

Brandyn F. Churchill
Curriculum Vitae, January 2019

Email: brandyn.f.churchill@vanderbilt.edu
Cell phone: 540.817.9499

Vanderbilt University
Department of Economics
VU Station B 351819, 2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37235-1819

Education

Vanderbilt University
Ph.D. in Economics, 2021 (*Expected*)
M.A. in Economics, 2018

San Diego State University
M.A. in Economics, 2016
San Diego, CA 92182

Washington and Lee University
B.A. in Economics, 2014
Lexington, VA 24450

Research and Teaching Fields

Primary: Health, Labor
Secondary: Human Migration, Demography

Honors and Fellowships

Kirk Dornbush Summer Research Grant, Vanderbilt University, 2017
Graduate Student Fellowship, Vanderbilt University, 2016-2021
Center for Public Economics Scholarship, San Diego State University, 2016
McCuen Endowed Economics Scholarship, San Diego State University, 2014-2016

Teaching Experience

Vanderbilt University, Teaching Assistant
Poverty and Discrimination (ECON 3110/5240): Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018
Wages, Employment, and Labor Markets (ECON 3100/5100): Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018
Economic Statistics (ECON 1500): Spring 2018
Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 1010): Spring 2019

San Diego State University, Instructor
Principles of Economics (ECON 101) Fall 2015, Spring 2016

San Diego State University, Teaching Assistant
Labor Economics (ECON 380): Summer 2015
Principles of Economics (ECON 102): Spring 2015, Spring 2016
Principles of Economics (ECON 101): Fall 2014

Publications

“Do Minimum Wages Help or Hurt Low-Skilled Immigrants” (with Joseph J. Sabia) *Accepted at Industrial Relations*

Raising the minimum wage has been advanced as complementary policy to comprehensive immigration reform to improve low-skilled immigrants’ economic wellbeing. While adverse labor demand effects could undermine this goal, existing studies do not detect evidence of negative employment effects. We re-investigate this question using data from the 1994 to 2016 Current Population Survey and conclude that minimum wage increases reduced employment of less-educated Hispanic immigrants, with estimated elasticities of around -0.1. However, we also find that the earnings and employment effects of minimum wages on low-skilled immigrants diminished over the last decade. This finding is consistent with more restrictive state immigration policies and the Great Recession inducing outmigration of low-skilled immigrants, as well as a shift toward the informal sector. Finally, our results show that raising the minimum wage is an ineffective policy tool for reducing immigrant poverty.

Working Papers

“E-Verify Mandates and Immigrant Insurance Coverage”

The Trump administration has called for a nationwide E-Verify mandate as part of a broader effort to reshape US immigration policy. While several studies have examined the labor market effects of E-Verify mandates, no paper has considered the potential health consequences. Using both the Current Population Survey and the American Community Survey, this paper finds that E-Verify mandates reduce the probability that an immigrant has insurance by approximately 5 percentage points. In addition to inhibiting access to employer-sponsored insurance, there is robust evidence that E-Verify mandates chill Medicaid participation among immigrants. The effects are particularly acute for likely-unauthorized individuals, likely-authorized immigrants in mixed-status households, and citizen children with likely-unauthorized mothers. Finally, the results indicate that E-Verify mandates increase the probability that an immigrant reports being in poor health.

Other Research Experience and Employment

San Diego State University

Research Assistant for Professor Amuedo-Dorantes (Economics), 2014-2016

Research Assistant for Professor Gilles (Math), 2015

Membership

American Society of Health Economists

Center for Health Economics and Policy Studies

Southern Economic Association

Conference Attendance

Southeastern Health Economics Study Group 2017, 2018

American Society of Health Economists 2018

Vanderbilt Empirical Applied Microeconomics Festival 2017

Southern Economic Association 2015, 2016