

Samantha Kei Gold

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EDUCATION

Cornell University
PhD Student in Public Policy (Applied Economics)

August 2022 - May 2027 (Expected)

University of California, Berkeley
B.S. in Environmental Economics and Policy
Overall GPA: 3.91

May 2016

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Brown University/RIPL
Pre-doctoral Fellow in Economics

July 2017 - July 2022
Providence, RI

- Research assistant to Justine Hastings
- Used machine learning (LASSO, Random Forest, XGBoost) and causal inference (regression discontinuity, and difference-in-differences) to understand and improve various areas of public policy and product development.
- Inspected, cleaned, and standardized large administrative datasets (10,000,000+ rows) for econometric analysis and predictive modeling using SQL, R, and Stata.
- Constructed automated research pipelines that converted raw data for analysis, implemented econometric analyses, and generated tables and figures for publication in academic journals and external slide decks.
- Wrote up research findings for technical and non-technical audiences (government partners, project managers, computer scientists, and economists).
- Presented exploratory analysis results (visualizations and tables) on a weekly basis to inform research direction.

UC Berkeley
Research Assistant to Peter Berck and Sofia Villas-Boas

August 2016 - July 2017
Berkeley, CA

- Assisted in the evaluation of California's Bottle Bill (AB 2020).
- Used R to clean, analyze, and plot recycling and census data.
- Collaborated with research team on the design and programming of survey instruments.
- Managed and independently coordinated survey data collection efforts at 100 different recycling centers in California.

PUBLICATIONS

The Returns to Early-life Interventions for Very Low Birth Weight Children with Eric Chyn and Justine Hastings. Accepted at the **Journal of Health Economics**. *Link to NBER version.*

Recycling Policies, Behavior, and Convenience: Survey Evidence from the CalRecycle Program with Peter Berck et al. Accepted at **Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy**. *Link to paper.*

Delivering Unemployment Assistance in Times of Crisis: Scalable Cloud Solutions Can Keep Essential Government Programs Running and Supporting Those in Need with Mintaka Angell et al. **Digital Government: Research and Practice** 2, no. 1 (2020) 5:1-5:11. *Link to paper.*

WORKS IN PROGRESS

The Causal Effect of American Firearm Laws on Suicide Rates with *Allison Koenecke and Alanna Flores*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Technical Skills	R, Python, SQL, Power Bi, R Shiny, Stata, \LaTeX , SCons, and Git
Honors	Phi Beta Kappa (UC Berkeley), Sage Fellowship (Cornell), ASHEcon Diversity Scholarship
Research Areas	Computational Social Science, Causal Inference, Health & Behavioral Economics

Last Updated April 2024