

Hsi-Ling Liao

CONTACT INFORMATION NYU Furman Center
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EDUCATION Ph.D. Public Policy, New York University, 2018-2023 (Expected)
M.P.A. Public Administration, New York University, 2013-2015
B.A. Economics, National Taiwan University, 2009-2013

RESEARCH FIELDS Urban Economics, Housing Policy, Spatial Inequality, Public Economics

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE Doctoral Fellow, NYU Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, 2018-Present
Senior Data Analyst and Research Associate, New American Economy (now American Immigration Council), 2015-2018

AWARDS AND GRANTS NYU Urban Doctoral Fellow, 2018-2019
Real Estate Research Institute Dissertation Grant, 2022
NYU Conference Travel Grant, 2022

PRESENTATIONS 2022: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Fall Research Conference; Asian Real Estate Society-American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AsRES-AREUEA) Joint Conference; Association for Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Meeting (ACSP); North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association (UEA); Krueckeberg Doctoral Conference in Urban Studies (Rutgers University); NYU Urban Research Day
2021: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Student Research Online Seminar; NYU Furman Center
2020: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Fall Research Conference; NYU Furman Center

POLICY REPORTS “Accessibility of America’s Housing Stock: Analysis of the 2011 American Housing Survey” with Luke Boshier, Sewin Chan, Ingrid Gould Ellen, and Brian Karfunkel. U.S.Department of Housing and Urban Development: Office of Policy Development and Research, March 2015.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE Teaching Colleague for Microeconomics, NYU, Fall 2019-Fall 2021
Teaching Assistant for Methods, Microeconomics and Management Intensive, NYU, Summer 2021 and 2022
Instructor for Math Review, NYU, Fall 2019-Fall 2022

WORKING PAPERS

“The Effect of Rezoning on Local Housing Supply and Demand: Evidence from New York City” (Job Market Paper)

As many cities continue to face housing affordability challenges, some local governments adopt land-use reforms to increase the residential development capacity in the city. This type of “upzoning” policy aims to increase housing supply and lower local housing costs, but it can also create positive amenity effects that attract high-income households to the neighborhood. This paper studies how the large-scale neighborhood upzoning in New York City between 2004 and 2013 affected local housing supply, prices, and residential mobility patterns using a difference-in-difference method. I construct a parcel-level dataset by combining zoning amendment maps with microdata tracking individual address histories. By exploiting the plausibly exogenous boundaries of upzoned areas, I compare upzoned areas and their immediate surrounding areas outside the upzoned boundaries. I find that housing supply increases after upzoning, but there is suggestive evidence of increased housing prices among existing properties on parcels with more increase in residential capacity. I also find that incumbent residents living in upzoned areas are more likely to move to a different neighborhood or leave the metropolitan area, but they are not more likely to move to lower-income areas. Finally, there is evidence that after the upzoning, in-migrants come from slightly higher-income neighborhoods. These results suggest that in this context, upzoning can both increase housing supply and change the composition of local residents.

“Moving Back: Demographic Differences in Boomeranging to Parents and Implications for Intergenerational Disadvantage” (with Sewin Chan and Katherine O’Regan)

Exploiting the large scale of the American Community Survey, we examine the extent of young adults (YAs) returning to their parents’ home (so called boomeranging) and the quality of their destination parental locations. We find that as a share of YAs who move, boomerang rates are higher among more disadvantaged groups by race/ethnicity, education, recent marital dissolution and employment disruption. Boomerangs are more likely to come from metropolitan areas with high unemployment and low average earnings; among cross-metro moves, boomerangers disproportionately land in higher unemployment and lower earnings metros than their origin. A synthetic cohort analysis also finds that Black and Hispanic YAs and those from lower socioeconomic status families face weaker labor markets and opportunities when boomeranging. These findings suggest that racial and socioeconomic disparities can be perpetuated through the boomerang channel when young adults return to parental homes in weaker labor markets and more disadvantaged localities.

“Chronic Illness, Residential Mobility, and Homeownership”

Adverse health incidence not only influences one’s physical activity and labor productivity, it can also have persistent effects on other aspects of people’s life. This paper uses the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) and event study models to examine how initial diagnosis of chronic diseases is associated with housing stability and homeownership transition. I find that female renters are more likely to move after the onset of chronic disease, and they are also more likely to live in more crowded housing. As for housing tenure, male homeowners are more likely to transition out of homeownership following diagnosis of chronic conditions. Male renters are also significantly less likely to transition into homeownership after developing chronic illness. Given these findings, helping people prevent chronic diseases or improve access to healthcare and housing services when they experience such adverse health incidence can be crucial in alleviating the long-term negative housing outcomes.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Urban Flight and Avoidance in the 21st Century: Exploring Post-COVID Residential Mobility Patterns in the US” (with Ingrid Gould Ellen and Amrita Kulka)

SOFTWARE

Stata, Python, R, ArcGIS, SAS, SQL, Linux, LaTeX

REFERENCES**Professor Sewin Chan** (Chair)

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New York University
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