

RYAN S. SULLIVAN

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EDUCATION:

Ph.D., Economics, Syracuse University Expected May, 2010
Dissertation: "Three Essays in Public Economics"
M.S., Economics, Iowa State University 2005
B.S., Economics, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse (with Honors) 2002

FIELDS:

Public Economics, Labor Economics, Urban Economics

TEACHING:

Syracuse University, Department of Economics Fall 2007
Instructor- Intermediate Microeconomics
Teaching Evaluations:
"Rate your principal instructor overall" 4.68 out of 5 (with 5 being best)

Syracuse University, Department of Economics Spring 2008
Instructor- Intermediate Microeconomics
Teaching Evaluations:
Average Teaching Evaluation Grade: **4.70** out of **5** (with 5 being best)

Syracuse University, Department of Economics
Teaching Assistant
For Jerry Evensky, Economic Ideas and Issues Fall 2005
Spring 2006
Spring 2009
For Emil Iantchev, Intermediate Math Economics Spring 2007
For Christopher Rohlfs, Public Economics Spring 2007
For Dale Tussing, Health Economics Fall 2006
Fall 2008
For Perry Singleton, Health Economics Fall 2008

Iowa State University, Department of Economics
Teaching Assistant
For Hylke Van de Weterling, Principles Macroeconomics Fall 2003
Spring 2004

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Iowa State University, Department of Economics Research Assistant for Daniel Otto	Fall 2004
Iowa State University, Department of Economics Research Assistant for Bruce Babcock	Spring 2005
Syracuse University, Center for Policy Research Research Assistant for Christopher Rohlfs	Summer 2008
Syracuse University, Center for Policy Research Research Assistant for Christopher Rohlfs	Summer 2009
Syracuse University, Center for Policy Research Graduate Research Associate	Fall 2009

MILITARY SERVICE:

Specialist, US Army National Guard (Infantry)	1998 - 2006
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PUBLICATIONS:

“The Incidence of Tobacco Taxation: Evidence from Geographic Micro-Level Data”

Forthcoming at the *National Tax Journal* (with Andrew Hanson).

(Job Market Paper)

This paper uses a recent increase in the state of Wisconsin’s tobacco tax as a natural experiment to measure the economic incidence of tobacco taxation. We estimate the economic incidence of tobacco taxation using micro level data on cigarette prices collected from retail locations in Wisconsin and states that share its border. We find that Wisconsin’s \$1.00 increase in tobacco tax was over-shifted to consumers; they pay the entire amount of the tax as well as a premium of between \$0.08 and \$0.17 per pack of cigarettes. We use geo-coded data to test if the incidence of the tobacco tax in Wisconsin is different for retail locations near another state’s border (where taxation is different). Stores near the Minnesota border (where the tobacco tax is lower after the law change) lose at least 53 percent and at most 71 percent of the premium. Stores near the Michigan border (where the tobacco tax is higher before and after the law change) gain at least 93 percent and as much as 149 percent of the over-shifting premium depending on the distance in question and the econometric specification.

WORKING PAPERS:

“The Effect of Cigarette Taxation on Prices: An Empirical Analysis using City-Level Data.”

This paper uses new data collected by the author on cigarette taxation in 443 municipalities from 1990 to 2009. These data are combined with state-level price and tax information to measure the relative effects of state and local taxes on cigarette prices. The results suggest that a \$1 increase in the state excise cigarette tax increases cigarette prices by \$1.10 to \$1.13, but that a \$1 increase in city or county-level excise taxes has a significantly smaller positive effect on prices of \$1.06. These findings are similar between premium and generic cigarette brands.

“The Effects of Subsidies for Childbearing on Migration and Fertility: Evidence from Korea”
(with Sung Hyo Hong)

This study examines the effects of a fertility subsidy that was instituted in specific regions in Korea in 2004. The value of the subsidy ranged from \$4,000 to \$9,000 (2004 US\$) depending on area of residence. Using a difference-in-differences estimation strategy, we measure the effects of the policy on migration in and out of subsidized areas, childbearing, and the sex ratio of newborns. Our estimates for migration suggest that the policy significantly increased the net inflow of females into subsidized areas. This effect is driven roughly equally by a decrease in the outflow from and an increase into the subsidized areas. Our estimated effects on fertility are in line with previous results from the literature; we find that a \$1,000 increase in fertility subsidies leads to a 0.108% increase in the chance of bearing a child for all age groups (21 to 45), and that the policy increased total births in 2005 by 11,000. We find no effect of the subsidies on the sex ratio of children.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

“Estimates of the Cost-Effectiveness of Up-Armoring Humvees in Iraq” (with Christopher Rohlf).

“Theory and Evidence on the Relationship between Taxation and Prices in the Tobacco Industry.”

POPULAR PRESS:

“How much cigarette tax is too much?” *La Crosse Tribune*, September 4, 2009.

AWARDS AND HONORS:

Future Professoriate Program Recipient	2006 - Current
Maxwell Summer Research Fellowship	Summer 2008
Maxwell Summer Research Fellowship	Summer 2009
Syracuse University Eggers Dissertation Fellowship	Fall 2009

PRESENTATIONS:

“The Incidence of Tobacco Taxation: Evidence from Geographic Micro-Level Data” (with Andrew Hanson). University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Economics Seminar. Spring, 2009.

“The Incidence of Tobacco Taxation: Evidence from Geographic Micro-Level Data” (with Andrew Hanson). Midwest Economics Association 73rd Annual Conference. Spring, 2009.

“The Effects of Subsidies for Childbearing on Migration and Fertility: Evidence from Korea” (with Sung Hyo Hong) Southern Economic Association 79th Annual Conference. Fall, 2009.

“The Effect of Cigarette Taxation on Prices: An Empirical Analysis using City-Level Data.” Midwest Economics Association 74th Annual Conference. Spring, 2010.

SOFTWARE:

STATA, Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS), SPSS

REFERENCES:

Christopher Rohlf
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Department of Economics, Syracuse University
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