Emiliano Harris

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Education

2019- 2025 (expected)	**Ph.D. in Economics**, **Cornell University** Committee: Michael F. Lovenheim (chair), Stephen Coate (co-chair) and Ivan Rudik
2016-2018	**M.A. in Economics**, **Paris School of Economics** APE (Analysis and Economic Policy), Thesis supervisor: Laurent Gobillon
2014-2017	**Engineering Degree in Economics and Statistics (M.Sc.)**, **ENSAE**, **Paris**
2012-2014	**Lycée Janson de Sailly**, **Paris** Classe préparatoire B/L, Social Sciences, Mathematics and Humanities

Research Fields

Public Finance, Urban Economics, Housing Economics

Job Market Paper

"The First Era of American Public Housing (1940-1960) — Effects on Neighborhoods"

This paper examines how early American public housing affected the income and demographic composition of targeted neighborhoods. At its outset in the mid-1930s and until 1960, public housing combined two missions: provide "decent" housing to working-poor families, and help cities curb urban decay through slum clearance. Using a shift-share-style instrument framework that exploits exogenous aggregate fluctuations in federally funded public housing units across regions and time, I find that in neighborhoods most likely to be targeted by the policy, public housing increased the shares of families in the lower half of the income distribution, with deciles 3 to 5 increasing by 5 to 6 percentage points each. The average family income below the city median increased by about 20 percent in typical recipient neighborhoods. Together, these effects indicate that public housing reduced the concentration of families in the lowest decile by drawing in families with slightly higher incomes. Put differently, targeted neighborhoods became "mixed-income" areas, which differs considerably from the high levels of poverty concentration that were downstream of changes in public housing policy beginning in the 1960s. These results underscore the way housing policy shapes neighborhood residential composition and income segregation.

Work in Progress

"Homeownership Dynamics and the Lock-In Effect — Evidence from the Federal Reserve's Monetary Policy Tightening," with Amine Ouazad, Romain Rancière and Qitong Wang

> In an ongoing project with co-authors, we examine how search frictions and increasing mortgage interest rates interact to shape housing market dynamics, particularly through the 'lock-in' effect of fixed-rate mortgages. We develop and numerically solve a dynamic search and matching model that accounts for three key features of housing markets: (1) the dual buyer-seller role of most market participants, (2) costly housing search, and (3) widespread use of 30-year fixed-rate mortgages in the US. Using transaction-level data from Los Angeles and San Francisco to discipline the model, we aim to shed light on how high interest rates affect housing prices and their dispersion.

"Human Capital Formation and Neighborhood Spillovers," with Gautier Lenfant

> In an ongoing project with Gautier Lenfant, we examine how early public housing affected the long-term labor market and wealth outcomes of individuals who lived near these developments as children. Building on findings from my job market paper showing that public housing created mixed-income neighborhoods in this period, we exploit variation in exposure to public housing construction to study neighborhood effects on childhood development. While existing literature documents benefits when children move from distressed to higher-income areas, our study examines a reversed policy experiment where relatively higher-income families moved into lower-income neighborhoods. We combine longitudinal PSID data with full-count 1940 Census records to track outcomes across individuals' life cycles, using both exposure duration and regional variation in construction as sources of identification.

Older Work

"Aggregate Housing Price Trends in Chicago and local characteristics"
> Masters Thesis, ENSAE 2017, supervised by Amine Ouazad

Teaching experience

Cornell University

Spring 2025	Teaching Assistant for Doug McKee, Applied Econometrics (U)
Fall 2024	Teaching Assistant for Sharon Tennyson, Economics of Consumer Policy (U and M.A.)
Fall 2021	Teaching Assistant for David Easley and Joe Halpern, Networks (U)
Spring 2021	Teaching Assistant for Jennifer Wissink, Introductory Microeconomics (U)
Fall 2020	Teaching Assistant for David Easley, Microeconomics (Ph.D. Core)

Sciences Po Paris, Reims campus

Spring 2018	Lecturer in Introductory Econometrics (sole instructor, U and M.A.)

Research Experience

2021-2023	Research Assistant for Maria Fitzpatrick, Cornell University
Summer 2017	Research Assistant for Amine Ouazad, HEC Montreal
Summer 2016	Research Assistant for Laura Mayoral, Institute for Economic Analysis (Barcelona)

Conferences and Seminars

2025	AREUEA National Conference - Washington D.C.; Data-Intensive Research Conference - Minneapolis, MN
2024	Labor Work In Progress Seminar – Cornell University; Public Economics Seminar - Cornell University; APPAM Research Conference - National Harbor, MD
2023	Labor Work In Progress Seminar - Cornell University
2022	Work In Progress Seminar - Cornell University

Grants and Fellowships

2019-2024	Cornell Sage Fellowship
2024	Cornell Research Travel Grant (Graduate school and Economics Department)
2017	ENSAE thesis nominated for best paper
2016	Fonds Sarah Andrieux grant

Service

2015	Founding member of Agora ENSAE, social science association dedicated to encouraging dialogue among the social sciences through the organization of public lectures by experts
2014-2016	Elected student representative to the ENSAE advisory board

Other

Citizenship	American and French
Languages	English (native), French (native), German (upper-intermediate level: Goethe-Zertifikat B2), Spanish (intermediate), Russian (basic)
Programming	R, Julia, GNU Make, LaTeX, Markdown, Stata

References

MICHAEL F. LOVENHEIM (Chair)

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