

# MICHAEL DAVIES

MICHAEL.DAVIES@BERKELEY.EDU

## EDUCATION

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### University of California, Berkeley

*PhD in Economics*

Berkeley, CA

Aug 2025 -

### Yale University

*Master in Public Policy (MPP)*

New Haven, CT

Sep 2021 – Jun 2023

### University of Oxford

*BA Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (First Class Honours)*

Oxford, United Kingdom

Sep 2011 – Jun 2015

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### MIT Sloan/University of Pennsylvania

*Research Project Manager (Jul 2024 onward), Technical Associate*

Cambridge, MA

Jul 2023 – Jun 2025

- Co-authored “Minimum Wages and Workplace Injuries”.
- Provided research assistance to Anna Stansbury (MIT Sloan) and R. Jisung Park (UPenn) on projects concerning: outside options and workplace safety; the cost of minimum wage violations; socioeconomic inequality in academia; and regional inequality in the UK.
- Took PhD-level classes in economics at MIT, including the second half of the labor economics field course (receiving the highest grade in the class in the final exam).

### UK House of Lords

*Parliamentary Researcher, Office of Lord Robert Skidelsky*

London, UK

Sep 2015 – Aug 2017, Full-time

- Drafted content, edited, and provided research assistance for *Money and Government* (Yale University Press).
- Other projects included evidence for the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee on monetary policy; parliamentary speeches responding to the Budget; regular articles for national media on economic policy; and conference papers on economic thought.

## WORKING PAPERS

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### Minimum Wages and Workplace Injuries ([PDF on SSRN](#))

*With R. Jisung Park and Anna Stansbury*

- **Media coverage:** [NPR](#), [Marginal Revolution](#)
- **Abstract:** Do changes in the minimum wage affect workplace health and safety? Using the universe of workers’ compensation claims in California over 2000-2019, we estimate the effect of minimum wage shocks on occupational injury rates. We exploit geographic variation in the timing and magnitude of state- and city-level minimum wage changes, as well as variation across metro-occupation labor markets in *exposure* to minimum wage shocks, defined as the share of workers in a given market earning close to the local minimum. We find that a 10% increase in the minimum wage increases the injury rate by 11% in a fully-exposed labor market. We find particularly large effects for injuries relating to cumulative physical strain, suggesting that employers respond to minimum wage increases by intensifying the pace of work, which in turn increases injury risk. Reduced safety spending may also play a role.

## PRESENTATIONS

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AEA Paper Session (Presenter), ASSA Annual Meeting (San Francisco, Jan 2025)  
Roundtable Session (Presenter), People and Organizations (Wharton, Sep 2024)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Yale ECON 117: Introduction to Data Analysis & Econometrics**

Teaching Fellow for Joseph Altonji, Spring 2023, Yale College.

- Ran sections and office hours; wrote problem sets and quizzes; graded problem sets and exams.

### **Yale ENV 840/LAW 21754: Climate Change Policy and Perspectives**

Teaching Fellow for Robert Klee, Fall 2022, Yale School of the Environment.

- Ran sessions on memo-writing and material review, graded policy memo assignments and final exams.

### **Yale MGT 582: The Future of Global Finance**

Teaching Fellow for Jeffrey Garten, Fall 2022, Yale School of Management.

### **UC Berkeley Reader/Tutor Positions**

Held office hours and graded assignments for undergraduate courses on labor economics, introductory micro/macro, and the economics of financial inclusion.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Economic Change Unit (ECU)**

*Programme Lead*

London, UK

*Apr 2019 – Jun 2021, Full-time*

- Developed founding ECU strategy in a team of 4, securing £1.2 million in charitable funding over three years.
- Personally planned and conducted major national media interventions leading to changes in news coverage of economic policy (BBC, FT).
- Led on concept and build for the [New Economy Brief](#) project.
- Wrote a weekly in-depth newsletter for economic policy professionals (academics, think tankers, journalists).
- Wrote policy briefings used by e.g. a former G7 finance minister.

### **Progressive Economy Forum (PEF)**

*Programme Lead*

London, UK

*Jan 2018 – Apr 2019, Full-time*

- Convened stakeholders to develop policy ideas, e.g. organized a policy workshop on public investment banks bringing together policymakers, economists, and senior figures from European national investment banks.
- Coordinated and edited PEF's written output, including reports, policy briefs, podcasts, and blog posts.
- Wrote reports and delivered educational talks/training sessions (e.g., for London Young Labour) on economic policy topics.

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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Award for Academic Excellence (Yale Jackson School, 2023).

Full tuition and living stipend award for MPP (Yale Jackson School, 2021-2023).

Mary Somerville Award for excellence in Final Honor School exams (Somerville College, University of Oxford, 2015).

## SKILLS

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**Coding:** Stata, R, Python, and  $\LaTeX$ .

**Languages:** French (advanced); German and Spanish (intermediate); Mandarin (beginner).