

---

# Cornell FSRDC Newsletter

*A report of activities of the Cornell Federal Statistical Research Data Center*

## RDC Research in *Journal of Marriage and Family*

A paper authored by Jessica Houston Su (faculty member at SUNY Buffalo and former Cornell Ph.D. student in sociology) based on her RDC project has been accepted by the *Journal of Marriage and Family*. In “Local Employment Conditions and Unintended Pregnancy,” she analyzes a unique restricted dataset that combines data from a nationally representative sample of women age 20-44 from the National Survey of Family Growth (2002, 2006-2010, and 2011-2013), with employment data from the U.S. Census and the American Community Survey (n=13,702). It employs multinomial logistic regressions to estimate the odds that respondents had an unintended pregnancy as a function of local employment conditions in their Core Based Statistical Area. She finds that higher unemployment rates were associated with lower odds of unintended pregnancy overall (including both mistimed and unwanted) relative to no pregnancy, adjusting for observable and unobservable characteristics. Women were less likely to have unwanted pregnancies in particular. This relationship was evident among women with both high and low levels of education, although those with the lowest education had the steepest declines.

Read the paper here: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jomf.12546>

## Data Update: 2018 IMI UMETRICS

What’s the value of academic research? That’s one of the questions that the University of Michigan’s Institute for Research on Innovation & Science (IRIS) and the U.S. Census Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies have teamed up to answer. On the Census Bureau’s web page providing information on this project, they state that data provided by major research universities linked to Census Bureau data on persons and businesses are providing “data driven insights into the impact of research funding on the broader economy. Work in progress by researchers utilizing IMI UMETRICS data will provide more detailed analyses of entrepreneurial outcomes and human capital, the economic effects of research related to food safety, and the relationship between research funding and subsequent entrepreneurship for various demographic groups.” To learn more about access to these confidential data through the Federal Statistical Research Data Center Program go to:

<https://www.census.gov/ces/dataproducts/UMetricsData.html>.

The [2018 IRIS Data Summit](#) took place on October 15-16 at the Institute for Social Research in Ann Arbor. Here’s a link to a wrap up of the research and technical discussions that took place: <https://iris.isr.umich.edu/2018/11/19/2018-iris-data-summit-wrap-up/>



Cornell University



Syracuse University

## New Project: Income Effects in the Take-Up of Means Tested Transfers

Amanda Eng (Cornell Ph.D. student in economics) and Kevin Rinz (U.S. Census Bureau) explore the role of income effects in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to provide insight into the efficiency of the programs. Using administrative SNAP and TANF records linked to the American Community Survey and Census Numident, they estimate the effect of income on the take-up of SNAP and TANF in a regression discontinuity design where a child's date of birth creates exogenous variation in income due to the receipt of income tax credits. In addition, they develop a model of optimal program design with incomplete take-up to interpret what their estimated parameter implies for the efficiency of these programs. This work is part of a larger project, Demonstration of Administrative Records Improving Surveys, which aims to explore methods of combining survey and administrative data, assess the quality of these data, produce data sets that better represent the population, evaluate methods of avoiding disclosure in data sets combining survey and administrative data, and document feasibility.

## Active Projects

See the NYRDC web site (<https://nyrdc.cornell.edu/>) for information and links for writing proposals. The list below reflects those projects that are currently active.

### Cornell University:

“The Role of Educators on Reporting Child Maltreatment”

Maria Fitzpatrick, Cassandra Benson, and Christopher Wildeman

“The Political Economy of Medicaid: Ideology, Eligibility, and the Consequences of Cost-saving Measures”

Jee-Hun Choi and Claire S.H. Lim

“How Housing and Labor Market Conditions Influence the Progression of Romantic Relationships”

Laura Tach, Sharon Sassler, Mariana Amorim, and Emily Parker

“Child SSI Caseloads, Take-Up, and Age-for-Grade Effects on Disability”

Cassandra Benson

“Effects of Education on Health and Other Outcomes Using Variation in Social Security Benefits for Children”

Barton Willage (Louisiana State University; former Ph.D. student)

“Human Capital and Corporate Financing, Restructuring, and Governance”

Hyunseob Kim, Warren Bailey, Dawoon Kim, Saheon Kim, Antonio Falato (Fed), Song Ma (Yale), Edith Liu (Fed), and Till von Wachter (UCLA)

“Effects of DI on Health and Well-being”

Sarah Prenovitz (Abt Associates; former Ph.D. student)



- “Unemployment and Unintended Fertility”  
Jessica Houston Su (SUNY Buffalo; former Ph.D. student)
- “Vietnam Veterans and Obesity”  
Daniel Grossman (West Virginia University; former Ph.D. student) and John Cawley
- “Estimating the Determinants of Private School Enrollment: The Role of School Attendance Zone Racial and Ethnic Composition”  
Arnab Basu, Chia-Hua Lin, Melissa McInerney (Tufts), Salvatore Saporito (William & Mary), and Anna Choi (Pepperdine; former Ph.D. student)
- “Demonstration of Administrative Records Improving Surveys (DARIS): Assessing Program Participation with ACS, WIC, SNAP, and TANF Data” (Internal)  
Amanda Eng and Zhuan Pei
- “LEHD Demographic Survey Improvement Project” (Internal)  
Lars Vilhuber et al
- “LEHD Data Infrastructure Project” (Internal)  
Lars Vilhuber, Sylverie Herbert et al
- “Research Program to Determine the Possibilities from Linking ACS & LEHD Data” (Internal)  
Lars Vilhuber et al
- “Organizations in the Digital Economy: Information Technology Use, Complementary Investments, and Impacts on Firm Outcomes” (Boston)  
Christopher Forman et al
- “The Impact of Online Retail on the Market Structure of Retail and Service Industries” (Triangle)  
Panle Barwick, Flavio Stanchi et al
- “SIPP 2014 Internal Research and Collaboration Project” (Internal)  
Lars Vilhuber, Bill Block, Warren Brown et al
- “The LBD Initiative - Collaboration with RDC Researchers” (Internal)  
Lars Vilhuber et al

### **Syracuse University:**

- “The New York State Homestead Tax Option: Tax Incidence and Equity”  
David Schwegman and John Yinger (adviser)
- “Education, Geography, and U.S. Adult Mortality Risk”  
Jennifer Montez, Blakelee Kemp, and Julene Cooney
- “Knowledge of Health Status and the Timing of Retirement and Disability Claims”  
Perry Singleton
- “The Effects of Pregnancy-Related Medicaid Expansions on Maternal, Infant, and Child Health”  
Sarah Hamersma and Melanie Guldi (University of Central Florida)
- “A Second Look at the Health Effects of Military Service Using the Vietnam-Era Draft Lottery as a Potentially Invalid Instrumental Variable”  
Alfonso Flores-Lagunes and Xintong Wang (Louisiana State University)



- 
- “Business Cycles, Business Dynamics and Firm Behavior” (Michigan)  
Natarajan Balasubramanian et al
- “Using the National Survey Interview Survey to Identify Disparities in Access and Utilization in Healthcare Services for Children with and without Special Needs and their Caregivers” (Missouri)  
Colleen Heflin, Nancy Cheak-Zamora (Missouri), and Chinedum Ojinnaka (Missouri)
- “The Relationship Between SNAP and Mortality”  
Colleen Heflin and James Ziliak (University of Kentucky)
- “A Binational Perspective on Selective Migration among Korean Immigrants”  
Colleen Heflin and Chaeyung Jun (University of Missouri)

### **University at Buffalo:**

- “Unemployment and Unintended Fertility”  
Jessica Su (SUNY Buffalo; former Ph.D. student)

### **Contacts:**

Nichole Szembrot, Cornell RDC  
Administrator  
[nichole.e.szembrot@census.gov](mailto:nichole.e.szembrot@census.gov)  
607-255-8603

William Block, Executive Director  
[block@cornell.edu](mailto:block@cornell.edu)  
Warren Brown, Research Director  
[wab4@cornell.edu](mailto:wab4@cornell.edu)

