

Valerie Boctor

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics

Fields: Consumer Finance, Empirical Macroeconomics

University of California, Berkeley

May 2025 [Available for work immediately]

B.S. in Economics, Political Science, Modern Foreign Languages

Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Syracuse University

May 2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Mortgage Forbearance and Long Run Financial Distress

- Compiled data and constructed a panel dataset of 500,000 mortgaged homeowners from a 100TB SQL database containing consumer credit reports.
- Implemented an instrumental variables research design to show that mortgage forbearance significantly reduced mortgage delinquency and foreclosure with spillovers to revolving credit stability.
- Designed and estimated an event study model to compare financial outcomes for forbearance users with different relief durations and exit plans.

On Eliciting Subjective Probability Distributions of Expectations

with Olivier Coibion, Yuriy Gorodnichenko, & Michael Weber | NBER Working Paper

- Developed parametric and linear interpolation algorithms to model households' inflation density forecasts from a nationally representative survey of 10,000 American households.
- Utilized linear regression to measure sociodemographic correlates of survey response discrepancy.

Fiscal Deficits and Inflation Risks in Advanced and Emerging Economies

with Ryan Banerjee, Aaron Mehrotra, & Fabrizio Zampolli | BIS Working Paper #1, BIS Working Paper #2

- Applied quantile regression techniques to estimate the effects of fiscal deficits on inflation risk in 50 advanced and emerging economies over four decades.
- Fit cross-country inflation data to parametric distributions to assess impact of fiscal deficits on inflation tail risks
- Engineered a Monte Carlo simulation to quantify bias due to correlated shocks.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Associate at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

Basel, Switzerland | May 2021 – Jul. 2021

- Collaborated with BIS economists to produce timely research on the impact of fiscal deficits on inflation risks in the global economy during the COVID, featured in the [IMF Seminars Recommended Reading](#).

Policy Analyst at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Washington, D.C. | June - Aug. 2017

- Implemented a logistic regression model to distinguish banks with heightened risk of compliance violations.
- Edited OCC bulletins and policy briefs prepared for the Acting Comptroller.

Graduate Student Instructor at Berkeley Economics Department

Aug. 2019 - May 2024

- Instructed 30-person undergraduate courses on a broad range of topics in macroeconomics, money and banking, and international trade.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages and Tools: Python, SQL, R, Matlab, L^AT_EX, Git, AWS, ML

Methods: Differences-in-differences, regression discontinuity, instrumental variables, event study, Monte Carlo simulation, linear and logistic regression, spline interpolation, distribution fitting, k-nearest neighbors, clustering, random forest

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

California Policy Lab 2021-2022 (\$27k), BB90 Fund for Monetary Economics 2023 (\$20k), Berkeley Opportunity Lab Place-Based Policy Initiative Grant 2024 (\$4k), UC Berkeley Graduate Fellowship 2018-2025

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: USA

Languages: English (Native), Arabic (Native, Bilingual), French (Advanced Proficiency)