

# Zhiwen Wang

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EDUCATION	<b>University of Pittsburgh</b>	<b>Ph.D. in Economics</b>	<b>2020-present</b>
	<b>National University of Singapore</b>	<b>M.Res. in Management</b>	<b>2018</b>
		<b>M.Sc. in Quantitative Finance</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>Xi'an Jiaotong University</b>	<b>B.A., Economics</b>	<b>2013</b>

FIELDS OF INTEREST      Development Economics, Health Economics, Economic History

WORKING PAPERS      **Nutrition, Labor Supply, and Productivity: Evidence from Ramadan in Indonesia** (with Zihan Hu)

**Abstract:** We find immediate, adverse effects of nutrition deficiency on labor supply and productivity among non-physical workers. Using high-frequency data from an Indonesian retailer, we exploit the nutrition shock induced by Ramadan fasting. Comparing fasting and non-fasting workers, our event-study approach shows a 30% decrease in productivity for fasting salespersons during the two hours before sunset, when they experience the most energy deficiency. Their productivity recovers immediately after sunset, when they break their fast. They leave work 32 minutes earlier during the hours of the greatest energy deficiency. The effects are consistent with the nutrition mechanism and are not likely driven by major competing explanations.

**Presentation:** Pitt Brown Bag (2021); PacDev (2022)

**Causal Effects of Alcohol Consumption on Health-related Consequences: Evidence from Finland** (with Sumit Agarwal and Jussi Keppo)

**Abstract:** For thousands of years, the use of alcoholic beverages has been an intrinsic component of human culture. While existing research has documented the correlation between alcohol consumption and various health problems, the correlational evidence appears inconsistent and the causation has not yet been adequately demonstrated. This study provides new evidence on the causal impact of alcohol consumption on health by exploiting a plausible exogenous policy implemented in Finland in 1995, the deregulation of travelers' duty-free alcohol imports. After the deregulation, the surge in border crossings and alcohol imports resulted in a 12% increase in alcohol consumption nationwide. Based on the significant spatial heterogeneity in the impacts of the policy on alcohol consumption, domestic sales, and drunk driving cases, this study employs a difference-in-differences approach to compare medical expenditures on five major diseases in municipalities located close to border crossings than in those farther away. We find that the deregulation reduced the prevalence of diabetes by 0.11%, coronary heart

disease by 1.01%, rheumatoid arthritis by 0.16% and hypertension by 0.138%, while the prevalence of epilepsy was not significantly affected. We also find the policy significantly reduces mental illness. As a consequence, the increase in alcohol consumption does not significantly affect different kinds of crimes. Our findings have significant implications for public policy debates on alcohol consumption and its potential impacts on health and society.

**Presentation:** InaHEA (2019); AASLE (2019)

WORKS IN PROGRESS	<b>The Morale and Incentive Effects of Promotion Fairness on Worker Performance</b> (with Zihan Hu)		
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<b>Teaching Assistant</b>		
	Introduction to Microeconomics	University of Pittsburgh	Spring 2022
	Business Analytics	National University of Singapore	Spring 2017
RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE	<b>Full-time Research Assistant</b>		
	Centre for Family and Population Research, National University of Singapore, 2018 - 2020		
FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS	<b>President's Graduate Fellowship</b>	National University of Singapore	2015-2018
REFEREING EXPERIENCE	<i>Management Science</i>		
COMPUTER SKILLS	Stata, Python, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, R, Matlab, ArcGIS		
LANGUAGES	English (Fluent), Chinese (Native)		