

# Neil M. Bennett

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**FIELDS** Applied Microeconomics, Public Economics, Labor Economics, Migration

**EDUCATION** *Doctor of Philosophy, Economics*  
University of California, Irvine, Expected 2020  
Concentration: Public and Labor Economics

*Masters of Arts, Economics*  
University of Montana, Missoula, 2015  
Concentration: Development and Environmental Economics

*Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics*  
University of Montana, Missoula, 2013

**WORKING PAPERS**

1. Understanding How Establishment-Level ICE Raids Change After Secure Community Roll-Out
2. Migration in Response to Long-Run Weather Variation
3. Pulling up Stakes During Employment Aches: Unemployment Insurance and Migration

**CONFERENCES** Organized the UCI Women in Economics Spring Workshop (scheduled), Irvine, CA, Spring 2019  
APPAM Graduate Student Conference, Irvine, CA, Spring 2019  
CGPACS Graduate Student Conference, Irvine, CA, Winter 2019  
12th Annual All-CA Labor Economics Conference (poster session), Fall 2018  
Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics, Zurich, Summer 2018  
WEAI 93rd Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, Summer 2018  
CU Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop, Vail, CO, Fall 2016  
Population Association of America, Washington, DC, Spring 2016

**FUNDING AWARDS** Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy, \$7,500, Summer 2019  
UC, Irvine Department of Economics Summer Fellowship, \$2000, Summer 2018  
Associated Graduate Students Travel Grant, \$600, Summer 2018

**EXPERIENCE** *Instructor* July 2018  
Economics Department, UC, Irvine,  
• ECON 15A Probability and Statistics

*Graduate Research Assistant* Winter 2017 - Fall 2018  
Economics Department, UC, Irvine,  
• Researched inversion induced air pollution and health outcomes

*Teaching Assistant* August 2015 - Present  
Economics Department, UC, Irvine,  
• ECON 141A Public Economics  
• ECON 122A Applied Econometrics I  
• ECON 140 Managerial Economics  
• ECON 20A Basic Economics

**PROFESSIONAL** Data Science Certificate through UCI's Data Science Initiative, Feb 2019  
**DEVELOPMENT** Founder of the Women in Economics Graduate Student Group at UCI, October 2018  
Editor of the graduate student led journal, Trans-Scripts, 2017-2018  
Completed the John Muir Trail, July 2018

**COMPUTER SKILLS** Latex, R, Stata, Matlab, Python, ArcGIS

**CITIZENSHIP** US

**SELECTED ABSTRACTS** *Understanding How Establishment-Level ICE Raids Change After Secure Community Roll-Out*

I use data on Immigration and Customs Enforcement work-site audits (ICE raids), obtained via FOIA request with ICE, to evaluate the extent to which Secure Communities and local law enforcement impacted the frequency and effectiveness of ICE raids. Secure Communities require that counties share the fingerprints of arrested individuals with ICE so that ICE can detain, interview, and deport arrested individuals that are not living legally in the US. It is known that increased immigration enforcement reduces a student's participation in school. While we know of these social costs, we do not actually know if Secure Communities achieved their policy goal of improving ICE's work due to an, until now, lack of information on ICE raids. Preliminary evidence suggests that Secure Community roll-out reduces the number of ICE raids in a given county but there is little change in the number of undocumented migrants found in these raids. This suggests that ICE is using the work of local law enforcement as a substitute for their work-site audits in counties where Secure Communities are established. I will further explore this relationship by looking at how county-level sheriff elections and ICE raids are related.

*Migration in Response to Long-Run Weather Variation*

Global climate change is altering the landscape for farmers everywhere, causing them to adapt to new weather conditions. Using migration data from the Mexican Migration Project and a drought index from climate variables, I look at the relationship between short and medium-run changes in climate conditions on household migration decisions to the US from municipalities across Mexico. I find no relationship between short-term variation in the drought index and migration decisions. However, variation over three year averages in my climate variable will increase the probability that an individual will migrate to the United States. Using measures of destination-specific networks, I can also test whether the mechanism behind responses to long-run changes in climatic variables are linked to the progressive building of networks or if they are independent of these.