

ROBERT (BOBBY) DOMINY III

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CURRENT POSITION & AFFILIATIONS

Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau

Economist

July 2023 - Present

EDUCATION

University of Georgia, Terry College of Business

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Economics

May 2023

- Dissertation Committee: Josh Kinsler (Chair), Ian Schmutte, Meghan Skira

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Economics, *Summa Cum Laude*

December 2015

FIELDS OF INTEREST

- Economics of Education, Labor Economics, Econometrics, Public Policy

RESEARCH

“Labor Market Returns to Community College Credentials: Evidence from Minnesota” (Working Paper)

- **Abstract:** There is a growing consensus that obtaining a sub-baccalaureate credential leads to increased earnings. However, it remains unclear to what degree these returns are driven by increases in productivity or labor supply. Using detailed UI data from Minnesota, I estimate the labor market returns associated with completing sub-baccalaureate credentials from community colleges. First I show that these credentials increase quarterly earnings, consistent with prior findings. I then decompose the proportion of earnings returns attributed to productivity (wages) and hours worked. More than 60% of the earnings returns to completing an associate degree are due to an increase in hours, with substantial heterogeneity by field of study. This effect is largely driven by part-time workers being pulled into full-time work. Additionally, I find that those working few hours pre-college experience little-to-no wage gains from completing a credential, with nearly all of their earnings return stemming from working more hours post-graduation. Finally, I provide descriptive evidence that suggests community college credentials help individuals who were previously hours-constrained attain full-time work.

“Working While Enrolled and the Subsequent Labor Market Outcomes of Community College Students” (Work in Progress)

- **Abstract:** Nearly all community college students work in the labor market at some point while attending school. I document the effects of gaining work experience while enrolled on students’ subsequent labor market outcomes, using rich administrative data. Further, I explore how these effects vary by field of study and industry.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Carolinas Regional Empirical Economics Day (CREED) 2022 | Southern Economics Conference (SEAs) 2022

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & AFFILIATIONS

- Research Affiliate - The University of Georgia, Terry College of Business August 2023 - Present
- Consultant - The Burning Glass Institute July 2022 - June 2023

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Athens Technical College - Consumer Economics Program Advisory Committee

Fall 2021 - Present