

EMILY OSTER

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Contact Information

Brown University
Economics

Professional Experience

Founder and CEO, ParentData	2020-Present
Executive Director, COVID-19 School Data Hub	2021-Present
Brown University Department of Economics	
JJE Goldman Sachs Professor of Economics	2023-Present
Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence	2019-2023
Professor of Economics	2016-Present
Associate Professor of Economics (with tenure)	2015-2016
University of Chicago Booth School of Business	
Associate Professor of Economics	2011-2014
Assistant Professor of Economics	2009-2011
National Bureau of Economic Research	
Research Associate	2015-Present
Faculty Research Fellow	2006-2015
University of Chicago Department of Economics	
Assistant Professor of Economics	2007-2009
Becker Center on Chicago Price Theory	
Becker Fellow	2006-2007

Education

Ph.D., Economics, Harvard University, 2006
B.A., Economics, Harvard College, *magna cum laude*, 2002

Service:

Associate Editor, <i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i>	2014-2022
Associate Editor, <i>Journal of Health Economics</i>	2015-2021
Faculty Director, Presidential Scholars Program (Brown University)	2017-2020
Member, Brown University Tenure and Promotions Committee	2018-2021
Vice-Chair, Brown University Tenure and Promotions Committee	2019-2020
Chair, Brown University Tenure and Promotions Committee	2020-2021

Books:

Expecting Better: Why the Conventional Pregnancy Wisdom is Wrong and What you Really Need to Know (Penguin Press, 2013)

Cribsheet: A Data-Driven Guide to Better, More Relaxed Parenting from Birth to Preschool (Penguin Press, 2019)

The Family Firm: A Data-Driven Guide to Better Decision-Making in the Early School Years (Penguin Press, 2021)

The Unexpected: Navigating Pregnancy During and After Complications (Penguin Press, 2024)

Publications:

“Pandemic Schooling Mode and Student Test Scores: Evidence from U.S. School Districts” (with Rebecca Jack, Clare Halloran and James Okun) *American Economic Review: Insights*, 5(2) (July 2023)

“Changes in Household Diet: Determinants and Predictability” (with Stefan Hut) *Journal of Public Economics*, 208 (April, 2022)

“Impact of School Opening Mode on SARS-CoV-2 Community Incidence and Mortality” (with Z Ertem et al). *Nature Medicine* 27 (12) (2021)

“Effectiveness of three versus six feet of physical distancing for controlling spread of COVID-19 among primary and secondary students and staff” (with Polly van den Berg et al). *Clinical Infectious Diseases* (2021)

“Disparities in learning mode access among K–12 students during the COVID-19 pandemic, by race/ethnicity, geography, and grade level—United States, September 2020–April 2021” (with Rebecca Jack et al.) *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 70.26 (2021): 953.

“Effectiveness of three versus six feet of physical distancing for controlling spread of COVID-19 among primary and secondary students and staff: A retrospective, state-wide cohort study” (with Polly van den Berg et al). *Clinical infectious diseases: an official publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America* (2021).

“Health Recommendations and Selection in Health Behaviors.” *American Economic Review: Insights*, 2 (2): p.143-160 (June, 2020)

“A simple approximation for evaluating external validity bias” (with Isaiah Andrews). *Economics Letters* 178 (2019): 58-62.

“Diabetes and Diet: Purchasing Behavior Response to Health Information.” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 10 (4): p. 308-348 (October, 2018)

“Unobservable selection and coefficient stability: Theory and evidence.” *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics* 37.2 (2019): 187-204.

“Does Disease Cause Vaccination? Disease Outbreaks and Vaccination Response,” *Journal of Health Economics*, 57 (1): p. 90 -101 (January, 2018)

“Why is Infant Mortality Higher in the US than in Europe” (with Heidi Williams and Alice Chen). *American Economic Journal: Policy* (May, 2016)

“Informativeness of Early Huntington Disease Signs about Gene Status” (with E. Ray Dorsey et al). *Journal of Huntington Disease*, 4 (3): p. 271-277 (October, 2015)

“Approaches and Costs for Sharing Clinical Research Data” (with Erin Wilhelm and Ira Shoulson). *JAMA* (Viewpoint, Feb 20, 2014).

“Limited Life Expectancy, Human Capital and Health Investments” (with E. Ray Dorsey and Ira Shoulson). *American Economic Review*, 103 (5): p. 1977-2002 (August 2013).

“Optimal Expectations and Limited Medical Testing: Evidence from Huntington's Disease” (with E. Ray Dorsey and Ira Shoulson). *American Economic Review*, 103 (2): p. 804-830 (April 2013).

“Do IT Service Centers Promote School Enrollment? Evidence from India” (with Bryce Millett). *Journal of Development Economics*, 104: 123-135 (September 2013).

“Knowledge of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act among individuals affected by Huntington disease” (with E. Ray Dorsey et al.). *Clinical Genetics*, 84: p. 251-257 (September 2013).

“Determinants of Technology Adoption: Private Value and Peer Effects in Menstrual Cup Take-Up” (with Rebecca Thornton). *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 10(6): p.1263-1293 (December, 2012).

“Routes of Infection: Exports and HIV Incidence in Sub-Saharan Africa.” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 10(5): p. 1025–1058 (October 2012).

“HIV and Sexual Behavior Change: Why Not Africa?” *Journal of Health Economics*, 31(1): p.35-49 (January 2012).

“Menstruation, Sanitary Products and School Attendance: Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation” (with Rebecca Thornton). *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3(1): 91-100 (January 2011).

“Genetic Adverse Selection in Long Term Care and Life Insurance: Evidence from Huntington Disease” (with E. Ray Dorsey et al). *Journal of Public Economics*, 94(11-12): p. 1041-1050 (December 2010).

“Estimating HIV Prevalence and Incidence in Africa from Mortality Data.” *BE Journal of Economics Analysis and Policy: Topics in Economics Analysis*, 10(1): Article 80 (September 2010).

“Hepatitis B Does Not Explain Male-Biased Sex Ratios in China” (with Gang Chen et al). *Economics Letters*, 107(2): p. 142-144 (May, 2010).

“The Power of TV: Cable Television and Women’s Status in India” (with Robert Jensen). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124 (3): p. 1057-1094 (August 2009).

“Does Increased Access Increase Equality? Health Investments and Gender Inequality in India.” *Journal of Development Economics*, 89 (1): p. 62-76 (May, 2009).

“Proximate Sources of Population Sex Imbalance in India.” *Demography*, 46(2): 325-340 (May, 2009).

“Fear of health insurance loss among individuals at risk for Huntington Disease” (with E. Ray Dorsey et al). *American Journal of Medical Genetics, Part A*, 146A: p.2070-2077 (August, 2008).

“Explaining Asia’s ‘Missing Women’: A New Look at the Data – Comment,” *Population and Development Review*, 32(2): p. 323-327 (June 2006).

“Hepatitis B and the Case of the Missing Women.” *Journal of Political Economy*, 113 (6): p. 1163-1216 (December 2005).

“Sexually Transmitted Infections, Sexual Behavior and the HIV/AIDS Epidemic.” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 120 (2): p. 467-515 (May 2005).

“Witchcraft, Weather and Economic Growth in Renaissance Europe.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 18(1): 215-228 (Winter 2004).

“Are All Lotteries Regressive? Evidence from the Powerball.” *National Tax Journal*, 57(2): p.179-187 (June 2004)