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I was an NIH trainee at CCPR (UCLA Population Center)

The kinds of questions my work answers

1. How do **breastfeeding duration and reading daily** to children shape women's work hours, job characteristics, and family outcomes?
2. How have **non-academic school behaviors** changed over time by gender, race, and family income? Have these changes increased inequalities in college outcomes?
3. Does the relationship between **BMI and wages** depend on a person's race and or gender?
4. Do highly educated people match on both education and **smoking status** in marriage and cohabitation? Have couples become more likely to match on smoking status over time?
5. Do **coworker opinions about smoking** and job characteristics predict how much people smoke or if they quit?

Examples of data sets I use and agencies that sponsor these data

Agency: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Data: National Longitudinal Surveys (1979 and 1997 cohorts)

- Women who **breastfeed for longer have more children**.
- Women who **breastfeed longer switch into part-time work in anticipation of having children** and investing in them
- The association between **body size (BMI) and wages** differs by race and gender

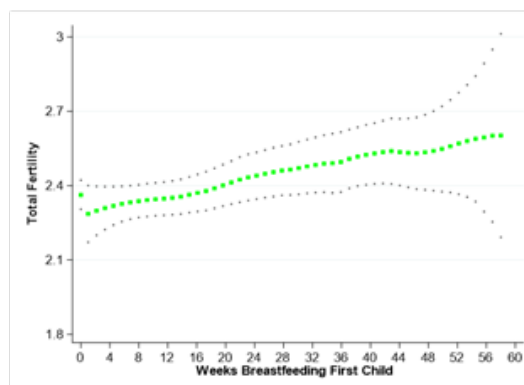
Data: Current Population Survey (jointly funded by BLS and Census)

- **Coworker opinions** about workplace smoking and the proportion of college graduates who work in an occupation **predict both how much people smoke and whether they quit**.

Breastfeeding Duration and Fertility

Women who breastfeed longer have higher fertility

- NLSY79
- Less likely to stop at only one child, and more likely to have ≥ 3 children
- Holds in multivariate models



Maralani 2018 *Demography*

Relationship between Wages and Body Mass (BMI) by Race and Gender

Maralani and McKee 2017 *Sociological Science* using NLSY97 and NLSY79



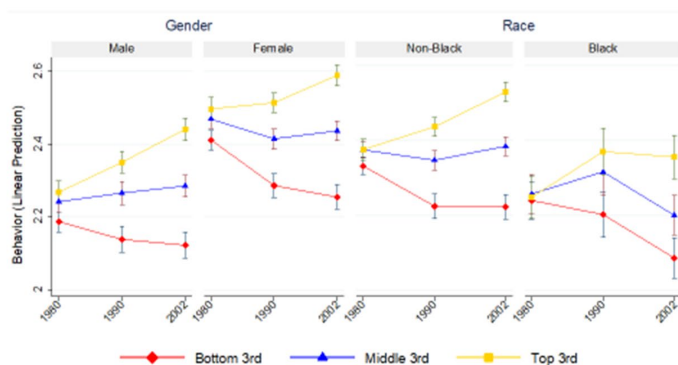
BMI

Agency: Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

Data: High School and Beyond, Educational Longitudinal Study, National Education Longitudinal Study

- Across cohorts, **inequalities in noncognitive skills have increased by family socioeconomic status**, and play a much larger role in college entry and college completion.

Behaviors by Gender, Race, & Family Income



- Go to class without homework done, cut class, on probation or suspended
- Income gaps widen across cohorts
- Big differences by race and family income

Agency: NIH National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Data: National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health)

- **Inequalities in smoking by completed education emerge as early as age 12**
- Educational inequalities in smoking are explained by never starting to smoke, rather than differences in quitting by education