

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae  
David N. Figlio  
September 2025

**Current position**

Gordon Fyfe Professor of Economics and Education (by courtesy), University of Rochester  
david.figlio@rochester.edu

Date of birth: October 14, 1970

Citizenship: USA

**Education**

- 1995 Ph.D. in Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 1992 M.S. in Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 1991 B.S.B.A. in Business Economics/Public Policy, George Washington University

**Other Academic Positions and Affiliations**

- 2025-present Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University
- 2025-present Non-resident Senior Fellow, Urban Institute
- 2025-present Research Fellow, ROCKWOOL Foundation Berlin
- 2022-24 Provost, University of Rochester
- 2017-22 Dean, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University
- 2012-17 Director, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University
- 2016-present Fellow, IZA Institute of Labor Economics
- 2010-present Inaugural member, CESifo Program in the Economics of Education
- 2008-22 Orrington Lunt Professor of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University
- 2008-22 Faculty fellow, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University
- 2007 Visiting fellow, Exeter College and Department of Economics, University of Oxford
- 2005-08 Professor of Economics, University of Florida
- 2003-08 Knight-Ridder Professorship of Economics, University of Florida
- 2001-03 Walter J. Matherly Professorship of Economics, University of Florida
- 2001-05 Associate Professor of Economics, University of Florida
- 1998-2001 Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Florida
- 1999-present Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research
- 1995-present Associate, Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 1995-98 Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Oregon

**Selected Publications**

“School Accountability, Long-Run Criminal Activity, and Self-Sufficiency” (with Ozkan Eren, Naci Mocan, and Orgul Ozturk), *Journal of Human Resources*, forthcoming.

“The Effects of Housing Price Declines on Children’s Academic Outcomes” (with Vicki Been, Ingrid Ellen, Ashlyn Nelson, Stephen Ross, Amy Schwartz, and Leanna Stiefel), *Education Finance and Policy*, 2025.

“Clubs and Networks in Economics Reviewing” (with Scott Carrell and Lester Lusher), *Journal of Political Economy*, 2024.

“Effects of Maturing Private School Choice Programs on Public School Students” (with Krzysztof Karbownik and Cassandra Hart), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2024.

“Unpacking p-Hacking and Publication Bias” (with Abel Brodeur, Scott Carrell, and Lester Lusher), *American Economic Review*, 2023.

“Diversity in Schools: Immigrants and the Educational Performance of U.S. Born Students” (with Paola Giuliano, Riccardo Marchingiglio, Umut Ozek, and Paola Sapienza), *Review of Economic Studies*, 2023.

“Males at the Tails: How Socioeconomic Status Shapes the Gender Gap” (with David Autor, Krzysztof Karbownik, Jeffrey Roth, and Melanie Wasserman), *Economic Journal*, 2023.

“The Unintended Consequences of Test-Based Remediation” (with Umut Ozek), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2023.

“Academic Mobility in U.S. Public Schools: Evidence from Nearly 3 Million Students” (with Wes Austin, Dan Goldhaber, Eric Hanushek, Tara Kilbride, Cory Koedel, Jaeseok Lee, Jin Luo, Umut Ozek, Eric Parsons, Steven Rivkin, Tim Sass, and Katharine Strunk), *Journal of Public Economics*, 2023.

“Sibling Spillovers” (with Sandra Black, Sanni Breining, Jonathan Guryan, Krzysztof Karbownik, Helena Skyt Nielsen, and Marianne Simonsen), *Economic Journal*, 2021.

“Born in the Family: Preferences for Boys and the Gender Gap in Math” (with Gaia Dossi, Paola Giuliano, and Paola Sapienza), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2021.

“School Segregation and Racial Gaps in Special Education Identification” (with Todd Elder, Scott Imberman, and Claudia Persico), *Journal of Labor Economics*, 2021.

“Staffing the Higher Education Classroom” (with Morton Schapiro), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2021.

“The Family Origin of the Math Gender Gap is a White Affluent Phenomenon” (with Gaia Dossi, Paola Giuliano, and Paola Sapienza), *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 2021.

“Testing, Stress, and Performance: How Students Respond Physiologically to High-Stakes Testing (with Jennifer Heissel, Emma Adam, Jennifer Doleac, and Jonathan Meer), *Education Finance and Policy*, 2021.

“The Ripple Effect” (with Krzysztof Karbownik and Cassandra Hart), *Education Next*, 2021.

“Segregation and Racial Gaps in Special Education” (with Todd Elder, Scott Imberman, and Claudia Persico), *Education Next*, 2021.

“An Extra Year to Learn English? Early Grade Retention and the Human Capital Development of English Learners” (with Umut Ozek), *Journal of Public Economics*, 2020.

“The Developmental Consequences of Superfund Sites” (with Claudia Persico and Jeffrey Roth), *Journal of Labor Economics*, 2020.

“The Role of Neonatal Health in the Incidence of Childhood Disability” (with Todd Elder, Scott Imberman, and Claudia Persico), *American Journal of Health Economics*, 2020.

“Cross-Generational Differences in Educational Outcomes in the Second Great Wave of Immigration” (with Umut Ozek), *Education Finance and Policy*, 2020.

“Birth Order and Delinquency: Evidence from Denmark and Florida” (with Sanni Breining, Joseph Doyle, Krzysztof Karbownik, and Jeffrey Roth), *Journal of Labor Economics*, 2020.

“Family Disadvantage and the Gender Gap in Behavioral and Educational Outcomes” (with David Autor, Krzysztof Karbownik, Jeffrey Roth, and Melanie Wasserman), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2019.

“Long-Term Orientation and Educational Performance” (with Paola Giuliano, Umut Ozek, and Paola Sapienza), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2019.

“Unwelcome Guests? The Effects of Refugees on the Educational Outcomes of Incumbent Students” (with Umut Ozek), *Journal of Labor Economics*, 2019.

“Small-for-Gestational Age Birth Confers Similar Educational Performance Through Middle School” (with Gustave Falciglia, Craig Garfield, Krzysztof Karbownik, Karna Murthy, and Jeffrey Roth), *Journal of Pediatrics*, 2019.

“Evidence that Prenatal Testosterone Transfer from Male Twins Reduces the Fertility and Socioeconomic Success of their Female Co-twins” (with Aline Buetikofer, Krzysztof Karbownik, Christopher Kuzawa, and Kjell Salvanes), *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 2019.

“School Starting Age and Cognitive Development” (with Elizabeth Dhuey, Krzysztof Karbownik, and Jeffrey Roth), *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 2019.

“Do Students Benefit from Longer School Days? Regression Discontinuity Evidence from Florida’s Additional Hour of Literacy Instruction” (with Kristian Holden and Umut Ozek). *Economics of Education Review*, 2019.

“The Uneven Implementation of Universal School Policies: Maternal Education and Florida’s Mandatory Grade Retention Policy” (with Christina LiCalsi and Umut Ozek). *Education Finance and Policy*, 2019.

“School Accountability and Teacher Mobility” (with Li Feng and Tim Sass), *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2018.

“Socioeconomic Status and Genetic Influences on Cognitive Development” (with Jeremy Freese, Krzysztof Karbownik, and Jeffrey Roth), *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 2017.

“Educational Performance of Children Born Prematurely” (with Craig Garfield, Krzysztof Karbownik, Karna Murthy, Gustave Falciglia, Jonathan Guryan, and Jeffrey Roth), *JAMA Pediatrics*, 2017.

“The Promise of Administrative Data in Education Research” (with Krzysztof Karbownik and Kjell Salvanes). *Education Finance and Policy*, 2017.

“Accountability in U.S. Higher Education: Some Lessons and Design Principles” (with David Deming). *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2016.

“Long Term Cognitive and Health Outcomes of School-Aged Children Who Were Born Late-Term vs Full-Term” (with Jonathan Guryan, Krzysztof Karbownik, and Jeffrey Roth). *JAMA Pediatrics*, 2016.

“School Quality and the Gender Gap in Educational Achievement” (with David Autor, Krzysztof Karbownik, Jeffrey Roth and Melanie Wasserman). *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 2016.

“Education Research and Administrative Data” (with Krzysztof Karbownik and Kjell Salvanes). *Handbook of the Economics of Education*, 2016.

“Are Tenure-Track Professors Better Teachers?” (with Morton Schapiro and Kevin Soter). *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2015.

“Information Shocks and the Takeup of Social Programs” (with Sarah Hamersma and Jeffrey Roth). *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 2015.

“School Accountability and School Choice: Effects on Student Selection Across Schools” (with Cassandra Hart). *National Tax Journal*, 2015.

“The Effects of Poor Neonatal Health on Children’s Cognitive Development” (with Jonathan Guryan, Krzysztof Karbownik and Jeffrey Roth). *American Economic Review*, 2014.

“Competitive Effects of Means-Tested School Vouchers” (with Cassandra Hart). *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2014.

“Feeling the Florida Heat? How Low-Performing Schools Respond to Voucher and Accountability Pressure” (with Dan Goldhaber, Jane Hannaway, and Cecilia Rouse). *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2013.

"Value-Added of Teachers in High-Poverty and Lower Poverty Schools" (with Li Feng, Jane Hannaway, Tim Sass and Zeyu Xu) *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2012.

"Sex, Drugs and Catholic Schools" (with Jens Ludwig) *German Economic Review*, 2012.

"Is it Live or is it Internet? Experimental Estimates of the Effects of Online Instruction on Student Learning" (with Mark Rush and Lu Yin) *Journal of Labor Economics*, 2012.

"Suburbanization, Demographic Change, and the Consequences for School Finance" (with Deborah Fletcher) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2011.

"Does Competition Improve Public Schools?" (with Cassandra Hart) *Education Next*, 2011.

"School Accountability" (with Susanna Loeb) in E. Hanushek, S. Machin, and L. Woessmann, eds., *Handbook of Economics of Education*, volume 3, Elsevier, 2011.

"Public Sector Performance Measurement and Stakeholder Support" (with Larry Kenny) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2010.

"Who Uses a Means-Tested Scholarship?" (with Cassandra Hart and Molly Metzger) *Economics of Education Review*, 2010.

“School Reforms and Low-Income Families.” In T. Kaplan, C. Heinrich, J.K. Scholz, ed., *Pathways to Self-Sufficiency: Getting Ahead in an Era Beyond Welfare Reform*, Russell Sage Foundation, 2009.

“The Effects of Pre-kindergarten Participation on Behavioral Outcomes” (with Jeffrey Roth) in J. Gruber, ed., *An Economics Perspective on the Problems of Disadvantaged Youth*, University of Chicago Press, 2009.

“Does Pre-Natal WIC Participation Improve Birth Outcomes? New Evidence from Florida” (with Sarah Hamersma and Jeffrey Roth). *Journal of Public Economics*, 2008.

“Individual Teacher Incentives and Student Performance” (with Larry Kenny) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2007.

“Boys Named Sue: Disruptive Children and their Peers.” *Education Finance and Policy*, 2007.

“Accountability, Ability and Disability: Gaming the System?” (with Lawrence Getzler) *Advances in Microeconomics*, T. Gronberg, ed., Elsevier, 2006.

“Do Accountability and Voucher Threats Improve Low-Performing Schools?” (with Cecilia Rouse) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2006.

“Testing, Crime and Punishment.” *Journal of Public Economics*, 2006.

“Food for Thought? The Effects of School Accountability Plans on School Nutrition” (with Joshua Winicki) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2005.

“What’s in a Grade? School Report Cards and the Housing Market” (with Maurice Lucas) *American Economic Review*, 2004.

“Maternal and Infant Factors Associated with Excess Kindergarten Costs” (with Jeffrey Roth, Yuwen Chen, Mario Ariet, Randolph Carter, Michael Resnick, and Steven Morse), *Pediatrics*, 2004.

“Do High Grading Standards Affect Student Performance?” (with Maurice Lucas) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2004.

“Competition Between Private and Public Schools: Testing Stratification and Pricing Predictions” (with Dennis Epple and Richard Romano) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2004.

“Political Economy of the Inequality in School Spending” (with Larry Kenny and Tom Husted) *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2004.

“School Funding and School Accountability.” in *Helping Children Left Behind: State Aid and the Pursuit of Educational Equity*, J. Yinger, ed., MIT Press, 2004.

“Fiscal Implications of School Accountability Initiatives.” *Tax Policy and the Economy*, 2003.

“Can School Choice and School Accountability Coexist Successfully?” (with Marianne Page) in *The Economics of School Choice*, C. Hoxby, ed., University of Chicago Press, 2003.

“Food Stamp Caseloads Over the Business Cycle” (with Craig Gundersen and James Ziliak) *Southern Economic Journal*, 2003.

“Tax Revolts and School Performance” (with Thomas Downes) in *Improving Educational Productivity*, D. Monk, H. Walberg and M. Wang, eds., Information Age Press, 2002, pp.7-26.

“School Choice and the Distributional Effects of Ability Tracking: Does Separation Increase Inequality?” (with Marianne Page) *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2002.

“Can Public Schools Buy Better-Qualified Teachers?” *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 2002.

“The Local Response to Tax Limitation Measures: Do Local Governments Manipulate Voters to Increase Revenues?” (with Arthur O’Sullivan) *Journal of Law and Economics*, 2001.

“Can Public Policy Affect Private School Cream Skimming?” (with Joe Stone) *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2001.

“Tax Limits and the Qualifications of New Teachers” (with Kim Rueben) *Journal of Public Economics*, 2001.

“The Effects of Direct Foreign Investment on Local Communities” (with Bruce Blonigen) *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2000.

“Accounting for the Decline in AFDC Caseloads: Economic Growth or Welfare Reform?” (with James Ziliak, Elizabeth Davis and Laura Connolly) *Journal of Human Resources*, 2000.

“The Effect of the Macroeconomy and Welfare Reform on Food Stamp Caseload” (with Craig Gundersen and James Ziliak) *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2000.

“Political Shirking, Opponent Quality, and Electoral Support.” *Public Choice*, 2000.

“Do States Play Welfare Games?” (with Van Kolpin and William Reid) *Journal of Urban Economics*, 1999.

“Economic Inequality and the Provision of Schooling” (with Thomas Downes) Federal Reserve Bank of New York *Economic Policy Review*, 1999.

“Welfare Reform, the Business Cycle, and the Decline in AFDC Caseloads.” (with James Ziliak) in *Economic Conditions and Welfare Reform*, Sheldon Danziger, ed. Kalamazoo, MI: Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 1999.

“Are Private Schools Really Better?” (with Joe Stone) *Research in Labor Economics*, 1999.

“Bank Consolidations and Minority Neighborhoods” (with Joseph Genshlea) *Journal of Urban Economics*, 1999.

“Do Tax and Expenditure Limits Provide a Free Lunch? Evidence on the Link Between Limits and Public Sector Service Quality” (with Thomas Downes) *National Tax Journal*, 1999.

“Functional Form and the Estimated Effects of School Resources” *Economics of Education Review*, 1999.

“Voting for Protection: Does Direct Foreign Investment Influence Legislator Behavior?” (with Bruce Blonigen). *American Economic Review*, 1998.

“Short-Term Effects of a 1990s-Era Property Tax Limit: Panel Evidence on Oregon's Measure 5.” *National Tax Journal*, 1998.

“Did the 'Tax Revolt' Reduce School Performance?” *Journal of Public Economics*, 1997.

“Teacher Salaries and Teacher Quality,” *Economics Letters*, 1997.

“The Effect of Drinking Age Laws on Alcohol-Related Crashes: Time-Series Evidence from Wisconsin,” *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 1995.

“Trends in the Publication of Empirical Economics,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 1994.

### **Selected Research Grants**

Annie E. Casey Foundation, Co-PI, 2000-2004.

Arnold Foundation, PI, 2016-2018.

Arnold Foundation, Co-PI, 2018-2020.

Atlantic Philanthropic Services, Co-PI, 2001-2004.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, PI, 2021-2024.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Co-PI, 2011-2015.

Charles Koch Foundation, PI, 2020-2021.

Doris Duke Charitable Trust, PI, 2020-23.

Florida Department of Education, PI, 2007-2010.

Institute for Education Sciences (CALDER grant), Co-PI, 2012-2017.

Institute for Education Sciences (CALDER grant), Co-PI, 2006-2011.

MacArthur Foundation, Co-PI, 2010-2014.

National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development, PI, 2007-2011.

National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development, Co-PI, 2000-2004.

National Science Foundation, PI, 2012-2017.

National Science Foundation, PI, 2011-2014.

National Science Foundation, PI, 2004-2009.

National Science Foundation, PI, 1998-2002.

Smith Richardson Foundation, PI, 2019-2021.

Smith Richardson Foundation, PI, 2011-2015.

Smith Richardson Foundation, Co-PI, 2011-2015.

Smith Richardson Foundation, PI, 2000-2004.

Spencer Foundation, Co-PI, 2015-2017.

Spencer Foundation, PI, 2000-2004.

Spencer Foundation, PI, 2018-2020.

W.T. Grant Foundation, PI, 2020-2023.

### **Selected Professional and Public Service**

Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Human Resources*, 2015-2021 (Coeditor 2010-15)

Inaugural Editor, *Education Finance and Policy*, 2003-2009.

President, Association for Education Finance and Policy, 2015-16

Member, W.T. Grant Scholars Selection Committee, 2019-present

Member, Selection Committee, Transformational Research Grants, Spencer Foundation, 2023-present

Member/Chair, National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection Committee, 2018-21

Frequent ad-hoc reviewer for *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Review: Insights*, *American Educational Research Journal*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Sociological Review*, *Econometrica*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Education Finance and Policy*, *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Pediatrics*, *Psychological Review*, *Psychological Science*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Science*, as well as numerous other scholarly journals and government agencies

Former member of board of directors, American Education Finance Association, Midwest Economic Association, and Southern Economic Association

Recognized with American Education Finance Association's Outstanding Service Award, 2010

Considerable service to American Education Research Association, including, most recently, member of Palmer O. Johnson Award Committee

Member of several National Research Council and Institute of Medicine panels  
Member of Institute for Education Sciences and National Science Foundation review panels

Provided advice and testimony to U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Education, Health and Human Services, and State; the U.S. Congress; the Executive Office of the President; the governments of Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Ohio and Oregon; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; the governments of Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, Tanzania, Thailand, and the United Kingdom; and the European Commission