


Michael Black

Economist, U.S. Food & Drug
Administration

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Objective

I am an experienced regulatory economist with a passion for data-driven policy analysis. I am looking for a role where I can work with a team to do empirically-sound policy analysis and communicate results in clear, effective ways to key stakeholders.

Education

Ph.D., Agricultural Economics (Environmental and Resource Economics), **Texas A&M University**, 2021
B.S., Natural Resources, **Cornell University**, 2013

Skills

General Skills:	Policy analysis, quantitative research, data visualization, technical writing in plain language
Programming:	R (advanced), Python, SQL, Stata, Git, Command Line/Terminal
Statistical Modeling:	Choice modeling, experimental design, machine learning, causal models

Experience

Economist, 2021 - Current, *U.S. Food & Drug Administration*

- Estimated costs and/or benefits and co-authored three major FDA regulatory impact analyses: [improving food traceability](#), [establishing front-of-pack nutrition information](#), and [reducing nicotine content in cigarettes to non-addictive levels](#)
- Provided substantial data analysis for three FDA regulatory impact analyses: [establishing safer standards for laboratory developed tests](#), [improving tobacco manufacturing processes](#), and [establishing the definition of “healthy” in food](#)
- Routinely responded to time-sensitive analysis requests from various FDA Centers.
- Strongly advocated for improved office workflow using open-source software rather than proprietary programs.

Graduate research assistant, 2016 - 2021, *Texas A&M University*

- Designed choice-experiment survey deployed to over 2,500 farmers.
- Established new method of estimating consumer demand for recreation.

Consulting economist, 2019 - 2021, *State of Texas, State of Washington*

- Built demand system for recreation to estimate monetary value of environmental damage from fuel spills.

Research intern, Summer 2020, *USDA Economic Research Service, Market and Trade Economics Division*

- Designed latent class analysis to identify distinct groups of food suppliers based on patterns of food safety practices

Research intern, Summer 2019, *Resources for the Future*

- Developed a dynamic optimal control model of cooperative management for bison management

Strategy consultant, 2013 - 2014, *Mahindra Group*, Mumbai, India

- Developed strategic plan for new fruit retailing business in Africa and India

Teaching

Graduate Instructor, 2019 - 2020, *Texas A&M University*

- Instructor/Lecturer for [AGEC 317: Economic Analysis for Agribusiness Management](#)

Publications

- [Costs of Overly Broad Recalls](#)
 - [Farmers’ insights on soil health indicators and adoption](#)
 - [Insights from Asynchronous Lecture Viewing Behavior](#)
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