

CHRISTOPHER SEVEREN

Research Department
Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia
Ten Independence Mall
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1574

phone: by request
email: [chris.severen\(at\)phil.frb.org](mailto:chris.severen@phil.frb.org)
[chris.severen\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:chris.severen@gmail.com)
web: www.christophorseveren.com

APPOINTMENTS

2023 – Economic Advisor and Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia
2021 – Nonresident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution
2020 – 2022 Senior Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia
2017 – 2019 Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, University of California, Santa Barbara (2017)
Three Essays on the Valuation of the Environment, Regulation, and Transportation Infrastructure
Visiting Graduate Student, Institut Henri Poincaré, Paris, France (2013)
M.A., Economics, University of California, Santa Barbara (2012)
B.A., Economics and Latin American Studies, University of Texas at Austin (2009)
High Honors, Special Honors in Latin American Studies, minors in Math and History

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Publications

“Lockdowns and Innovation: Evidence from the 1918 Flu Pandemic,”
Enrico Berkes, Olivier Deschênes, Ruben Gaetani, Jeffrey Lin, & Christopher Severen.
Review of Economics and Statistics (accepted December 2022), NBER Working Paper 28152, and
FRBP Working Paper 20-46 (2023). [DOI](#)

“The Problem Has Existed over Endless Years: Racialized Difference in Commuting, 1980-2019,”
devin michelle bunten, Ellen X. Fu, Lyndsey Rolheiser, & Christopher Severen.
Journal of Urban Economics 141, (2024): 103542. [DOI](#)

“Commuting, Labor, and Housing Market Effects of Mass Transportation: Welfare and Identification,”
Review of Economics and Statistics 105, no. 5 (2023): 1073–1091. [DOI](#)

“Clarifying the effect of biodiversity on productivity in natural ecosystems with longitudinal data and
methods for causal inference,”
L.E. Dee, P.J. Ferraro, C. Severen, K. Kimmel, E. Borer, & Nutrient Network.
Nature Communications 14:2607 (2023). [DOI](#)

“Formative Experiences and the Price of Gasoline,”
Christopher Severen & Arthur van Benthem.
American Economic Journal: Applied Economics 14, no. 2 (2022): 256–284. [DOI](#)
Featured as a [Research Highlight](#) in *Nature Energy*.

“Technology Adoption Under Uncertainty: Take-Up and Subsequent Investment in Zambia,”
Paulina Oliva, Kelsey Jack, Samuel Bell, Elizabeth Mettetal, & Christopher Severen.
Review of Economics and Statistics 102, no. 3 (2020): 617–632. [DOI](#)

“What is Marine Justice?”

J. Martin, S. Gray, E. Aceves-Bueno, P. Alagona, T. Elwell, A. Garcia, Z. Horton, D. Lopez-Carr, J.
Marter-Kenyon, K. Miller, C. Severen, T. Shewry, & B. Twohey.
Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences 9, no. 2 (2019): 234–243. [DOI](#)

“Land-Use Regulations, Property Values, and Rents: Decomposing the Effects of the California Coastal Act,”
Christopher Severen & Andrew Plantinga.
Journal of Urban Economics 107 (2018): 65–78. [DOI](#)

“A Forward-Looking Ricardian Approach: Do Land Markets Capitalize Climate Change Forecasts?”
Christopher Severen, Christopher Costello, & Olivier Deschênes.
Journal of Environmental Economics and Management 89 (2018): 235–254. [DOI](#)

“Rural Entrepreneurial Education: An Innovative Piece of Practical Development in Latin America,”
Student Journal of Latin American Studies 1 (2009): 26–51.

Working Papers (see [website](#) for Works in Progress)

“Driving, Dropouts, and Drive-throughs: Mobility Restrictions and Teen Human Capital”
Valerie K. Bostwick & Christopher Severen.
IZA Discussion Paper No. 16183 (2023). [DOI](#)

Chapters, Essays, and Research Briefs and Reports

“Not All Rush Hours Are the Same” (with Nassir Holden).
Economic Insights 8, no. 3 (2023): 16–25. [\[link\]](#)

“Why are young people driving less? Evidence points to economics, not preferences.”
Brookings Research Report. March 24, 2023. [\[link\]](#)

“A Ticket to Ride: Estimating the Costs and Benefits of Rail Transit.”
Economic Insights 5, no. 2 (2020): 1–9. [\[link\]](#)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Refereeing

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Econometrica, Economics Letters, International Economic Review, Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Housing Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Land Economics, Land Use Policy, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Regional

Science and Urban Economics, Research Policy, Resource and Energy Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Southern Economic Journal, Urban Studies

Seminar and Conference Organization

Federal Reserve System Climate Meeting (Summer 2024)
 Co-Organizer, 2020 Virtual Meeting of the Urban Economics Association
 Founding Co-Organizer, Online Spatial and Urban Seminar (Summer 2020)
 Organizer, Online Urban Economics Seminar (Spring 2020)

Mentoring and Service Supporting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Philadelphia Fed Mentoring & Advancing PhDs Program (Co-Founder, 2023-)
 AEA/CSEWP Summer Economics Fellow Program (Philadelphia Fed Coordinator, 2020-)
 CSWEP Liaison (Philadelphia Fed, 2019-)
 FRB Philadelphia RA Mentor (2017-)

Program Committees

AERE (2018-2024), AREUEA (2019-2021), AREUEA/ASSA Meetings (2019), Occasional
 Workshop in Environmental and Resource Economics (2017), UEA (2020-2022)

Grant Review

National Science Foundation (ad hoc), METTRANS (ad hoc)

Session Organization at Conferences

AEA/ASSA (2021), AREUEA (2021), SEA (2022), UEA (2019, 2023)

PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PANELS

Seminars, Conference Presentations & Discussions (* virtual, † discussed, ‡ presented & discussed)

- 2024 University of Georgia
- 2023 AEA (New Orleans)‡, Cornell University, FRB of Kansas City, SEA (New Orleans), UEA (Toronto)‡, University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), University of West Virginia
- 2022 FRS System Regional Conf. (Kansas City), LACEA LAUrban (Santiago), NARSC (Montréal), UEA (Washington DC)‡, University of Southern California, University of Toronto*
- 2021 ASSA*, FRS System Regional Conf.*, UEA*‡
- 2020 FRS Applied Micro Conf.*, NBER SI EEE Egg Timer*, Tobin Center (Yale)*, TREE (Duke/NCSU)*, UCSB Alumni Conf.*
- 2019 AERE Summer Conf. (Tahoe), ASSA/Econometric Society (Atlanta)‡, FRB of Dallas, FRS Energy Conf. (Denver), Michigan State University, Migration and Mobility Workshop (Banca d'Italia), NBER Economics of Infrastructure, SEA (Fort Lauderdale)‡, University of New Hampshire, UEA (Philadelphia)‡, University of Pennsylvania (Wharton EEF)
- 2018 AREUEA National Conf. (Washington DC), FRS Applied Micro Conf. (Washington DC), FRS System Regional Conf. (Boston)†, Pennsylvania State University (Smeal), SMU Conf. on Urban and Regional Economics (Singapore), UEA (NYC)‡, World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists (Göteborg)

- 2017 European UEA (Copenhagen), FRB Philadelphia, FRS System Regional Conf. (NYC), Fordham University, New York University (Furman Center), NARSC (Vancouver)‡, Tilburg University (EOR), UEA (Vancouver)‡, University of Massachusetts Amherst (DRE), University of Ottawa, WEAI (San Diego)‡
- 2016 NARSC (Minneapolis)‡, WUSTL Economics Graduate Student Conf., WEAI (Portland)‡
- 2015 AERE Summer Conf. (San Diego), NBER SI EEE Egg Timer, Occasional Workshop in Environmental and Resource Economics (UCSB)†
- 2014 ASSA (Philadelphia), Southern California Conf. for Applied Microeconomics
- 2013 Workshop on Environmental Economics and Development (UCSB)†

Panels and Outreach

- Guest Panelist – Online Spatial and Urban Seminar, March 2021
Guest Co-Host – *Densely Speaking* (podcast), January 2021

TEACHING

Instructor

PhD Math Camp (UCSB, 2013-15)

Teaching Assistant

PhD Econometrics 241A/B/C (UCSB 2013-14), Master's Applied Econometrics (UCSB Bren 2014), Climate Change Economics (UCSB 2014-15), Intermediate Microeconomics (UCSB 2016), Introduction to Econometrics (UCSB 2017)

PRIOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2009 – 2011 Analyst, CLEAResult, Austin, TX
2007 – 2011 Board of Directors, Inter-Cooperative Council of Austin, Austin, TX

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Finalist, NARSC Graduate Student Paper Award (2017)
Economics Department & Graduate Division Travel Grants, UCSB (2015-17)
Regents Special Fellowship, UCSB (2011-15)
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program, Honorable Mention (2013)
Andron Fellowship, UCSB Economics (2011-12)
Distinction, Macroeconomics and Econometrics PhD Preliminary Exams (2011)
Liberal Arts Competitive/Honors Research Fellowship, UT Austin (2008)
Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Undergraduate Scholarship, UT Austin (2007)
National Merit Scholar (2004)