Kaveh Sanjabi Malayeri

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Education

PhD in Economics *2019-Present*
Queen's University, Kingston, ON

MA in Economics *2018*
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

BA in Economics & Sociology *2017*
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

Employment

Adjunct Professor *2021-Present*
Royal Military College, Kingston, ON
Courses: Introduction to Microeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics I, Intermediate Microeconomics II, Probability and Statistics, Introduction to Econometrics, Applied Econometrics, Intermediate Macroeconomics I, Cost-Benefit Analysis, Labour Economics

Teaching Assistant *2019-2021*
Queen's University, Kingston, ON

Data Analyst *2024-Present*
Queen's Research Data Centre, Kingston, ON

Working Papers

The War on Drugs in the Cotton Kingdom
Abstract: This study examines the variation in anti-drug law enforcement targeting Black offenders across counties in the U.S. South. I develop a model of cultural persistence, linking the historically punitive attitudes toward enslaved Black cotton pickers to intensified law enforcement practices following the War on Drugs. Using FBI UCR data, I employ a variety of empirical estimation techniques to identify the causal impact of historical cotton plantations

on racial disparities in drug-related arrest rates. The results indicate that counties with more intensive cotton production in 1860 experienced higher arrest rates of Black drug offenders after the campaign, while the arrest rates for white drug offenders remained unaffected. To further validate these findings, I conduct a case study of Arkansas, demonstrating distinct law enforcement patterns between cotton and non-cotton counties in close proximity and show that the same patterns hold.

Natural Disasters and Crime: Evidence from Ecuador

Abstract: On April 16, 2016, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Ecuador, claiming over 600 lives, injuring thousands, and displacing tens of thousands of people in the affected areas. This paper examines the secondary impact of the earthquake on property and violent crimes. Using a difference-in-differences approach and an event study model, I find that the earthquake led to a sharp but temporary rise in property crimes and a slight decline in violent crimes. Furthermore, I suggest that the increase in property crimes is likely driven by the temporal displacement of criminal activity, with crimes being shifted from the future to the present in response to the lowered cost of criminal behavior in the aftermath of a destructive earthquake.

Unemployment and Crime: Evidence from Alberta

Abstract: This paper investigates the causal relationship between unemployment and crime in Alberta following the 2014 oil price shock. Alberta, a province heavily reliant on the oil and gas sector, experienced a dramatic economic downturn when oil prices dropped by 70 percent. This shock led to a surge in unemployment, doubling the rate from 4.6% to 8.2%. Using micro-level data from various sources, including the Canadian Population Census, Labour Force Survey, and Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, this study examines whether the rise in unemployment, particularly in areas dependent on oil production, resulted in a corresponding increase in crime. By employing a difference-in-differences methodology, this paper identifies the causal impact of unemployment on crime across geographic and demographic groups within Alberta.

Work in Progress

Segregation Yesterday, Segregation Today, Segregation Forever

Abstract: This paper investigates the persistent legacy of school segregation in counties across the U.S. South that were historically characterized by intensive cotton plantation labor. Using data on school segregation patterns and historical cotton production from the 1860 Census, I examine whether counties with higher levels of cotton cultivation exhibit more entrenched and long-lasting patterns of racial segregation in schools. The findings indicate that while school segregation has generally declined over time, the decline is less pronounced in former cotton counties, where segregation remains at higher levels compared to non-cotton counties.

Task-Based Discrimination in Canada

Fellowships and Awards

Queen's School of Graduate Studies Doctoral Award	*2023*
Queen's Graduate Award	*2021*
Economics Department Award	*2021*

Conferences and Workshops

Canadian Economics Association Annual Meeting *2024*
Presented paper on the impact of natural disasters on crime.

Applied Econometrics with Stata (Workshop) *Summer 2024*
Instructor, Queen's University

Technical Skills

Stata, R, Python

Languages

Persian: Native
English: Fluent
Spanish: Basic

References

Dr. Sumon Majumdar

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Dr. Christopher Cotton
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Dr. Ugurhan Berkok
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