

Beth C. Truesdale
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RESEARCH POSITIONS

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research Research Fellow	Kalamazoo, MI August 2021-present
• Research focus: Economic and social inequalities in work, health, and aging	
Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies Visiting Scientist Research Associate Sloan Postdoctoral Fellow on Aging and Work	Cambridge, MA 2021-2024 2019-2021 2017-2019

EDUCATION

Harvard University Ph.D. Sociology	Cambridge, MA 2017
University of Oxford (Rhodes Scholar) M.St. Theology B.A. History and English, First Class Honours	Oxford, UK 2000 1999
St. Olaf College B.A. Chemistry and English, Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa	Northfield, MN 1997

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Abraham, Katharine G., Brad Hershbein, Susan N. Houseman, and Beth C. Truesdale. 2024. "[The Independent Contractor Workforce: New Evidence on Its Size and Composition and Ways to Improve Its Measurement in Household Surveys](#)." *ILR Review*, 77(3), 336-365.
doi:10.1177/00197939241226945

- Upjohn Institute [working paper](#)
- Upjohn Institute [policy brief](#): How Many Independent Contractors Are There and Who Works in These Jobs?

Asquith, Brian, Yuci Chen, Marcus Dillender, Kevin Hollenbeck, and Beth C. Truesdale. 2024. "[A Study of Claim Resolution Settlement Agreements](#): Final Report." *Upjohn Institute Technical Reports*. <https://doi.org/10.17848/tr24-048>.

O'Leary, Christopher J., Kevin Doyle, Ben Damerow, Kenneth J. Kline, Beth C. Truesdale, Salomon Orellana, Randall W. Eberts, Amy Meyers, Anna Wilcoxson, and Scott Powell. 2024. "[Predictive Analytics Supporting Labor Market Success](#): A Career Explorer for Job Seekers and Workforce Professionals in Michigan." *Economic Development Quarterly*, August, 08912424241271163.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/08912424241271163>.

Ghilarducci, Teresa, and Beth C. Truesdale. 2023. "[The False Promises of Working Longer](#)." *The Journal of Retirement* 11 (1): 22–30. <https://doi.org/10.3905/jor.2023.1.136>.

Berkman, Lisa F., and Beth C. Truesdale. 2023. "[Working Longer and Population Aging in the U.S.: Why Delayed Retirement Isn't a Practical Solution for Many](#)." *The Journal of the Economics of Ageing* 24: 100438.

Overtime: America's Aging Workforce and the Future of Working Longer. 2022. Lisa F. Berkman and Beth C. Truesdale, editors. Oxford University Press. doi:10.1093/oso/9780197512067.001.0001

- Noteworthy Book Award, Industrial Relations Section, Princeton University
- For additional coverage, see <https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/overtime>

Truesdale, Beth C., Lisa F. Berkman, and Alexandra Mitukiewicz. 2022. “[When I’m 54: Working Longer Starts Younger Than We Think](#).” In *Overtime: America's Aging Workforce and the Future of Working Longer*. Oxford University Press. doi:10.1093/oso/9780197512067.003.0002.

- Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies [working paper](#)

Berkman, Lisa F., and Beth C. Truesdale. 2022. “[Is Working Longer in Jeopardy?](#)” In *Overtime: America's Aging Workforce and the Future of Working Longer*. Oxford University Press. doi:10.1093/oso/9780197512067.003.0001.

Berkman, Lisa F., Beth C. Truesdale, and Alexandra Mitukiewicz. 2022. “[What Is the Way Forward? American Policy and Working Longer](#).” In *Overtime: America's Aging Workforce and the Future of Working Longer*. Oxford University Press. doi:10.1093/oso/9780197512067.003.0015.

Truesdale, Beth C. 2020. “[Better Jobs, Longer Working Lives: Policy Proposals to Improve the Low-wage Labor Market for Older Workers](#).” Brookings Institution.

Truesdale, Beth C., and Christopher Jencks. 2016. “[The Health Effects of Income Inequality: Averages and Disparities](#).” *Annual Review of Public Health* 37(1):413-30.

Truesdale, Beth C., and Christopher Jencks. “[Income Inequality and Health: Strong Theories, Weaker Evidence](#).” *Frontiers in Public Health Services and Systems Research* 5(5):30-37.

POPULAR WRITING

Truesdale, Beth C., and Lisa F. Berkman. June 12, 2023. “[Should women just delay retirement and work longer?](#)” TIAA Institute Insights Report.

Abraham, Katharine G., Brad J. Hershbein, Susan Houseman, and Beth C. Truesdale. May 21, 2023. “[Measuring the Independent Contractor Workforce](#).” Vox EU and CEPR.

“[What universal design can teach us about our aging workforce](#).” 2023. AARP International.

Truesdale, Beth C., and Lisa F. Berkman. 2023. “[Who’s working longer – and who’s left behind? Good jobs make delayed retirement a healthier option](#).” *AARP: The Journal* 15: 62-65.

Truesdale, Beth C., and Lisa F. Berkman. September 5, 2022. “[The Alternative to Working Ourselves to Death](#).” *The Nation*.

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Work and Aging.” November 8, 2023. Trinity College, Dublin.

“Who’s Left Behind by Rising Retirement Ages?” October 19, 2023. Keynote speaker, Colloque Retraite et Vieillesse (International Workshop on Pensions and Ageing), University of Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne.

[“Older Workers in Physically Challenging Jobs Need Stronger Social Insurance Supports.”](#) September 27, 2023. Panelist, National Academy of Social Insurance.

“Navigating the Run-up to Retirement: Employment Entries and Exits Among Older Workers.” January 2023. LERA@ASSA.

[“Retire or Resist: The Pros and Cons of Working Longer.”](#) November 15, 2022. GBH Forum Network and Cambridge Forum.

[“The future of retirement.”](#) October 19, 2022. *After Words* program on C-SPAN’s BookTV.

[“Creating a new culture of health in the workplace.”](#) October 20, 2022. Washington, DC: AARP Global Thought Leadership Conference.

[“Overtime: Book launch event at Harvard University.”](#) October 6, 2022. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies.

[“Overtime: America’s aging workforce and the future of working longer.”](#) Book launch event, September 21, 2022. Brookings Institution.

[“Overtime or Out of Time?”](#) September 19, 2022. Washington, DC: National Press Foundation.

“American Policy and Working Longer: Bringing Labor Force Policy Into the Retirement Policy Conversation.” May 11, 2022. Political Economy of Aging Seminar, Schwartz Center for Economic Policy Analysis, The New School for Social Research.

“Social Determinants of Healthy Aging.” February 13, 2020. American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS) Annual Meeting.

[“Improving economic opportunity for older workers.”](#) November 19, 2020. Brookings Institution.

[“Truth, Justice, and America’s Aging Workforce.”](#) November 13, 2019. St. Olaf College Institute for Freedom and Community.

INTERVIEWS AND PODCASTS

Boston Podcast Network: Risking Old Age in America, [“The Challenges of America’s Aging Workforce.”](#) August 7, 2024.

DW News, [“The financial crisis no one is fixing.”](#) April 21, 2023.

Bloomberg Beta: This Is Not Advice, [“How long do I need to keep working if I want to retire?”](#) November 22, 2022.

Jobs and Work Podcast with Work 4 Change, [“Overlooked older adults working longer.”](#) September 9, 2022.

The Takeaway (NPR), [“Uncovering the Facts Behind Unretirement.”](#) May 31, 2022.

Minnesota Public Radio, [“Sociologist Beth Truesdale speaks on the challenges facing America’s aging workforce.”](#) December 10, 2019.

The Takeaway (NPR), [“Poverty touches not just pocketbooks, but mental health.”](#) May 17, 2018.

MEDIA MENTIONS

The Atlantic, "[Retirement Gets Harder the Longer You Wait](#)." July 23, 2024.

Project Syndicate, "[The Perils of Retirement in America](#)." April 26, 2024.

Bloomberg, "[How Many Gig Workers Are There? Depends on How You Ask](#)." April 2, 2024.

New York Times, "[Keeping a Mortgage After 65: A 'No Brainer' or a Big Risk?](#)" February 17, 2024.

Well+Good, "[What Will It Take to Make Super-Aging Not So Super-White?](#)" December 29, 2023.

The Century Foundation, "[Up to 2.1 Million U.S. Construction Workers Are Illegally Misclassified or Paid Off the Books](#)." November 12, 2023.

MarketWatch, "[More Americans Are Working Into Their 80s. What's Keeping Them in the Workforce](#)." September 7, 2023.

CNN Business, "[The rise of gig workers is changing the face of the US economy](#)." July 25, 2023.

MarketWatch, "[Only Half of People Stay Employed Through Their 50s. How to Prepare](#)." June 24, 2023.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "[Atlanta's older workers feel the wear and tear of physical jobs](#)." March 1, 2023.

MarketWatch, "[For a better retirement, you should work longer – but is that realistic?](#)" February 15, 2023.

Bloomberg UK, "[How a good retirement risks becoming just for the privileged](#)." February 10, 2023.

Forbes, "[Super Hot Jobs Report Is Lukewarm For Older Workers](#)." January 6, 2023.

The Courier, Findlay, Ohio. Three-part series: "[Many nearing retirement are ill-prepared](#)," "[Job loss, age bias upend retirement plans](#)," "[Many in their 60s still got it](#)." December 2022 – January 2023.

USA Today, "[Older and unappreciated: Workers over 50 face a rough time on the job](#)." December 26, 2022.

IndustryWeek, "[Sage Advice about Older Workers](#)." December 12, 2022.

Forbes, "[Want to work longer? Careful, your fifties define your sixties](#)." November 7, 2022.

Harvard Gazette, "[We're living longer so that just means we work longer, right?](#)" October 21, 2022.

The Hill, "[Older Americans at greater risk as potential of recession looms](#)." October 17, 2022.

Detroit Free Press, "[Social Security COLA gets highest inflation-adjusted hike in decades](#)." October 13, 2022.

CNN, "[Fed Chair Powell warned of 'pain' to come. Seniors on fixed incomes are already feeling it](#)." September 26, 2022.

Hispanic Executive, "[We Need to Support Older Workers](#)." August 30, 2022.

CNN, “[At 99, iconic producer Norman Lear doesn’t want to quit working. Can work help us all live longer?](#)” June 3, 2022.

The Washington Post, “[Millions retired early during the pandemic. Many are now returning to work, new data shows.](#)” May 6, 2022.

PBS Next Avenue, “[How Biden could help older workers.](#)” December 14, 2020.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

Noteworthy Book in Industrial Relations and Labor Economics, Industrial Relations Section, Princeton University, for <i>Overtime</i>	2022
Program on the Global Demography of Aging, Harvard University, <i>Young Folks’ Jobs: Socioeconomic Disparities in Work and Health in the Run-up to Retirement</i> (\$50,000)	2019
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, <i>Is Working Longer in the U.S. in Jeopardy?</i> Funding for edited volume (PI: Lisa Berkman; Co-I: Beth Truesdale) (\$500,000)	2018
Best Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association Section on Aging and the Life Course, for “Coming of Age in an Unequal State: The Life Course Effects of Economic Inequality on Health.”	2018
Russell Sage Foundation, <i>The Effects of Income Inequality on Health Disparities in the U.S.</i> (PI: Christopher Jencks) (\$54,000)	2016
Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, Graduate Fellowship in Ethics	2015
Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, Research Grant	2015
Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University, Richmond Fellowship	2014
Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University, Dissertation Fellowship	2014
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, Research Grant	2014
Tobin Project, Graduate Student Fellowship in Democracy and Markets	2014
Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy, Harvard Kennedy School, Doctoral Fellowship	2011
Rhodes Scholarship	1997
Fulbright Scholarship (declined)	1997

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

White House Office of Management and Budget	Washington, D.C.
Intern in the Education, Income Maintenance and Labor Division	Summer 2013
• Worked on federal regulation intended to improve employment of people with disabilities • Presented proposals at the White House to top Department of Labor staff	

Social Research Unit at Dartington

Associate

Devon, UK

2010-2017

Developmental editing of publications for non-profit and government, including:

- For the LankellyChase Foundation: *Bringing Everything I Am Into One Place: An inquiry into young people facing severe and multiple disadvantage*. 2014.
- For Realising Ambition, a £25m UK Big Lottery Fund project: *Design and Refine: Developing effective interventions for children and young people*. 2013.
- For the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: *Achieving Lasting Impact at Scale*, 2012.
- For the Department for Education (UK): *An Introduction to Evidence-based Programmes for Children and Families*. 2012.

Social Research Consultant

Independent Consultant

London, UK

2009-2010

- Conducted qualitative research, wrote public reports, and developed training programs for clients including the UK's National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE), the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the UK's Department of Health

Ubiquis UK

Founding Director of Public Consultation Analysis Unit

London, UK

2006-2009

Project Manager to Head of Production

2003-2006

- Recruited, trained and led teams of writers and analysts in analyzing the results of public consultation and public comment processes
- Wrote public reports to inform policy on issues including city planning, media regulation, and the future of the BBC

Freelance Researcher and Journalist

London, UK

2000-2003

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Harvard University**

Teaching Fellow

Cambridge, MA

2012-2016

- Quantitative methods, social science writing, and sociology courses

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Scientific Council Member, Social Economy, Protection and Society Chair (ESoPS), Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France, 2023-present

Conference Leadership

Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Workshop on "Who's Left Behind By Rising Retirement Ages?", organizer, 2024

LERA@ASSA, organizer of two sessions and discussant, 2023

Editorial Board Member, *Work, Aging, and Retirement*, 2021-present

Reviewer

American Sociological Review

Applied Economics

Applied Economics Letters

Economic Development Quarterly

Journal of the Economics of Ageing

Journal of Occupational Medicine

Science Advances
Social Science & Medicine

Scholarships and Grants Selection Committees

Rhodes Scholarship, 2022-2023

Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University, 2024

Russell Sage Foundation and Upjohn Institute, 2022-2024