Kofi E. Ampaabeng, Ph.D.

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Healthcare policy and regulation · the measurement of regulation and the structure of regulatory agencies · labor and workforce development · applied machine learning on legal text and administrative data · geographic information systems.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics — Clark University, Worcester, MA, 2013. Dissertation: "Three Essays on Educational Achievement."
B.A., Computer Science & Economics (First Class Honors) — University of Ghana, Accra, 2004

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Mercatus Center, George Mason University, Arlington, VA (2019–2023)

Director, Open Health Policy (2021–2023)

- Built the Open Health Policy team of research scholars; mentored analysts and fellows to published co-authorship.

Director, Quantitative Health Lab (2020–2023)

- Directed a team of researchers and data scientists applying machine learning to create, analyse and publish data and research on U.S. health care: HealthRegData, State Healthcare RegData, and the Healthcare Openness and Access Project.

Senior Research Fellow, Health Policy (2020–2023)

- Built the RegCensus data platform, API and Python and R clients.
- Testimony before a U.S. Senate subcommittee and the Arizona and Montana senates (2021); 30+ policy papers.

Research Fellow and Data Scientist, Policy Analytics Project (2019–2020)

- Led research projects that use machine learning to create data for other researchers: occupational licensing regulation, and federal and state regulation (RegData).
- Led research on the structure of federal agencies and their role in crafting regulations.
- Research on occupational licensing regulation in the United States and Canada, including data on licensed occupations in U.S. states.

IMPAQ International, Columbia, MD (2013–2019)
Project Domain Lead, Health Services Research (2017–2018); task lead to 2019
Research Associate, Health Services Research (2016–2017)
Research Associate, Human Services Research (2013–2016)

- Led project teams on evaluations and research for the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor and the Department of Agriculture.

- Econometric and statistical analysis of primary and secondary data; extraction and analysis of large Medicare claims data for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
- Business development: proposal writing and management, capture planning; project process improvement and compliance.

University of Baltimore, Merritt School of Business — Adjunct Faculty, Business Analytics (MBA), from 2018

Mosakowski Institute for Public Enterprise, Clark University — Graduate Research Assistant (2009–2013)

- Research on academic achievement and education policy, with emphasis on children in lower socioeconomic classes.
- Designed a business-intelligence system on Massachusetts education input and outcome data.
- Member of the team that won a planning grant for a Promise Neighborhood in Worcester, Massachusetts.

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE (IMPAQ INTERNATIONAL)

Project	Client	Role and scope
Comprehensive End-Stage Renal Disease Care Model (CEC) Operations Support, from 2016	Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation, CMS	Researcher and programmer: financial cost of ESRD care from claims data; methodological work on the cost of care; ad-hoc analyses.
Strategic Innovation Engine Support	CMS	Researcher: analyses of U.S. health care from claims data, designed to inform policy.
Randomized Controlled Trials: Closing the Child Labor Evidence Gap, from 2015	Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), U.S. Department of Labor	Project manager and researcher (Malawi, Rwanda): research design, evaluation and survey-instrument design, stakeholder engagement, budget and schedule, client relationship.
Third-party evaluation of a community college's TAACCCT grant, from 2015	A community-college consortium	Quantitative task lead and survey data-collection lead: evaluation design, data collection and analysis, reports.
Third-party evaluation of a multi-state TAACCCT grant, 2014–2016	Four colleges in Texas, Oregon, California and Alaska	Quantitative task lead and survey data-collection lead: evaluation and analysis-plan design, data collection, econometric and statistical analysis, reports, client presentations.
Evaluation of a state workforce program, 2013–2016	A state workforce development board	Quantitative evaluation task lead and researcher.
Workforce Innovation Fund Evaluation, 2013–2016	A county workforce development board and consortium	Researcher: qualitative interviews with implementation staff, reports.

Women Veterans' Economic and Employment Characteristics and Federal Program Service Inventory, 2013–2014	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, U.S. Department of Labor	Researcher: analysis of ACS, CPS and SIPP data; reports.
Evaluation of the Wage and Hour Division's Use of Remedies, 2013–2015	OASAM Office of Procurement Services, U.S. Department of Labor	Researcher: survey and administrative data collection and analysis.
Feasibility of Tribal Administration of Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs	Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture	Co-author of the final report (2016).

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION

"The Long-term Cognitive Consequences of Early Childhood Malnutrition: The Case of Famine in Ghana," with C. M. Tan. *Journal of Health Economics* 32(6), 2013, 1013–1027. Cited 179 times (Google Scholar).

BOOK CHAPTER

"Asset Profile of Puerto Ricans and Other Latinos after the Great Recession: 2008–2010," with K. Birson and R. Borges-Méndez. In *Puerto Ricans at the Dawn of the New Millennium*, ed. E. Meléndez and C. Vargas-Ramos.

WORKING PAPERS AND SPECIAL STUDIES (MERCATUS CENTER)

- "RegAuthorities: The Regulations Authorities Dataset," with D. Chambers, E. Greist, P. A. McLaughlin, J. Nelson and T. Powers. Mercatus Working Paper, 2022.
- "Healthcare Openness and Access Project: Methodology," with L. Sigaud. Mercatus Special Study, October 2022.
- "Census of Regulatory Restrictions," with P. McLaughlin and T. Powers. Mercatus Research Paper, April 2022.

POLICY BRIEFS

- "The Medicare Physician Fee Schedule: Overview, Influence on Healthcare Spending, and Policy Options to Fix the Current Payment System," with J. O'Shea and E. Amez-Droz. May 2023.
- "State Healthcare RegData 1.0: A Quantification of State Healthcare Regulations," with E. Amez-Droz. October 2020.
- "A Policymaker's Guide to State RegData 2.0," with J. Broughel, E. Greist, P. A. McLaughlin, J. Nelson, W. Stover, S. Strosko and H. Warlick. October 2020.

TECHNICAL REPORTS TO AGENCIES (IMPAQ INTERNATIONAL)

- "Feasibility of Tribal Administration of Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs: Final Report," with S. Garasky, K. Mbwana, A. Chamberlain, N. Bowman, C. Corea, L. Patterson and C. Mickish-Gross. Nutrition Assistance Program Report, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, July 2016.

- "Evaluation of the Wage and Hour Division's Use of Remedies: Ripple Effects in the Residential Care and Daycare Industries," with S. Davis and N. H. Broussard. Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor.
- "Evaluation of Women Veterans' Economic and Employment Characteristics and Federal Program Service Inventory: Profile Analysis of Women Veterans," with S. Garasky, H. Nanda, S. Shetty and T. Techapaisarnjaroenkij. U.S. Department of Labor.

TESTIMONY AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

- "Addressing Anticompetitive Conduct and Consolidation in Healthcare Markets: The Roles of State and Federal Regulation and Antitrust Law," with A. F. Abbott. U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, May 2021.
- "Making Telehealth Work for Arizonans." Arizona Senate Committee on Finance, on HB 2454, March 17, 2021.
- "Montana's Proposed Legislation to Loosen Restrictions on Telehealth Is a Welcome Step." Montana Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Safety, February 17, 2021.
- "Healthcare Quality, Insurance Coverage, Pandemic Policy, and Competition: Four Areas for Reform," with B. Herzberg and E. Amez-Droz. Comment to the Republican Study Committee Health Care Task Force, U.S. House, January 7, 2022.
- Comment to the Healthy Future Task Force Security Subcommittee (pandemic preparedness, public health, supply chains), with B. Herzberg and J. K. Lofthouse. Response to a request for information, U.S. House, January 31, 2022.
- "HHS's Innovative New Sunset Regulation," with J. Broughel. Public interest comment to the Department of Health and Human Services, December 2020.

COMMENTARY

- "In a Rapidly Aging America, Medicaid Can Be a Lifeline for Long-term Care." *The Hill*, August 2023.
- "Rich Countries Should Pay Their Fair Share for American Drugs." *The Hill*, March 2023.
- "Another Pathway to Reduce Medical Professional Shortage: Tap the 'Unmatched' MDs." Open Health Policy, July 2023.
- "Drug Shortages and Drug Pricing Policies." Open Health Policy, June 2023.

RESEARCH DATA AND PLATFORMS

HealthRegData (healthcare regulation, federal and state) · RegCensus (data platform, API, Python and R clients) · State RegData · RegAuthorities · RegAuth (the U.S. federal legal corpus as structured data: bill, law, code, regulation, register, rulings).

METHODS AND TOOLS

Econometrics · program evaluation and randomized controlled trials · survey design and data collection · machine-learning classification and NLP on regulatory text · GIS · forecasting · Python · R · SQL · Spark · Teradata.

OTHER

Languages: English (native), French (working).