

MONIQUE E. DAVIS (she/her)

Web: <https://www.moniqueedavis.com/>

Email: davi3879@umn.edu

Phone: +1 (612) 234-5209

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** University of Minnesota Sep 2019 to present
College of Food, Agricultural & Natural Resource Sciences
Applied Economics
Doctoral Candidate (3.946/4.000)
Expected Graduation: May 2025
- B.S.** North Carolina A&T State University Aug 2008 to May 2013
Historically Black College or University (HBCU)
College of Arts & Sciences; School of Business & Economics
Applied Mathematics; Economics
Summa Cum Laude (4.000/4.000)

RESEARCH FIELDS

Labor Economics; Applied Microeconomics; Health, Education, and Welfare

TEACHING FIELDS

Microeconomics; Econometrics; Labor Economics

AREAS OF INTERESTS

Economics of Minorities/Gender; Equity, Justice, and Inequality; Education and Inequality; Stratification Economics

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATION

Davis, M. E. (2024). "Black Economics: Reclaiming the Narrative for Economic Revitalization". In M. Brown, J. Dieck, S. C. Golden, H. J. King, & A. Parede-Beaulieu (Eds.), *SPARK: Rejuvenation in Academic Research* (Vol. 4). Published by the Community of Scholars Program Writing Initiative. Retrieved from <https://sparkezone.com/2024/04/05/black-economics-reclaiming-the-narrative-for-economic-revitalization/>

WORKING PAPER

"Safety for Whom? How Law Enforcement and School Resource Officer Training Impacts Racial Gaps in School Exclusionary Discipline" ([Job Market Paper](#))

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Does Investing in Schools Reduce Violent Crime?" with Jamein Cunningham and Kenneth Whaley

"Investigating Racial Inequity in School Exclusion and Its Compounding Effects in the Labor Market"

"The Impact of Indiana's Governor's Work Ethic Certificate on Post-Secondary Education and Employment" with Chloe R. Gibbs and Abigail Wozniak

"Evaluating the Causal Relationships between Literacy and School Discipline" with Paul Glewwe

“Racial Disparities in the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Investigating the Impacts of South Carolina’s School Disturbance Law” with Ashley Rojas

PROFESSIONAL & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN Jun 2021 to present
Graduate Research Assistant
Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN Jun 2020 to Aug 2020
Supervision, Regulation, and Credit Graduate Intern
System Analytics and Support – Large and Foreign Banking Organizations Analytics

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN Jul 2019 to Aug 2019
Graduate Research Assistant
Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice

JPMorgan Chase & Co., New York, NY Jul 2015 to May 2019
Data Science Senior Associate
Consumer & Community Banking Data & Analytics – Focused Analytic Solutions Team
Big Data Associate
JPMorgan Intelligent Solutions – Data Insights & Science

JPMorgan Chase & Co., Columbus, OH Jul 2013 to Jul 2015
Corporate Analyst Development Program
Process Improvement Analyst, Mortgage Cash Operations
Risk & Controls Analyst, Global Business & Document Services
Analytics & Business Management Analyst, Mortgage Banking Continuous Improvement
Project Management Analyst, Anti-Money Laundering Investigations

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN Sep 2020 to May 2021
Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Applied Economics
Undergraduate Courses
APEC 3001: Applied Microeconomics – Consumers, Producers, and Markets
Graduate Ph.D. Courses
APEC 8001: Applied Microeconomic Theory – Consumer Choice and Consumer Demand
APEC 8002: Applied Microeconomic Theory – Production and Choice Under Uncertainty

North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC Jan 2009 to May 2013
Supplemental Instruction Leader
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Undergraduate Courses
MATH 101: Fundamentals of Algebra and Trigonometry I
MATH 110: Pre-Calculus for Engineers and Scientists
MATH 111: College Algebra and Trigonometry
MATH 131: Calculus I

HONORS AND AWARDS

2024 Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management
Equity and Inclusion Student Fellowship Fellow
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2024 Western Economic Association International Graduate Student Workshop	Participant (16 of 55 candidates)
2024-25 University of Minnesota Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship	1 st Alternate (of 191 doctoral candidates)
2024 National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship	Semifinalist (55 of 380 candidates)
American Economic Association Summer Economics Fellows Program	Jun 2021 to Aug 2021
College of Food, Agricultural & Natural Resource Sciences Diversity Fellowship	Sep 2019 to Aug 2020
Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society	2009 Inductee
Pi Mu Epsilon, Incorporated	2011 Inductee
North Carolina A&T State University Dowdy Scholar – Category I (Full Scholarship)	Aug 2008 to May 2012

PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS, AND EXHIBITS

Bold: Indicates presenting author

Davis, M. E. “Safety for Whom? How Law Enforcement and School Resource Officer Training Impacts Racial Gaps in School Exclusionary Discipline”

- 2025 Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting (scheduled)
- Southern Economic Association 94th Annual Meeting (scheduled)
- 2024 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference (scheduled)
- 2024 Freedom and Justice Summer Conference
- 2024 AEA Summer Mentoring Pipeline Conference
- 2024 Economics of Race, Racism, and Structural Inequality Conference
- 88th Annual Meetings of the Midwest Economics Association
- The Economics of Racism Virtual Seminar Series, January 25, 2024

Cunningham, J., **Davis, M. E.**, and Whaley, K. “Does Investing in Schools Reduce Violent Crime?”

- 2025 Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting (scheduled)
- Access, Equity, and Education: A Conference in Honor of Rodney J. Andrews, Ph.D.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

University of Minnesota

Department of Applied Economics

Women in APEC

Committee Member

2024-2025

Founder and Committee Chair

2023-2024

Food & Agricultural Economics Faculty Search Committee

Graduate Student Representative

2021-2022

SOFTWARE SKILLS

R, STATA, Python, MATLAB, SQL, LaTeX

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VOLUNTEERISM

Big Brothers Big Sisters Twin Cities – Mentor
Tutoring Chicago – Tutor

MEMBERSHIPS

American Economic Association
National Economic Association
Midwest Economics Association
Western Economic Association International
Southern Economic Association

Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management
American Economic Association Mentoring Program
The Sadie Collective
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

First Degree Black Belt (Ryukyu Kempo and Modern Arnis)
Badminton Doubles Team 2008 Illinois High School State Qualifier

REFERENCES

Dr. Elizabeth Davis, Professor
University of Minnesota
316B Ruttan Hall – 1994 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
Phone: 612-625-3772
Email: edavis@umn.edu

Dr. Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Professor
Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice
University of Minnesota
263 Humphrey School - 301 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone: 612-625-9821
Email: myers006@umn.edu

Dr. Paul Glewwe, Professor
Distinguished McKnight Professor
University of Minnesota
332G Ruttan Hall – 1994 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
Phone: 612-625-0225
Email: pglewwe@umn.edu

Dr. Abigail Wozniak, Vice President and Director
Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
90 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Email: abigailwozniak@gmail.com

PAPER ABSTRACTS

“Safety for Whom? How Law Enforcement and School Resource Officer Training Impacts Racial Gaps in School Exclusionary Discipline” ([Job Market Paper](#))

Abstract: Do race-neutral school safety policies have race-neutral impacts? In this paper, I present novel findings on the effects of statewide law enforcement credential and special training requirements for school resource officers (SROs) on Black-White gaps in suspensions, expulsions, law enforcement referrals, and school-related arrests (i.e., school exclusion). I answer these questions using data from the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights' 2013-14 through 2020-21 Civil Rights Data Collection school-level surveys and supplementary sources. The study leverages state and time variation in adopting SRO credential and training statutes between 2014-15 and 2020-21. The analysis compares Black-White school exclusion gaps in majority and minority Black middle and high schools with SROs between treated and untreated schools. I estimate average treatment effects on the treated using an advanced difference-in-difference method, clustered by state. The results indicate that requiring SROs to hold sworn law enforcement credentials more than doubles racial gaps in suspensions

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and law enforcement referrals in majority Black schools but not in minority Black schools and that SRO training policies have no significant relationship with racial school exclusion gaps. I then evaluate whether racial differences in school exclusion outcomes result from individual behaviors and cultural norms or structural factors like systemic discrimination—the first study to assess whether individualist or structuralist explanations underlying the relationship between SROs and racial disparities in school discipline better explain the findings. The findings suggest the need for structural, race-conscious policy changes to address racial disparities in school discipline.

“Does Investing in Schools Reduce Violent Crime?” with Jamein Cunningham and Kenneth Whaley

Abstract: This study investigates whether increased funding for public schools can reduce violent crime exposure among Black males in the United States. Recognizing that local governments often face trade-offs between school funding and public safety, we examine the impact of increased state funding during the school finance reform era. State finance reforms aimed at disadvantaged communities led to significant cash infusions for low-income school districts. Our findings reveal that counties with higher shares of low-income school districts experienced a relative decrease in homicide rates for young Black males following these reforms. Additionally, the reform-induced increase in school spending contributed to a broader decline in homicides among Black men of all ages from 1970 to 2010. These results suggest that investing in education can play a crucial role in reducing violent crime and addressing racial disparities in crime victimization.

“Investigating Racial Inequity in School Exclusion and Its Compounding Effects in the Labor Market”

Abstract: Success in the labor market is often contingent upon access to educational resources. Black students, however, are disproportionately denied these resources due to school suspensions and are also more likely to face labor market discrimination as adults. This paper investigates the relationship between racial disparities in school suspensions and adult employment and earnings. Using the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth – 1997 Cohort, I examine the intersection of race, school suspensions, and labor market outcomes to understand how suspensions impact long-term employment prospects for Black and White individuals. Leveraging state and temporal variation in adopting K-12 zero tolerance laws, I employ a two-stage least squares estimator to identify the causal effects of suspension on adult employment and earnings. The insights from this study illuminate how racial inequality in education exacerbates economic disparities later in life. Additionally, this research has significant implications for policies addressing racial disparities within hierarchical systems such as education and the labor market.

“The Impact of Indiana's Governor's Work Ethic Certificate on Post-Secondary Education and Employment” with Chloe R. Gibbs and Abigail Wozniak

Abstract: Due to asymmetric information, employers often need help assessing high school graduates' employability. To address this, Indiana developed the Governor's Work Ethic Certificate (GWEC), an initiative for twelfth-grade students to demonstrate skills and characteristics valued by employers. Recognized by local employers and post-secondary institutions, the GWEC aims to assist students in securing employment or admission to further education. With support from the Smith Richardson Foundation, this study evaluates the

potential impact of the GWEC on post-secondary jobs and wages by analyzing program data from select participating schools linked with state administrative workforce records. We estimate the local average treatment effect on employment and earnings using a regression discontinuity design based on the GWEC completion criteria. We also investigate racial differences in the benefits of completing the GWEC initiative. The findings could inform improvements to the GWEC program and provide a model for similar workforce development programs in other states, ultimately enhancing high school graduates' transition into the workforce.

“Evaluating the Causal Relationships between Literacy and School Discipline” with Paul Glewwe

Abstract: Does low literacy cause more school discipline, or do disciplinary issues cause lower literacy? This study investigates the causal relationships between literacy and school discipline by asking this question. Using administrative data from a midsize school district in Minnesota, we employ rigorous causal inference methods to estimate the impacts of literacy levels on school discipline rates and vice versa. By quantifying these effects bidirectionally, we aim to identify which direction has the most substantial influence. Additionally, we explore racial differences in these relationships to understand potential disparities among student groups. Our study contributes to the education policy landscape by shedding light on the root causes of literacy and discipline issues, offering insights that can inform targeted reforms. By clarifying the causal pathways, our findings seek to enhance interventions to improve educational outcomes and reduce disparities in school discipline practices.

“Racial Disparities in the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Investigating the Impacts of South Carolina’s School Disturbance Law” with Ashley Rojas

Abstract: The school-to-prison pipeline (STPP) encompasses the policies and processes that remove students from the U.S. K-12 education system and place them into the juvenile or adult carceral system. Black students are disproportionately more likely to experience the STPP than White students. In our study, we use a unique South Carolina law criminalizing school disturbances and administrative data from the Department of Juvenile Justice to provide empirical evidence of the racial disparities in the STPP. Using variations in the letter and interpretation of the law over time, we estimate the effects of the school disturbance law on racial differences in referrals to the criminal/legal system. The findings from our analysis could inform current reform efforts combatting the broad use of this statute.