

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

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Curriculum Vitae
Fall 2023
Sean Bassler**Personal Data***Address*

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Citizenship: United States

Major Fields of Concentration

Macro Labor

Education

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Year</i>
PhD	Economics	University of Minnesota (expected)	2024
BS	Mathematics	Seattle University	2017

Dissertation

Title: “Essays in Labor Economics”

Dissertation Advisor(s): Professor Kjetil Storesletten

Expected Completion: Summer 2024

References

Professor Kjetil Storesletten	(612) 624-6084 kstoresl@umn.edu	Department of Economics University of Minnesota 4-101 Hanson Hall 1925 Fourth Street South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
Professor Anmol Bhandari	(612) 624-2816 bhandari@umn.edu	
Dr. Abigail Wozniak	abigailwozniak@gmail.com	Vice President Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis 90 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
Dr. Todd Schoellman	todd.schoellman@gmail.com	Research Department Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis 90 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Honors and Awards

Feb 2022 - Present *Special Sworn Status*, US Census Bureau, University of Minnesota Federal Research Data Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Spring 2019 *Distinguished Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Recognized for outstanding performance in two sections of *Principles of Microeconomics*.

Teaching Experience

Summer 2021 *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Taught *Economic Development*.
Spring 2021 *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Taught *Principles of Macroeconomics*.
Fall 2020 *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Taught *Principles of Microeconomics*.
Summer 2020 *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Taught *Principles of Microeconomics*.
Spring 2020 *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Taught *Principles of Microeconomics*.
Spring 2019 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Led recitation sections for *Principles of Microeconomics*.
Fall 2018 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Led recitation sections for *Principles of Microeconomics*.

Research Experience

August 2021-Present *Research Analyst*, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Research analyst for Abigail Wozniak.

Papers

Bassler, Sean, “The Contribution of Healthcare Costs to Low-Skill Domestic Outsourcing,” Job Market Paper, presented at SED Conference in Cartagena, Columbia (June 2023), Midwestern Macro Conference in Clemson, South Carolina (May 2023)

Bassler, Sean, Kevin Rinz, and Abigail Wozniak, “Heterogeneous Effects of Trade Shocks on Migration”

Bassler, Sean, and Joseph Pedtke, “The Effect of Medicaid Expansion on Part-Time Jobs and Self-Employment”

Computer Skills

Julia, Stata, R, SAS

Languages

English (native)

Abstracts

Bassler, Sean, “The Effect of Healthcare Costs to Low-Skill Domestic Outsourcing,” (Job Market Paper)

Between 1975 and 2012, the share of low-skill workers that are domestically outsourced increased by approximately ten percentage points in the US. This development coincided with two trends: rising medical care prices and rising demand for high-skill labor. I explore the relationship between these secular changes using a general equilibrium model. The key ingredient is anti-discrimination regulation from the US tax code, which forces firms to offer the same health plans to all their employees. I find that, qualitatively, an increase in the price of medical care or the demand for high-skill labor increases the cost of the health plans high-skill employees want. Then, the anti-discrimination constraints increase the relative cost of low-skill employees, which increases low-skill domestic outsourcing. I find empirical support for the relationship between high-skill labor demand and low-skill domestic outsourcing using both state level data and cross-sectional industry data, and I use this data to calibrate the model. With the calibrated model I find that the rising price of medical care interacting with the anti-discrimination constraints is responsible for over 50 percent of the increase in low-skill domestic outsourcing between 1975 and 2012. Conversely, rising demand for high-skill labor had a minimal impact on the trend. These results suggest that the rising price of medical care interacting with the anti-discrimination regulations is a major driver of the increase in low-skill domestic outsourcing.

Bassler, Sean, Kevin Rinz, and Abigail Wozniak, “Heterogeneous Effects of Trade Shocks on Migration”

Over the last decade, research on labor market adjustment following local demand shocks has expanded to include a variety of measured shocks. However, the worker adjustments observed in response to these shocks - such as migration, labor force participation, and wages - are not always consistent across studies. We investigate the source and implications of these differences. To do this, we create a harmonized set of annual commuting zone level shocks following the major approaches in the literature. We append this to a rich data set of local market characteristics and apply this to a consistent set of migration and employment outcomes constructed from the universe of US tax filings over the period 1990 to the present. This allows us to answer questions about why different approaches in the literature have measured adjustment differently. We find that commonly used measures of local demand shocks follow markedly different time patterns and are generally weakly correlated.

Bassler, Sean, and Joseph Pedtke, “The Effect of Medicaid Expansion on Part-Time Jobs and Self-Employment”

We measure the effect of Medicaid eligibility on the share of low-income workers in part-time jobs and self-employment. Workers in these positions commonly lack access to subsidized health plans through their employers. However, Medicaid expansion gave many low-income workers access to publicly subsidized health plans, potentially making these positions more favorable. Our identification strategy is the difference-in-difference design from Callaway and Sant'Anna (2021), which compares labor market outcomes for workers in states that expanded Medicaid against those that did not. We focus on a sample of low-income workers that were not eligible for Medicaid before the expansion: childless, non-disabled adults in states without confounding state-level policies. Using American Community Survey data, we find that Medicaid expansion had a statistically insignificant effect on the share of our sample in part-time jobs or self-employment. We conclude that Medicaid Expansion had a negligible impact on both labor market outcomes for low-income workers.