

# Dora L. Costa

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## EDUCATION

University of Chicago, Ph.D. (economics), 1993  
University of Chicago, M.A. (economics), 1988  
University of California, Berkeley, B.A. (economics and mathematics), 1986

## RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, MIT (July 1993-June 1997)  
Ford Career Development Associate Professor, MIT (July 1997-June 2000)  
Associate Professor with tenure, MIT (July 2000-June 2003)  
Professor, MIT (July 2003-2008)  
Professor, UCLA (July 2007-present)  
Kenneth T. Sokoloff Professor in Economic History (July 2017-present)  
Chair, Department of Economics (July 2017-present)

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research (1993-2000)  
Research Associate, NBER (2000-present)  
Director of Cohort Studies working group, NBER (2000-present)  
Associate Director, California Center for Population Research (July 2007-2017)  
AEA Executive Committee (2014-2016)  
AEA Sub-Committee on Non-Discrimination in the Economics Profession (2015-2017)  
AEA Nominating Committee (2016)

## PUBLICATIONS - BOOKS

*Heroes and Cowards: The Social Face of War* (joint with Matthew Kahn). 2008. Princeton University Press.

*The Evolution of Retirement: An American Economic History 1880-1990*. 1998. University of Chicago Press.

#### PUBLICATIONS - EDITED BOOKS

*Understanding Long-Run Economic Growth*. 2011. (joint co-editor with Naomi Lamoreaux) University of Chicago Press for NBER.

*Health and Labor Force Participation Over the Life Cycle: Evidence from the Past*. 2003. University of Chicago Press for NBER.

#### PUBLICATIONS – PAPERS

“Persistent Social Networks: Civil War Veterans Who Fought Together Co-Locate in Later Life” (joint with Matthew Kahn, Christopher Roudiez, and Sven Wilson). Forthcoming. *Journal of Regional Science and Urban Economics*. Available on-line 11 October 2017.

“Data Set from the Union Army Samples to Study Locational Choice and Social Networks” (joint with Matthew Kahn, Christopher Roudiez, and Sven Wilson). 2018. *Data in Brief*. 17: 226-233.

“Death and the Media: Death and the Media: Asymmetries in Infectious Disease Reporting During the Health Transition” (joint with Matthew Kahn). 2017. *Economica*. 84(335): 393-416.

“Union Army Veterans, All Grown Up” (joint with Heather DeSomer, Eric Hanss, Christopher Roudiez, Sven Wilson, and Noelle Yetter). Forthcoming in print. [published on-line January, 2017]. *Historical Methods*.

“Health and the Economy in the United States, from 1750 to the Present.” 2015. *Journal of Economic Literature*. 53(3):503-70.

“Do Liberal Home Owners Consume Less Electricity? A Test of the Voluntary Restraint Hypothesis” (joint with Matthew Kahn). 2013. *Economic Letters*. 119(2): 210-12.

“Leaders: Privilege, Sacrifice, Opportunity and Personnel Economics in the American Civil War.” (First published on-line, June 14, 2013.) *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*. 30(3): 437-62.

“Energy Conservation ‘Nudges’ and Environmental Ideology: Evidence from a Randomized Residential Electricity Field Experiment.” (joint with Matthew Kahn). 2013. *Journal of the European Economic Association*. 11(3): 680-702.

“Understanding the Solar Home Price Premium: Electricity Generation and ‘Green’ Social Status” (joint with Samuel Dastrup, Joshua Graff Zivin, and Matthew Kahn). *European Economic Review*. July 2012. 56(5): 961-973.

“Scarring and Mortality Selection Among Civil War POWs: A Long-Term Mortality, Morbidity, and Socioeconomic Follow-Up” *Demography*. November 2012. 49(4):1185-206.

“Pensions and Retirement Among Black Union Army Veterans.” *Journal of Economic History*. 70(3), September 2010: 567-92

“Health, Wartime Stress, and Unit Cohesion: Evidence from Union Army Veterans” (joint with Matthew Kahn). *Demography*. February 2010. 47(1): 45-66.

"The Economics and Demography of Aging." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 2007. 104: 13217-13218.

"Race, Infectious Disease, and Arteriosclerosis." (joint with Lorens Helmchen and Sven Wilson) *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 2007. 104: 13219-13224.

"Surviving Andersonville: The Benefits of Social Networks in POW Camps." (joint with Matthew Kahn) 2007. *American Economic Review*. 97(4): 1467-1487.

"Deserters, Social Norms, and Migration." (joint with Matthew Kahn). 2007. *Journal of Law and Economics*. 50: 323-53.

"Forging a New Identity: The Costs and Benefits of Diversity in Civil War Combat Units for Black Slaves and Freemen." (joint with Matthew Kahn) *Journal of Economic History*. 2006. 66(4): 936-62.

"Becoming Oldest-Old: Evidence from Historical US Data." (joint with Joanna Lahey) *Genus*. 2005. 61(1): 125-6.

"Causes of Improving Health and Longevity at Older Ages: A Review of the Explanations." *Genus*. 2005. 61(1): 21-38.

"Race and Pregnancy Outcomes in the Twentieth Century: A Long-Term Comparison." *Journal of Economic History*. December 2004. 64(4): 1056-1086.

"Changes in the Value of Life, 1940-1980." (joint with Matthew E. Kahn); *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*. September 2004. 29(2): 159-80.

"Cowards and Heroes: Group Loyalty in the American Civil War." (joint with Matthew E. Kahn); *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. May 2003. 118(2): 519-548.

"The Measure of Man and Older Age Mortality: Evidence from the Gould Sample." *Journal of Economic History*. March 2004. 64(1): 1-23.

"Civic Engagement and Community Heterogeneity: An Economist's Perspective." (joint with Matthew E. Kahn); *Perspectives on Politics*. March 2003. 1(1).

"Understanding the American Decline in Social Capital, 1952-1998." (joint with Matthew E. Kahn); *Kyklos*. Fasc. 1 2003. 56(1): 17-46.

"Understanding Mid-Life and Older Age Mortality Declines: Evidence from Union Army Veterans." *Journal of Econometrics*. January 2003. 112(1): 175-92.

"Changing Chronic Disease Rates and Long-term Declines in Functional Limitation Among Older Men." *Demography*. February 2002. 39(1): 119-138.

"Estimating Real Income in the US from 1888 to 1994: Correcting CPI Bias Using Engel Curves." *Journal of Political Economy*. December 2001. 109(6): 1288-1310.

"From Mill Town to Board Room: The Rise of Women's Paid Labor." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. Fall 2000. 14(4): 101-122.

"Aggregation, Rank, and Some Historical Engel Curves." *Economics Letters*. February 2001. 70(2): 183-186.

"Power Couples: Changes in the Locational Choice of the College Educated, 1940-1990." (joint with Matthew E. Kahn), *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. November 2000. 115(4): 1287-1315.

"Hours of Work and the Fair Labor Standards Act: A Study of Retail and Wholesale Trade, 1938-1950." *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*. July 2000. 53(4): 648-664.

"Understanding the Twentieth Century Decline in Chronic Conditions Among Older Men." *Demography*. February 2000. 37(1): 53-72.

"The Wage and the Length of the Work Day: From the 1890s to 1991." *Journal of Labor Economics*. January 2000. 18(1): 156-181.

"A House of Her Own: Old Age Assistance and the Living Arrangements of Older Nonmarried Women." *Journal of Public Economics*. April 1999. 72(1): 39-59.

"Unequal at Birth: A Long-term Comparison of Income and Birth Weight." *Journal of Economic History*. December 1998, 58(4): 987-1009.

"Displacing the Family: Union Army Pensions and Elderly Living Arrangements." *Journal of Political Economy*. December 1997, 105(6): 1269-1292.

"A Theory of Technophysio Evolution, With Some Implications for Forecasting Population, Health Care Costs, and Pension Costs." (joint with Robert W. Fogel), *Demography*. February 1997, 34(1): 49-66.

"Pensions and Retirement: Evidence from Union Army Veterans." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. May 1995, 110(2): 297-320.

"Health and Labor Force Participation of Older Men, 1900-1991." *Journal of Economic History*., March 1996, 56(1): 62-89.

"Agricultural Decline and The Secular Trend In Retirement Rates." *Explorations in Economic History*. October 1995, 32(4): 540-552.

"Height, Weight, Wartime Stress, and Older Age Mortality: Evidence from the Union Army Records." *Explorations in Economic History*. October 1993, 30: 424-449.

"Height, Wealth, and Disease Among the Native Born in the Rural, Antebellum North." *Social Science History*. Fall 1993, 17(3): 355-384.

#### PUBLICATIONS IN EDITED VOLUMES

"Demand for Private and State-Provided Health Insurance in the 1910s: Evidence from California." In J. Hall and M. Witcher, Eds., *Public Choice Analyses of American Economic History*, Studies in Public Choice 35, Forthcoming.

"Health, Education, and Income in the United States, 1820-2000." (joint with C. Hoyt Bleakley and Adriana Lleras-Muney) In L. Boustan, C. Frydman, and R.A. Margo, Eds., *Human Capital and History: The American Record*. University of Chicago Press, 2014.

"Why Were Older Men in the Past in Such Poor Health?" In David Cutler and David Wise, (Eds.), *Health in Older Age: The Causes and Consequences of Declining Disability Among the Elderly*. University of Chicago Press for NBER, 2009.

"Public Health and Mortality: What Can We Learn from the Past?" (joint with Matthew Kahn), In Alan J. Auerbach, David Card, and John M. Quigley (Eds), *Poverty, the Distribution of Income, and Public Policy*. Russell Sage Foundation, 2006.

"Long-Term trends in Health, Welfare, and Economics Growth in the United States." (joint with Richard H. Steckel), In R. Floud and R.H. Steckel (Eds), *Health and Welfare During Industrialization*. University of Chicago Press for NBER, 1997.

#### PUBLICATIONS – PROCEEDINGS

"Declining Mortality Inequality within Cities during the Health Transition." *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*. May 2015. 105(5): 564-69.

"Electricity Consumption and Durable Housing: Understanding Cohort Effects" (joint with Matthew Kahn). *American Economic Review*. 101(3), May 2011: 88-92.

"Predicting Older Age Mortality Trends." (joint with Joanna Lahey) *Journal of the European Economic Association*. April-May 2005, 3(2-3).

"The Rising Price of Nonmarket Goods." (joint with Matthew E. Kahn) *American Economic Review*. May 2003.

"The Evolution of Retirement: Summary of a Research Project." *American Economic Review*. May 1998, 88(2): 232-236.

"The Unequal Work Day: A Long-term View." *American Economic Review*. May 1998, 88(2): 330-334.

#### WORKING PAPERS

"The Intergenerational Transmission of Paternal Trauma: Evidence from US Civil War Ex-POWs" (joint with Noelle Yetter and Heather DeSomer).

"Race and Older Age Mortality: Evidence from Union Army Veterans." NBER Working Paper No. 10902.

#### DATA OR DATABASES

Collected Datasets (Union Army, US Colored Troops (USCT), Expanded USCT, Urban, Andersonville). Data collected from the military service record, Civil War pension system and census data for over 60,000 Union Army soldiers. All bulk data files are available in multiple formats from [http://uadata.org/complete\\_downloads/](http://uadata.org/complete_downloads/). Although UADData.org requires an account to download data, there are no restrictions on who may make an account and download data.

"Persistent Social Networks" (joint with Matthew Kahn, Christopher Roudiez, and Sven Wilson). March 2, 2018. OPEN ICPSR.

"Historical Urban Ecological Data, 1830-1930" (joint with Robert Fogel). Nov 16, 2015. ICPSR 35617.

"Age Discrimination, an Audit Study: 2002-2003 in Boston, Massachusetts, and St. Petersburg, Florida (joint with Joanna Lahey). February 23, 2011. ICPSR 23980.

"United States Census of Mortality: 1850, 1860, and 1870" (joint with Robert Fogel, Joseph Ferrie, and Dean Karlan). March 30, 2006. ICPSR 2526.

#### GRANTS

Multiple-Principal Investigator, *California Center for Population Research Training Proposal*. (joint with Jennie Brand) NIH grant T32 HD007545, 05/22/2017-04/30/22.

Principal Investigator, *Early Indicators, Intergenerational Processes, and Aging*. NIH grant P01 AG10120, 09/01/2014-04/30/2019.

Principal Investigator, *Life Course Events in Aging*, NIH Conference grant R13 AG034758, 07/15/2014-06/30/2019.

Principal Investigator, *Early Indicators of Later Work Levels, Disease, and Death, IV*. NIH grant AG10120, 06/31/2013-10/30/2014.

Project Leader, The Aging of US Colored Troops, Revision to P01 AG10120, 12/01/2010-2/28/2014.

Project Leader and Senior Investigator, *Early Indicators of Later Work Levels, Disease, and Death, IV*. NIH grant AG10120, 03/01/2009-02/28/2014.

Co-Principal Investigator, *Economics and Demography of Aging Training*. NIA T32AG033533. 05/01/2011-04/30/2016.

Small grant project on USC/UCLA Center on Biodemography and Population Health NIH Center Grant, Eileen Crimmins (PI), September 2009-June 2010.

Principal Investigator, *Life Course Events in Aging*, NIH Conference grant R13 AG034758, 07/15/2009-06/30/2012

Principal Investigator, *Environmental Stress, Social Networks, and Older Age Health and Mortality*. NIH grant R01 AG027960, Sept 1, 2007-Aug 31, 2012.

Principal Investigator, *Economic Causes and Consequences of Population Aging*. NIH Conference Grant R13AG029059, 2006.

Principal Investigator, *Race and Health Across the Twentieth Century*. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2003-2006.

Principal Investigator, *Older Age Health and Longevity: A Long-Term View*. NIH grant R01 AG19637, 2002-2008.

Project Leader and Senior Investigator, *Early Indicators of Later Work Levels, Disease, and Death, III*. NIH grant AG10120, 2002-2008.

Principal Investigator, *Health of Young Adults: Evidence, Causes, and Outcomes*. NIH grant AG12658, 1995-2002.

Senior Investigator, *Early Indicators of Later Work Levels, Disease, and Death, II*. NIH grant AG10120, 1995-2001.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Robert Fogel's *Explaining Long-Term Trends in Health and Longevity* for *Journal of Economic Literature*. Forthcoming.

Review of Mark Rosenzweig and Oded Stark (Eds), *Handbook of Population and Family Economics* for *Journal of Economic History*. March 1999. 59(1): 204-6.

Review of Patrick J. Kelly's *Creating A National Home: Building the Veterans' Welfare State* for *EH.Net*.

Review of Steven Sass's *The Promise of Private Pensions: The First Hundred Years* for *Journal of Economic History*. June 1998, 58(2): 610-12.

Review of Richard Easterlin's *Growth Triumphant: The Twenty-first Century in Historical Perspective* for *EH.Net*.

Review of John Komlos's *Stature, Living Standards, and Economics Development: Essays in Anthropometric History* for *Journal of Economics Literature*. March 1996, 34(1): 173-174.

Review of George Emery's *Facts of Life: The Social Construction of Vital Statistics, Ontario 1869-1952* for *Journal of Economic History*. March 1995, 55(1): 201-203.

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

2014 Oliver E. Williamson Prize for Best Article in *Law, Economics and Organization*

Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, 2003-2004.

Economic History Association's Alice Hanson Jones Book Prize, 2000 for *The Evolution of Retirement: An American Economic History, 1888-1998*.

Visiting Scholar, Russell Sage Foundation, 1999-2000.

Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship, September 16, 1999-September 15, 2001.

TIAA-CREF's 1998 Paul A. Samuelson Award for Outstanding Scholarly Writing on Lifelong Financial Security for *The Evolution of Retirement: An American Economic History, 1880-1990*.

NBER Aging Fellow, 1995-1996.

Economic History Association's Allen Nevins Prize for outstanding dissertation in U.S. economic history, 1994.

#### RECENT EDITORIAL BOARDS



Recent Editorial Boards: American Economic Review (ended 2013), Journal of Economic Literature (ended 2011), Cliometrica, Journal of Economic Perspectives (2016-present)