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John N. Friedman

http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Economics/Faculty/John_Friedman/

Professional Positions:

Associate Professor (with tenure) of Economics and International Affairs and Public Policy,
Brown University (2015 –)

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (2015 –)
Faculty Research Fellow (2009 – 2013, 2014 – 2015)

Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, National Economic Council, The White
House (2013 – 2014)

Assistant Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School (2009 – 2014)

Post-Doc Fellowship: Scholar in Health Policy, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, at UC
Berkeley (2007 – 2009)

Education:

Ph.D., Department of Economics, Harvard University, June 2007

A.M., Department of Statistics, Harvard University, June 2002

A.B., *summa cum laude* in Economics, Harvard College, June 2002

Academic Areas of Interest: Public Economics and Political Economy

Published or Forthcoming Papers:

[“Measuring the Impact of Teachers: Reply to Rothstein”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty and Jonah Rockoff

American Economic Review, Vol. 107 (6), pp. 1685-1717 (2017)

[“Using Lagged Outcomes to Evaluate Bias in Value-Added Models”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty and Jonah Rockoff
AEA Papers and Proceedings, Vol. 106(5), pp. 393-99 (2016)

[“Identification and Inference with Many Invalid Instruments”](#)

w/ Michal Kolesar, Raj Chetty, Edward L. Glaeser and Guido W. Imbens
Journal of Business & Economic Statistics, Vol. 33 (4), pp. 474-484 (2015)

[“Measuring the Impacts of Teachers I: Estimating Bias in Teacher Value-Added Estimates.”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty and Jonah Rockoff
American Economic Review, Vol. 104 (9), pp. 2593-2632 (2014)

[“Measuring the Impacts of Teachers II: Teacher Value-Added and Student Outcomes in Adulthood.”](#) w/ Raj Chetty and Jonah Rockoff

American Economic Review, Vol. 104 (9), pp. 2633-2679 (2014)

[“Active vs. Passive Decisions and Crowd-Out in Retirement Savings: Evidence from Denmark”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty, Soren Leth-Petersen, Torben H. Nielsen, and Tore Olsen
Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol 129(3), (2014)

[“Using Differences in Knowledge Across Neighborhood to Uncover the Impacts of the EITC on Earnings”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty and Emmanuel Saez
American Economic Review, Vol. 103 (7), pp. 2683-2721 (2013)

[“How Does Your Kindergarten Class Affect Your Earnings? Evidence from Project STAR”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty, Nate Hilger, Emmanuel Saez, Diane Schanzenbach, and Danny Yagan
Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol 126 (4), pp. 1593-1660 (2011)

[“Adjustment Costs, Firm Responses, and Labor Supply Elasticities: Evidence from Denmark”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty, Tore Olsen, and Luigi Pistaferri
Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol. 126 (2), pp. 749-804 (2011)

[“Predicting Medicare Cost Growth”](#)

Chapter in *Improving Health Cost Projections for the Medicare Population*, Committee on National Statistics and National Research Council Workshop Summary (2010)

[“Performance Improvement and Performance Dysfunction”](#)

w/ Steve Kelman. *Journal of Policy Administration Research and Theory*, Vol. 19(4), pp. 947-966 (2009).

[“The Rising Incumbent Advantage: What’s Gerrymandering Got To Do With It?”](#)

w/ Richard Holden. *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 71(2), pp. 593-611 (2009)

[“Optimal Gerrymandering: Sometimes Pack but Never Crack,”](#)

w/ Richard Holden. *American Economics Review*, Vol. 98(1), pp. 113-44 (2008)

Working Papers:

[“Mobility Report Cards: The Role of Colleges in Intergenerational Mobility.”](#)

w/ Raj Chetty, Emmanuel Saez, Nicholas Turner, and Danny Yagan (2017)

[“The Incidence of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit: Using Asset Prices to Assess Its Impact on Drug Makers.”](#) (2011)

Older Stuff:

[“Effort as Investment: Analyzing the Response to Incentives.”](#)

w/ Steve Kelman (2011)

[“Optimal Gerrymandering in a Competitive Environment.”](#)

w/ Richard Holden, (2010)

[“Stock Market Driven Acquisitions: Theory and Evidence.”](#) (2006)

Policy Pieces:

“Tax Policy and Retirement Savings.” Chapter in *The Economics of Tax Policy*, eds. Alan Auerbach and Kent Smetters, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press (2017)

[“Building on What Works: A Proposal to Modernize Retirement Savings.”](#)

The Hamilton Project, Discussion Paper 2015-05 (June 2015)

Public Media (selected):

[America's Great Working Class Colleges](#), *New York Times*, 1/18/2017

[Some Colleges Have More Students from the Top 1% Than the Bottom 60. Find Yours](#), *New York Times*, 1/18/2017

[The Science of Grading Teachers Gets High Marks](#), *fivethirtyeight.com*, 7/20/15

[Is America's Education Problem Really Just a Teacher Problem?](#), *Freakonomics Radio*, 11/27/2014 (3:30)

[Knowledge for Earnings Sake](#), *The Economist* (Free Exchange), 10/12/2013

[Study Questions Tax Breaks' Effect on Retirement](#), *New York Times*, 11/25/2012

[State of the Union Address](#), Pres. Obama, 1/24/2012 (19:45)

[Big Study Links Good Teachers to Lasting Gain](#), *New York Times* (A1), 1/6/2012

[The Case for \\$320,000 Kindergarden Teachers](#), *New York Times* (A1), 7/28/2010

Grants:

SSA Retirement Research Center Grant NB10-16 (NBER site), 2009-2010

National Science Foundation Grant SES-1025490, 2010-2013

SSA Retirement Research Center Grants NB12-04 and NB12-Q1 (NBER site), 2011-2012

SSA Retirement Research Center Grants NB13-01 and NB13-08 (NBER site), 2012-2013

Smith Richardson Foundation Grant #2012-8797, 2012-2014

Smith Richardson Foundation Grant #2014-0100, 2014-2016

Russell Sage Foundation Grant #83-15-25, 2015-2016

SSA Disability Research Center Grant NB16-01 (NBER Site), 2015-2016

Smith Richardson Foundation Grant #2016-1166, 2016-2018

SSA Disability Research Center Grant NB17-01 (NBER Site), 2016-2017

Awards, Honors, and Fellowships:

TIAA-CREF Paul A. Samuelson Award for Outstanding Scholarly Writing on Lifelong Financial Security, for "Active vs. Passive Decisions...", 2015

Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, 2014-2016

Pre-Doctoral Fellow in Aging and Health, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2006-2007

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2002-2007
John Eliot Fellowship to Jesus College, Cambridge University, 2002-2003
Prize Studentship, Centre for History and Economics, Cambridge University, 2002-2003
Kawamura Visiting Fellowship to Japan, Summer 2002
John P. Reardon Award, for best Harvard male scholar-athlete, 2002
John Williams Prize, for best student in Economics, 2002
Thomas T. Hoopes Prize, for one of the best theses in the college, 2002
Phi Beta Kappa, 2001
Eliot Perkins Prize, for scholarship and house involvement in Lowell House, 2000
Detur Prize, for top 10% of freshman class, 1999

Professional Activities:

Co-Editor, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* (2015 –)

Co-Editor, *Journal of Public Economics* (2015)

Excellence in Refereeing Award, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2012

Excellence in Refereeing Award, *American Economic Review*, 2012, 2013

Referee for *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Economic Journal: Applied*, *American Economic Review*, *Econometrica*, *Economic Journal*, *Education Policy and Finance*, *International Economic Review*, *International Public Management Journal*, *International Tax and Public Finance*, *Israeli Science Foundation*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *National Science Foundation*, *National Tax Journal*, *New Zealand Health Research Council*, *Quantitative Economics*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economics Studies*, *Science*, *Sloan Foundation*.

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees: Bill Skimmyhorn (2012), Victoria Levin (2010)

Other Employment:

Economics and Applied Math Undergraduate Advisor, 2004-2007

Research Assistant, Professor Jeremy Stein, 2005

Research Assistant, Professor David I. Laibson, 2000-2004

Summer Investment Banking Analyst, Lehman Brothers, 2000

Other Interests: Running, skiing, other outdoor activities, music and the Boston Red Sox.

Updated: June 14, 2017