Scott Spitze, PhD

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Summary

I'm a labor economist interested in improving worker wages, mobility, and productivity. I'm especially interested in worker education (both degree and non-degree), worker skills, worker occupation choice, and firm needs. Experienced in asking and answering research questions, cleaning and analyzing data, leading and mentoring research teams, and communicating with and helping clients. I'm an expert in R and the tidyverse, including using these tools to interact with SQL databases.

Work Experience

The Burning Glass Institute

Senior Economist June 2023 - Present
Economist March 2022 - May 2023

I mainly work on client based projects studying how to improve outcomes for workers, either though education, skills, or occupation selection. I take client questions and translate them into actionable analysis. I am responsible both for running my own analysis and for overseeing, advising, and coordinating the work of junior researchers. I created an R package to streamline interaction with the company Snowflake server. Notable projects I have led include

- Using North Carolina administrative data to estimate the ROI for each program in the UNC system. Part of an analysis of the UNC system for the state legislature.
- Using job profiles and vacancy postings data to study career outcomes for Texas public university and college students and the demand for students by school and major.
- Using job profiles to track worker attainment of non-degree credentials (used NLP techniques to standardize raw credential data). Analyzing how credentials affect worker outcomes to rank credentials and credential providers.

Education

2022 PhD (Economics) at **University of Georgia**
2018 MA (Economics, Doctoral Track) at **University of Iowa**
2015 BA (Economics) at **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

Skills

Programming Languages	R (expert); Python (intermediate); Stata (intermediate); SQL (intermediate)
Econometric Methods	Regressions; Differences-in-Differences; Instrumental Variables; Synthetic Controls; Random Forests