

Douglas Almond

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APPOINTMENTS

2020-2021 Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar
2019-present Co-director, [Center for Environmental Economics and Policy](#) (CEEP), Columbia University
2018-present Visiting Professor, Uppsala University (Sweden)
2017-present Full Professor (tenured in SIPA and Department of Economics), Columbia University
2014-present Special Sworn Status, US Bureau of the Census
2010-present Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research ([CH](#), [AG](#), [EEE](#))
2019-2020 Mentor for [Bridge to the PhD Program](#) for underrepresented groups in STEM/Economics
2018-2019 Senior Scholar, Opportunity & Inclusive Growth Institute: Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
2008-2018 Economics Advisor, [Sustainable Development PhD Program](#)
2010-2017 Associate Professor, Columbia University (tenured in SIPA and Dept. of Economics: July, 2010)
2010-2017 Associate Editor *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*
2011-2014 NSF Economics Program: Proposal Review Panelist
2009-2014 NSF Faculty Early Career Development ([CAREER](#)) Award
2009-2013 IGC Climate Change, Environment, and Natural Resources Research Program Co-Director
2009-2012 NSF Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics ([DITE](#)) Mentor
2010-2011 Visiting Professor, PAM, Cornell University
2004-2010 Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research
2007-2008 Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar
2005-2006 [Fulbright Scholar](#), Beijing University
2004-2010 Assistant Professor, Columbia University (beginning July, 2004)
2002-2004 Postdoctoral Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research (Cambridge, MA)
1999-2000 Staff Economist, [Council of Economic Advisers](#) (The White House)
1993-1996 Research Assistant/Programmer, Mathematica Policy Research
1992 Research Assistant, *The Economist* magazine (London)

EDUCATION

University of California at Berkeley (1996-1999, 2000-2002)
Ph.D. in Economics, May 2002

Carleton College (Northfield, Minnesota: 1989-1993)
B.A. in Economics, *magna cum laude*, Distinction in Economics, William Carleton Scholar.

PUBLISHED & FORTHCOMING

“Livestock Plants and COVID-19 Transmission” (with Charles A. Taylor and Christopher Boulos), *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)* 117 (50) 31706-31715 (December, 2020).

“Ambiguous Air Pollution Effects of China’s COVID-19 Lockdown” (with Xinming Du, Valerie Karplus, and Shuang Zhang) forthcoming, *American Economics Association Papers and Proceedings* (May, 2021).

- “Carbon Trading Pilot Programs in China and Local Air Quality” (with Shuang Zhang) forthcoming, *American Economics Association Papers and Proceedings* (May, 2021).
- “Later Bedtimes Predict President Trump's Performance” (with Xinming Du) *Economics Letters*, vol. 197, 109590 (December 2020).
- “Land Reform and Sex Selection in China” (with Hongbin Li and Shuang Zhang): *Journal of Political Economy*, 127 (2): 560-585 (April 2019).
- “Childhood Circumstances and Adult Outcomes: Act II” (with Janet Currie and Valentina Duque): *Journal of Economic Literature*, 56 (4): 1360-1446 (December 2018).
- “Quantifying Coal Power Plant Responses to Tighter SO₂ Emissions Standards in China” (with Valerie Karplus and Shuang Zhang): *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, 115 (27): 7004-7009 (July 2018).
- “Do Nonprofits Manipulate Investment Returns?” (with Xing Xia) *Economic Letters* 155 (2017): 62-66.
- “Son-biased Sex Ratios in 2010 US Census and 2011-2013 US Natality Data” (with Yixin Sun) *Social Science & Medicine* (March 2017) 176: 21-24.
- “Long Run Impacts of Childhood Access to the Safety Net” (with Hilary W. Hoynes and Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach; Almond is 3rd author). *The American Economic Review* (April 2016) 106(4): 903-34.
- “Impacts of Classifying New York City Students as Overweight” (with Ajin Lee and Amy Ellen Schwartz). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*: March 2016) 113(13): 3488–3491.
- “An Adaptive Significance of Morning Sickness? Trivers-Willard and Hyperemesis Gravidarum” (with Lena Edlund, Michael Joffe, and Mårten Palme), *Economics & Human Biology*, 21: 167-171 (2016).
- “Fasting During Pregnancy and Children’s Academic Performance” (with Bhashkar Mazumder and Reyn Van Ewijk). *The Economic Journal* (December 2015).
- “Auspicious birth dates among Chinese in California” (with Christine Pal Chee, Maria Micaela Sviatschi, & Nan Zhong). *Economics & Human Biology* (July 2015).
- “The Great China Famine” *The Oxford Companion to the Economics of China*, edited by Fan, Kanbur, Wei and Zhang (December 2014).
- “Fetal Origins of Lifetime Health” (with Janet Currie and Katherine Meckel). *Encyclopedia of Health Economics* (March 2014): 309-314.
- “Paternity Acknowledgement in 2 Million Birth Records from Michigan” (with Maya Rossin). *PLoS ONE*, 8 (July 2013).
- “Fetal Origins and Parental Responses” (with Bhashkar Mazumder). *Annual Review of Economics*, 5 (May, 2013): 37-56.
- “Son Preference and the Persistence of Culture: Evidence from South and East Asian Immigrants to Canada (with Lena Edlund and Kevin Milligan). *Population and Development Review*, 39 (March 2013): 75-95.
- “From Infant to Mother: Early Disease Environment and Future Maternal Health (with Janet Currie and Mariesa Herrmann). *Labour Economics* 19(4) (August 2012): 475-483.

- “Health Capital and the Prenatal Environment: The Effect of Ramadan Observance During Pregnancy” (with Bhashkar Mazumder). *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3 (October 2011), 56-85.
- “Killing Me Softly: The Fetal Origins Hypothesis” (with Janet Currie). *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 25 (Summer 2011), 153-172.
- “After Midnight: A Regression Discontinuity Design in Length of Postpartum Hospital Stays” (with Joseph Doyle). *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 3 (August 2011), 1-34.
- “Inside the War on Poverty: The Impact of Food Stamps on Birth Outcomes” (with Hilary Hoynes and Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach). *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 93 (May 2011), 387-403.
- “Human Capital Development Before Age Five” (with Janet Currie). *Handbook of Labor Economics, Volume 4b*: Orley Ashenfelter and David Card, editors (Elsevier, 2011), Chapter 15, 1315-1486.
- “Public vs. Private Provision of Charity Care? Evidence from the Expiration of Hill-Burton Requirements in Florida” (with Janet Currie and Emilia Simeonova). *Journal of Health Economics*, 30 (January 2011), 189-199.
- “Long-term Effects of the 1959-1961 China Famine: Mainland China and Hong Kong” (with Lena Edlund, Hongbin Li, and Junsen Zhang). *The Economic Consequences of Demographic Change in East Asia, NBER-EASE Volume 19* (University of Chicago Press, 2010), Chapter 9, 321-350.
- “Estimating Marginal Returns to Medical Care: Evidence from At-risk Newborns” (with Joseph J. Doyle Jr., Amanda E. Kowalski, & Heidi Williams). *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 125 (May 2010), 591-634.
- “Chernobyl's Subclinical Legacy: Prenatal Exposure to Radioactive Fallout and School Outcomes in Sweden” (with Lena Edlund and Mårten Palme). *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124 (November 2009), 1729-1772.
- “Lingering Prenatal Effects of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic on Cardiovascular Disease” (with Bhashkar Mazumder, Kyung Park, Eileen M. Crimmins, and Caleb E. Finch). *Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease* (October 2009).
- “Unintended Consequences of China's Huai River Policy” (with Yuyu Chen, Michael Greenstone, and Hongbin Li). *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, 99 (May 2009), 184-190.
- “Son Biased Sex Ratios in the 2000 US Census” (with Lena Edlund). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, 105 (April 2008), 5681-5682.
- “Trivers-Willard at Birth and One Year: Evidence from U.S. Natality Data 1983-2001” (with Lena Edlund). *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 274 (October 2007), 2491-2496.
- “Is the 1918 Influenza Pandemic Over? Long-term Effects of *In Utero* Influenza Exposure in the Post-1940 U.S. Population” *Journal of Political Economy*, 114 (August 2006), 672-712.
- “The Costs of Low Birth Weight” (with Kenneth Chay and David Lee). *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 120 (August 2005), 1031-1084.
- “The 1918 Influenza Pandemic and Subsequent Health Outcomes: An Analysis of SIPP Data” (with Bhashkar Mazumder). *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, 95 (May 2005), 258-262.

WORKING PAPERS

[Russian Holidays Predict Troll Activity 2015-2017](#) (with Xinming Du and Alana Vogel) NBER Working Paper #28,035 (October, 2020)

[Perinatal Health among 1 Million Chinese-Americans](#) (with Yi Cheng) NBER Working Paper No. 27775 (September, 2020)

[Civil Rights, the War on Poverty, and Black-White Convergence in Infant Mortality in the Rural South and Mississippi](#) (with Kenneth Chay and Michael Greenstone). “accepted subject to minor revision” at [The American Economic Review](#).

[The Long-Run and Intergenerational Impact of Poor Infant Health: Evidence from Cohorts Born During the Civil Rights Era](#) (with Kenneth Chay: February 2006, never submitted)

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“Motherhood in US Census LEHD microdata” (with Cecilia Machado and Yi Cheng)

“Implicit Son Preference in Household Survey Data: Evidence from the CPS” (with Xuan Li)

“Does Infrasound Disrupt Sleep?” (with Osea Giuntella)

“Pollution Responses to China’s National Environmental Inspections” (with Shuang Zhang)

“Impacts of China’s Belt and Road Power Plant Construction” (with Shuang Zhang)

“Long-run effects of US Above Ground Nuclear tests” (with Joe Ferrie and Keith Meyers)

“Methane leaks from LNG transport” (with Xinming Du)

“Long-term Impacts Nutritional Supplementation and Early Childhood Stimulation” (with Valentina Duque)

“Cap and Trade – China Style” (with Shuang Zhang)

RESEARCH GRANTS

The King Climate Action Initiative @ J-Pal Poverty Action Lab: “Improved Environmental Inspections in China and Their Effects” (with Shuang Zhang). Awarded December 2020: \$158,510.

Columbia ISERP seed grant: “The COVID-19 Pandemic and anti-Chinese sentiment on social media” (with Shuang Zhang). Awarded May 2020: \$29,500.

SIPA Faculty Grants Program: “Does Infrasound Disrupt Sleep?” Awarded May 2019: \$16,041.

National Science Foundation (award # SES-1658888), “Collaborative Research: Market Based Emissions Policies” in China (with Shuang Zhang and Hongbin Li). April 2017: \$545,403 in total, \$335,769 to Columbia University (3 years).

Center for Development Economics and Policy, SIPA. “The Long-term Impacts of a Nutritional Supplementation and Early Childhood Stimulation Program: A 40-year Follow-up to an Experimental Intervention” (with Valentina Duque). Awarded April 2018: \$6,250.

ISERP, Columbia University. “2nd Biennial Sustainable Development Research” (with Raimundo Atal, Ram Fishman, Stephanie Lackner, Kimberly Lai Oremus and Anna Tompsett). Awarded November 2017: \$5,000.

SIPA Faculty Grants Program. “Parental Avoidance Behavior and Child Health: Evidence from Power Plant Cleanup in China” (with Shuang Zhang). Awarded May 2017: \$9,000.

ISERP Seed Grant, Columbia University “Cap and Trade – China Style.” (with Hongbin Li and Shuang Zhang) April 2016: \$15,000.

J-PAL North America “Can (E)mail Improve the Effectiveness of BMI Reporting?” (with Ajin Lee and Amy Ellen Schwartz) April 2015: \$50,000.

National Science Foundation (award # SES-1357608), “Effects of the Family and Medical Leave Act on Firms and Workers” (with Cecilia Machado) April, 2014: \$208,800 (3 years).

National Science Foundation CAREER Award (award # SES-0847329), “Health Determinants and Research Design” September 2009: \$613,000 (5 years).

National Science Foundation (award # 0721155), “Chernobyl's Asymptomatic Legacy: Effects of Low Level Prenatal Irradiation on Adult Cognitive Performance” (with Lena Edlund) May 2007: \$270,000 (3 years).

National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Aging, Grant Number R03 AG023939-01, May 2004-present: “Fetal Origins of Cardiovascular & Cerebrovascular Aging”: \$148,162.

NBER Pilot Project Grant (National Institute of Aging to NBER), “Health Effects of Recent Air Pollution Changes in Beijing” (with Michael Greenstone, Hongbin Li, and Ling Li) November 2006: \$21,762.

Center for Globalization and Sustainable Development (Columbia University) Seed Grant, “U.S. Above-Ground Nuclear Tests of the 1950s and Subsequent Health and Socioeconomic Outcomes in North Carolina” (with Michael Greenstone) November 2006: \$7,736.

Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy Seed Grant, “The Nature and Determinants of Child Abuse” (with Lena Edlund) December, 2005: \$8,405.

USDA Food Assistance Research Grant, awarded by Joint Center for Poverty Research (Northwestern University and University of Chicago) June 2004: “Health Effects of the 1960s Food Stamps Program”: \$24,000.

EXTERNAL CONSULTING

Opportunity & Inclusive Growth Institute: Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis: August 2018, August 2019.

Uppsala University, Department of Economics (Sweden), Visiting Professor: 2018-present.

Federal Reserve Bank of New York: November-December 2016.

SELECTED PRESS CITATION, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2021 *The Washington Post*: “The Trump administration approved faster line speeds at chicken plants. Those facilities are more likely to have covid-19 cases” by Kimberly Kindy, Ted Mellnik & Arelis R. Hernandez: January 2021

2020 *The Hill*: “Coronavirus outbreaks at meatpacking plants linked to 8 percent of early cases: study” by Zack Budryk: November 2020

- 2020 cont. *Bloomberg*: “Study Ties 6% to 8% of U.S. Covid Cases to Meatpacking Plants” by Mike Dorning: November 2020
The New Yorker: “A President looks back on his toughest fight” by Barack Obama: October 2020 [mentions [1918 Influenza paper](#)]
Newsweek: “Trump's tweets suggest he is sleeping less -- and that could be helping Biden” by Jason Murdock: October 2020
The New York Times: “The Coronavirus generation” by Jason DeParle: August 2020
New York Magazine: “Coronavirus exposes the sickness of America's shoddy welfare state” by Eric Levitz: March 2020
Vox: “Why we should be careful comparing the Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak to the 1918 Spanish flu” by Dylan Matthews: March 2020
The Hindu: “Protecting the poor from becoming poorer” by Krishna Rao: April 2020
- 2018 *Foreign Affairs*: “The Unheard Nerds: How economists can talk so policymakers will listen” by Karen Dynan: November/December 2018
- 2018 *MIT News*: “Checking China’s pollution, by satellite” by Peter Dizikes: June 2018
- 2018 *The South China Morning Post*: “Some good news on China’s pollution fight, but it comes with a warning” by Zhuang Pinghu: June 2018
- 2018 *The New York Times*: “Let them eat Trump steaks” by Paul Krugman: May 2018
- 2017 *The New York Times*: “The Republican war on children” by Paul Krugman: December 2017
- 2017 *New York Magazine*: “The Trump budget's approach to welfare is based on discredited delusions” by Eric Levitz: May 2017
- 2017 *The New York Times*: “Supply-Side Economics, But for Liberals” by Neil Irwin: April 2017
- 2016 *BBC*: “Why Billionaires Have More Sons” Zaria Gorvett: October 2016
- 2016 *BBC Radio* interview: “Down the Generations” with Jolyon Jenkins: broadcast September 2016
- 2016 *The Daily Mail*: “How morning sickness could predict your baby’s gender” by Katie Pickles: April 2016
- 2016 *The Washington Post* (via the *Associated Press*): “Study questions impact of NYC students' weight report cards” by Jennifer Peltz: March 2016
- 2016 *CNN*: “Do schools' BMI screenings of students even work?” by Kelly Wallace: March 2016
- 2015 *The White House blog*: “Six examples of the long-term benefits of anti-poverty programs”: May 2015
- 2015 *The Economist*: “Unequal beginnings: Prenatal health and life outcomes” April 2015.
- 2015 *The Atlantic*: “Should you bring your unborn baby to work?” by Moises Velasquez-Manoff: March 2015.
- 2014 *The New York Times*: “Inequality is a drag” by Paul Krugman: August 2014.
- 2014 *The New York Times*: “The hammock fallacy” by Paul Krugman: March 2014.
- 2013 *The New York Times*: “Prudence or cruelty?” by Nicholas Kristof: November 2013.
- 2013 *The Atlantic*: “The unexpected ways a fetus is shaped by a mother’s environment” by Lindsay Abrams: July 2013.
- 2012 *Salon*: “More babies won’t save the economy” by Amanda Marcote: December 2012.
- 2011 2011 [Garfield Economic Impact Award](#) (with Doyle, Kowalski, and Williams)
- 2011 HCUP Outstanding Article of the Year Award (with Doyle, Kowalski, and Williams)
- 2011 *The New York Times*: “Radiation and pregnancy” by David Leonhardt: March 2011
- 2011 *Time Magazine*: “In Japan, pregnant women have double the reason to dodge radiation” by Bonnie Rochman: March 2011
- 2011 *Deutsche Weller*: “Radiation might affect Japan's youngest” by Anggatira Gollmer: March 2011
- 2010 *The New York Times*: “At Risk from the Womb” by Nicholas D. Kristof: October 2010.
- 2009 *Time Magazine*: “Side Effects of 1918 Flu Seen Decades Later” by Adi Narayan: October 2009.
- 2009 *The New York Times*: “U.S. births hint at bias for boys in some Asians” by Sam Roberts: June 2009.
- 2008 NPR’s *All Things Considered*: “Male Birth Rate Among Asian Americans Studied,” interview with Michele Norris: April 1, 2008.

2007	<i>The New York Times</i> : “Nuclear Energy: The Jane Fonda Effect” by Stephen Dubner and Steven Levitt: September 2007
2007	<i>Chemistry World</i> : “Chernobyl Fallout Impaired Mental Development of Swedish Infants” by John Bonner: August 2007
2007	<i>The Daily Telegraph</i> : “Rich Mothers Have More Sons” by Roger Highfield: August 2007
2006	<i>Scientific American</i> : “Womb Woes” by JR Minkel: October 2006
2006	<i>The New York Times</i> : “So Big and Healthy Grandpa Wouldn’t Even Know You” by Gina Kolata: July 2006
2005-2006	Fulbright Scholarship to China Center for Economic Research, Peking University
2004	<i>The Wall Street Journal</i> : “Biological Historians Trace Ebb and Flow” by David Wessel: September, 2004
2002	U.C. Berkeley Department of Economics Award for Public Policy Research
2002	Paola Timiras Award for Research in Aging
2001	National Institute of Aging Fellowship
2001	Center for the Economics and Demography of Aging, Research Grant (with Kenneth Chay)
2000	Lloyd Ulman Graduate Student Fellowship in Labor Economics

PHD ADVISEES & INITIAL PLACEMENT

Anouch Missirian	Toulouse School of Economics, via UCSB emLab postdoc (2020)
Yi Cheng	Edgeworth Consulting (2020)
Xuan Li	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (2019)
Valentina Duque	University of Sydney Economics (2018)
Jaehyun Jung	Korea Institute of Public Finance (2018)
Eyal Frank	Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago (2017)
Zach Brown	University of Michigan, Economics (2017)
Ajin Lee	Michigan State, Economics (2017)
Stephanie Lackner	Princeton Woodrow Wilson School STEP Postdoc (2017)
Ruinan Lui	Bain & Company, Shanghai (2017)
Amir Jina	Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago (2016)
Jan von der Goltz	The World Bank (2016)
Aaron Baum	Mt. Sinai School of Medicine (2016)
Semee Yoon	Yonsei University (2016)
Jessica Van Parys	Postdoc, Dartmouth College (2015)
Belinda Archibong	Barnard College, Economics (2015)
Nan Zhong	Xiamen University, Economics (2015)
Anna Tompsett	Stockholm University, Economics (2014)
Patrick Asuming	Columbia, Mailman School of Public Health Postdoc (2013)
Xiaojia Bao	Xiamen University, Economics (2013)
Bryant (Hyuncheol) Kim	Cornell, PAM (2013)
Nicole Ngo	University of Oregon (2013)
Jesse Anttila-Hughes	University of San Francisco, Economics (2012)
Ram Fishman	George Washington University, Economics (2012)
Mariesa Hermann	Mathematica Policy Research (2012)
Solomon Hsiang	UC Berkeley, Goldman School of Public Policy (2012)
Christine Pal	Department of Veteran Affairs, Health Economics Resource Center (2012)
Hitoshi Shigeoka	Simon Fraser University, Economics (2012)
Wilfredo Lim	Mathematica Policy Research (2012)
Shuang Zhang	Stanford SIEPR Postdoc, UC Boulder Economics (2012)
Gordon McCord	UCSD, School of International Relations and Pacific Studies (2011)
Cecilia Machado	Getulio Vargas Foundation, Graduate School of Economics (2010)
Matthew Wai-Poi	World Bank (2010)
Emilia Simeonova	Stockholm University, IIES and Tufts University, Economics (2008)

KEYNOTE LECTURES

- 2017 Conference on Health and Development Institute of Economics, *Academia Sinica* Taipei, June 2017
- 36th Nordic Health Economic Study Group Meeting in Uppsala, August 2015
- Aarhus University (Denmark) conference for special issue *Labour Economics*, June 2015.
- Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN) at University of Copenhagen, June 2014
- Nordic Summer Institute in Labor Economics (Faroe Islands), June 2011

FAVORITE PAPER TITLES

[Are numbers divisible by 5? Evidence from the number 65](#) (Matthew Rabin)

[I just ran two million regressions](#) (Xavier Sala-I-Martin)

[Hermaphroditism: what's not to like?](#) (Lena Edlund and Evelyn Korn)