Vesa-Matti Heikkuri

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citizenship: Finnish

Employment	**Tampere University** Assistant Professor, 2025- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2023-2024
Education	**Brown University** Ph.D., Economics, 2023 M.A., Economics, 2018 **University of Helsinki** M.Sc., Mathematics, 2022 **University of Oulu** M.Sc., Economics, 2016 B.Sc., Economics, 2014
Teaching Experience	**Instructor, Tampere University** Advanced macroeconomics, 2024-2025 Master's thesis seminar, 2024-2025 **Teaching Assistant, Brown University** Intermediate Microeconomics (Mathematical), Professor Rajiv Vohra, Spring 2023 Mathematics for Economists (graduate course), Lecturer Alex Poterack, Fall 2018 and Fall 2022 Economic Growth, Professor David Weil, Fall 2021 Essential Mathematics for Economics, Lecturer Alex Poterack, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, and Summer 2021 Economania (Summer course for high school students), Summer 2019 Economic Development, Professor Louis Putterman, Spring 2019 **Teaching Assistant, University of Oulu** Economic Theory II (macro), Professor Mikko Puhakka, Fall 2014 and Fall 2015
Presentations	**2025**: Finnish Economic Association Annual Meeting, INTEDU Conference, Inequalities and Opportunities Conference in Bari, ETLA **2024**: Tampere University, Finnish Economic Association Annual Meeting, ZEW Public Finance Conference, Helsinki GSE Labor & Public Economics Seminar, Helsinki Macro Research Away Day, International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress[†], 38th meeting of the European Economic Association, European Association for Labour Economists Conference, Helsinki GSE Macro Seminar

2023: Population Association of America Annual Meeting†, ECINEQ Meeting, Tampere University
2022: Brown University Growth lab, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Brown University Theory seminar
2021: Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality at City University of New York†, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research†, Brown University Growth breakfast
2020: Brown University Macro lunch, Brown University Growth lab

Professional Activities

Referee
Empirical Economics, Finnish Journal of Social Research, Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Economic Inequality, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Design

Organizer
FIT seminar 2024-
Co-organizer of Workshop on Wealth Inequality, Wealth Accumulation, and Public Policy at Tampere University, January 2025

Awards and Fellowships

Brown University Merit Dissertation Fellowship
Spring 2022
James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Wealth and Income Inequality Project Fellowship
Spring 2021
Stephen R. Ehrlich Fellowship Fund
2017-2018

Languages
and Skills

Finnish (native), English (fluent)
Matlab, R, Stata, Python, LaTeX

Working Papers

Population Aging, Cohort Replacement, and the Evolution of Income Inequality in the United States [Latest version]
with Matthias Schief

This paper examines the impact of demographic change on household income inequality in the United States, both historically and prospectively. We emphasize the distinct roles of population aging and cohort replacement and develop a methodology to study their joint compositional effect. We document that cohorts born later in the 20th century embody higher levels of income inequality compared to earlier-born cohorts, and we argue that most of the increase in inequality over the past two decades can be accounted for by demographic change. Moreover, we predict that future demographic change will continue to put significant upward pressure on household income inequality in the United States.

Subgroup Decomposition of the Gini Coefficient: A New Solution to an Old Problem [Latest version]
with Matthias Schief
Forthcoming at Econometrica

We derive a novel decomposition of the Gini coefficient into within and between-group inequality terms that sum to the aggregate Gini coefficient. This decomposition is derived from a set of axioms that ensure desirable behavior for the within and between-group inequality terms. The decomposition of the Gini coefficient is unique given our axioms, easy to compute, and can be interpreted geometrically.

†Presentation by co-author