PUBLIC ECONOMICS EC230B, PART I
SPRING 2018

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Office Hours: Tues 3-5pm in GSPP Room 345, use https://www.wejoinin.com/hilaryhoynes

This course is the second in a two semester course series in public economics. I am co-teaching the course with Reed Walker. We will each teach 7 lectures: Hoynes 1/16/18-2/27/18 and Walker 3/6/18-4/24/18. Part I of the course covers poverty, inequality and the role of government, taxes and labor supply, the social safety net for the low income population, and public health programs.

Course web site: https://bCourses.berkeley.edu. Most readings are hyperlinked in the syllabus. For others, they should be on the website. You will also find there the syllabus, lecture notes (powerpoint), and problem sets. At the end of the term I will move all of the files to my main website.

Class meetings: Tuesdays 10pm-12pm, Room 597 Evans Hall

Prerequisites: First year graduate microeconomics (Economics 201A,B), First year graduate econometrics (Economics 240A), and first public sector microeconomics class 230A.

Course Requirements (collectively with Hoynes + Walker portions):

Final Exam	35%
Research Proposal	15%
[Hilary] Paper Reports	25%
[Reed] TBD	25%

Research Proposal for Restricted Use Data: Write a proposal that could be submitted to the SSA, the BEA, the Census Bureau, a Research Data Center, a government agency, a foreign country government, etc., applying for restricted access data. The proposal should include a research question and a design for the project. Increasingly empirical public economics uses restricted data, and there are practical barriers to getting that data (making connections, bureaucracy, facility at nontechnical writing, etc.). It is good to get practice with this. This doesn't have to be a breakthrough paper, though it can be. You don't need to submit the proposal, but you can. Due at the end of the semester, aim for 5 single spaced pages max.

Paper reports: Each class I will identify 2-3 key papers that you are required to read before class. Each week you will prepare a short written response on one of those required papers. The first paragraph should summarize the paper and cover the research question, the motivation for why it's important. The second paragraph should provide an overview of the data and design used to answer the question and the key result. The rest of the report is an analytical reaction to the paper. Things you can address: (a) identify flaws and/or things that you wanted to see that weren't there, (b) is the research design reasonable and are the necessary assumptions believable? (c) what questions do you have or things you don't understand? and (d) what do you think of the paper? Do you see any extensions? How (if at all) might this paper help you in your research? You don't have to answer all of these questions for each paper! Due at 9am on the day of each lecture, aim for 1-1.5 pages single spaced max. Don't worry about how polished these reports are. I just want you to think about the paper and tell me what you think.

Questions to think about when reading empirical papers:
What question does it ask?
What data is used? What are the key variables?
What empirical model is used? What is the key parameter to be identified?
What is the variation in the treatment? Do you believe this variation?
What are the results and their interpretation? Is there an alternative interpretation?
How does the paper contribute to the literature?
How could I extend this paper; or swap out an element to make a new paper?

General Reference –
A. Auerbach and M. Feldstein, eds., Handbook of Public Economics, 4 Volumes, Amsterdam: North Holland.
Auerbach, A., Chetty, R., M. Feldstein, and E. Saez, eds., Handbook of Public Economics, Volume 5, Amsterdam: North Holland, 2013

Popular undergraduate textbooks -
J. Gruber, Public Finance and Public Policies, 4th edition, Worth Publishers, 2012.
H. Rosen, Public Finance, 7th edition, McGraw Hill, 2005.

References for applied econometrics methods used in this course -
A. Angrist and J.S. Pischke, Mostly Harmless Econometrics. Princeton University Press, 2008.

<u>COURSE READINGS AND SCHEDULE:</u>

I will require no more than 3 required readings per lecture. I expect you to carefully read these required papers and to be prepared to discuss them in class. The required readings are in bold.

<u>LECTURE 1 [January 16, 2018]: POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND SOCIAL MOBILITY IN THE U.S.</u>

F. Alvaredo, L. Chancel, T. Piketty, E. Saez and G. Zucman, "World Inequality Report 2018", http://wir2018.wid.world/files/download/wir2018-full-report-english.pdf

F. Alvaredo, A. Atkinson, T. Piketty and E. Saez (2013). "The Top 1 Percent in International and Historical Perspective." Journal of Economic Perspectives 27(3), 2013, 3-20.

D. Autor "Skills, education, and the rise of earnings inequality among the "other 99 percent"", Science 2014, pp 844-845

D. Autor, L. Katz, and M. Kearney (2008). "Trends in U.S. Wage Inequality: Revising the Revisionists." Review of Economics and Statistics, 90(2), 300-323.

R. Chetty, N. Hendren, P. Kline, and E. Saez (2014). "Where is the Land of Opportunity? The Geography of Intergenerational Mobility in the United States." Quarterly Journal of Economics 129(4): 1553-1623, 2014.

R. Chetty, N. Hendren, P. Kline, and E. Saez (2014). "Is the United States Still a Land of Opportunity? Recent Trends in Intergenerational Mobility," American Economic Review Papers & Proceedings 104(5): 141–147, 2014.

M. Corak (2013). "Income Inequality, Equality of Opportunity, and Intergenerational Mobility." Journal of Economic Perspectives, 27(3): 79-102.

Economic Report of the President (2014), "The War On Poverty 50 Years Later: A Progress Report," Chapter 6, pp. 15-48.

L. Einav and J. Levin 2013. The Data Revolution and Economic Analysis', NBER Working Paper 19035, 2013.

L. Feeney, et al. 2015. "Using Administrative Data for Randomized Evaluations."

M. Kearney, and P. Levine (2016). "Income Inequality, Social Mobility, and the Decision to Drop Out of High School." Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, March 2016.

W. Kopczuk, E.Saez, and J. Song "Earnings Inequality and Mobility in the United States: Evidence from Social Security Data since 1937," Quarterly Journal of Economics 125(1), 2010, 91-128.

T. Piketty, and E. Saez (2003), "Income Inequality in the United States, 1913-1998," Quarterly Journal of Economics 118 (2003), 1-39.

T. Piketty and E. Saez (2014), "Inequality in the Long Run," Science. 23 May 2014, Vol 344 Issue 6186.

T. Piketty, E. Saez and G. Zucman (2018, forthcoming), "Distributional National Accounts: Methods and Estimates for the United States," Quarterly Journal of Economics (nber wp 22945)

E. Saez, and G. Zucman, "Wealth Inequality in the United States Since 1913: Evidence from Capitalized Income Tax Data," Quarterly Journal of Economics 131 (2016), 519-578.

LECTURE 2 [January 23, 2018]: TAXES AND LABOR SUPPLY I

History and Review of Empirical Tax

O. Ashenfelter and M. Plant. (1990) "Non-Parametric Estimates of the Labor Supply Effects of Negative Income Tax Programs," Journal of Labor Economics, 8.1 (January), S396-S415.

F. Blau and L. Kahn (2007) "Changes in the Labor Supply Behavior of Married Women: 1980-2000", Journal of Labor Economics, Vol 25, pp. 393-438

Blundell, Richard, Antoine Bozio, and Guy Laroque. 2013. "Extensive and Intensive Margins of Labour Supply: Work and Working Hours in the US, UK and France," Fiscal Studies, 34(1), 1-29

R. Blundell, A. Duncan and C. Meghir, Estimating Labor Supply Responses Using Tax Reforms, Econometrica 66 (July 1998), 827-862.

R. Blundell and T. Macurdy. (1999) "Labor Supply: A Review of Alternative Approaches" in the *Handbook of Labor Economics*, Volume 3A, O. Ashenfelter and D. Card, eds.

D. Cesarini, E. Lindqvist, M. Notowidigdo and R. Östling (2017). "The Effect of Wealth on Individual and Household Labor Supply: Evidence from Swedish Lotteries," American Economic Review, Dec 2017. (nber wp 21762)

J. Hausman "Taxes and Labor Supply", in A. Auerbach and M. Feldstein, eds, Handbook of Public Finance, Vol I, North Holland 1987.

J. Heckman (1993). "What Has Been Learned About Labor Supply in the Past Twenty Years?", American Economic Review, Vol. 83, 1993, 116-121.

G. Imbens, D. Rubin, and B. Sacerdote (2001) " Estimating the Effect of Unearned Income on Labor Earnings, Savings, and Consumption: Evidence from a Survey of Lottery Players" American Economic Review, Vol. 91, No. 4, September 2001.

T. MaCurdy, H. Paarsch, and D. Green, "Assessing Empirical Approaches for Analyzing Taxes and Labor Supply," Journal of Human Resources, Summer 1990.

C. Meghir and D. Phillips, "Labor Supply and Taxes," in Institute for Fiscal Studies, Dimensions of Tax Design: The Mirrlees Review (2009).

Kinks, Notches and Bunching

H. Kleven (2016) "Bunching", Annual Review of Economics, 8, 2016, 435-464.

H. Kleven and M. Waseem, 2013 "Using notches to uncover optimization frictions and structural elasticities: Theory and evidence from Pakistan", Quarterly Journal of Economics 2013, 669-723.

E. Saez "Do Taxpayers Bunch at Kink Points?" American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, August 2010.

R. Chetty J. Friedman, T. Olsen and L. Pistaferri "Adjustment Costs, Firm Responses, and Micro vs. Macro Labor Supply Elasticities: Evidence from Danish Tax Records", Quarterly Journal of Economics 126(2): 749-804, 2011

J. Mortenson and A. Whitten. 2016. "Bunching to Maximize Tax Credits: Evidence from Kinks in the U.S. Tax Schedule", OTA-JCT working paper.

LECTURE 3 [January 30, 2018]: TAXES AND LABOR SUPPLY II

Taxes and the Low Income Population

EITC Literature Reviews:
A. Nichols and J. Rothstein (2016). "The Earned Income Tax Credit," in ed. Robert A. Moffitt, Economics of Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the U.S. Volume I, University of Chicago Press.
H. Hoynes and J. Rothstein (2017). "Tax Policy Toward Low-Income Families," Economics of Tax Policy, edited by Alan Auerbach and Kent Smetters, Oxford University Press
N. Eissa and H Hoynes (2006) "Behavioral Responses to Taxes: Lessons from the EITC and Labor Supply," Tax Policy and the Economy Volume 20, pp. 74-110. MIT Press.
J. Hotz and K. Scholz, "The Earned Income Tax Credit", in Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the United States, R. Moffitt (ed.), The University of Chicago Press and NBER, 2003, 141-197.

R. Chetty and E. Saez, "Teaching the Tax Code: Earnings Responses to an Experiment with EITC Claimants," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics,* 5(1): 1-31. 2013.

R. Chetty, J. Friedman, and E. Saez, "Using Differences in Knowledge Across Neighborhoods to Uncover the Impacts of the EITC on Earnings" *American Economic Review* 103(7): 2683-2721, 2013.

N. Eissa and H. Hoynes, "Taxes and the Labor Market Participation of Married Couples: The Earned Income Tax Credit," *Journal of Public Economics*, 88(9-10), 1931-1958 (2004).

N. Eissa and J. Liebman, "Labor Supply Response to the Earned Income Tax Credit", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 111 (1996), 605-637

D. Greenberg and H. Hasley, "Systematic Misreporting and Effects of Income Maintenance Experiments on Work Effort: Evidence from the Seattle-Denver Experiment", Journal of Labor Economics, Vol. 1, 1983, 380-407.

H. Hoynes and A. Patel "The Earned Income Tax Credit and the Distribution of Income," Journal of Human Resources, forthcoming. NBER working paper 21340.

W. Kopczuk, and C. Pop-Eleches (2007), "Electronic Filing, Tax Preparers, and Participation in the Earned Income Tax Credit", Journal of Public Economics.

B. Meyer and D. Rosenbaum, "Welfare, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and the Labor Supply of Single Mothers", QJE 116 (3) (August 2001), 1063-1114.

D. Neumark et W. Wascher, "Using the EITC to Help Poor Families: New Evidence and a Comparison with the Minimum Wage", National Tax Journal, Vol 54, No 2, June 2001.

J. Rothstein, "Is the EITC as Good as an NIT? Conditional Cash Transfers and Tax Incidence", American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Feb 2010.

Taxes and High Income Taxation

U. Akcigit, S. Baslandze, and S. Stantcheva, "Taxation and the International Mobility of Inventors," American Economic Review 106 (2016), 2930-2981.

F. Alvaredo, A. Atkinson, T. Piketty and E. Saez "The Top 1 Percent in International and Historical Perspective." Journal of Economic Perspectives 27(3), 2013, 3-20.

E. Saez (2017). "Taxing the Rich More: Preliminary Evidence from the 2013 Tax Increase", Tax Policy and the Economy 31, 2017, 71-120.

N. Eissa "Taxation and Labor Supply of Married Women: The Tax Reform Act of 1986 as a Natural Experiment" NBER Working Paper 5023, 1995.

A. Goolsbee, "What Happens When You Tax the Rich? Evidence from Executive Compensation," *Journal of Political Economy*, 2001.

H. Kleven, C. Landais, E. Saez "Taxation and International Mobility of Superstars: Evidence from the European Football Market", *American Economic Review*, 2013, 103(5): 1892–1924

T. Piketty, E. Saez, and S. Stantcheva, "Optimal Taxation of Top Labor Incomes: A Tale of Three Elasticities," American Economic Journal: Economic Policy 6 (2014), 230-271.

Micro Macro

A. Alesina, E. Glaeser, and B. Sacerdote, "Work and Leisure in the U.S. and Europe: Why So Different?," NBER Macroeconomics Annual 2005, D. Acemoglu and K. Rogoff, eds., 1-64.

R. Chetty, "Bounds on Elasticities with Optimization Frictions: A Reconciliation of Micro and Macro Labor Supply Elasticities," *Econometrica*, 80(3): 969-1018, 2012.

R. Chetty, A. Guren, D. Manoli, and A. Weber. 2013 "Does Indivisible Labor Explain the Difference between Micro and Macro Elasticities? A Meta-Analysis of Extensive Margin Elasticities", NBER

Macroeconomics Annual, University of Chicago Press, 27(1), 1-56.

R. Chetty, J. Friedman, T. Olsen and L. Pistaferri "Adjustment Costs, Firms Responses, and Micro vs. Macro Labor Supply Elasticities: Evidence from Danish Tax Records", Quarterly Journal of Economics, 126(2), 2011, 749-804.

M. Keane and R. Rogerson, "Micro and Macro Elasticities: A Reassessment of Conventional Wisdom" *Journal of Economic Literature*, 50(2), June 2012, 464-76

LECTURE 4 [February 6, 2018]: CASH TRANSFERS

Economic Models and the Importance of Take-up

V. Alatas, A. Banerjee, R. Hanna, B. Olken, R. Purnamasari, and M. Wai Poi. 2016. "Self Targeting: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia". Journal of Political Economy, 124 (2): 371-427.

E. Bettinger, B. Long, P. Oreopoulos and L. Sanbonmatsu. 2012. "The Role of Simplification and Information: Evidence from the FAFSA Experiment." Quarterly Journal of Economics 127 (3): 1205-1242.

M. Bertrand, S. Mullainathan, and E. Shafir. 2004. "A Behavioral-Economics View of Poverty." American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, May 2004, 419-423.

S. Bhargava, and D. Manoli. "Psychological frictions and the incomplete take-up of social benefits: Evidence from an IRS field experiment." The American Economic Review 105.11 (2015): 3489-3529.

J. Currie, 2006. "The Take-up of Social Benefits" in "Poverty, The Distribution of Income, and Public Policy" edited by A. Auerbach, D. Card, and J. Quigley, pp.80-148, New York: Russell Sage

M. Deshpande, and Y. Li. 2017. "Who Is Screened Out? Application Costs and Targeting of Disability Programs." NBER wp 23472.

R. Moffitt "An Economic Model of Welfare Stigma", American Economic Review, December 1983.

M. Rossin-Slater (2013), "WIC in Your Neighborhood: New Evidence on the Impacts of Geographic Access to Clinics," Journal of Public Economics, 102: 51–69.

Empirical Effects of Cash Transfers

AFDC/TANF Literature Reviews:
R. Blank (2002), "Evaluating Welfare Reform in the United States," Journal of Economic Literature, December 2002.
J. Grogger, L. Karoly, and J. Klerman (2002), Consequences of Welfare Reform: A Research Synthesis, RAND/DRU-2676-DHHS, 2002.
R. Moffitt (1992), "Incentive Effects of the U.S. Welfare System: A Review." Journal of Economic Literature 30 (March 1992): 1-61.
R. Moffitt (2003), "The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program," in ed. Robert Moffitt Means-Tested Transfers in the U.S., University of Chicago Press.
J. Ziliak (2016), "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families," in ed. Robert A. Moffitt, Economics of Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the U.S. Volume I, University of Chicago Press. NBER WP
SSI Literature Reviews:
M. Duggan, M. Kearney, and S. Rennane (2016). "The Supplemental Security Income Program," in ed. Robert A. Moffitt, Economics of Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the U.S. Volume II, University of Chicago Press. NBER-WP
M. Daly and R. Burkhauser (2003), "The Supplemental Security Income Program," in ed. Robert Moffitt Means-Tested Transfers in the U.S., University of Chicago Press.

M. Bitler, J. Gelbach, and H. Hoynes, "What Mean Impacts Miss: Distributional Impacts of Welfare Reform Programs," American Economic Review, 2006.

M. Bitler and H. Hoynes (2016). "Strengthening Temporary Assistance for Needy Families," The Hamilton Project.

D. Card and D. Hyslop. 2005. "Estimating the Effects of a Time-Limited Earnings Subsidy for Welfare-Leavers" Econometrica, 73(6), 1723-70.

G. Dahl, A. Kostol, M. Mogstad (2014). "Family Welfare Cultures", Quarterly Journal of Economics 129(4): 1711-1752.

M. Deshpande, 2016. "Does Welfare Inhibit Success? The Long-Term Effects of Removing Low-Income Youth from the Disability Rolls" American Economic Review 106(11), November 2016, pp. 3300-3330

M. Deshpande, 2016. "The Effect of Disability Payments on Household Earnings and Income: Evidence from the SSI Children's Program" Review of Economics and Statistics 98(4), October 2016, pp. 638-654.

J. Grogger (2004). "The Effects of Time Limits, the EITC, and Other Policy Changes on Welfare Use, Work, and Income Among Female-Headed Families", Review of Economic and Statistics, 2004.

J. Grogger and C. Michalopoulos, "Welfare Dynamics under Time Limits," *Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 111(3), pages 530-554, June, 2003.

J. Gruber, "Cash Welfare as a Consumption Smoothing Device for Single Mothers," Journal of Public Economics 75 (February, 2000), 157-182.

H. Hoynes "Does Welfare Play Any Role in Female Headship Decisions?" Journal of Public Economics 65, 1997.

B. Meyer and D. Rosenbaum, "Welfare, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and the Labor Supply of Single Mothers", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 116(3): 1063-1114, 2001.

B. Meyer and J. Sullivan "Changes in the Consumption, Income, and Well-Being of Single Mother Headed Families," American Economic Review 98(5): 2221-41, 2008.

R. Moffitt. 2003. "Welfare Programs and Labor Supply," in A. Auerbach and M. Feldstein, Handbook of Public Economics, Volume 4, Chapter 34, Amsterdam: North Holland.

R. Moffitt, (2003) "The Negative Income Tax and the Evolution of U.S. Welfare Policy," Journal of Economic Perspectives 17(3), pp. 119-131.

S. Mullainathan and E. Shafir. 2013. Scarcity: Why Having Too Little Means So Much. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

A. Nichols and R. Zeckhauser, "Targeting Transfers Through Restrictions on Recipients," American Economic Review 72 (May 1982), 372-377.

D. Price and J. Song (2017) "The Long Term Effects of Cash Assistance," working paper.

L. Schmidt and P. Sevak. 2004. "AFDC, SSI, and Welfare Reform Aggressiveness: Caseload Reductions versus Caseload Shifting." Journal of Human Resources 39(3): 792-812.

F. Shilbach, H. Shofield and S. Mullainathan. 2016. "The Psychological lives of the poor." American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings. May: 106(5): 435-440.

LECTURE 5 [February 13, 2018]: IN KIND TRANSFERS

SNAP Literature Reviews:
H. Hoynes and D. Schanzenbach (2016), "U.S. Food and Nutrition Programs," in ed. Robert A. Moffitt, Economics of Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the U.S. Volume I, University of Chicago Press. NBER-wp
J. Currie (2003), "U.S. Food and Nutrition," in ed. Robert Moffitt Means-Tested Transfers in the U.S., University of Chicago Press.
Public Housing Literature Reviews:
R. Collinson, I. Gould, and J. Ludwig (2016), "Low-Income Housing Policy," in ed. Robert A. Moffitt, Economics of Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the U.S. Volume II, University of Chicago Press. NBER-wp
E. Olsen (2003) "Housing Programs for Low-Income Households," in ed. Robert Moffitt Means-Tested Transfers in the U.S., University of Chicago Press.

Rationales for in-kind transfers

A. Nichols and R. Zeckhauser, "Targeting Transfers Through Restrictions on Recipients," American Economic Review 72 (May 1982), 372-377.

S. Coate, S. Johnson, and R. Zeckhauser. 1994. "Pecuniary Redistribution through In-Kind Programs". Journal of Public Economics 55, 19-40.

J. Cunha, G. De Giorgi, and S. Jayachandran. 2018. "The Price Effects of Cash Versus In-Kind Transfers." Review of Economic Studies, forthcoming.

J. Currie and F. Gahvari. 2008. "Transfers in Cash and in Kind: Theory Meets the Data." Journal of Economic Literature 46 (2): 333-383.

Empirical Findings: Food and Nutrition Programs

D. Almond, H. Hoynes and D. Schanzenbach, "Inside the War on Poverty: The Impact of Food Stamps on Birth Outcomes", Review of Economics and Statistics May 2011.

J. Goldin, T. Homonoff and K. Meckel, "The Nth of the Month Effect: Is Staggering the Issuance of SNAP Benefits Welfare Improving?" with Jacob Goldin and Tatiana Homonoff, February 2016

J. Hastings and J. Shapiro (2017). "How Are SNAP Benefits Spent? Evidence from a Retail Panel," working paper.

J. Hastings, and E. Washington. 2010. "The First of the Month Effect: Consumer Behavior and Store Responses." *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2(2): 142–62.

H. Hoynes, M. Page and A. Stevens, "Can Targeted Transfers Improve Birth Outcomes? Evidence from the Introduction of the WIC Program", Journal of Public Economics 2011.

H. Hoynes and D. Schanzenbach, 2012. Work incentives and the food stamp program. Journal of Public Economics, 96(1), pp.151-162.

H. Hoynes and D. Schanzenbach (2009), "Consumption Responses to In-Kind Transfers: Evidence from the Introduction of the Food Stamp Program," American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 2009, 1:4, 109-139.

K. Meckel, "Is the Cure Worse than the Disease? Unintended Consequences of Fraud Reduction in Transfer Programs," January 2016

J. Shapiro "Is there a daily discount rate? Evidence from the food stamp nutrition cycle" Journal of Public Economics, Volume 89, Issues 2-3, February 2005, Pages 303-325.

Empirical Findings: Housing Policies

B. Jacob and J. Ludwig (2012), "The Effects of Housing Assistance on Labor Supply: Evidence from a Voucher Lottery," American Economic Review, 102(1): 272–304, 2012.

B. Jacob. M. Kapustin, and J. Ludwig (2014), "The Impact of Housing Assistance on Child Outcomes: Evidence from a Randomized Housing Lottery," Quarterly Journal of Economics 130(1): 465-506.

L. Katz, J. Kling and J. Liebman "Moving to Opportunity in Boston: Early Results of a Randomized Mobility Experiment", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 116 (May 2001), 607-54.

LECTURE 6 [February 20, 2018]: PUBLIC HEALTH CARE

Medicaid Literature Reviews:
T. Buchmueller, J. Ham and L. Shore-Sheppard (2016), "Medicaid," in ed. Robert A. Moffitt, Economics of Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the U.S. Volume I, University of Chicago Press. NBER-wp
J. Gruber (2003), "Medicaid," in ed. Robert Moffitt Means-Tested Transfers in the U.S., University of Chicago Press.
J. Gruber (1997). "Health Insurance for Poor Women and Children in the US: Lessons from the Past Decade," Tax Policy and the Economy Vol 11.

Valuing In-Kind Transfers

A. Finkelstein, N. Hendren and E. Luttmer. 2016. The Value of Medicaid: Interpreting Results from the Oregon Health Insurance Experiment. Unpublished mimeo.

A. Finkelstein, N. Hendren and M. Shepard. 2017. "Subsidizing Health Insurance for Low-Income Adults: Evidence from Massachusetts." Unpublished mimeo.

A. Aron-Dine, E. Liran and A. Finkelstein. 2013. "The RAND Health Insurance Experiment, Three Decades Later" Journal of Economic Perspectives 27(1): 197-222

Empirical Findings: Medicaid and Adults

K. Baicker, et al (2013). "The Oregon experiment—effects of Medicaid on clinical outcomes." New England Journal of Medicine 368.18 (2013): 1713-1722.

K. Baicker, A. Finkelstein, J. Song and S. Taubman (2014) "The impact of medicaid on labor market activity and program participation: Evidence from the oregon health insurance experiment." The American economic review 104.5 (2014): 322-328.

A. Finkelstein, S. Taubman, B. Wright, M. Bernstein, J. Gruber, J. Newhouse, H. Allen, K. Baicker, and the Oregon Health Study Group (2012). "The Oregon Health Insurance Experiment: Evidence from the first year." Quarterly Journal of Economics 127(3): 1057-1106.

C. Garthwaite, T. Gross and M. Notowidigdo. 2014. Public Health Insurance, Labor Supply, and Employment Lock. Quarterly Journal of Economics 129(2): 653-696.

C. Garthwaite, T. Gross, and M. Notowidigdo (2018). Hospitals as insurers of last resort. American Economic Journal: Applied Economics 10(1): 1-39.

S. Taubman, H. Allen, B. Wright, K. Baicker, and A. Finkelstein. (2014). "Medicaid Increases Emergency Department Use: Evidence from Oregon's Health Insurance Experiment." Science 343(6168): 263-268.

Empirical Findings: Medicaid and Children

J. Currie and J. Gruber (1996) "Health Insurance Eligibility, Utilization of Medical Care, and Child Health" Quarterly Journal of Economics 111(2): 431-466.

J. Currie and J. Gruber (1996), "Saving Babies: The Efficacy and Cost of Recent Changes in the Medicaid Eligibility of Pregnant Women," Journal of Political Economics, 104(6): 1263-1296.

D. Cutler and J. Gruber, "Does Public Insurance Crowd Out Private Insurance?" Quarterly Journal of Economics 111(2): 391-430.

L. Hu, R. Kaestner, B. Mazumder, S. Miller, and A. Wong (2017), "The Effect of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansions on Financial Wellbeing" nber working paper 22170.

B. Mazumder, and S. Miller (2016). "The Effects of the Massachusetts Health Reform on Household Financial Distress." American Economic Journal: Economic Policy 8.3 (2016): 284-313.

Empirical Findings: Medicare and Elderly

D. Card, C. Dobkin, and N. Maestas (2009). "Does Medicare Save Lives?", Quarterly Journal of Economics 124(2): 597-636.

D. Card, C. Dobkin, and N. Maestas (2008), "The Impact of Nearly Universal Insurance Coverage on Health Care Utilization and Health: Evidence from Medicare," American Economic Review, Vol. 98, Issue. 5, pp. 2242–58,

A. Finkelstein (2007). "The Aggregate Effects of Health Insurance: Evidence from the Introduction of Medicare." The Quarterly Journal of Economics 122.1 (2007): 1-37.

A. Finkelstein and R. McKnight, "What Did Medicare Do (And Was It Worth It)?" Journal of Public Economics 92: 1644-1668.

LECTURE 7 [February 27, 2018]: LONG TERM EFFECTS OF THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET

A. Aizer, S. Eli, J. Ferrie and A. Lleras-Muney (2016). "Long Term Effects of Early US Cash Welfare Program," American Economic Review 106(4): 935–971.

D. Almond and J. Currie (2011), "Killing Me Softly: The Fetal Origins Hypothesis," Journal of Economic Perspectives 25(3): 153-172.

D. Almond, H. Hoynes and D. Schanzenbach, "Inside the War on Poverty: The Impact of Food Stamps on Birth Outcomes", Review of Economics and Statistics May 2011.

M. Anderson. "Multiple Inference and Gender Differences in the Effects of Early Intervention: A Reevaluation of the Abecedarian, Perry Preschool," JASA, 2008 103(484).

D. Brown, A. Kowalski, and I. Lurie (2014) Medicaid as an Investment in Children: What is the Long-Term Impact on Tax Receipts?, working paper.

R. Chetty, N. Hendren and L. Katz (2016) "The Effects of Exposure to Better Neighborhoods on Children: New Evidence from the Moving to Opportunity Experiment" American Economic Review 106(4): 855-902.

E. Chyn (2017) "Moved to Opportunity: The Long Run Effect of Public Housing Demolition on Labor Market Outcomes of Children," working paper.

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