

RAHEEM CHAUDHRY

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, PhD in Public Policy	Exp 2025
University of Texas, Austin, Master of Public Affairs	2016
University of Maryland, College Park, BA in English	2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND FIELDS

Housing Policy, Social Policy, Public Economics, Labor Economics

WORKING PAPERS

1. “From Marcy to Madison Square: The Effects of Growing Up in Public Housing on Children’s Outcomes in Early Adulthood” (with Amanda Eng) [Job Market Paper]

Abstract: This paper studies the effects of growing up in public housing in New York City on children’s long-run outcomes. Using linked administrative data, we exploit variation in the age children move into public housing to estimate the effects of spending an additional year of childhood in public housing on a range of economic and social outcomes in early adulthood. We find that childhood exposure to public housing improves labor market outcomes and reduces participation in federal safety net programs, particularly for children from the most disadvantaged families. We find evidence of some heterogeneity across developments. Developments located in neighborhoods with relatively fewer renters and higher household incomes are better for children overall. We estimate that for every \$1 the government spends on public housing, children receive \$1.40 in benefits, including \$2.30 for children from the most disadvantaged families.

2. “The Effects of Minority Enfranchisement on Local Preferences for Public Goods: Evidence from the Voting Rights Act of 1965” [Under revision]

Abstract: Previous research finds the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA) increased the political power of Black communities. I analyze the broader effects of minority enfranchisement on local public finances by exploiting spatial discontinuities in the application of special provisions of the VRA. I find that among counties targeted by these special provisions, those with larger non-white population shares exhibited relative declines in revenues and expenditures, and relative increases in government fragmentation. The findings suggest that declines in revenues were not mechanical responses to changes in the tax base, but were instead likely due to changing preferences for public goods.

3. “Minimum Lot Sizes, Housing Markets, and Neighborhood Change” [Draft available upon request; Under revision]

Abstract: In 1998, Houston reformed its subdivision ordinance to relax minimum lot sizes in parts of the city. I exploit the spatial discontinuity in where the reform was targeted and use a difference-in-differences design to analyze the effects of the reform on housing markets. I find that, where minimum lot sizes were relaxed, housing supply increased and average lot sizes decreased. Despite this increase in development, I find that prices increased. Relatedly, the resident population becomes more advantaged over time.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. “Criminal Justice System Involvement and Safety Net Access” (with [Jessie Harney](#))
2. “School Tracking and Educational Achievement” (with [Gaby Lohner](#) and Justine Weng)
3. “SNAP Asset Limits and Low-Income Households’ Savings Decisions”

SELECT POLICY WRITING

“[Many Working People Could Lose Health Coverage Due to Medicaid Work Requirements](#)” (with Aviva Aron-Dine and Matt Broaddus)

“[Most Working-Age SNAP Participants Work, But Often in Unstable Jobs](#)” (with Brynne Keith-Jennings)

“[Poverty Reduction Programs Help Adults Lacking College Degrees the Most](#)” (with Isaac Shapiro and Danilo Trisi)

[Other work](#) at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

RESEARCH

Graduate Student Researcher, Professor Hilary Hoynes	2020-23
Graduate Research Fellow, Professors Michael Findley and Catherine Weaver	2015-16

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities	2016-19
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TEACHING

University of California, Berkeley

Graduate Student Instructor, Statistics for Program Evaluation, Goldman School of Public Policy (Outstanding GSI Award; Overall: 4.91/5)	2023
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Instructor, Quantitative Methods, Public Policy & International Affairs Program	2021, 2023
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University of Maryland, College Park

Teaching Assistant, Writing Center Internship Course	2011
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PRESENTATIONS

UC Berkeley Labor and Public Symposium, UC Berkeley Opportunity Lab, UC Berkeley Public Finance Seminar, Urban Economics Conference*, UC Berkeley Public Policy Seminar*, UC Merced Economics Seminar*, UC Berkeley Labor Seminar*, NYU Furman Center*, APPAM*	2024
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* *Scheduled*

UC Berkeley Law, Economics, and Policy Center, RUSH Graduate Student Brownbag, UC Berkeley Opportunity Lab, APPAM, UC Berkeley Public Finance Seminar	2023
UC Berkeley Opportunity Lab, Mount Tamalpais College	2022

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Graduate Fellowship, California Policy Lab, UC Berkeley	2024-25
Dissertation Fellowship, IRLE, UC Berkeley	2024-25
Place-Based Policy Initiative, Opportunity Lab, UC Berkeley	2024-25
Dissertation-Year Fellowship, UC Berkeley	2024-25
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley	2024
Doctoral Completion Fellowship, UC Berkeley	2024
Equity and Inclusion Student Fellowship, APPAM	2023
Graduate Student Research Award, IRLE, UC Berkeley	2023-24
Graduate Research Fellow, Law, Economics, and Politics Center, UC Berkeley	2022-23
Initiative on Racial Equity in the Labor Market, Opportunity Lab, UC Berkeley	2021-22
Departmental Fellowship, Goldman School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley	2019-20
Summer Fellow, AidData	2016
Graduate Research Fellow, Innovations for Peace and Development, UT Austin	2015-16
Englert Fellowship, LBJ School of Public Affairs, UT Austin	2014-16
President's Scholarship, UMD College Park	2008-12

SOFTWARE

getcensus: Stata package to load ACS estimates from Census API
getbls: Stata package to load estimates from BLS API

SKILLS

Python, R, Stata, SQL

OTHER

Special Sworn Status, U.S. Census Bureau
Citizenship: USA

Updated September 10, 2024