) (with Emma Kalish and Nicholas W. Papageorge) *IZA World of Labor*, opinion piece, July 13, 2020.

Seminars

2025: Georgetown McDonough School of Business, GWU Milken Institute School of Public Health (Collaborative Health Economics Seminar Series)

2024: Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Justice: Antitrust Division, NERA, Federal Trade Commission: Bureau of Economics, University of Kentucky, Compass Lexecon, Department of Treasury: Office of Microeconomic Policy Analysis, Berkeley Research Group, University of Pennsylvania, Bates White, University of Southern California, University of Virginia, Department of Treasury: Office of Tax Analysis, Congressional Budget Office: IO Seminar

Presentations

2025: ASSA, ASHEcon Annual Conference, NBER Summer Institute: Economics of Health

2024: Society of Government Economists Annual Conference, Johns Hopkins Applied Micro Lunch, Becker Friedman Institute: Health Economics Initiative Annual Conference, IIOC: Rising Stars, DC IO Day, Econometric Society North American Summer Meeting, European Association for Research in Industrial Economics[†], Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting

2023: Johns Hopkins Applied Micro Lunch, Harvard Healthcare Policy Health Economics Seminar, NBER Aging and Health Fellows Workshop, Hopkins Business of Health Initiative Work in Progress Series, Boston University IO Workshop, Johns Hopkins Applied Micro Seminar, Annual Health Economics Workshop

2022: Johns Hopkins Applied Micro Lunch, NBER Aging and Health Fellows Workshop

2021: Johns Hopkins Applied Micro Lunch (x2)

2020: Johns Hopkins Applied Micro Lunch

* scheduled, [†] accepted but was unable to attend

Fellowships and Awards

Best Student Paper, International Health Economics Association, 2024

Carl Christ Fellowship for Dissertation Performance, Johns Hopkins University, 2023–2024

Pre-Doctoral Fellow in Aging and Health Economics, NBER, 2022–2023

Departmental Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Economics, 2018–2023

Bruce Hamilton Award for Seminar Performance, Johns Hopkins University, 2022

Distinguished Scholar Award, George Washington University, 2015

Special Honors in Economics, George Washington University, 2015

Special Honors in Political Science, George Washington University, 2015

Research Days—First Prize in Economics, George Washington University, 2015

Luther Rice Fellowship, George Washington University, 2014–2015

Service

Johns Hopkins: Graduate Advisory Council (2021–2022)

Referee: American Economic Review: Insights, Economics and Human Biology, Health Affairs, International Economic Review, International Social Science Journal, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Population Economics, Oxford Economic Papers

Stern Center for Language and Learning: Board of Directors (2022–Present)

Committees: Advancement (Chair); Programs, Access, & Planning; Executive

Memberships

American Economic Association, Econometric Society, Southern Economics Association, American Society of Health Economists, International Health Economics Association,

Eagle Scout

Skills

Julia, R, C++, Matlab, SQL, Stata, SLURM, L^AT_EX

Last updated: July 31, 2025

http://matthewvzahn.com/MVZ_CV.pdf