

CHRISTOPHER JEPSEN

March 2024

Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor, School of Economics, University College Dublin, 2012-

Affiliate, The Geary Institute, University College Dublin, 2012-

Research Fellow, IZA, 2015-

Research Fellow, CES-Ifo, 2017-

Associate Director, Center for Business and Economic Research, and Assistant Professor, Economics Department, University of Kentucky, 2006-2012

Research Fellow, Public Policy Institute of California, 2000-2006

Research Assistant, Abt Associates, Bethesda, MD, 1993-1995

Education

Ph.D., economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2000

B.A. with honors, mathematics, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, 1993

Research Interests

Economics of education, labor economics, public economics, demographic economics

Refereed Journal Articles (33)

Carruthers, Celeste K., William F. Fox, and Christopher Jepsen. Forthcoming. "Promise Kept? Free Community College and Attainment in Tennessee," *Journal of Human Resources*.

Jepsen, Christopher. 2023. "Determinants of Employment in Women's Professional Basketball," *Journal of Sports Economics*, 24(8): 1055-1075.

Böckerman, Petri, Mika Haapanen, and Christopher Jepsen. 2023. "Dark Passage: Mental Health Consequences of Parental Death," *American Journal of Health Economics*, 9(4): 584-604.

Böckerman, Petri, Mika Haapanen, and Christopher Jepsen. 2023. "Early Parental Death and Its Association with Children's Mental and Economic Wellbeing in Adulthood: A Nationwide Population-based Registry Study," *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 77(10): 625-631.

Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2023. "Taking a Knee: Effect of NFL Player Protests on Subsequent Employment," *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy*, 6(3): 187-199.

Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2022. "Convergence over Time or Not? U.S. Wages by Sexual Orientation, 2000-2019" *Labour Economics*, 74, article 102086.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.labeco.2021.102086>

Refereed Journal Articles (Continued)

- Böckerman, Petri, Mika Haapanen, Christopher Jepsen, and Alexandra Roulet. 2021. "School Tracking and Mental Health." *Journal of Human Capital*, 15(2): 291-345.
<https://doi.org/10.1086/712728>
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2021. "Race and National Football League Salaries." *Journal of Sports Economics*, 22(4): 359-386.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1527002520975823>
- Böckerman, Petri, Mika Haapanen, and Christopher Jepsen. 2019. "Back to School: Labor-Market Returns to Higher Vocational Schooling." *Labour Economics*, 61, article 101758.
- Böckerman, Petri, Mika Haapanen, and Christopher Jepsen. 2018. "More Skilled, Better Paid: Labor-Market Returns to Vocational Postsecondary Education." *Oxford Economic Papers*, 70(2): 485-508.
- Jepsen, Christopher, Peter Mueser and Kenneth Troske. 2017. "Second Chance for High-school Dropouts? A Regression Discontinuity Analysis of Postsecondary Educational Returns to the GED." *Journal of Labor Economics*, 35(S1): S273-S304.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2017. "Self-Employment, Earnings, and Sexual Orientation." *Review of Economics of the Household*, 15(1): 287-305.
- Jepsen, Christopher, Peter Mueser and Kenneth Troske. 2016. "Labor-Market Returns to the GED Using Regression Discontinuity Analysis." *Journal of Political Economy*, 124(3): 621-649.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2015. "Class Size – Does It Matter for Student Achievement?" *IZA World of Labor* 190. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15185/izawol.190>
- Ahn, Thomas, and Christopher Jepsen. 2015. "The Effect of Sharing a Mother Tongue with Peers: Evidence from North Carolina Middle Schools." *IZA Journal of Migration*, 4(5): 1-21.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2015. "Earnings Differences in Same-sex Couples and Other Household Types." *Industrial Relations: A Journal of Economy and Society*, 54(1): 109-130.
- Blomquist, Glenn, Paul Coomes, Christopher Jepsen, Brandon Koford, and Kenneth Troske. 2014. "Estimating the Social Value of Higher Education: Willingness to Pay for Community and Technical Colleges." *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis*, 5(1): 3-42.
- Elder, Todd, and Christopher Jepsen. 2014. "Are Catholic Primary Schools More Effective Than Public Primary Schools?" *Journal of Urban Economics*, 80(1): 28-38.

Refereed Journal Articles (Continued)

- Jepsen, Christopher, Kenneth Troske, and Paul Coomes. 2014. "The Labor-Market Returns for Community College Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates." *Journal of Labor Economics*, 32(1): 95-121.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Mark Montgomery. 2012. "Back to School: An Application of Human Capital Theory for Mature Workers." with Mark Montgomery, *Economics of Education Review*, 31(1), 2012, pp. 168-178.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2010. "Bilingual Education and English Proficiency," *Education Finance and Policy*, 5(2): 200-227.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2009. "Does Homeownership Vary by Sexual Orientation?" *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 39(3): 307-315.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Steven Rivkin. 2009. "Class Size Reduction and Student Achievement: The Potential Tradeoff between Teacher Quality and Class Size." *Journal of Human Resources*, 44(1): 223-250.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Mark Montgomery. 2009. "Miles to Go before I Learn: The Effect of Travel Distance on the Mature Person's Choice of a Community College." *Journal of Urban Economics*, 65(1): 64-73.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2008. "Multinomial Probit Estimates of College Completion at Two-Year and Four-Year Schools." *Economics Letters*, 98(2): 155-160.
- Hill, Laura E., and Christopher Jepsen. 2007. "Positive Outcomes from Poor Starts: Predictors of Dropping Back In." *Economics of Education Review*, 26(5): 588-603.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2006. "The Sexual Division of Labor within Households Revisited: Comparisons of Couples and Roommates." *Eastern Economic Journal*, 32(2): 299-312.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2006. "The Effects of Statutory Rape Laws on Nonmarital Teenage Childbearing." *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 24(1): 35-51.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2005. "Teacher Characteristics and Student Achievement: Evidence from Teacher Surveys." *Journal of Urban Economics*, 57(2): 302-319.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2003. "The Effectiveness of Catholic Primary Schools." *Journal of Human Resources*, 38(4): 928-941.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2002. "The Role of Aggregation in Estimating the Effects of Private School Competition on Student Achievement." *Journal of Urban Economics*, 52(3): 477-500.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2002. "An Empirical Analysis of the Matching Patterns of Same-Sex and Opposite-Sex Couples." *Demography*, 39(3): 435-453.

Refereed Journal Articles (Continued)

Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. 2001. "Re-Examining the Effects of Parental Characteristics on Educational Attainment for a Minor Child." *Journal of Forensic Economics*, 14(2): 141-154.

Other Reviewed Publications (Including Book Chapters)

Carruthers, Celeste K., and Christopher Jepsen. 2022. "Vocational Education: An International Perspective," In *The Routledge Handbook of the Economics of Education*, edited by Brian McCall, London: Routledge.

Jepsen, Christopher. 2021. "The Labour Market Returns to Classroom-based Vocational Education." EENEE Ad hoc Report 2, 2021.

Reed, Deborah, Laura E. Hill, and Christopher Jepsen. 2007. "Transitions to Work for Racial, Immigrant, and Immigrant Groups," In *Improving School-To-Work Transitions*, edited by David Neumark, New York: Russell Sage Foundation, pp. 24-58.

Jepsen, Christopher, and Ria Sengupta. 2006. "California's Community College Students," *California Counts: Population Trends and Profiles*, Volume 8, Number 2, Public Policy Institute of California.

Reed, Deborah, Laura E. Hill, Christopher Jepsen, and Hans Johnson. 2005. *Educational Progress Across Immigrant Generations in California*. San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California.

Jepsen, Christopher, and Shelley de Alth. 2005. *English Learners in California Schools*. San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California.

Jepsen, Christopher, Anne Danenberg and Pedro Cerdán. 2002. *Student and School Indicators for Youth in California's Central Valley*. San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California.

Jepsen, Christopher, and Steven Rivkin. 2002. *Class Size Reduction, Teacher Quality, and Academic Achievement in California Public Elementary Schools*. San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California, June 2002

Selected Other Publications

Jepsen, Christopher, and Darshak Patel. 2018. "Hazard Model Analysis of U.S. Community College Outcomes." Working Paper 2018/23, Geary Institute, University College Dublin.

Jepsen, Christopher, and Kenneth R. Troske. 2009. "The U.S. and Kentucky Economies in 2010" When Will the Recovery 'Really Start?'" In *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2011*, University of Kentucky, pp. 1-8.

Selected Other Publications (Continued)

- Garen, John, Christopher Jepsen, and Frank Scott. 2009. "The Aluminum Industry in Kentucky." In *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2009*, University of Kentucky, 2009, pp. 35-41.
- Hoyt William H., Christopher Jepsen, and Kenneth R. Troske. 2008. "An Examination of Incentives to Attract and Retain Businesses: Evidence from Kentucky," *National Tax Association, Proceedings of the 100th Annual Conference on Taxation*; reprinted in *State Tax Notes*, 47(9), 2008, pp. 705-713.
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Jenny Minier. "The Economy in 2007: Slowing Down but Still Going." In *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2008*, University of Kentucky, pp. 45-50.
- Hoyt, William, Christopher Jepsen, and Kenneth Troske. 2007. "Economic Report: Facts, Not Answers," with, *Lexington Herald-Leader*, Op-Ed, February 7
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2007. "Recent Economic Developments in the United States and Kentucky: Implications for 2007." In *Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2007*, University of Kentucky, pp. 51-55.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2006. "Focus on Helping Youths from Low-Income Families," *Riverside Press Enterprise*, Op-Ed, June 11.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2006. "Basic Skills in California's Community Colleges: Evidence from Staff and Self Referrals," paper presented at American Educational Research Association conference, May 2006, San Francisco.
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2005. "Federal Law Leaves Whole States Behind," *Los Angeles Daily News*, Op-Ed, May 18, 2005 (also printed as "'No Child Left Behind' Leaving English Learners Behind?" *Contra Costa Times*, Op-Ed, May 8, 2005).
- Jepsen, Christopher. 2002. "Small Class Sizes a Luxury Districts Can't Afford," *Los Angeles Daily News*, Op-Ed, July 5, 2002.

Works in Progress

- Jepsen, Christopher, Peter Mueser, Kenneth Troske, and Kyung-Seong Jeon. "The Benefits of Alternatives to Conventional College: Labor-Market Returns to For-profit Schooling," under review (prior version published as IZA DP 10007).
- Jepsen, Christopher, and Lisa Jepsen. "U.S. Housing Outcomes by Race, Ethnicity, and Sexual Orientation, 2005-2021," working paper.
- Böckerman, Petri, Mika Haapanen, and Christopher Jepsen. "Much Ado about Nothing? The Relationship between Drinking Age Access and Morbidity in Europe," working paper.

Works in Progress (continued)

Jepsen, Christopher, Peter Mueser, Kenneth Troske, and Kyung-Seong Jeon. “Estimates of Earnings Returns by Field of Study for For-profit Schools and Community Colleges,” IZA Discussion Paper No. 16568.

Jepsen, Christopher, and Adela Soliz. “The Multiple Missions of Community Colleges,” working paper.

Teaching Experience

Economic Research Project – undergraduate

Economics and Society – undergraduate

Introduction to Economics – undergraduate

Labo(u)r Economics – undergraduate

Managerial Economics – MBA

Microeconomics - MSc

Principles of Microeconomics – undergraduate

Public Policy Economics – undergraduate economics and graduate public policy

Regression Discontinuity Analysis – PhD

PhD Supervision (all UCD)

Elena Mazza (first placement Ireland Central Bank), June 2017 viva

Peter Carney (first placement Novartis), November 2017 viva

Lorraine Wong (first placement International Labor Organization), August 2020 viva

Matthew Shannon (first placement Northumbria University), May 2021 viva

Tadhg Hegarty (first placement Ireland Central Statistics Office), March 2023 viva

Emily Pratt, started PhD program September 2019

Mohsin Javed (co-supervision with Ben Elsner), started PhD program September 2019

Aditi Kharb (co-supervision with Ben Elsner), started PhD program September 2022

Administrative Experience (all UCD)

Programme Director, Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2022-

Coordinator, Higher Diploma in Economics and MSc Qualifier programs, 2020-

Deputy Head of Postgraduate Programmes and Research, 2019-2020

Member, School Executive Committee, 2013-2020

Economics Teaching and Learning Coordinator, 2017-2018

PhD Coordinator, 2013-2017

Selected Grants and Fellowships

“Labour and Health Market Outcomes of Transgender, Gender Non-Conforming and Genderqueer Individuals” (PI with co-PI Matthew Shannon), Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholarship, 2018 to 2021, €96,000

“The Benefits of Alternatives to Conventional College: Labor-Market Returns to For-Profit Schooling” (co-PI with PI Peter Mueser), Spencer Foundation, 2018 to 2021, \$38,000

Selected Grants and Fellowships (Continued)

“Labor-market Returns to Postsecondary Education in Europe and the United States,” Marie Curie Career Integration Grant (European Commission), 2013 to 2017, €100,000

“European Wage Inequality: Likely Consequences and Potential Remedies” (PI with co-PI Elena Mazza), Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholarship, 2014 to 2017, €47,239

“Are Catholic Primary Schools More Effective Than Public Primary Schools?” (PI with Co-PI Todd Elder), American Educational Research Association, 2010 to 2012, \$35,000

“Women’s Economic Returns from Obtaining a GED” (PI with Co-PIs Peter Mueser and Kenneth Troske), Spencer Foundation, 2008 to 2012, \$171,000

“A Proposal to Study Economic Growth in Kentucky: Why Does Kentucky Lag Behind the Rest of the South?” (Co-PI with PI Kenneth Troske), Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, 2007 to 2008, \$86,000

“The Private, Regional, and State Economic Impacts of Kentucky Technical and Community Colleges” (Co-PI with PI Kenneth Troske), Kentucky Technical and Community College System, 2007, \$299,847

“Social Indicators of Central Valley Youth” (investigator with PI Deborah Reed), The James Irvine Foundation, 2002 to 2003, \$112,000

Dissertation Fellowship for Study of Nonprofits, National Bureau of Economic Research, 1999 to 2000, \$15,000

Refereeing and Reviewing Experience

AERA Open, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy, Canadian Journal of Economics, Contemporary Economic Policy, Demography, Eastern Economic Journal, Economic and Social Review, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics of Education Review, Economics and Social Review, Education Economics, Education Finance and Policy, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, ILR Review, International Tax and Public Finance, IZA Journal of Labor Economics, IZA World of Labor, Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis, Journal of Demographic Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Labour Economics, National Science Foundation, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economics of the Household, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Sociology of Education, Southern Economic Journal