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Jason Gates

PhD in Economics
Tepper School of Business
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Education

Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA
Ph.D., Economics, 2025
minor in Estimation Methods and Statistics

Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA
B.A. Economics (Honors) and Mathematics, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, 2015

Research Interests

Applied Microeconomics, Labor, Health, Econometrics

Dissertation Research

Together or Apart: A Structural Model of Intergenerational Location Choice, 2025, Job Market Paper (link)

Abstract: This paper examines the relationship between the location decisions of young adults and those of their parents within the US. I build and estimate a dynamic choice model of the co-location decision of adult children and their parents. The model incorporates both moving costs and the heterogeneous utility of parent-child proximity. By separately identifying each, I am able to conduct a counterfactual analysis in which parents and children make individually optimal migration decisions, while keeping other migration inhibiting factors fixed. Without these family ties, there are substantial increases in overall migration rates and a significant reallocation of young adults across labor markets towards more productive locations. The findings suggest that parental bonds are nearly as important in preventing young adult movement as all other moving costs combined. This suggests that these ties are a significant factor limiting the reallocation of labor across the US and provide a natural obstacle to policy attempts to address geographic labor market disparities.

Depressing Payment: Hospital Mergers and the Wage-Benefit Tradeoff (link)

Abstract: This paper examines how hospital mergers affect local labor markets through their impact on the cost of employer sponsored health insurance. I estimate the effect of a hospital merger occurring within a commuting zone on the wages, employment, hours worked, part-time work, and full-time work of non-health care employees. I find evidence that mergers reduce wages by approximately 1-2% in local commuting zones where they occur. I also find evidence that they reduce average hours worked and that this can be explained in part by substitution from full-time workers to part-time workers, possibly to avoid then costlier benefit provision.

Skills

Programming fluency in Python, R, and Stata
Programming proficiency in Matlab and ArcGIS

Publications

1. Anuj Gangopadhyaya, Frederic Blavin, Breno Braga, and Jason Gates 2020. Credit where it is due: Investigating pathways from earned income tax credit expansion to maternal mental health *Health Economics*, vol. 29, 975-991. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hec.4034
2. Stacey McMorrow, Genevieve M. Kenney, Sharon K. Long, and Jason Gates 2016. Marketplaces helped drive coverage gains in 2015; affordability problems remained *Health Affairs*, vol. 35, no. 10, 1810-1815.

   https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2016.0941

Employment

Health Policy Center, Urban Institute, Washington, DC
Research Associate, 2015-2018
Co-authored reports: `https://www.urban.org/author/jason-gates`

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate Level

Principles of Microeconomics
Instructor — Summer 2022
Regression Analysis
Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Rebecca Lessem, at Tepper — Fall 2019- Fall 2023
Probability and Statistics
Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Rebecca Lessem, at Tepper — Fall 2020- Fall 2023
Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Anh Nguyen, at Tepper — Spring 2021
Intermediate Microeconomics
Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Anh Nguyen, at Tepper — Spring 2022-Spring 2023

Master's Level

Machine Learning for Business Applications
Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Mattia Ciollaro, at Tepper — Spring 2023- Fall 2023
Statistical Foundations of Business Analytics
Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Mattia Ciollaro, at Tepper — Fall 2022- Spring 2023

Ph.D. Level

Macroeconomics I — Fall 2018
Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Ali Shourideh, at Tepper
Macroeconomics II — Spring 2019

Teaching Assistant, with Prof. Ali Shourideh, at Tepper

Conference Presentations

Southern Economic Association, 87th Annual Meeting, 2017

References

Rebecca Lessem, Associate Professor of Economics, Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University
`rlessem@andrew.cmu.edu`

Lowell Taylor, H. John Heinz III University Professor of Economics, Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University
`lt20@andrew.cmu.edu`

Brian Kovak, Professor of Economics and Public Policy, Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University
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