

TARA WATSON

Department of Economics
Williams College
Williamstown, MA 01267

Tara.Watson@williams.edu

School of Public Health II
109 Observatory, Room M2240
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
watsonte@umich.edu

Current Positions

University of Michigan, Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research,
August 2007 to July 2009.

Williams College, Assistant Professor, July 2004 to present. Department of
Economics. (On leave Fall 2007- Spring 2009)

National Bureau of Economic Research, Faculty Research Fellow, December 2006 to
present. Health Economics Program.

Education

Harvard University, Ph.D. in Economics, June 2003.
Thesis Title: The Determinants and Consequences of Residential Isolation.

Wesleyan University, B.A. in Economics, May 1996.

Research Fields

Primary Fields: Labor Economics, Public Finance.

Secondary Fields: Health Economics, Urban Economics, Economic Demography.

Previous Research and Teaching Experience

Princeton University, Postdoctoral Research Associate, September 2003 to July 2004.
Office of Population Research and Center for Research on Child Wellbeing.

National Bureau of Economic Research, Research Assistant, June to August 1999.
Research Assistant to Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz.

Brookings Institution, Research Assistant, August 1996 to July 1998.
Research Assistant to Clifford Winston.

Harvard University, Teaching Fellow, September 2000 to May 2001.
Teaching Fellow for Social Analysis 10 taught by Martin Feldstein.

Publications

Fertig, Angela and Tara Watson, "Minimum Drinking Ages and Infant Health Outcomes," *Journal of Health Economics*, forthcoming. (Earlier draft: National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 14118, June 2008.)

Watson, Tara, "New Housing, Income Inequality, and Distressed Metropolitan Areas," *Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program Policy Brief Series*, 2007.

Watson, Tara, "Book Review: The Geography of American Poverty: Is There a Need for Place-Based Policies? by Mark D. Partridge and Dan S. Rickman," *Journal of Regional Science*, 2007, 47(5), pp.1002-1004.

Watson, Tara, "Public Health Investments and the Infant Mortality Gap: Evidence from Federal Sanitation Interventions on U.S. Indian Reservations," *Journal of Public Economics*, 2006, 90(8-9), pp. 1537-1560.

Watson, Tara, "Inequality, Metropolitan Growth, and Residential Segregation by Income," in *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs*, Gary Burtless and Janet Rothenberg Pack, eds., 2006.

Morrison, Steven. A., Clifford Winston, and Tara Watson, "Fundamental Flaws of Social Regulation: The Case of Airplane Noise," *Journal of Law and Economics*, 1999, 42(2), pp.723-43.

Working Papers and Work in Progress

Watson, Tara, and Sara McLanahan, "Marriage Meets the Joneses: Relative Income, Identity, and Marital Status," **National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 14773**, March 2009. (Under review.)

Watson, Tara, "Inequality and the Measurement of Residential Segregation by Income," manuscript. (Under second review at *Review of Income and Wealth*.)

Beeson, Patricia, Lara Shore-Sheppard, and Tara Watson, "Local Fiscal Policies and Urban Wage Structure," in progress.

Watson, Tara, "Chilling and Social Network Effects in Medicaid Take-up Among Immigrants," in progress.

Grants

University of Michigan National Poverty Center Small Grant Competition, "Barriers to Medicaid Participation Among Immigrants." Grant Period March 2009 to March 2010.

Williams College Department of Economics Henry George Fund, "Excess" School Segregation: Are Schools More Segregated than Neighborhoods, and Why?" Grant Period August 2009.

Presentations and Seminars

2009: Population Association of America (expected April), Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Program Annual Meeting (expected May).
2008: RAND Corporation, Southern Economic Association, University of Michigan, Harvard University, Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Program Annual Meeting, Society of Labor Economists, University of Notre Dame.
2007: University of Michigan, Eastern Economic Association Meetings.
2006: University of Nevada at Las Vegas, University of California at Berkeley, American Society of Health Economists, Regional Science and Urban Economics Conference.
2005: Brookings-Wharton Conference on Urban Affairs.
2004: Population Association of America, MacArthur Network Conference.
2003: Vanderbilt University, Baruch College, Amherst College, Princeton University, Tufts University, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, University of California at Santa Cruz, National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute, Columbia University.

Fellowships and Honors

Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research, August 2007 to July 2009.
Harvard Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy Doctoral Fellow, September 1999 to June 2003.
Social Science Research Council Program in Applied Economics Fellow, September 2001 to August 2002.
Lincoln Land Institute Dissertation Fellow, August 2001.
National Science Foundation Graduate Student Fellow, September 1998 to August 2001.
Wesleyan University, Phi Beta Kappa Society and University Honors, May 1996.

Referee Experience

American Economic Review, Canadian Journal of Economics, Health Economics, Journal of Economic Education, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Urban Economics, Proceedings of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Review of Economic Inequality, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Social Forces, Social Science and Medicine.

Grant/Abstract Reviewer Experience

AcademyHealth Conference, National Science Foundation.

Courses

Econ 019 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (Winter Study 2005, Winter Study 2006)
Econ 110 Introductory Microeconomics (Fall 2005, Spring 2006)
Econ 205 Public Finance (Fall 2004)
Econ 255 Econometrics (Spring 2006, Spring 2007, expected Spring 2009)
Econ 456 Poverty and Place (Fall 2006)
Econ 4xx Your Money or Your Life: Health Disparities in the United States (expected Fall 2009)
Econ 510 Econometrics (CDE Masters Level, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, expected Fall 2009)
Econ 511 Econometrics Combined Section (CDE Masters Level, Fall 2004)

Departmental and College-Wide Service

Economics Department Director of Research (expected September 2009-June 2010)
Economics Department Graduate/Post-graduate Advisor (September 2005-June 2007)
Co-organizer Brown Bag Lunch (September 2005-December 2006)
Mead Committee (September 2005-May 2006)
Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility (January 2006-June 2007)
Committee on Undergraduate Life (September 2006-June 2007)
Co-chair Diversity Subcommittee of CUL (September 2006-June 2007)
Andra Hibbert, Second Reader of Thesis, 2004-2005
Andrew Pocius, Second Reader of Thesis, 2005-2006
Candice Corvetti, Second Reader of Thesis, 2006-2007
Amelia Hawkins, Independent Study, Winter 2006
Courtney Gainer, Independent Study, Fall 2006 and Winter 2007
Aatif Abbas, Research Assistant Supervisor, Summer 2006