

Kathleen McKiernan

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United States citizen

Degrees Earned

Ph.D. Economics	University of Minnesota	2018
M.A. Economics	University of Minnesota	2015
B.A. Economics	University of Notre Dame	2012
B.A. Spanish language and literature	University of Notre Dame	2012

Current Affiliations

Vanderbilt University	Assistant Professor	2018 –
ARC Center of Excellence in Population Ageing Research	Affiliate	2023 –

Research Visits and Other Positions

ARC Center of Excellence in Population Ageing Research	Visiting Researcher	May 2023
National Bureau of Economic Research	Post-Doctoral Researcher	2021-2022
University of Minnesota	Teaching Assistant	2013
University of Minnesota	Graduate Instructor	2014-2018
Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta	Dissertation Intern	2016

Research

Published and Accepted Articles

- McKiernan, K. (2021). [Social Security Reform in the Presence of Informality](#). *Review of Economic Dynamics*, 40: 228-251.
- Bairoliya, N. and McKiernan, K. The Welfare Costs of Misinformation. Accepted. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*.

Working Papers

- Bairoliya, N. and McKiernan K. Rethinking Retirement and Social Security Claiming Decisions. *Revise & Resubmit at The Review of Economic Studies*.
Cited by: Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committee for Fiscal Year 2024 (United States Social Security Administration)
- McKiernan, K. Incentives for Early Retirement and Pension Reform. *Reject & Resubmit at International Economic Review*.
- Bairoliya, N, Gallipoli, G. and McKiernan, K. End-of-Life Liquidity.

Selected Works in Progress

1. Gao, H. and McKiernan K. Labor Market Sorting and Social Security in Developing Countries.
2. McKiernan, K. and Trancoso, P. Social Security Re-Reform.

Seminar and Conference Presentations (* denotes scheduled) (⁺ denotes co-author presented)

- 2024 Midwest Economic Association Annual Conference (Chicago); Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting (Richmond)*; North American Summer Meetings of the Econometric Society (Nashville)*; BSE Summer Forum, Macroeconomics and Social Insurance (Barcelona)*; Society Economic Dynamics Annual Conference (Barcelona)*; NBER Summer Institute, Household Finance*; Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (Washington D.C.)*
- 2023 University of California, Irvine; Clemson Conference on Labor Markets and Public Policy; NBER Aging Program Meeting; Midwest Economic Association Annual Conference (Cleveland); University of Notre Dame Alumni Conference; CEPAR (Sydney); Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Conference (Cartagena); WEAI Annual Conference (San Diego); NBER Summer Institute, Macro Public Finance⁺; International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress (Logan, UT); Fed St. Louis-JEDC-SCG-SNB Conference on Heterogeneity and Macroeconomics of Labor Markets (Gerzensee); Queen's University (Kingston, Ontario); Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (New Orleans) Louisiana State University; University of Kentucky; University of Houston; Federal Reserve
- 2022 Board of Governors; Midwest Macroeconomics Meetings, Spring 2022 (Logan, UT); BSE Summer Forum, Economic Growth and Fluctuations (Barcelona, Spain); Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Conference (Madison); HHEI Alumni Conference (virtual); International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress (Linz, Austria); Arizona State University; LAEF Junior Workshop on Macroeconomics (Santa Barbara); Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (Fort Lauderdale)
- 2021 University of Minnesota Alumni Conference (virtual); INSPER Institute of Education and Research (virtual); Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Conference (Minneapolis); NBER Summer Institute, Social Security (virtual)⁺; LACEA/LAMES Annual Conference (virtual); Brown University; I-85 Macro Workshop (Charlotte); National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation (virtual); Southern Economics Association Annual Conference (Houston); 43rd Meeting of the Brazilian Econometric Society (virtual)
- 2020 NBER Summer Institute, Economics of Social Security (virtual); VMACS Junior Conference (virtual); Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (virtual)
- 2019 University of Tennessee; Midwest Macroeconomics Meetings, Spring 2019 (Athens, GA); Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Conference (St. Louis); Banco de México (Mexico City); Inter-American Development Bank (Washington D.C.); National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation (Tampa); Southern Economic Association Annual Conference (Ft. Lauderdale); 4th Zurich Conference on Public Finance in Developing Countries (Zurich)
- 2018 Joint Committee on Taxation; Congressional Budget Office; Office of Management and Budget; University of South Carolina; Vanderbilt University; College of William and Mary; Virginia Commonwealth University; Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Conference

(Mexico City); NBER Summer Institute, Social Security; University of Notre Dame
PAELLA Workshop; I-85 Macro Workshop (Greensboro); Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
2017 Midwest Economics Associational Annual Conference (Cincinnati)
2016 Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

Honors and Awards

CEPAR Early Career Research Fellow Travel Funding	2023
Keynote Speaker, HHEI Alumni Conference	2022
SBE Prize in Macroeconomics for “Incentives for Early Retirement and Pension Reform”, 43 rd Meeting of the Brazilian Econometric Society	2021
Vanderbilt Strong Faculty Grant	2021
Institute for Humane Studies Conference and Research Grant	2018
Distinguished Instructor, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota	2014-2016
Edward Coen Graduate Fellowship, University of Minnesota	2013-2014
Hurwicz Fellowship, University of Minnesota	2012-2013
Phi Beta Kappa, University of Notre Dame	2012
Magna cum laude, University of Notre Dame	2012
Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics Honor Society, University of Notre Dame	2012

Teaching

Courses Taught

Vanderbilt University

ECON 3020: Intermediate Macroeconomics: Fall 2018, Spring 2019 (2 sections)
ECON 3022: Macroeconomics: Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2023 (2 sections),
Spring 2024 (2 sections)
ECON 6200: Macroeconomic Theory (MA Level): Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021
ECON 8200: Macroeconomic Theory I (Ph.D. Level): Fall 2022

University of Minnesota

ECON 1101: Principles of Microeconomics: Summer 2014, Fall 2014
ECON 4431W: International Trade: Summer 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017
ECON 4401: International Economics: Fall 2015

Service

To the Department of Economics

Co-organizer for Brown Bag in Macro and International Economics	2020 –
Graduate Studies and Placement Committee	2023 –
PhD Admissions Committee	2022 – 2023
Graduate Awards and Honors Committee	2022 – 2023
Graduate Awards and Honors Committee	2020 – 2021
Departmental Recruiting Committee (Junior Open Field Position)	2018 – 2019
Departmental Recruiting Committee (Senior Open Field Position)	2018 – 2019

To the University

Ask an Expert Segment, "[How Does the Economy Restart?](#)" (April 29, 2020)

Panelist, [COVID Economic Impact and Forecasting Panel](#), Vanderbilt Alumni Relations Office (July 29, 2020)

To the Profession

Referee:

American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, European Economic Review, International Economic Review, Review of Economic Dynamics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Journal of Public Economic Theory, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Southern Economic Journal, Demography

Conference Discussant:

Midwest Economics Association Meetings (Cincinnati, 2017), 3rd Zurich Conference on Public Finance in Developing Countries (Zurich, 2018)

Conference Session Organizer:

Southern Economic Association Meetings (Fall 2019-2024); International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress (2023)

Program or Scientific Committee:

Midwest Macroeconomics Meetings (Nashville, Fall 2018); International Institute of Public Finance (Linz, Summer 2022; Logan, UT, Summer 2023)

To the Community

Media Appearances:

Voices of America, [Trump Betting on the Economy to Win Re-Election](#), February 14, 2020

WSMV News4 Nashville, [Economists Break Down the Stimulus Bill](#), March 27, 2020

AP News, [Pace of spending for pandemic aid? Try \\$43,000 every second](#), March 11, 2021

Financial Times, [Joe Biden and the new era of big government](#), March 12, 2021

CBS News Online, [A big beneficiary of the \\$1.9 trillion aid bill: Working-class and middle-class households](#), March 12, 2021

Podcast Appearances:

[Women in Economics Podcast](#), Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, November 19, 2021