

**Brandyn F. Churchill**  
*Curriculum Vitae, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023*

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**Academic Appointments**

Assistant Professor, Resource Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2022 - *Present*  
Research Assistant Professor, Economics, Vanderbilt University, 2021 - 2022

**Education**

Vanderbilt University, Ph.D. in Economics, 2021, M.A. in Economics, 2018  
Committee: Christopher S. Carpenter, Lesley J. Turner, Analisa Packham, and Carolyn J. Heinrich  
San Diego State University, M.A. in Economics, 2016  
Washington and Lee University, B.A. in Economics, 2014

**Research and Teaching Fields**

Health Economics, Public Policy, Labor Economics, Economic Demography

**Publications**

- (10) “‘There She Is, Your Ideal’: Negative Social Comparisons and Health Behaviors,” with Christopher S. Carpenter, Accepted at *Journal of Human Resources*, previously released as *NBER Working Paper No. 31156*
- (9) “The Roles of Cost and Recommendations in Driving Vaccine Take-Up: Evidence from the Herpes Zoster Vaccine for Shingles Prevention,” with Laura E. Henkhaus – Accepted at *American Journal of Health Economics*, doi: 10.1086/723541
- (8) “Bad Lighting: Effects of Youth Indoor Tanning Prohibitions,” with Christopher S. Carpenter and Michelle M. Marcus (2023) *Journal of Health Economics*, 88: 102738, doi: 10.1016/j.jhealeco.2023.102738, previously released as *NBER Working Paper No. 29443*
- (7) “The Effect of State E-Verify Mandates on Crime,” with Andrew Dickinson, Taylor Mackay, and Joseph J. Sabia (2022) *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 75(5): 1294-1320, doi: 10.1177/00197939211044449, previously released as *IZA DP No. 12798*
- (6) “Immigration Enforcement and Infant Health,” with Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes and Yang Song (2022) *American Journal of Health Economics*, 8(3): 323-358, doi: 10.1086/718510, previously released as *IZA DP No. 13908*
- (5) “How Important is the Structure of School Vaccine Requirement Opt-Out Provisions? Evidence from Washington, DC’s HPV Vaccine School Requirement,” (2021) *Journal of Health Economics* 78: 102480, doi: 10.1016/j.jhealeco.2021.102480
- (4) “E-Verify Mandates and Unauthorized Immigrants’ Access to Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance,” (2021) *Southern Economic Journal*, 88(2): 487-526, doi: 10.1002/soej.12535

- (3) “Insurance Coverage, Provider Contact, and HPV Vaccination,” (2021) *American Journal of Health Economics* 7(2): 222-247, doi: 10.1086/713037
- (2) “Driver’s Licenses, Unauthorized Immigrants, and Auto Insurance,” with Taylor Mackay and Bing Yang Tan (2021) *Contemporary Economic Policy* 39(1): 107-125, doi: 10.1111/coep.12492
- (1) “The Effects of Minimum Wages on Low-Skilled Immigrants’ Wages, Employment, and Poverty” with Joseph J. Sabia (2019) *Industrial Relations* 58(2): 275-314, doi: 10.1111/irel.12232

## Working Papers

“Mandated School-Based BMI Assessments and Health Behaviors” Revisions Requested at *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*

I provide novel evidence on the role of imperfect information in shaping childhood obesity. From 2003-2017, 24 states began requiring schools to perform Body Mass Index assessments on students. Using the 1991-2017 National and State Youth Risk Behavior Surveys and a difference-in-differences identification strategy, I show that these assessments increased the likelihood that teen girls described themselves as overweight and reported that they were trying to lose weight. These changes were driven by overweight teens, suggesting that the assessments did improve awareness about BMI status. I do not detect meaningful changes in exercise, calorie-limiting behaviors, or BMI, which suggests that combating childhood obesity will require more than correcting imperfect information about clinical weight thresholds.

“Market Responses to Vaccine Recommendations” with Laura E. Henkhaus and Emily C. Lawler

We provide novel evidence on how pharmaceutical companies and consumers respond to government-endorsed health recommendations. In 2014, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommended that elderly adults receive the pneumococcal vaccine Prevnar 13. Using a difference-in-differences identification strategy, we first show that the manufacturer (Pfizer) responded by increasing direct-to-consumer advertising. We then show that the recommendation increased Prevnar 13-related information-seeking behavior and pneumococcal vaccination. Overall, our analyses suggest that the recommendation directly increased Medicare Part B drug expenditures by over \$14 per beneficiary and Pfizer product sales by approximately \$1 billion annually, with little to no observable health benefits.

“Information Shocks and Health Behaviors: Evidence from Breast Cancer Screening Recommendations” with Emily C. Lawler

We provide novel evidence on how health care decision-making responds to changes in information by studying the effects of the United States Preventive Service Task Force’s 2009 decision to stop recommended mammogram screenings for women aged 40-49. Using a difference-in-differences identification strategy, we find that after the update women aged 40-49 were 1.4-4.9 percentage points less likely to report ever receiving a mammogram than their 50-59-year-old counterparts. We also identify large spillovers onto women aged 35-39: post-2009 they were significantly less likely to receive a mammogram recommendation or a mammogram. Additional analyses suggest the revision reduced overdiagnosis of early-stage tumors.

## Work in Progress

“Bullying, Negative Social Comparisons, and Adolescent Mental Health” with Bijesh Gyawali and Joseph J. Sabia

“Public Funding and Disease Prevention: Evidence from Funding Awards to Promote HPV Vaccination”

with Christopher S. Carpenter and Emily C. Lawler

“Sanctuary City Policies and Infant Health” with Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes and Yang Song

### **Research Presentations**

- 2023 American Society of Health Economists\*, Electronic Health Economics Colloquium, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2022 Southern Economic Association (× 2), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, NBER Summer Institute Health Care Program, American Society of Health Economists (× 3), NBER Program on Children, University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of Oklahoma, Fordham University, University of Memphis, University at Buffalo, University of Washington CHOICE Institute, Vanderbilt University, Haverford College
- 2021 NBER Health Economics Program, Southern Economic Association, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Canadian Health Economics Study Group, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Carleton University, Mathematica, American Society of Health Economists, Vanderbilt University
- 2020 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Eastern Economic Association, San Diego State University CHEPS, Vanderbilt University Health Policy, Vanderbilt University, Population Association of America

\* = Scheduled

### **Honors and Fellowships**

- APPAM Dissertation Award Honorable Mention, 2021
- Walter B. Noel Dissertation Fellowship, 2020
- Center for Growth and Opportunity, 2019
- Household International Award for Best Research Paper, 2019
- 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
- Chaos Society Scholarship, Washington and Lee University, 2010-2014
- Johnston Scholarship, Washington and Lee University, 2010-2014

### **Teaching Experience**

- University of Massachusetts Amherst
  - Managerial Economics (RES-ECON 428): Spring 2023 (2)
- Washington and Lee University
  - Applied Statistics (INTR 202): Winter 2020, Fall 2020 (2), Winter 2021 (2)
- Vanderbilt University
  - Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 1010): Summer 2019
- San Diego State University
  - Principles of Economics (ECON 101) Fall 2015 (2), Spring 2016

### **Professional Affiliations**

- American Economic Association
- American Society of Health Economists

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
Special Sworn Status, US Census Bureau  
Southern Economic Association

### **Referee Service**

*American Journal of Health Economics* (2), *AJPM: Focus*, *BMC Public Health*, *Health Economics* (2), *Industrial Relations: A Journal of Economy and Society*, *International Migration Review*, *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, *Journal of Health Economics* (8), *Journal of Human Resources* (2), *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Risky and Uncertainty*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society-Series A*, *Journal of Rural Health*, *North American Actuarial Journal*, *Public Choice*

### **Conference Session Organizer**

American Society of Health Economists (2022 × 2, 2022 × 3), Southern Economic Association (2022 × 2)

### **Conference Session Chair**

Allied Social Science Association (2022, 2023), American Society of Health Economists (2022), Southern Economic Association (2022)

### **Conference Discussant/Abstract Reviewer**

Allied Social Science Association (2023), American Society of Health Economists (2022 × 2, 2023), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2022); Southern Economic Association (2019, 2022)

### **Other Conference Attendance**

NBER Health Economics Program (05/2019, 12/2020, 07/2021, 07/2022, 12/2022), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2021), Allied Social Science Association (2021), NBER: Improving Health Outcomes for an Aging Population (2021), Indiana University – Risky Health Behaviors Mini Conference (2019, 2021), American Society of Health Economists (2018, 2019, 2020), Southeastern Health Economics Study Group (2017, 2018, 2019), Southern Economic Association (2015, 2016)

### **Other Service**

University of Massachusetts Amherst Undergraduate Studies Committee, Fall 2022  
University of Massachusetts Amherst Computers Committee, Spring 2023  
ASHEcon Newsletter Coeditor, 2022 - *Present*  
UMass Amherst Health Economics Work-in-Progress Series Organizer, 2022 - *Present*  
UMass Amherst Graduate Student Advising Group Organizer, 2023 - *Present*

### **Advising**

Sparshi Srivastava '24 (committee member; in progress)

### **Media Coverage**

Duluth News Tribune, February 2, 2023, *In Response: Expanding Driving Privileges Would Benefit All Minnesotans* (<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/opinion/columns/in-response-expanding-driving-privileges-would-benefit-all-minnesotans>)

Boston Globe, August 22, 2022, *Fear and Loathing of Immigrants Drives License Ballot Question* (<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/08/22/opinion/fear-loathing-immigrants-drives-license-ballot-question>)

Tradeoffs, January 14, 2022, *How Immigration Enforcement Can Affect Newborns' Health*

<https://tradeoffs.org/2022/01/14/immigration-undocumented-newborns-infants>)

Tradeoffs, May 20, 2021, *Calling the Shots: Should Employers Mandate the COVID Vaccines?*

<https://tradeoffs.org/2021/05/20/calling-the-shots-should-employers-mandate-covid-vaccines>)

## References

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