

Kaden Grace

Department of Economics
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DOCTORAL STUDIES **University of Tennessee – Knoxville**
Ph.D., Economics 2027 (expected)
M.A., Economics 2024

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE AND REFERENCES:

Matt Harris (Chair)
Department of Economics
University of Tennessee – Knoxville
E-mail: mharris@utk.edu

Seth Neller
Department of Economics
University of Tennessee – Knoxville
E-mail: sneller@utk.edu

Christian Vossler
Department of Economics
University of Tennessee – Knoxville
E-mail: cvossler@utk.edu

Jason Lindo
School of Economics
Georgia Institute of Technology
E-mail: jlindo@gatech.edu

PRIOR EDUCATION **University of Mississippi**
B.S., Economics May 2022
B.A., Mathematics May 2022
Honors: *summa cum laude*, Phi Kappa Phi

FIELDS OF INTEREST Primary: Public Economics, Health Economics
Secondary: Labor Economics, Behavioral and Experimental Economics

WORKING PAPERS **“The Eyes of Texas are Upon OB/GYNs: Physician Migration and Crowd-sourced Enforcement of Abortion Regulations”** (*JMP*)
with Martin Andersen

Abstract: This paper studies the labor market effects of civil liability enforcement using Texas Senate Bill 8 (SB-8, 2021) as a natural experiment. A civil liability enforcement mechanism in this context allows any citizen to sue anyone who “aids or abets” a prohibited abortion for minimum damages of \$10,000. This “bounty law” lowers the evidentiary burden and expands the pool of potentially liable individuals, which raises expected operating costs and could incentivize out-migration for a broad set of physicians compared to traditional criminal enforcement. We exploit variation across physician specialties, states, and time in a triple-difference design, comparing reproductive health physicians to all other physicians in Texas against similarly abortion-hostile states before and after SB-8’s signing. Using a Medicare administrative provider panel of approximately 1.4 million physicians (2007–2022) and Wagescape job posting data (2016–2022), we find that reproductive health physicians did not leave Texas at differential rates following SB-8. The null result is consistent with the high fixed cost of interstate relocation, estimated at \$150,000 to \$250,000. Neither posted salaries nor job posting volume for reproductive health providers changed differentially. Our findings are corroborated by synthetic difference-in-differences and synthetic control estimators and provide a contrast to prominent media narratives of a large OB/GYN

exodus from Texas. We contribute to a rapidly emerging literature by providing evidence that civil liability enforcement had no detectable effect on the Texas physician labor market above and beyond the broader abortion policy environment.

“Saving for a Rainy Day: Experimental Evidence on Prize-Linked Saving and Financial Shocks” (*Under Review*)

WORKS IN PROGRESS	“The Economic Impact of Unemployment Insurance Reform in Tennessee” <i>with Matt Harris, Larry Kessler, and Alex Norwood</i>	
PRESENTATIONS	ISEO Summer School (Iseo, Italy), ASHEcon Annual Conference, Veritas Forum, Society of Government Economists Annual Conference, UTK Internal Brownbag Seminar (x2)	2026
	Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, ASHEcon Annual Conference, UTK Internal Brownbag Seminar	2025
	UTK Applied Microeconomics Group Workshop, UTK Internal Brownbag Seminar	2024
	UTK Experiment and Theory Group Workshop, UTK Applied Microeconomics Group Workshop, UTK Graduate Student Research Seminar	2023
	UTK Graduate Student Research Seminar	2022
TEACHING	University of Tennessee – Knoxville	
	<i>Instructor of Record</i>	
	ECON 311: Intermediate Microeconomics	Summer 2026
	ECON 311: Intermediate Microeconomics	Spring 2026
	<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	
	ECON 211: Principles of Microeconomics	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
	ECON 311: Intermediate Microeconomics	Spring 2023
	ECON 581: Mathematical Methods in Economics	Fall 2023
FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS	Best Second-Year Thesis, <i>UT Knoxville</i>	2024
	Best First-Year Graduate Student, <i>UT Knoxville</i>	2023
	Walter Melville Bonham PhD Fellowship	2024
	J. Fred & Wilma Holly PhD Fellowship	2024
	Joseph & Barbara O’Donnell PhD Fellowship	2023
	Haslam Excellence Doctoral Fellowship	2022–2024

RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE

University of Tennessee – Knoxville

Research Assistant (Graduate) 2023–Current

Created and cleaned a novel dataset of every physician and hospital in the U.S.: approximately 4.3M records per month across 19 years

Experimental Lab Manager 2023–Current

Designed and executed 27 experimental sessions with 1,100+ participants

SKILLS

Stata, R, Python, Excel, L^AT_EX; causal inference: A/B testing, randomized controlled trials (RCTs), differences-in-differences (DiD), instrumental variables (IV), regression discontinuity (RD); machine learning (ML), generalized method of moments (GMM), generalized least squares (GLS), discrete choice modeling

AFFILIATIONS

Member: Society of Government Economists, Southern Economic Association, American Society of Health Economists

Student Representative, Campus Advisory Board 2025–2026

Chairperson, Doctoral Student Association 2023–2024

Organizer, Graduate Student Research Seminar 2023–2025

LANGUAGES

English (native), French (fluent)