Yiwei Yin

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Research Fields

Public economics, Labor economics, Family and Gender economics

Education

PhD in Economics 2021–present (expected graduation 2027)
University of Mannheim, Mannheim, Germany
Supervisors: Michèle Tertilt, Arthur Seibold, Han Ye
Visiting PhD Student, Boston University (hosted by Johannes Schmieder), USA November 2025
Visiting PhD Student, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands March–April 2025

MSc in Economics (Scottish Graduate Programme in Economics) 2021
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK
Distinction

BSc in Business Economics and Trade 2020
University of Reading, Reading, UK
First Class Degree

References

Prof. Michèle Tertilt	Prof. Arthur Seibold	Prof. Han Ye
University of Mannheim	LMU Munich	University of Mannheim
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Job market paper

- ***Unemployment Insurance and Family Labor Supply***
  Unemployment insurance (UI) duration is known to affect the recipients, but does it also affect their families? I provide the first evidence on how family members across different relationships adjust their labor supply when an unemployed individual becomes entitled to UI of longer duration. Using Dutch administrative data, I exploit sharp discontinuities in maximum UI entitlement duration in a regression discontinuity design. As a direct effect of the policy, longer entitlement raises actual UI benefit duration and delays exit from unemployment. In response, spouses increase employment by about 3 percentage points; adult children increase employment by about 5 percentage points. Parents, on the other hand, do not increase employment when their unemployed children receive longer UI entitlement. Accounting for these family spillovers raises the Marginal Value of Public Funds (MVPF) by 6%, suggesting that ignoring family labor supply responses understates the value of UI extension policies.

Other papers

- ***The Hidden Cost of Rest: Mandatory Breaks and Women's Working Hours*** (with Michèle Tertilt and Sena Coskun)
  Women around the world work fewer hours than men. We propose a novel reason for low hours in Germany related to mandatory rest breaks. Mandatory breaks add kinks to budget constraints if workers do not value breaks at work equally to leisure at home. Such kinks can affect optimal hours worked. To study the effect empirically, we exploit a 1994 reform in Germany that moved the point at which women are required to take a break from 4.5 hours to 6 hours of continuous work. Our empirical strategy uses Mikrozensus data to compare the hours worked of women before and after the reform with those of men and with a control group of women that was not affected by the reform. We find that, on average, working hours decreased for women affected by the reform, driven primarily by married women. We reconcile these findings with a theoretical framework in which the direction of the hours response depends on a worker's starting point on the budget constraint before the reform and the shape of her indifference curve. Married women respond more because they tend to start at lower hours and have a more elastic labor supply. This is, to our knowledge, the first paper to examine the labor supply implications of mandatory rest break regulation.
- ***Part-time Work Policies and Older Workers' Employment: Evidence from German Mini-jobs***
  This paper studies how part-time work policies shape bridge employment and retirement transitions among older workers, using the 2003 German Mini-job reform as a natural experiment. The reform raised the Mini-job earnings threshold from 325 to 400 Euros per month and abolished the weekly hours cap. Exploiting variation in the age at which different birth cohorts were exposed to the reform, I implement a cohort difference-in-differences design using administrative data from the German Pension Fund. Rather than reducing unemployment or extending working lives as intended, the reform induced older workers to switch from regular to marginal employment without social security contributions, increasing marginal employment by 1.2 percentage points, and accelerated full pension claiming. The shift to marginal employment was driven primarily by women and low-attachment workers, while reductions in unemployment were concentrated among low-income older workers. The findings suggest that part-time work policies may accelerate labor market exit among older workers rather than prolong their participation.

Work in progress

- Mass layoffs and labor supply across generations
- Beyond the family: unemployment insurance and peer spillovers

Teaching

- Teaching Assistant, Business Economics 2 (graduate level), University of Mannheim 2023–2024
- Teaching Assistant, Applied Econometrics (graduate level), University of Mannheim 2022

Research Experience

- Research Assistant for Prof. Michèle Tertilt, University of Mannheim 2023–present

Other Activities

- GESIS Workshop: Advanced R Programming May 2023
- Euro Area Business Cycle Network Training School: *Difference-in-Differences and Event Study Estimators with Panel Data (by Jeff Wooldridge)* May 2024

Department Service

Organizer, Mannheim Applied Seminar Lunch, University of Mannheim 2026

Presentations

2026: EALE, IIPF Annual Congress, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, ESPE, CESifo Junior Workshop on Labor Economics

2025: NTA 118th Annual Conference on Taxation, Family Economics Workshops Edesheim, Jönköping University (Pension Dashboard Workshop), CRC Young Researcher Workshop, CRC Retreat, Stockholm University, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Scholarships and Grants

- Karin-Islinger-Stiftung Research Fund, EUR 2,500 2026-2027
- Women Go Abroad Funding, EUR 3,500 Spring 2025
- Research Grant from CRC TR 224 EPoS 2024–2027
- Research Grant from the Economics Department, University of Mannheim 2024–2025
- PhD Scholarship from CDSE, University of Mannheim 2021–2022

Honors and Awards

- Karin-Islinger-Stiftung Research Fund Prize, for job market paper *Unemployment Insurance and Family Labor Supply* 2026
- Research Fellowship, University of Reading, UK 2020
- Top Student of the Year Award, University of Reading, UK 2020

Languages and Skills

Languages: Chinese (Native), English (Fluent), German (Beginner)
Software: Stata, R, LaTeX, Julia