

Tim Spilde

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Academic Appointments

2025-Present The Graduate School, University of Notre Dame
Postdoctoral Research Associate

Education

2025 Ph.D., Department of Economics, University of Notre Dame
Committee: Daniel Hungerman (Chair), Marinho Bertanha, David Phillips, James Sullivan
2020 B.S., Business Economics, University of St Thomas

Research Interests

Public Economics, Labor Economics, Applied Microeconomics.

Job Market Paper

“Do Firearm Ordinances Save Lives? An Empirical Analysis of U.S. Municipal Gun Laws”

Abstract: I present a novel dataset of the universe of municipal gun ordinances between 2008 and 2019 to estimate the effects of gun ordinances on firearm fatalities. To do so, I isolate plausibly exogenous variation in the passage of municipal firearm ordinances that result from county level weather conditions on the day of the National School Walkout. I find no discernible effect of ordinances on firearm deaths at the county level. These estimates are precisely zero and I can rule out any effects larger than a 1% change from the mean number of firearm deaths. In further analyses of effects by victim subgroups defined by race, education, and age, I again do not detect any significant impact of ordinances on deaths. The first stage provides evidence that increased turnout for the 2018 National School Walkout led to more firearm ordinances being passed. Counties in states with punitive firearm preemption laws are much less likely to pass firearm ordinances.

Working Papers

“How Do Wrap-Around Anti-Poverty Programs Affect Employment and Individualized Outcomes?” (with Javier Espinosa, William Evans, and David Phillips)
“Firm Behavior to Dual Minimum Wage Policies” (with Ethan Jenkins and Pietro Pellerito)

Presentations

2024 Southern Economic Association (Scheduled)
2020 American Mathematical Society
2019 Center for Applied Mathematics Student Research Symposium

Research Assistant

University of Notre Dame

2021 - 2023 Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities
Principal Investigator: David Phillips

University of St Thomas

2018 - 2020 Department of Economics
Principal Investigator: Luz Saavedra
2019 Center for Applied Mathematics
Principal Investigator: Brenda Kroschel

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2024 Game Theory (U)
Instructor of Record: Kali Rath
Spring 2024 Statistics For Economics (U), Tutorial Instructor
Instructor of Record: Forrest Spence
Fall 2023 Game Theory (U)
Instructor of Record: Kali Rath

Service

2022 - 2024 Graduate Student Government Representative
2023 - 2024 Grad Guidance Mentor

Technical Skills

Stata, LaTeX, Matlab, Python, Mathematica, Tableau

References

Daniel Hungerman (Committee Chair)
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