

Lawrence M. Kessler

The University of Tennessee

Boyd Center for Business & Economic Research

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Education

Ph.D. (2013). Economics, University of South Florida

B.A. (2004). Finance, University of South Florida

Employment

Research Associate Professor, Boyd Center for Business & Economic Research and Department of Economics, The University of Tennessee, 2019 - Present

Research Assistant Professor, Boyd Center for Business & Economic Research, The University of Tennessee, 2013 - 2019

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, The University of Tennessee, 2014 - 2019

Research Coordinator II, Moffitt Cancer Center; 2011 - 2013

Publications

The Hazards of Unwinding the Prescription Opioid Epidemic: Implications for Child Maltreatment. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2022, 14(4), 192-231 (with Mary Evans and Matthew C. Harris)

Optimal Substance Use Treatment Selection Using Machine Learning (with Matt Baucum, Anahita Khojandi, and Carole Myers), *ACM Transactions on Management Information Systems*, Forthcoming

Tax Compliance in the Amazon. *National Tax Journal*, 2022, 75(2), 297-311 (with Celeste K. Carruthers, William F. Fox, and Matthew N. Murray)

Prescription Opioids and Labor Market Pains: The Effect of Schedule II Opioids on Labor Force Participation and Unemployment. *Journal of Human Resources*, 2020, 55(4), 1319-1364 (with Matthew C. Harris, Matthew N. Murray, and Beth Glenn)

Coverage: *New York Times*, *Yahoo Finance*

Habit Formation and Activity Persistence: Evidence from Gym Equipment. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2019, 166, p. 688-708. (with Matthew C. Harris)

Bank Capital and Portfolio Risk Among Islamic Banks. *Review of Financial Economics*, 2017, 34, p. 1-9. (with Syed Basher and Murat K. Munkin)

Bayesian Estimation of Panel Data Fractional Response Models with Endogeneity: An Application to Standardized Test Rates. *Empirical Economics*, 2015, 49(1) p. 81-114. (with Murat K. Munkin)

Infertility Evaluation and Treatment among Women in the United States. *Fertility and Sterility*, 2013, 100(4) p. 1025-1032. (with Benjamin M Craig, Shayne M. Plosker, Damon R. Reed, and Gwendolyn P. Quinn)

Starting a Family: Characteristics Associated with Men's Reproductive Preferences. *American Journal of Men's Health*, 2013, 7(3), p. 198-205. (with Benjamin M. Craig, Christopher Saigal and Gwendolyn P. Quinn)

Is a Happy Nation a Productive Nation? An Exploration of the Relationship between Job Satisfaction and Productivity at the National Level. *European Journal of International Management*, 2008, 2, p. 356-375. (with Stacey R. Kessler, Eileen Z. Taylor, Edward L. Levine, and Jack W. Wiley)

Papers Under Review And Working Papers

A SALT on Real Estate? Housing Market and Migration Responses to the Limit on the State and Local Tax Deduction (with Donald Bruce)

Optimal Allocation of Substance Use Treatment Centers Can Reduce Overdose Deaths and Mitigate County Disparities

Research Reports to Sponsors And Policy Briefs

Tennessee's Post-Pandemic Workforce: Implications for the Value of Going to College, 2023 (with Celeste Carruthers, Don Bruce, and Linnea Endersby)

An Economic Report to the Governor of Tennessee - Annual Report: 2021 - 2023.

TVA Regional Economic Outlook - Annual Report: 2020 - 2022.

Assessing Advanced Manufacturing In Tennessee. Prepared for The University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Service, 2022. (with Don Bruce and Edward Taylor)

How will Expanding Broadband Internet Access Benefit Knox County, TN? Prepared for the Knoxville Utilities Board, 2021. (with Richard Beem, William F. Fox, and Alex Norwood)

COVID-19 Will Impact Local Government Finances in Tennessee. Baker Center Policy Brief, 2020. (with Don Bruce and Matthew Murray)

COVID-19 Could Shrink the Earnings of 2020 Graduates for Years to Come. *The Conversation*, 2020. (with Celeste Carruthers and Marianne Wanamaker).

Coverage: CBS News, Boston Globe, BBC Radio

The Tennessee Economy: Short-Term Outlook, in An Economic Report to the Governor of Tennessee - Annual Report: 2014- 2016, 2019-2020.

The Effects of Prescription Opioid Use on County-Level Labor Markets in Tennessee, in An Economic Report to the Governor of Tennessee - Annual Report 2018. (with Matthew Harris and Matthew Murray)

The Tennessee Economy: Long-Term Outlook, in An Economic Report to the Governor of Tennessee - Annual Report: 2015- 2018.

Do Tennessee's Higher Education Graduates Work in Tennessee? Revisited. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor, 2017.

Quarterly Business and Economic Indicators Report, Quarterly Report Prepared for The Tennessee Secretary of State, August 2014 - Present.

Tennessee Department of Revenue Tax Collections Report. Monthly Report Prepared for the Tennessee Department of Revenue, July 2013 - Present.

Nashville and Middle Tennessee County Transportation Revenue Forecasts. Prepared for the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, 2017. (with William F. Fox, Tamy Lemon, LeAnn Luna, Lydia McCoy, and Alex Norwood)

Economic Study and Forecast of the Nashville MSA. Prepared for the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority, 2017. (with William F. Fox, Emily Pratt, and Lydia McCoy)

TVA Regional Economic Outlook - Annual Report: 2015-2017. (with Matthew Murray and Vickie Cunningham)

Economic Benefits of Postsecondary Credentials. Incremental Earnings and Revenues Upon Drive to 55 Achievement. Prepared for the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development, 2016. (with William F. Fox, Sally Haar, and Katherine Scott).

Tennessee Business and Economic Outlook. Semi-Annual Report: Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016. (with Matthew Murray).

Long Range Projections of Tennessee Road User Fees. Prepared for the Tennessee Department of Transportation, 2015. (with Matthew Murray, Mark Burton, and Emily Pratt).

Promoting Advanced Manufacturing Clusters in Tennessee. Prepared for The University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Service and in An Economic Report to the Governor of Tennessee, 2014. (with Matthew Murray).

Select Grants and Contracts

Project Director, Economic Report to the Governor of the State of Tennessee. TN Department of Economic & Community Development, 2020-Present.

Project Director, TVA Regional Economic Outlook. Tennessee Valley Authority, 2020-Present.

Co-Investigator, Revenue Forecasting and Modeling Assessment Services. The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, 2019-Present.

Co-Investigator, Tennessee Workforce Data Quality Initiative. U.S. Department of Labor, 2015-2018.

Co-Investigator, Assess College Persistence Risk Factors: Tennessee Promise Applicants and Prior Cohorts. tnAchieves, 2015.

Tennessee Economic Environment Quarterly Update Reports. Tennessee Secretary of State, 2014-Present.

Presentations

2023: TN Municipal League Legislative Conference (Nashville, TN).

2022: TN Department of Economic & Community Development; Northeast TN Regional Resource Meeting; Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership Local Government Leadership Program.

2021: Allied Social Sciences Associations (ASSA) Annual Meeting, Panelist, (Virtual); UT Substance Misuse Community of Scholars Virtual Summit; Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership Local Government Leadership Program.

2020: East Tennessee Industrial Council.

2019: Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership Local Government Leadership Program; Tennessee Government Financial Officer's Association Fall Conference (Murfreesboro, TN); Tennessee Society of CPAs Knoxville Chapter.

2018: Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting (Washington, D.C.); Tennessee Longitudinal Data System.

2017: Tennessee State Data Center Annual Conference; Introduction Knoxville.

2016: Knoxville Estate Planning Council.

2012: Seminar on Bayesian Inference in Econometrics and Statistics (Santa Cruz, CA); Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).

2011 European Seminar on Bayesian Econometrics (Brussels, Belgium).

Teaching Experience

Guest Lectures, Economics Department, University of Tennessee
Applied Economics and Project Evaluation, Spring 2019, Spring 2016, Spring 2015
Public Finance, Spring 2015

Adjunct Professor, Economics Department, University of Tampa
Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2012 (2 sections)
Principles of Macroeconomics, Fall 2011 (2 sections), Spring 2012

Instructor, Economics Department, University of South Florida
Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2010, Spring 2011
Principles of Macroeconomics, Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Summer 2010

Professional Service

Operations Committee, Substance Misuse and Addiction Resource for Tennessee (SMART) Policy Network, University of Tennessee, 2020-2022.

Hiring Committees

Research Associate II. Boyd Center for Business & Economic Research, 2017.

Director of Tennessee State Data Center. Boyd Center for Business & Economic Research, 2015.

Professional Affiliations

American Economic Association

Midwest Economic Association

Southern Economic Association