
Susan L. Averett

Charles A. Dana Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
Lafayette College
Easton, PA 18042
Email: averetts@lafayette.edu

Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of Colorado, 1991

Doctoral Dissertation: "Child Care Costs and Female Labor Supply: An Empirical Investigation of the Effects of the Child Care Tax Credit on Female Labor Supply and Demand for Child Care"

Supervisor: H. Elizabeth Peters

M.A. Economics, University of Colorado, 1989

B.S. Economics, Colorado State University, 1986, Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Positions

July 2009-Present-Charles A. Dana Professor of Economics, Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

July 2021-July 2022-Acting Chair, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Lafayette College, Easton PA

July 2006-July 2009-Charles A. Dana Professor of Economics and Business and Department Head, Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

September 2003-July 2006. Professor and Department Head, Department of Economics and Business, Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

January 2003-September 2003. Associate Professor and Acting Department Head.

August 2000-January 2003: Associate Professor and Associate Department Head.

August 1997-January 2003: Associate Professor

August 1991-August 1997: Assistant Professor

Professional Appointments

Research Fellow, Institute of Labor Economics (IZA) 2012-present, GLO network 2020-present

Editorial Positions

Co-editor: *Economics and Human Biology* January 2018-present

Associate Editor: *Economics and Human Biology* May 2017-December 2017

Co-Editor: *Eastern Economic Journal*. July 1, 2010-July 1, 2015

Guest Editor for a special issue on Health Economics in the *Eastern Economic Journal*. Fall 2003/Spring 2004.

Citizenship

USA, Canada

Refereed Journal Articles: (* denotes Lafayette College student coauthor)

“Living in Sync with the Sun: Sleep and Mental Health Implications of Circadian Misalignment” (with Laura Argys and Muzhe Yang) *American Journal of Health Economics*. 2025.

“The Gendered Impact of In-State Tuition Policies on Undocumented Immigrants' College Enrollment, Graduation and Employment” (with Cynthia Bansak, Grace Condon and Eva Dziadula) *Journal of Migration and Human Security* (2025) . <https://doi.org/10.1177/23315024241287505>

Rasamoelison*, Jean Donovan, Susan Averett, and David Stifel. "International student-migrant flows and growth in low-and middle-income countries: brain gain or brain drain?" *Applied Economics* (2021): 1-18.

Argys, Laura M., Susan L. Averett and Muzhe Yang. “Light Pollution, Sleep Deprivation during Pregnancy, and Infant Health at Birth” *Southern Economic Journal*. 87:849-888. (2021).

Argys, Laura M., Susan L. Averett and Muzhe Yang. “Residential Noise Exposure and Health: Evidence from Aviation Noise and Birth Outcomes” *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. 103, (2020). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2020.102343>

Averett, Susan L., Cynthia Bansak and Julie K. Smith “Behind Every High Earning Man Is a Conscientious Woman” *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*. (2020) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10834-020-09692-x>

Averett, Susan L., Julie K. Smith, and Yang Wang “Minimum Wages and the Health and Access to Care of Immigrants' Children” *Applied Economics Letters* (2021) 894-901.

Cook, Amanda and Susan L. Averett “Do Hospitals Respond to Changing Incentive Structures? Evidence from Medicare's 2007 DRG Methodology Change” *Journal of Health Economics* 73(2020) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2020.102319>

Averett, Susan L., Sabrina Terrizzi, and Yang Wang. "Taking the CON out of Pennsylvania: Did hip/knee replacement patients benefit? A retrospective analysis." *Health Policy and Technology* 8, no. 4 (2019): 349-355.

Averett, Susan L., Julie K. Smith, and Yang Wang. "Medicaid Expansion and Opioid Deaths." *Health Economics* 28, no. 12 (2019): 1491-1496.

Averett, Susan L. and Emily Smith*. “Medical Marijuana Laws and Their Effect On Opioid Related Mortality” *Economics Bulletin*. 39:1(2019) p.A36.

Argys, Laura M. and Susan L. Averett. “Gender Differences in the Effect of Family Size on Education: New Evidence From China’s One Child Policy” *Journal of Demographic Economics*. 85:1(2019):21-42. The earlier version was released as IZA DP #9616.

- Averett, Susan L., Julie K. Smith, and Yang Wang. "Minimum wages and the health of Hispanic women" *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy* December 2018, no. 1:4(2018) pp 217–239. Earlier version released as IZA DP #10916.
- Averett, Susan L. and Yang Wang. "Effects of higher EITC payments on children's health, Quality of Home Environment, and Non-Cognitive Skills." *Public Finance Review* (2018), Vol. 46(4) 519-557.
- Averett, Susan L., Julie K. Smith, and Yang Wang. "The effects of minimum wages on the health of working teenagers." *Applied Economics Letters* 24, no. 16 (2017): 1127-1130.
- Averett, Susan, Sabrina Terrizzi, and Yang Wang. (2017) "The effect of sorority membership on eating disorders, body weight, and disordered-eating behaviors." *Health Economics* 26(7), 875-891
- Averett, Susan L., and Erin K. Fletcher. (2016). "Pregpregnancy obesity and birth outcomes". *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 20(3): 655-664.
- Amuedo-Dorantes, Catalina, Susan L. Averett, and Cynthia Bansak. (2016). "Welfare reform and immigrant fertility." *Journal of Population Economics*, 29(3): 757-779
- Averett, Susan L. and Yang Wang. (2016). "Identifying the causal effect of alcohol abuse on intimate partner violence using a natural experiment." *Southern Economic Journal*, 82(3): 697–724.
- Kohn, Jennifer L. and Susan L. Averett (2014). "The effect of relationship status on health with dynamic health and persistent relationships." *Journal of Health Economics*, 36, 69-83.
- Averett, Susan L., Laura M. Argys and Jennifer C. Kohn (2014). "Friends with health benefits: Does individual-level social capital improve health?" *Eastern Economic Journal*, 40(2), 181-201.
- Scheffler, Richard M., Lorenzo Rocco and Susan L. Averett (2014). "Social capital and health: A concept whose time has come." *Eastern Economic Journal*, 40(2), 146-149.
- Averett, Susan L., Nick Stacey* and Yang Wang (2014). "Decomposing race and gender differences in underweight and obesity in South Africa." *Economics & Human Biology*. 15, 23-40.
- Averett, Susan L., and Sarah M. Estelle (2014). "Will daughters walk mom's talk? The effects of maternal communication about sex on the sexual behavior of female adolescents." *Review of Economics of the Household*. 12(4): 613-639.
- Kohn, Jennifer L. and Susan L. Averett (2014). "Can't we just live together: New evidence of the effect of relationship status on health" *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*. 35:295-312
- Averett, Susan L. and Julie K. Smith (2014). "Financial hardship and obesity." *Economics & Human Biology*. 15, 201-202.
- Averett, Susan L., Laura M. Argys and Julia Sorkin (2013). "In sickness and in health: an examination of relationship status and health using data from the Canadian National Public Health Survey." *Review of Economics of the Household*, 11(4), 599-633.
- Averett, Susan L., and Yang Wang. (2013). "The effects of EITC payment expansion on maternal smoking." *Health Economics*. 22(11), 1344-1359.

- Averett, Susan L., Hope Corman, and Nancy E. Reichman (2013). "Effects of overweight on risky sexual behavior of adolescent girls." *Economic Inquiry* 51(1): 605-619. Previously distributed as NBER Working Paper 16172.
- Averett, Susan L., Laura M. Argys and Jennifer Kohn (2012). "Immigration, obesity and labor market outcomes in the UK" *IZA Journal of Migration*, 1(1): 1-19.
- Averett, Susan L., and Yang Wang (2012). "Identification of the effect of depression on risky sexual behavior: exploiting a natural experiment" *American Economic Review*. 102(3): 570-574.
- Averett, Susan L., Laura M. Argys and Daniel I. Rees (2011). "Older siblings and adolescent risky behavior: does parenting play a role?" *Journal of Population Economics*. 24(3): 957-978.
- Averett, Susan and David C. Stifel (2010). "Race and gender differences in the cognitive effects of childhood overweight." *Applied Economics Letters*, 17(17): 1673-1679.
- Ruebeck, Christopher S., Susan L. Averett, and Howard N. Bodenhorn (2009). "Acting white or acting black: Mixed-race adolescents' identity and behavior." *B E Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy* 9 (1): 9.
- Sen, Bisakha, Susan Averett, Laura Argys, and Daniel I. Rees (2009). "The effect of substance use on the delinquent behavior of adolescents." *Applied Economics Letters* 16 (17): 1721-9.
- Stifel, David C., and Susan L. Averett (2009). "Childhood overweight in the United States: A quantile regression approach." *Economics & Human Biology* 7 (3) (DEC): 387-97.
- Averett, Susan L., Asia Sikora, and Laura M. Argys (2008). "For better or worse: Relationship status and body mass index." *Economics & Human Biology* 6 (3): 330-49.
- Rees, Daniel I., Elizabeth Lopez, Susan L. Averett, and Laura M. Argys (2008). "Birth order and participation in school sports and other extracurricular activities." *Economics of Education Review* 27 (3): 354-62.
- Argys, Laura M., Daniel I. Rees, Susan L. Averett, and Benjima Witoonchart (2006). "Birth order and risky adolescent behavior." *Economic Inquiry* 44 (2): 215-33.
- Averett, Susan L., Howard Bodenhorn, and Justas Stasiunas* (2005). "Unemployment risk and compensating differentials in New Jersey manufacturing." *Economic Inquiry* 43 (4): 734-49.
- Averett, Susan L., Lisa A. Gennetian, and H. Elizabeth Peters (2005). "Paternal child care and children's development." *Journal of Population Economics* 18 (3): 391-414. Reprinted in *Fatherhood: Research Interventions and Policies*, edited by H. Elizabeth Peters, Gary W. Peterson, Suzanne K. Steinmetz, and Randal D. Day, NY: Haworth Press, 2000.
- Averett, Susan L., Daniel I. Rees, and Laura M. Argys (2002). "The impact of government policies and neighborhood characteristics on teenage sexual activity and contraceptive use." *American Journal of Public Health* 92 (11): 1773-8.
- Averett, Susan L., and Sharon Dalessandro* (2001). "Racial and gender differences in the returns to two-year and four-year degrees." *Education Economics* 9(3):281-292.
- Averett, Susan L. (2001) "Moonlighting: Multiple motives and gender differences." *Applied Economics* 33 (11): 1391-410.

- Averett, Susan L., and Leslie A. Whittington. (2001) "Does maternity leave induce births?" *Southern Economic Journal* 68 (2): 403-17.
- Rees, Daniel I., Laura M. Argys, and Susan L. Averett (2001). "New evidence on the relationship between substance use and adolescent sexual behavior." *Journal of Health Economics* 20 (5): 835-45.
- Argys, Laura M., Susan L. Averett, and Daniel I. Rees (2000). "Welfare generosity, pregnancies and abortions among unmarried AFDC recipients." *Journal of Population Economics* 13 (4): 569-94.
- Averett, Susan L., Michele McLennan, and Megan Young* (2000). "Do higher returns to college education encourage college enrollments? An analysis by race." *Research in Labor Economics*. 19: 63-82.
- Averett, Susan L., Lisa A. Gennetian, and H. Elizabeth Peters. (2000). "Patterns and determinants of paternal child care during a child's first three years of life." *Marriage and Family Review* 29 (2-3): 115-36.
- Whittington, Leslie, Susan L. Averett, and Donna Anderson. (2000). "Choosing children over career? Changes in the postpartum labor force behavior of professional women." *Population Research and Policy Review* 19 (4): 339-55.
- Averett, Susan L., Richard Warner, Jani Little and Peter Huxley. (1999). "Labor supply, disability benefits and mental illness: a structural model." *Eastern Economic Journal*. 25.3
- Averett, Susan L., and Sanders Korenman (1999). "Black-white differences in social and economic consequences of obesity." *International Journal of Obesity* 23 (2): 166-73.
- Averett, Susan L., and Julie L. Hotchkiss (1997). "Female labor supply with a discontinuous, nonconvex budget constraint: Incorporation of a part-time/full-time wage differential." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 79 (3): 461-70.
- Averett, Susan L., H. Elizabeth Peters, and Donald M. Waldman (1997). "Tax credits, labor supply, and child care." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 79 (1): 125-35.
- Averett, Susan, and Sanders Korenman (1996). "The economic reality of the beauty myth." *Journal of Human Resources* 31 (2): 304-30.
- Averett, Susan L., and Mark L. Burton (1996). "College attendance and the college wage premium: Differences by gender." *Economics of Education Review* 15 (1): 37-49.
- Averett, Susan L., and Julie L. Hotchkiss (1996). "Discrimination in the payment of full-time wage premiums." *Industrial & Labor Relations Review* 49 (2): 287-301.
- Averett, Susan L., and Julie L. Hotchkiss (1995). "The probability of receiving benefits at different hours of work." *American Economic Review* 85 (2): 276-80.
- Averett, Susan L., and Harold M. Hochman (1994). "Addictive behavior and public-policy." *Public Finance-Finances Publiques* 49 : 244-58. Reprinted in The Economics of Corruption and Illegal Markets, Gianluca Fiorentini and Stefano Zamagni, eds., Edward Elgar Publishing Limited. 1999).

Other Publications (policy briefs, book reviews, encyclopedia entries, non-peer reviewed articles)

Averett, S.L., (2015). "Obesity and Labor Market Performance." In: James D. Wright (editor-in-chief),

International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences, 2nd edition, Vol 17. Oxford: Elsevier. pp. 70–74.

Averett, S. L. (2014). "Obesity and labor market outcomes." *IZA World of Labor*. Updated version published 2019.

Averett, S.L. (2010). Review of "Obesity among Poor Americans. Is Public Assistance the Problem?" By Patricia K. Smith. Pp. 197. (Vanderbilt University Press, Nashville, Tennessee, 2009.) Published in *Econ. Hum. Biol.* (2010), doi:[10.1016/j.ehb.2010.08.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2010.08.001)

Averett, Susan, Edward Gamber and Sheila Handy. 2003. "William E. Simon's contribution to tax policy." *Atlantic Economic Journal* 31(3): 233-41.

Papers Under review

"When the American Dream Becomes a Nightmare" (with Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes and Mehmet Yaya)

"Does the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit Increase Fertility?" (with Yang Wang)

"Exposure to the One-Child Policy and Fertility among Chinese Immigrants to the US ." (with Siyuan Lin and Laura M. Argys)

"The Gender Wage Gap and Health" (with Adam Biener and Olena Okgrokhina)

"Health Effects of Exposure to Child Care Subsidies" (with Yating Gong and Yang Wang)

Work in Progress

"Not Thriving: Queer Women in STEM Work" (with Mary A. Armstrong)

"Excess Emissions and the Incidence of Low Birth Weight: Evidence from Texas" (with Sayorn Chin)

"Vietnam Veterans and Covid Death Rates" (with Matt Larsen)

Invited Book Chapters

"Families and Health" (with Jennifer Kohn) Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance edited by Andrew Jones. July 2018. DOI: [10.1093/acrefore/9780190625979.013.9](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190625979.013.9)

"The Relationship between Maternal Pre-Pregnancy BMI and Preschool Obesity." 2016. (with Erin Fletcher). In *Applied Demography and Public Health in the 21st Century* (pp. 201-219). Springer International Publishing. Editors: Hoque, M. Nazrul, Pecotte, Beverly, McGehee, Mary A.

"The double burden of malnutrition" (with Yang Wang) 2016. In *The Oxford Handbook of Economics and Human Biology* edited by John Komlos and Inas Rashad Kelly.

"Intergenerational transfers and caregiving within families" (with Asia Sikora and Laura M. Argys) In *Family Economics: Trends in Household Formation, Dissolution and Evolution in the 21st century*, two vol., Praeger Publishers [now ABC-CLIO], edited by Esther Redmount. 2014.

“Immigrants, wages and obesity: the weight of the evidence.” 2013. (With Laura Argys and Jennifer Kohn) In *International Handbook on The Economics of Migration*, Klaus Zimmerman and Amelie Constant, eds. Edward Elgar Publishing.

“The economics of Title IX compliance in collegiate athletics.” (with Sarah M. Estelle) 2013. In *The Handbook of the Economics of Women’s Sports*. Eva Marikova Leeds and Michael Leeds, eds. Edward Elgar Publishing.

“The link between nonmarital births and poverty.” (with Laura M. Argys) 2013. In *The Economics of Inequality, Poverty and Discrimination in the 21st Century*. Robert S Rycroft, ed.). Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO LLC.

“Obesity, poverty and the ability to pay for calories.” 2012. In *The Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Poverty*, Philip N. Jefferson, ed.. New York, N.Y. Oxford University Press.

"Labor market consequences: employment, wages, disability, and absenteeism." 2011. In *The Oxford Handbook of the Social Science of Obesity* John Cawley, ed. pp:531-552. New York, N.Y. Oxford University Press.

“Fertility, public policy, and mothers in the labor force.” 2002. In *The Economics of Work and Family*, Emily Hoffman and Jean Kimmel, eds. Kalamazoo, MI: W.E. UpJohn Institute for Employment Research

“Exploring the effect of class size on student achievement: what have we learned over the past two decades?” (with Michele C. McLennan) 2004. In *International Handbook on the Economics of Education*, Geraint Johnes and Jill Johnes, eds. Edward Elgar Publishers.

Books

Disparate Measures: The Intersectional Economics of Women in Stem Work (with Mary Armstrong). MIT Press. 2024

Women in the Workforce: What Everyone Needs to Know (with Laura M. Argys). Oxford University Press. March 2022

Handbook on Women and the Economy, (Co-Editor with Laura Argys and Saul Hoffman) published May 2018. Oxford University Press

Textbook

Women and the Economy – Family, Work, and Pay. (with Saul D. Hoffman and Laura M. Argys). Bloomsbury Press. 5th Edition 2024.

Women and the Economy – Family, Work, and Pay. (with Saul D. Hoffman). McMillan – Red Globe Press. 4th Edition 2021.

Women and the Economy – Family, Work, and Pay. (with Saul D. Hoffman). Palgrave-McMillan. 3rd Edition 2015.

Women and the Economy – Family, Work, and Pay. (with Saul D. Hoffman). Addison-Wesley. 2nd Edition, 2010.

Women and the Economy – Family, Work, and Pay. (with Saul D. Hoffman). Addison-Wesley. 1st Edition, 2005.

Invited Non-Refereed Publications

Averett, SL, LM Argys, H Corman, K Conway, D Dave, J Jacobson, A Ross, “Tips for Surviving and Thriving in the Profession.” CSWEP News, 2020(2)

Averett, SL. “Tips on How to be a Productive Scholar at a Liberal Arts College” CSWEP News, 2014(4)

Courses Taught

Principles of Economics

Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

Econometrics

Health Economics

Labor Economics

Women and the Economy

Introduction to Women’s Studies (Women’s and Gender Studies)

Gender and the Economy (Women’s and Gender Studies)

Honors and Awards

Mary Louise Van Artsdalen Prize for outstanding scholarly achievement, spring 2012.

Thomas Roy and Lura Forrest Jones Award for superior teaching and scholarly contributions to discipline, spring 2009.

James Lennertz Award for Exceptional Teaching, Lafayette College, spring 2004.

Marquis Distinguished Teaching Award, Lafayette College, spring 2003.

Omicron Delta Epsilon, Department of Economics and Business Teaching Award, 1998, 2000, 2003.

Jones Lecture Award for Distinguished Teaching and Scholarship, Lafayette College, 1997.

Student Government Superior Teaching Award, Lafayette College. 1996, 1998.

Theta Chi Board of Governors Teaching Award, 1998.

Michael E. Borus Dissertation Award: December 1991. Presented by the Ohio State University and the Center for Human Resources Research for outstanding dissertation using the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth database.

Visiting Scholar, Policy Research Center, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA. June 1991.

Minority Scholarship, University of Colorado, 1986-1987.

Presidential Scholarship, Colorado State University, 1983-1985.

Professional Service

Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession: Eastern Representative for National Board of Directors, January 2010-January 2013. Duties included attending meetings, selecting articles for the gender sessions at the AEA meetings and the EEA meetings as well as serving on the selection committee for inclusion in the gender section of the May papers and proceedings issue of the American

Economic Review and preparing an issue of the CSWEP newsletter. Specifically, solicited authors for and put together the symposium “How to Get Published in an Economics Journal: Tips from the Experts” which was published in the Spring/summer 2011 CSWEP newsletter. Contributed to “Tips and Language for Saying ‘No’ from CeMENT Mentors” Served as a CSWEP mentor at the 2013 SEA meetings.

Referee/Reviewer

Economic Journal, Journal of Family Issues, Journal of Human Resources, Southern Economic Journal, Journal of Economics, Economic Inquiry, Eastern Economic Journal, Demography, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, Financial Practice and Education, Social Services Review, Canadian Journal of Economics, Economics of Education Review, Journal of Public Economics, Applied Economics, Health Economics, Journal of Health Economics, Public Finance and Management, UpJohn Institute for Employment Research, BE Journals, Labour Economics, Review of Economics of the Household, Social Science and Medicine, Pediatrics, Canadian Council of the Arts, NIH, NSF, Maternal and Child Health Journal, Healthcare, PLOS ONE, Journal of Family and Economic Issues, Feminist Economics, Review of Economics of the Household, Social Science Quarterly, Journal of Human Resources, Demography, Pediatrics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization

Easton Hospital, Member, Board of Trustees, January 2009 to June 2020.

Selected Media Coverage

USA Today: Merely having An Older Sibling Can Be Bad Influence, April 24, 2006.

http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/health/2006-04-24-birth-order_x.htm

Guest on the *Today Show*, May 4, 2006 and on *Your Morning on CN8* May 16, 2006 to discuss research on older siblings and adolescent risk taking.

Time Magazine: Your Unpaid Rent Could Make You Fat, Feb. 6, 2014. <http://time.com/5379/your-unpaid-rent-could-make-you-fat/>

Wall Street Journal: Living Together May Be Even Better for Your Health, Feb. 16, 2015.

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/living-together-may-be-even-better-for-your-health-than-marriage-1424145641>

Selected Service on Lafayette College Committees

Promotion, Tenure and Review Committee (chair), Appeal and Grievance Committee, College Governance Committee (chair), Faculty Representative to the NCAA, Athletics Committee, Academic Research Committee (chair), Student Life Committee (chair), Student Conduct Committee (chair). Women and Gender Studies Advisory Committee, Middle States Accreditation Steering Committee

Professional Memberships

American Economic Association, Eastern Economic Association, Southern Economic Association, Population Association of America, Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession, International Health Economics Association, American Society of Health Economists.