

# DAVID LOEB

Ph.D. Candidate | Education Policy

Graduate School of Education | University of Pennsylvania

[loebd@upenn.edu](mailto:loebd@upenn.edu) | [davidloeb.co](http://davidloeb.co)

## EDUCATION

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### University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D., Education Policy, *Graduate School of Education*

A.M., Statistics and Data Science, *The Wharton School*

Advisor: Dr. Ericka Weathers

2022 – Present

*Philadelphia, PA*

### Temple University

B.A., Psychology, *magna cum laude*

Honors Thesis Advisor: Dr. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek

August 2014

*Philadelphia, PA*

## ACADEMIC JOURNAL ARTICLES

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Lillard, A. S., **Loeb, D.**, Berg, J., Escueta, M., Manship, K., Hauser, A., and Daggett, E. (2025). A National Randomized Controlled Trial of the Impact of Public Montessori Preschool at the End of Kindergarten. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*. [doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2506130122](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2506130122) | [Replication Code](#)

Weathers, E. S., Muñoz, I. G., and **Loeb, D.** (2023). Absence Unexcused: Using Administrative Data to Explore Patterns and Predictors of Habitual Truancy in Pennsylvania. *The High School Journal*, 106(3), 166-190. [doi.org/10.1353/hsj.2023.a930442](https://doi.org/10.1353/hsj.2023.a930442)

## PAPERS IN PROGRESS

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**Loeb, D.** The Impact of the Medicaid “Free Care” Reversal on School District Finances and Staffing.

**Loeb, D.** and Wodicka, C. Do School Finance Reforms Reduce Non-Education State Spending?

**Loeb, D.**, Asher, C. A., and Jacob, R. T. Missing Data Handling in Education RCTs: A Practitioner’s Guide.

**Loeb, D.** School District Demographic Change and the Willingness to Fund Local Public Schools.

## POLICY REPORTS & RESEARCH BRIEFS

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Danks, A., Escueta, M., Kaplan, I., Gragson, A., **Loeb, D.**, and Darang, A. (2025). Massachusetts Child Care Cost Models: Report on 2024 Cost Research and Cost Model Updates. American Institutes for Research. [eric.ed.gov/?id=ED674321](https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED674321)

**Loeb, D.**, Pullom, K., and Bowden, A. B. (2024). The Benefits of Adequacy: Estimating the Economic Impacts of Pennsylvania’s Basic Education Funding Commission Proposal. Center for Benefit-Cost Studies of Education. [www.cbcse.org/publications/pa2024](http://www.cbcse.org/publications/pa2024)

Weathers, E. S. and **Loeb, D.** (2022). The Availability of Truancy Data Across States. *The Learning Curve*, Urban Institute. [www.urban.org/research/publication/availability-truancy-data-across-states](http://www.urban.org/research/publication/availability-truancy-data-across-states)

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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*\*presenting author*

**Loeb, D.\***, and Pullom, K. (2025, November). The Impact of the Medicaid “Free Care” Reversal on School District Finances and Staffing. Paper presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Seattle, WA.

**Loeb, D.\***, Lillard, A. S., Manship, K., Daggett, E., and Berg, J. A National RCT of the Impact of Public Montessori Schools on Early Childhood Outcomes. (2025, October). Paper accepted to the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

Lillard, A. S., Lachowicz, M., Berg, J., Manship, K., Daggett, E., and **Loeb, D.\*** (2025, April). The Impact of the Montessori Early Childhood Model in PK4 and Kindergarten. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

Weathers, E. S., **Loeb, D.**, and Rock, R. (2025, April). Typologizing Truancy Policy: A Cross-State Critical Analysis of Truancy Policies Using Mixed Methods. Roundtable at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

**Loeb, D.\*** and Pullom, K. (2025, March). Medicaid “Free Care” Reversal’s Impact on District Staffing and Finances. Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

**Loeb, D.\*** (2024, November). Segregation and Willingness to Fund Public Schools at the Local and State Levels. Paper presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, National Harbor, MD.

**Loeb, D.\*** (2024, September). Identifying Curriculum and Book Restriction Activity Using School Board Meeting Minutes. Poster presented at the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD.

**Loeb, D.\*** (2024, April). The Role of Home Values in Linking Segregation and School District Funding Disparities. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Weathers, E. S., Muñoz, I. G., and **Loeb, D.\*** (2023, March). Absence Unexcused: Using Administrative Data to Explore Patterns and Predictors of Habitual Truancy in Pennsylvania. Poster presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

## PRESS COVERAGE

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Graham, K. A. (2024, June). How Pa. could benefit from \$5B proposed boost to schools, according to Penn researchers. [\*The Philadelphia Inquirer\*](#)

Mezzacappa, D. (2024, June). More money for schools in Pennsylvania will yield thousands more high school graduates, report finds. [\*Chalkbeat Philadelphia\*](#)

DeNardo, M. (2024, June). Penn analysis supports state commission’s recommendation for boost in Pa. education funding. [\*KYW Newsradio\*](#)

Hill, C. (2024, June). Proposed \$5B funding formula would help struggling schools in Pennsylvania, new report says. [\*The Philadelphia Tribune\*](#)

Caruso, S. (2024, June). A big education fight stands in the way of a Pa. budget deal. [\*Spotlight PA\*](#)

## TEACHING

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Missing Data Handling for Policy Research and RCTs. (2025, May). Workshop for the University of Michigan Youth Policy Lab. [Presentation](#) | [Materials](#)

Sociology of Education (EDUC 5782). (2024, Fall). Teaching Assistant. University of Pennsylvania.

What is Quantitative Education Research? (2024, May). Workshop for master’s students at the University of Pennsylvania. [Materials](#)

R Fundamentals. (2024, Winter – Spring). Series of workshops for master’s student research team at the University of Pennsylvania. [Materials](#)

Document Classification with Python. (2024, April). Workshop for master’s student research team at the University of Pennsylvania. [Materials](#)

Web Scraping with Python. (2023, September). Workshop for doctoral students at The Pennsylvania State University.  
[Presentation](#) | [Materials](#)

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH & POLICY EXPERIENCE

**American Institutes for Research** 2024 – 2025  
*IES Predoctoral Research Fellow* Arlington, VA

- Created primary statistical impact models for a national waitlist control study of public Montessori preschool
- Developed sensitivity models that addressed potential sources of bias including differential consent and attrition
- Developed algorithms to clean data that caught previously undetected errors in data entry and test administration
- Analyzed data and conducted research to aid the development of a child care cost model for the State of Massachusetts

**Children First** 2016 – 2021  
*Research Associate* Philadelphia, PA

- Conducted research for the premier education and child policy advocacy organization in southeastern Pennsylvania
- Produced research reports examining education and other child-focused policy issues using administrative data
- Presented research findings in public forums, press conferences, and meetings with policymakers
- Provided data preparation and analysis support for the organization’s day-to-day advocacy work and grant applications

AWARDS

Institute of Education Sciences Predoctoral Fellowship 2023 – Present

SOFTWARE

{edid}: Efficient difference-in-differences and event study estimators. R package. [github.com/david-loeb/edid](https://github.com/david-loeb/edid)  
Missing Data Scenarios in RCTs. Shiny web application. [davidloeb-missing-data-app.share.connect.posit.cloud](https://davidloeb-missing-data-app.share.connect.posit.cloud)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

<b>Computer Languages</b>	<i>Strong Experience:</i> R, Python, LaTeX, Markdown <i>Some Experience:</i> C, JavaScript, CSS, HTML, SQL, Shell/Bash, YAML
<b>Software</b>	Stata, SAS, Mplus, Blimp, Quarto, Shiny, Jupyter, Excel
<b>Statistical &amp; Research Methods</b>	Econometrics, Quasi-Experimental Design, Multilevel Modeling, Missing Data Modeling, Predictive Modeling, Natural Language Processing, Geospatial Analysis