

# Ezra Karger

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## EMPLOYMENT

<b>Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago</b>	<b>Chicago, IL</b>
Economist	2021 –
Resident Scholar	2019 – 2021
<b>The University of Chicago</b>	<b>Chicago, IL</b>
Research Assistant to Derek Neal	2013 – 2019
Research Assistant to Devin Pope	2010 – 2014
<b>Cornerstone Research</b>	<b>Boston, MA</b>
Analyst	2014 – 2015

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## EDUCATION

<b>The University of Chicago</b>	<b>Chicago, IL</b>
Ph.D. in Economics	2021
M.A. in Economics	2017
B.A. in Mathematics, Statistics, and Economics	2014

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## AFFILIATIONS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Visiting Scholar, University of Pennsylvania: Department of Psychology	2021 –
Special Sworn Status, U.S. Census Bureau	2017 –
Research Affiliate, New York University: Coleridge Initiative	2019 – 2020
Co-PI, U.S. Census Bureau, External Project #2090 (data access)	2019 – 2024
Co-PI, Open Philanthropy, Forecasting Tournament Planning (\$275,000)	2021
Co-PI, Long-Term Future Fund, Hybrid Forecasting-Persuasion Tournament (\$572,000)	2020
Grantee, Allison Davis Research Award (\$10,000)	2020
Grantee, UChicago Data Grant (\$3,000)	2020
Co-PI, Equitable Growth, The Causal Effects of Antitrust Enforcement (\$77,000)	2019
Grantee, Institute of Education Sciences via UChicago, Data Digitization (\$11,000)	2019
President's Award for Excellence, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago	2021
Honorable Mention, APPAM Dissertation Award	2021
IPUMS Mug	2021
Agility Award, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago	2020
Starr Dissertation Completion Fellowship, UChicago	2020
Doctoral Fellow, Institute of Education Sciences	2015 – 2020
Forecaster on most accurate team, FOCUS	2019
Most accurate forecaster, Hybrid Forecasting Competition	2018
Fellow, Illinois Department of Employment Security	2017 – 2018
Superforecaster, Good Judgment Project	2015
David S. Hu Award for economics coursework and senior thesis excellence	2014

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## TEACHING

<b>The University of Chicago</b>	<b>Chicago, IL</b>
Teaching Assistant: Applied Microeconomics in Economic History (graduate)	Winter 2021
Teaching Assistant: Job Mobility and Wage Determinants (graduate)	Winter 2019
Lecturer: Introduction to R (undergraduate, two-day course)	Summer 2018
Lecturer: Pathways in Economics (high school, two-day course)	Summer 2018
Teaching Assistant: Economics of Education (undergraduate)	Spring 2017
Preceptor: Honors Thesis Workshop (undergraduate)	2016 – 2018
Grader: Introductory Statistics (undergraduate)	Fall 2012
Grader: Linear Algebra (undergraduate)	Fall 2012
Teaching Assistant: Calculus 1, 2, and 3 (undergraduate)	2011 – 2012

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## PRESENTATIONS

\* Indicates coauthored work presented by a coauthor

**2022:** Notre Dame; Auburn; Mississippi State; Mountain West Economic History Conference; NBER Education (Spring)\*; NBER Children (Spring)\*; Cliometric Conference, NBER Development of the American Economy (Summer Institute)

**2021:** Midwest Economics Association; Economic History Society Conference; Cliometric Conference; NBER Summer Institute (x2); Future of Humanity Institute; DePaul; Northwestern's Methodological Advances in the Extraction and Analysis of Historical Data\*

**2020:** University of Michigan H2D2 Conference; WEAI Graduate Student Workshop; Virtual Seminar in Economic History; Young Economist Symposium; Economic History Association; LSE Graduate Economic History Seminar; Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference; Southern Economic Association; Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; APPAM; University of Southern Denmark; Economics of Education Student Conference

**2019:** Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Chapin Hall; NYU Coleridge Initiative

**2018:** Chicago Education Workshop

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## SERVICE

<b>Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago</b>	<b>Chicago, IL</b>
Organizer: Research Assistant Reading Group	2021 –

<b>The University of Chicago</b>	<b>Chicago, IL</b>
Co-organizer: Student Applied Microeconomics Workshop	2017 – 2018
Co-organizer: Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference	Fall 2017
Co-organizer: Education Workshop	2015 – 2019

Referee: *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*; *Journal of Public Economics*; *American Economic Review: Insights*; *Journal of Health Economics*; *Review of Economics and Statistics*; *Journal of Economic History*; *International Journal of Central Banking*; *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*; *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*; *Economic Inquiry*; *American Journal of Health Economics*

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## WORKING PAPERS

1. The Long-Run Effect of Public Libraries on Children: Evidence from the Early 1900s

2. The Black-White Lifetime Earnings Gap
3. Heterogeneity in the Marginal Propensity to Consume: Evidence from Covid-19 Stimulus Payments (with Aastha Rajan)
4. Schools and Crime (with Todd R. Jones)

## UNDER REVIEW

5. Heterogeneous Impacts of Sentencing Decisions (with Andrew Jordan, Derek Neal)
6. Tracking U.S. Consumers in Real Time with a New Weekly Index of Retail Trade (with Scott A. Brave, Michael Fogarty, Daniel Aaronson, and Spencer Krane)
7. Reciprocal Scoring: A Method for Forecasting Unanswerable Questions (with Joshua Monrad, Barbara Mellers, and Philip Tetlock)
8. The Census Place Project: A Method for Geolocating Unstructured Place Names (with Enrico Berkes and Peter Nencka) [R&R, Explorations in Economic History](#)
9. The Returns to Public Library Investment (with Gregory Gilpin, Peter Nencka) [R&R, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy](#)
10. School Closures during the 1918 Flu Pandemic (with Philipp Ager, Katherine Eriksson, Peter Nencka, and Melissa Thomasson) [Accepted, Review of Economics and Statistics](#)
11. Do Stay-at-Home Orders Cause People to Stay at Home? Effects of Stay-at-Home Orders on Consumer Behavior (with Diane Alexander) [Accepted, Review of Economics and Statistics](#)

## RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

12. State and Local Efforts To Investigate the Validity and Reliability of Scores From Teacher Evaluation Systems (with Corinne Herlihy, Cynthia Pollard, Heather C. Hill, Matthew A. Kraft, Megan Williams, Sarah Howard), *Teachers College Record* 116(1), 2014.

## POLICY PUBLICATIONS

13. If You Build a Library, Children Will Come—and Learn More, Too, *Chicago Fed Economic Mobility Project Brief*, February 2022.
14. Introducing CARTS: A New Index Tracking National Retail Spending (with Scott A. Brave, Ross Cole, Michael Fogarty, and Liam Puknys), *Chicago Fed Insights*, July 12, 2021.
15. Measuring the Relationship between Business Reopenings, Covid-19, and Consumer Behavior (with Diane Alexander, Amanda McFarland), *Chicago Fed Letter* No. 445, August 2020.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

16. Did the First Public High Schools Increase Black-White Inequality?
17. Does Antitrust Enforcement Affect Competition? (with Tania Babina, Simcha Barkai, Jessica Jeffers, Ekaterina Volkova)

## RESTING

18. Patent Citations and Stock Performance: Constructing a Dynamic Industry Classification (with Sebastien Gay), *SSRN Working Paper*, 2015.