

# Grandchildren and Grandparent's Labor Force Attachment

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# Motivation

- ▶ The US labor force is aging.
- ▶ Age of first marriage, first child, and first grandchild are rising concurrently.
- ▶ Older workers now have higher labor force participation at the same time as they are more likely to have young grandchildren.

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### Median age of the US Labor Force: 1994, 2004, 2014 and projected 2024

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<b>Group</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Total</b>	37.7	40.3	41.9	42.4
<b>Men</b>	37.7	40.1	41.8	42.0
<b>Women</b>	37.7	40.5	42.0	42.8
<b>White</b>	37.7	40.8	42.6	43.0
<b>Black</b>	36.0	38.6	39.6	40.0
<b>Hispanic origin</b>	33.7	35.0	37.3	38.9
<b>White non-Hispanic</b>	38.5	41.8	44.1	44.4

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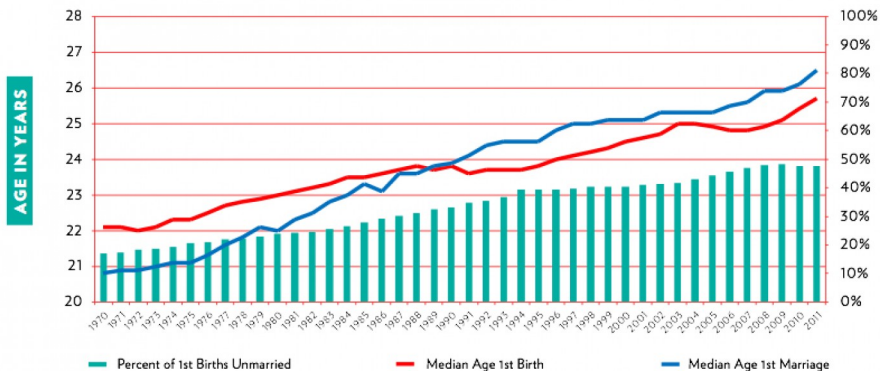
Source: Employment Projections program, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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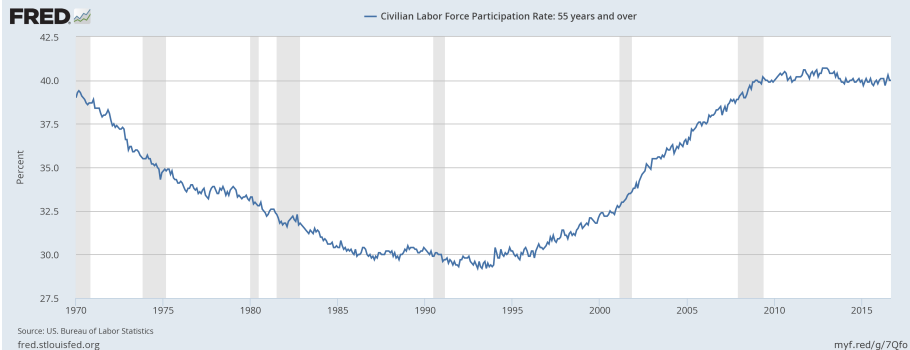
Median Age at First Marriage and First Birth and the Proportion of First Births to Unmarried Women, 1970-2011



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## Implications

- ▶ More new parents are caught (sandwiched) between caring for young children and caring for aging parents.
- ▶ Current and future grandmothers now have more extensive labor force histories, but child-care expectations might be unchanged.
- ▶ Shifting from two-generational to three-generational thinking is important in an aging society.



## Research Questions

- ▶ How do grandparent change their labor supply in response to grandchildren?
  - ▶ Does time with grandchildren come out of labor hours?
  - ▶ Or do you work harder to earn more for the greater family unit?
- ▶ How do responses vary between grandfathers versus grandmothers?
- ▶ Is it a grandparenthood effect or is there a “total fertility” effect?

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## Grandparents Provide Childcare...

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- ▶ Transfers substantial enough that living near grandma increases a young mother's labor hours (Compton and Pollak (2014))

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## ...But Not Resolved Whether Own Labor Supply Changes

- ▶ Caring for grandchildren does not interfere with working, provided that the care was less than 12 hours a week (Whelan (2013)).
- ▶ In European survey data, grandparents are more likely to report a desire to retire early (Hochman and Lewin-Epstein (2013)).
- ▶ Women do decrease their labor supply upon becoming grandmothers (Rupert and Zanella (2017))
- ▶ However, grandmothers and grandfathers increase it when grandchildren move in (Wang and Marcotte (2007)).



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## Contributions to the Literature

- ▶ First causal estimates using plausible variation (instrument for fertility from abortion legalization/pill access).
- ▶ Both grandmothers and grandfathers decrease labor force attachment as their families grow, depending on controls used.
- ▶ Grandmothers have an extensive and intensive margin response.
  - ▶ They become 10% more likely to retire in response to each grandchild.
  - ▶ They work 132 fewer hours a year if non-retired.
- ▶ Grandchildren do appear to trigger a retirement response for grandfathers.

# Evidence on Time Transfers: By Grandchild Count

**TABLE 1**  
**Time Transfers (in Hours) By Number of Grandchildren**

<b>Number of Grandchildren ⇒</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Any Child</b>
<b>Mother's Parents</b>					
Married Grandparents	21.48	58.25	52.01	51.35	55.40
Grandfather Remarried	3.51	12.88	9.63	7.38	9.23
Grandmother Remarried	40.18	59.78	19.28	42.88	43.64
Single Grandfathers	25.02	19.42	5.18	2.14	13.79
Single Grandmothers	21.24	83.17	25.21	44.13	45.31
<b>All Mother's Parents</b>	<b>19.35</b>	<b>57.31</b>	<b>27.07</b>	<b>36.31</b>	<b>37.98</b>
<b>Father's Parents</b>					
Married Grandparents	21.32	16.79	51.33	68.22	47.24
Grandfather Remarried	3.04	7.21	2.39	2.12	4.21
Grandmother Remarried	27.64	173.41	11.48	35.03	64.59
Single Grandfathers	1.92	1.49	6.06	2.31	5.76
Single Grandmothers	16.04	36.22	10.15	2.22	14.20
<b>All Father's Parents</b>	<b>15.59</b>	<b>33.42</b>	<b>18.90</b>	<b>21.41</b>	<b>22.89</b>
<b>All Grandparents</b>	<b>34.95</b>	<b>90.72</b>	<b>45.97</b>	<b>57.72</b>	<b>60.86</b>

Source: 2012 PSID Family Reciprocity and Transfers

# Data

- ▶ Main dataset are the Annual Family Files (1968-2013) and the Cross-Year Individual File from the (PSID).
  
- ▶ PSID is ideally suited for this study.
  - ① Grandparents, adult children, and grandparents are easy to track in the PSID.
  - ② PSID has lots of demographic and economic information that is consistently asked each year.
  - ③ PSID supplemental files (FIMS, Marriage and Childbirth History, etc.) make it easy to organize family units.

## Sample

- ▶ Sample (grandparents) are adults aged 22-54 in 1968 who had at least one PSID child and were interviewed in 1968.
- ▶ 1,651 grandfathers and 2,175 grandmothers were included.
- ▶ Grandfather sample has 5,465 adult children, and grandmother sample has 7,970 adult children.

## Empirical Approach: Grandparenthood Status

$$\begin{aligned} Outcome_{gst} = & \beta_0 + \beta_1 \mathbb{1}\{Grandparent_{gst}\} + \beta_2 GPDemVars_{gst} \\ & + \beta_3 ACDemVars_{gst} + \lambda_t + \theta_{gs} + (\theta_{gs} * \lambda_t) + \iota_g + u_{gst}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Unit of observation is at the grandparent level.
- ▶  $Outcome_{gst}$  is therefore a labor force outcome for grandparent  $g$  in year  $t$  in 1968 State  $s$ .
- ▶ Grandmothers and grandfathers are estimated separately.



## Empirical Approach: Marginal Grandchild Response

$$\begin{aligned} Outcome_{igst} = & \beta_0 + \beta_1 ChildCount_{igst} + \beta_2 GPDemVars_{igst} \\ & + \beta_3 ACDemVars_{igst} + \beta_4 ACSEX * ACBirthOrder_{igst} \\ & + \lambda_t + \theta_{gs} + (\theta_{gs} * \lambda_t) + \iota_g + u_{igst} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Unit of observation is at the adult child level.
- ▶ Controls include sex and birth order fixed effects for the adult children.
- ▶  $Outcome_{igst}$  is therefore a labor force outcome for grandparent  $g$  with adult child  $i$  in year  $t$  in 1968 State  $s$ .
- ▶ Grandmothers and grandfathers are estimated separately.

## Notes on Estimation

- ▶ The unit of observation is at the adult child level because the fertility decision rests with them.
- ▶ Grandparent fixed effects ( $\iota_g$ ) control for time-invariant grandparent characteristics.
- ▶ Information on daughters-in-law is included with the adult sons.

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# Panel Fixed Effects Results: Grandparenthood

**TABLE 2**  
Panel Fixed Effects Estimation of Grandparents' Labor Response to Grandchildren

Grandchild Measure ↓	Grandfathers			Grandmothers		
	Retired	Cond. Hrs Worked	In Labor Force	Retired	Cond. Hrs Worked	Non-Zero Hours
	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)
<u>Without interactions</u>						
1 {Grandparent}	0.082*** (0.012)	-49.567** (18.697)	-0.019* (0.010)	0.035*** (0.012)	-33.941 (21.757)	-0.023* (0.013)
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.69	0.44	0.64	0.69	0.58	0.46
F	149.72	11.74	237.96	90.23	61.25	139.98
<u>With interactions</u>						
1 {Grandparent}	0.081*** (0.012)	-46.992** (18.128)	-0.021* (0.011)	0.034*** (0.012)	-37.384* (21.851)	-0.024* (0.013)
* 1 {Early SS Elig}	0.022 (0.037)	-142.546* (78.979)	-0.012 (0.038)	0.009 (0.029)	52.55 (76.381)	0.052 (0.040)
* 1 {Full SS Elig}	0.006 (0.055)	124.057 (102.242)	0.024 (0.034)	0.005 (0.024)	245.329* (140.042)	-0.009 (0.057)
Margin	0.083*** (0.014)	-47.88** (18.77)	-0.018* (0.010)	0.035** (0.014)	-26.04 (22.08)	-0.023 (0.016)
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.69	0.45	0.64	0.69	0.58	0.46
F	138.11	9.89	209.07	79.46	52.25	143.04
N	44,249	30,590	43,614	61,963	43,232	61,963

\* p<0.10, \*\* p<0.05, \*\*\* p<0.01

# Panel Fixed Effects Results: Marginal Grandchild

**TABLE 3**  
Panel Fixed Effects Estimation of Grandparents' Labor Response to Grandchildren

Grandchild Measure ↓	Grandfathers			Grandmothers		
	Retired	Cond. Hrs Worked	In Labor Force	Retired	Cond. Hrs Worked	Non-Zero Hours
	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)
<u>Without interactions</u>						
<i>Child Count</i>	0.035*** (0.005)	-7.388 (7.378)	-0.011*** (0.004)	0.019*** (0.005)	-32.130*** (8.993)	-0.018*** (0.005)
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.71	0.49	0.64	0.72	0.61	0.49
F	109.039	19.08	116.444	73.132	64.805	94.355
<u>With interactions</u>						
<i>Child Count</i>	0.053*** (0.006)	-1.891 (6.363)	-0.023*** (0.005)	0.011* (0.005)	-31.647*** (8.632)	-0.011** (0.005)
* 1 { <i>Early SS Elig</i> }	-0.017** (0.007)	-49.354* (24.717)	0.006 (0.008)	0.035*** (0.006)	-8.014 (16.640)	-0.013* (0.007)
* 1 { <i>Full SS Elig</i> }	-0.043*** (0.012)	-25.075 (23.598)	0.030** (0.011)	0.011 (0.007)	1.502 (18.520)	-0.017** (0.007)
<i>Margin</i>	0.046*** (0.005)	-3.25 (6.51)	-0.018*** (0.004)	0.015*** (0.005)	-31.48*** (8.68)	-0.015*** (0.005)
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.71	0.49	0.64	0.72	0.61	0.49
F	106.62	17.37	105.68	74.47	57.23	104.58
N	130,584	91,653	129,127	179,780	130,678	179,780

\* p<0.10, \*\* p<0.05, \*\*\* p<0.01

## Endogeneity of Grandchild Measures

It is possible that grandchildren are being timed in response to grandparent labor force characteristics.

For example:

- ▶ Grandchildren might be timed for when grandparents are best able to provide time transfers, so the panel fixed effects model *overstates* the labor market effect.
- ▶ Or, grandchildren are timed for when grandparents are best able to provide financial transfers, so the panel fixed effects model *understates* the labor market effect.

# Instrumenting for Grandchild Count and Timing: Access to Contraception and Abortion

- ▶ Abortion- and contraception-access laws changed nationwide largely between 1960 and 1976, with most changes thereafter aimed at minors' access.
- ▶ Both laws have been shown in previous studies to change total fertility and fertility timing.
  - ▶ Abortion: Gruber, Levine, and Staiger (1999); Ananat, Gruber, and Levine (2007); Levine et. al (1999); Joyce, Ran, and Zheng (2013); Guldi (2008)
  - ▶ Contraception: Goldin and Katz (2002); Bailey (2006); Bailey (2010); Guldi (2008)



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# Abortion On-Demand Legalization Date, Women Over 17

**TABLE 4**  
**Abortion On-Demand Legalization Date for Women 18 and Over**

<b>Legalization Year</b> ↓	<b>18-20</b>	<b>21 and Over</b>
California	1969	1971
District of Columbia	1971	1974
Massachusetts	1973	1974
Missouri	1976	1976
New York	1970	1970
All Other States	1973	1973

*Roe v Wade* was decided on Jan 22, 1973, which legalized abortion for women 18 and over in most states. Missouri had a spousal consent requirement which was struck down on July 1, 1976 in *Planned Parenthood of Central Missouri v Danforth*. Massachusetts did not lower its age of legal majority to 18 until January 1974. California, DC, and New York legalized abortion on-demand prior to *Roe*.

# Contraception Access Legalization Date, Women Under 21

**TABLE 5**  
**Oral Contraception Access Legalization Date for Women Under 21, 1968-Present**

Legalization Year ↓	18-20	Under 18
Before 1968	AR, IL, MS, OH, UT	MS, OH
1968	KY, WA	WA
1970	KS, PA	KS
1971	AL, CO, CT, DC, GA, MD, NC, OR, TN, VA	AL, CO, DC, MD, OR, TN, VA
1972	AZ, CA, LA, ME, MI, SC, SD, WV, WI	GA, KY, SC
1973	FL, IN, IA, MN, NJ, NY, TX	AR
1974	MA	
1975		LA, NY, UT
1976		CA, MN
1977	MO	AZ, MA, NC
1978		WI
After 1978		MI (1980), PA (1997), WV (1992)

Source: Author's coding from state statutes, Bailey (2006), Bailey et al. (2011), Myers (2012, 2014)

# Distribution of Daughter/Daughter-in-Law Years of Birth

**TABLE 6**  
**In-Sample Daughter/Daughter-in-Law Year of Birth Distribution**

Year of Birth ↓	Grandfather Sample			Grandmother Sample		
	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Before 1940	9	0.2	0.2	33	0.6	0.6
1940-1944	41	1.0	1.2	87	1.5	2.0
1945-1949	255	6.0	7.1	476	8.0	10.1
1950-1954	781	18.3	25.4	1,212	20.5	30.6
1955-1959	958	22.4	47.8	1,439	24.3	54.9
1960-1964	996	23.3	71.1	1,384	23.4	78.3
1965-1969	698	16.3	87.4	783	13.2	91.5
1970-1974	340	8.0	95.4	341	5.8	97.3
After 1974	198	4.6	100.0	162	2.7	100.0

## Instrument for Grandchild Measures

$$\begin{aligned} GC_{igst} = & \pi_0 + \pi_1 PillAccess_{ist} + \pi_2 AbortionAccess_{ist} \\ & + \pi_3 AbortionAccess\_LT250_{ist} + \pi_4 AbortionAccess\_GT250 \\ & + \pi_5 PolicyLags_{ist} + \nu_{igst}, \end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $PillAccess_{ist}$  is adult child  $i$ 's access to oral contraception in year  $t$  and 1968 State  $s$ .
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- ▶  $AbortionAccess\_LT250_{ist}$  and  $AbortionAccess\_GT250_{ist}$  are dummies for whether adult child  $i$ 's is within the indicated number of miles from an abortion legalization state.
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## Identification

- ▶ The state-by-year variation in access to abortion creates a quasi-experimental framework that can be exploited in a DDD framework (year-by-state-by-woman's age).
- ▶ The identifying assumption is that there were no state/year changes coincident with the changes in access laws that also affected fertility.
- ▶ The state $\times$ year effects will control for any other changes in state  $s$  and year  $t$  that could affect fertility outcomes.

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# First-Stage Results

**TABLE 7**  
**First-Stage Estimates of Grandchild Measures from PSID**

Access Policy ↓	‡ {Grandparent}		Child Count	
	Grandfathers	Grandmothers	Grandfathers	Grandmothers
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)
<b>Pill Access</b>				
No Lag	-0.048*** (0.014)	-0.033* (0.018)	-0.151*** (0.021)	-0.134*** (0.025)
Lag (t-1)	0.043*** (0.011)	0.044*** (0.012)	0.004 (0.014)	0.012 (0.012)
Lag (t-8)	0.123*** (0.020)	0.128*** (0.016)	0.208*** (0.028)	0.234*** (0.026)
<b>Abortion Access</b>				
No Lag	-0.056 (0.038)	-0.056 (0.047)	-0.107*** (0.022)	-0.118*** (0.028)
Lag (t-1)	0.002 (0.012)	0.004 (0.011)	-0.023** (0.011)	-0.035*** (0.012)
Lag (t-8)	0.142*** (0.035)	0.138*** (0.027)	0.200*** (0.056)	0.193*** (0.040)
Adj R <sup>2</sup>	0.59	0.57	0.52	0.51
F-Statistic	2100.29	1465.84	2868.31	3657.70

\* p<0.10, \*\* p<0.05, \*\*\* p<0.01

## Second-Stage Results: Grandparenthood Status

TABLE 8  
2nd-Stage IV Results of Grandparents' Labor Response to Grandchildren

Grandchild Measure ↓	Grandfathers			Grandmothers		
	Retired (b/se)	Cond. Hrs Worked (b/se)	In Labor Force (b/se)	Retired (b/se)	Cond. Hrs Worked (b/se)	Non-Zero Hours (b/se)
<u>Without interactions</u>						
1 {Grandparent}	0.183*** (0.059)	-127.909 (169.099)	-0.032 (0.051)	0.078* (0.043)	-105.172 (129.804)	-0.123* (0.067)
<u>With interactions</u>						
1 {Grandparent}	0.197*** (0.057)	-205.735 (169.571)	-0.061 (0.050)	0.103** (0.045)	-118.803 (123.605)	-0.143** (0.066)
* 1 {Early SS Elig}	0.128 (0.106)	34.012 (206.709)	-0.1 (0.100)	0.375** (0.146)	479.479 (297.286)	-0.068 (0.113)
* 1 {Full SS Elig}	-0.062 (0.159)	585.26 (528.511)	-0.025 (0.118)	-0.158 (0.232)	292.783 (503.898)	0.256 (0.271)
Margin	0.195*** (0.057)	-190.362 (168.598)	-0.061 (0.057)	0.100** (0.051)	-92.197 (119.537)	-0.102** (0.070)
N	44,249	30,590	43,614	61,963	43,232	61,963

\* p<0.10, \*\* p<0.05, \*\*\* p<0.01

## Second-Stage Results: Marginal Grandchild

TABLE 9  
2nd-Stage IV Results of Grandparents' Labor Response to Grandchildren

Grandchild Measure ↓	Grandfathers			Grandmothers		
	Retired (b/se)	Cond. Hrs Worked (b/se)	In Labor Force (b/se)	Retired (b/se)	Cond. Hrs Worked (b/se)	Non-Zero Hours (b/se)
<u>Without interactions</u>						
<i>Child Count</i>	0.180*** (0.029)	-15.292 (94.152)	-0.096*** (0.026)	0.214*** (0.027)	-169.529** (67.214)	-0.184*** (0.027)
<u>With interactions</u>						
<i>Child Count</i>	0.265*** (0.030)	-28.856 (87.400)	-0.171*** (0.029)	0.232*** (0.031)	-129.551** (61.282)	-0.205*** (0.026)
* 1 { <i>Early SS Elig</i> }	-0.101*** (0.037)	81.964 (108.914)	0.073** (0.032)	0.090*** (0.011)	-21.836 (27.692)	-0.040*** (0.012)
* 1 { <i>Full SS Elig</i> }	-0.222*** (0.023)	34.433 (200.378)	0.079** (0.030)	0.077*** (0.014)	-56.433* (30.201)	-0.085*** (0.014)
<i>Margin</i>	0.227*** (0.028)	-26.688 (86.571)	-0.156*** (0.026)	0.248*** (0.031)	-131.703** (60.867)	-0.220*** (0.024)
N	130,584	91,653	129,127	179,780	130,678	179,780

\* p<0.10, \*\* p<0.05, \*\*\* p<0.01



## Robustness Checks

- 1 Check on small standard errors.
  - ▶ Make it a full DDD by including State $\times$ 10-Year Age Group and Year $\times$ 10-Year Age Group interactions.
- 2 Will include age as a 4th order polynomial to ensure that grandparenthood patterns are not coincident with other processes.

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# Robustness Check: Grandparenthood Status

TABLE 10  
PSID 2nd-Stage IV Results with Age as a 4th Order Polynomial

Grandchild Measure ↓	Grandfathers			Grandmothers		
	Retired	Cond. Hrs Worked	In Labor Force	Retired	Cond. Hrs Worked	Non-Zero Hours
	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)
<u>Without interactions</u>						
1 { Grandparent }	-0.02 (0.072)	187.7 (216.857)	0.05 (0.082)	-0.073 (0.067)	-163.78 (127.247)	-0.105 (0.078)
<u>With interactions</u>						
1 { Grandparent }	0.001 (0.070)	107.486 (231.141)	0.029 (0.075)	-0.074 (0.066)	-210.945* (119.919)	-0.092 (0.077)
× 1 { Early SS Elig }	0.024 (0.120)	3.405 (197.772)	-0.052 (0.119)	0.335*** (0.123)	781.044** (291.437)	0.101 (0.102)
× 1 { Full SS Elig }	-0.005 (0.192)	5.68 (359.882)	0.012 (0.184)	0.124 (0.148)	430.876 (428.006)	0.286 (0.182)
Margin	0.002 (0.094)	107.713 (230.806)	0.028 (0.085)	-0.029 (0.070)	-168.908* (119.890)	-0.033 (0.089)
N	43,444	29,782	42,913	61,411	42,679	61,411

\* p<0.10, \*\* p<0.05, \*\*\* p<0.01

# Robustness Check: Marginal Grandchild

TABLE 11  
PSID 2nd-Stage IV Results with Age as a 4th Order Polynomial

Grandchild Measure ↓	Grandfathers			Grandmothers		
	Retired (b/se)	Cond. Hrs Worked (b/se)	In Labor Force (b/se)	Retired (b/se)	Cond. Hrs Worked (b/se)	Non-Zero Hours (b/se)
<u>Without interactions</u>						
<i>Child Count</i>	0.041 (0.033)	-46.524 (86.363)	-0.002 (0.035)	0.132*** (0.028)	-30.271 (65.622)	-0.072* (0.041)
<u>With interactions</u>						
<i>Child Count</i>	0.075* (0.039)	6.639 (78.745)	-0.051 (0.039)	0.125*** (0.031)	-3.593 (61.123)	-0.061 (0.036)
× 1 { <i>Early SS Elig</i> }	-0.034 (0.035)	-17.869 (85.438)	0.049 (0.033)	0.064*** (0.009)	15.976 (24.268)	-0.009 (0.013)
× 1 { <i>Full SS Elig</i> }	-0.142*** (0.028)	-243.934 (230.174)	0.059 (0.039)	0.038** (0.016)	-30.532 (26.356)	-0.017 (0.016)
<i>Margin</i>	0.052* (0.040)	2.342 (78.554)	-0.039 (0.037)	0.134*** (0.032)	-4.1 (61.156)	-0.064 (0.036)
N	124,892	86,115	123,741	175,985	127,046	175,985

\* p<0.10, \*\* p<0.05, \*\*\* p<0.01

## What Does this Mean for LFP Trends Among Older Workers?

- ▶ Grandmothers have both an intensive and extensive margin response, commensurate with the idea that at least some portion of childcare is done at the expense of the grandmomther's labor supply.
- ▶ Grandfathers, on the other hand, seem to have exclusively an extensive margin response, and so may have been missed by other researchers.
- ▶ If grandparenthood pushes men out of the labor force, what role did the Baby Boom play in the 1970-1994 drop in older men's labor force participation? How is the current Baby Bust affecting labor force participation in this cohort?

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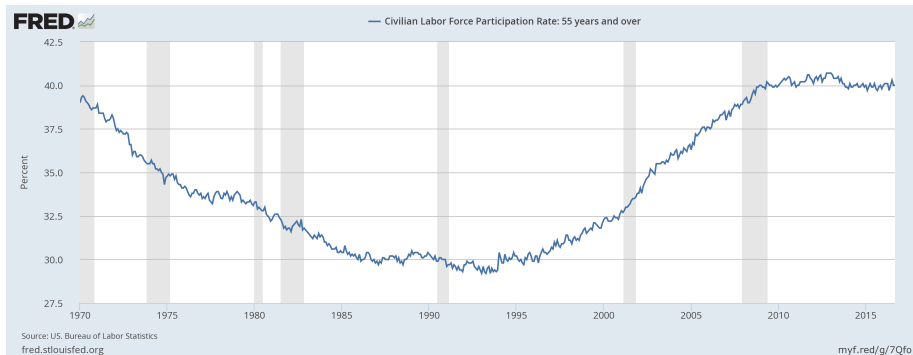
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## Simulating the LFP Rate Among Older Workers

- ▶ Labor force participation among those 55 and over has seen major shifts over the postwar period.
- ▶ Based on the results above, what role do national-level changes in grandparenthood play in these trends?
- ▶ Will extend the method of Blau and Goodstein (2010), who use a synthetic panel to simulate various alternative explanations for postwar LFP trends.



# Simulating the LFP Rate Among Older Workers

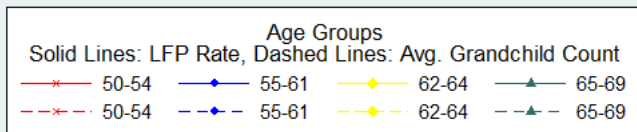
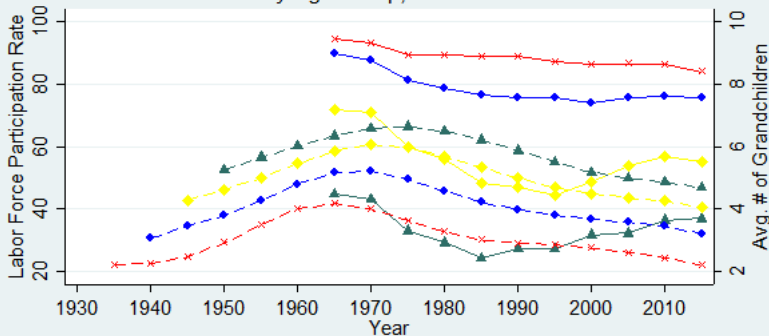


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# Simulating the LFP Rate Among Older Workers

Labor Force Participation Rates and Avg. # of Grandchildren  
By Age Group, 1935-2015



## Simulating the LFP Rate Among Older Workers

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- ▶ Based on the results above, what role do national-level changes in grandparenthood play in these trends?
- ▶ Will extend the method of Blau and Goodstein (2010), who use a synthetic panel to simulate various alternative explanations for postwar LFP trends.

## Blau and Goodstein Extension

I extend their main estimation that approximates the employment decision rule by adding grandparent measures:

$$\begin{aligned} LFP_{eabt} = & \delta_0 + \delta_1 GP\_Measure_{eabt} + \delta_2 SSB65_{eb} + \delta_3 (SSB62_{eb} - SSB65_{eb}) \\ & + \delta_4 (SSB62_{eb} - SSB65_{eb}) + \delta_5 AME_{eb} + \delta_6 DisabilityBenefit_{eabt} \\ & + \delta_7 \ln(PredictedWage_{eat}) + \delta_8 Demographics_{eabt} + \delta_9 EducationGroup_e \\ & + \delta_{10} Year_t + \delta_{11} BirthYear_b + \delta_{12} Age_a + u_{eabt}, \end{aligned}$$

Where  $GP\_Measure_{eabt}$  is either:

- 1 Fraction Grandfather
- 2 Avg. Number of Grandchildren

I also interact the grandparent measures with the employment decision variables.

# Employment Decision Regressions

**TABLE 12**  
**Panel Regression of Older Men's National Labor Force Participation Rates ( $N = 4, 121$ )**

	Time Trends (1)	4 YOB FE (2)	Time Trends (3)	4 YOB FE (4)
	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)
	Fraction Grandparent Regressions		Average Grandchild Count Regressions	
<u>Without interactions</u>				
<i>GP_Measure</i>	-0.627*** (0.064)	-0.588*** (0.200)	-7.756*** (0.793)	-7.269*** (2.468)
<u>With interactions</u>				
<i>GP_Measure</i>	-0.946*** (0.125)	-0.780*** (0.217)	-12.708*** (1.465)	-9.530*** (2.633)
× SSB65	-0.036*** (0.006)	-0.038*** (0.008)	-0.339*** (0.071)	-0.360*** (0.090)
× (SSB62-SSB65)	-0.003 (0.008)	-0.015 (0.013)	0.032 (0.094)	-0.052 (0.145)
× (SSB70-SSB65)	0.012** (0.006)	0.028*** (0.007)	0.062 (0.070)	0.269*** (0.076)
× Avg. Earnings	-0.003*** (0.001)	-0.001 (0.001)	-0.038*** (0.007)	-0.007 (0.008)
× Disability Benefit	0.024*** (0.003)	0.029*** (0.003)	0.240*** (0.028)	0.285*** (0.029)
× Log Predicted Wage	0.456*** (0.029)	0.274*** (0.032)	5.095*** (0.359)	3.023*** (0.391)
Adj. $R^2$	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98
F	187.017	163.484	182.300	160.005

\*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

## Employment Decision Regressions

- ▶ Reassuringly, grandparenthood decreases LFP, just as in the PSID, micro-level regressions.
- ▶ Grandparenthood is a significant factor by any metric, including in the interactions. This reinforces the hypothesis that the grandchild channel for grandfathers acts by raising their reservation wages.
- ▶ The signs on the uninteracted employment decision variables, however, largely have the opposite of expected signs.
- ▶ The net margins (fortunately) are as predicted. They suggest that the grandparenthood effect measured here is very similar to the Table 8 results: a 10% increase in grandparenthood would decrease the LFP rate by about 2%.

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# Employment Decision Regressions

**TABLE 12**  
**Marginal Effects for Interacted Variables**

	% Grandparent		Grandchild Count	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)	(b/se)
<i>GP_Measure</i>	-0.187***	-0.129***	-4.087***	-2.525***
	(0.087)	(0.199)	(1.024)	(2.455)
SSB65	-0.140***	0.114***	-0.136***	0.080***
	(0.126)	(0.138)	(0.128)	(0.139)
(SSB62-SSB65)	-0.128	-0.134	-0.187	-0.169
	(0.177)	(0.197)	(0.175)	(0.200)
(SSB70-SSB65)	0.251	0.067***	0.291	0.096***
	(0.097)	(0.119)	(0.098)	(0.121)
Lifetime Avg. Monthly Earnings	0.100***	0.051**	0.074***	0.035*
	(0.012)	(0.012)	(0.011)	(0.012)
Monthly Disability Benefit	-0.213***	-0.292***	-0.176***	-0.250***
	(0.039)	(0.039)	(0.039)	(0.040)
Log Predicted Wage	-4.277***	-2.081***	-3.494***	-1.509***
	(0.811)	(0.788)	(0.807)	(0.786)
Birth Cohort Time Trends	Y	Y	Y	Y
4-Year Birth Cohort FE's	N	Y	N	Y

\*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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## Counterfactuals

So how much would changes in fertility ultimately have reshaped the observed LFP rate? I explore 4 scenarios:

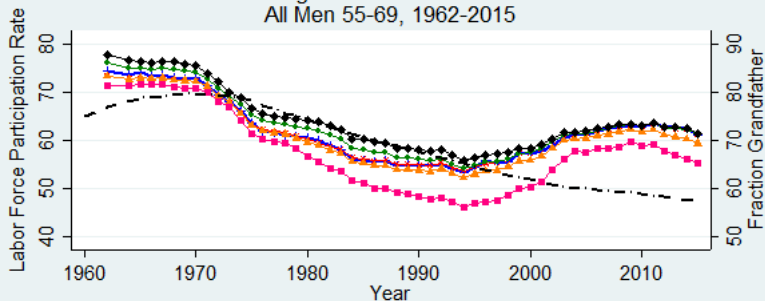
- 1 **No Baby Boom:** I assume that the post-WWII “boom” never happened, so that the birth rate was essentially unchanged from 1939 to 1965.
- 2 **No Roe:** I assume that abortion was never nationally legalized, and extend the birth rates observed in 1970-1972 outwards to the present.
- 3 **Ultra Low Fertility:** I assume that the birth rate for the last 100 years has been the same as the minimum one observed, which nationally was 2015’s value of 12.4.
- 4 **Ultra High Fertility:** I assume that the birth rate for the last 100 years has been the same as the maximum one observed, which nationally was 1957’s value of 24.9.

# Fertility Simulations

## Predicted LFP Rates by Grandparent Status Scenario

Including Benefit Level Interactions

All Men 55-69, 1962-2015



### Scenarios

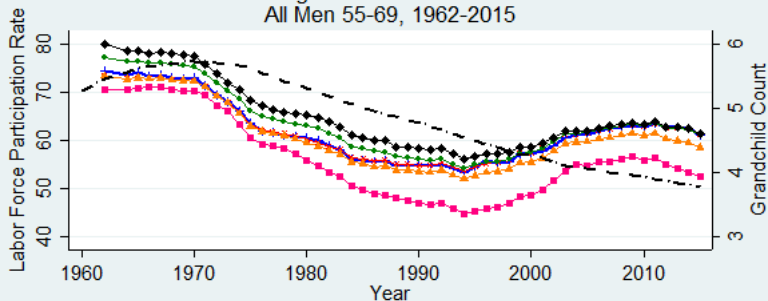
- +— Observed LFP
- x— Predicted LFP
- ♦— No Baby Boom
- ♦— Ultra Low Fertility
- ▲— No Roe
- Ultra High Fertility
- - - - - Fraction Grandfathers

# Fertility Simulations

## Predicted LFP Rates by Avg. Grandchild Count Scenario

Including Benefit Level Interactions

All Men 55-69, 1962-2015



### Scenarios

- Observed LFP
- Predicted LFP
- No Baby Boom
- No Roe
- Ultra Low Fertility
- Ultra High Fertility
- Average # Grandchildren

## Conclusion

- ▶ Grandparents do reduce labor force participation in response to grandchildren.
  - ▶ Grandfathers are 18.3%-19.5% more likely to be retired than the grandchildless, and become 9.6%-15.6% less likely to be in the labor force and 18%-22.7% more likely to be retired with each additional grandchild.
  - ▶ Grandmothers are 7.8%-10% more likely to be retired and 10.2%-12.3% less likely to report non-zero working hours than the grandchildless.
  - ▶ Grandmothers work 131.7-169.5 fewer hours per year with each additional grandchild.
- ▶ OLS and descriptive approaches *underestimate* the impact of grandchildren on both grandmothers and grandfathers.
- ▶ Other studies have focused on grandmothers' help to new mothers, but there is evidence here that grandfathers play an important but understudied role in family time transfers.
- ▶ However, in simulations, changes in grandfatherhood would not have undone the trends in older worker's observed postwar LFP rates.

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