

Dafeng XU

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EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy and Governance
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology
Faculty Affiliate, eScience Institute
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Environmental Politics
Faculty Affiliate, Future Rivers Program, College of the Environment
University of Washington, 2019 - present

Postdoctoral Scholar, Institute for Social Research and Data Innovation
University of Minnesota, 2016 - 2019

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, City & Regional Planning, and Demography (minor)
Cornell University, 2013 - 2016

Master of Science, Systems Engineering
University of Pennsylvania, 2011 - 2013

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science
Peking University, 2007 - 2011

BOOKS

[B1] **Xu, D.** 2026. *Chinatown: San Francisco's 1906 Earthquake and the Paradox of American Immigration Policy*. Johns Hopkins University Press.

ARTICLES UNDER REVISION

[R3] **Xu, D.** "Drivers Licensing Laws for Undocumented Immigrants in the U.S.: The Environmental Implications and the Role of Public Transit", *Sustainable Cities and Society*, 2nd round R&R.

[R2] Liao, L., J. Lu, **D. Xu**, Z. Jiao, and K. Gu. "Unraveling Planning Organizations: How Diversity, Capacity and Leadership Shape Equity Considerations in California City General Plans?", *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 4th round R&R.

[R1] **Xu, D.** "Mass Rapid Transit and the Transitioning Labor Market in Lagos", *Research in Transportation Business & Management*, 1st round R&R.

PUBLISHED PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

[A30] **Xu, D.**, and Y. Zhang. 2026. "Post-Disaster Healthcare Inaccessibility, Infrastructure Deficits, and Individual-Level Risk Prediction: Evidence from Zambia", *Journal of Transport Geography*, Article 104849.

[A29] **Xu, D.** forthcoming. "Social Networks and Transportation Efficiency: Ethnic Concentration and Carpool Commutes Among Hispanic Workers in the U.S.", *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, OnlineFirst.

[A28] Sun, Z., and **D. Xu**. 2026. "The Boreholes Alongside the New Roads: Improving

Drinking Accessibility in Water-Scarce Communities in Northern Benin”, *Utilities Policy*, 103, Article 102305.

[A27] Yin, Z., S. Feng, and **D. Xu**. 2026. “Overcoming Transportation Barriers: Women’s Healthcare Autonomy and Car Travel for Healthcare in Tanzania”, *Case Studies on Transport Policy*, 24, Article 101772.

[A26] Tomes, A., S. Gholami, D. Alia, C. Hennesey, **D. Xu**, C. Bitz, R. Dodhia, J. L. Ferres, and C. L. Anderson. 2025. “Assessing the Utility of Machine Learning for Predicting Food Sufficiency: A Case Study in Malawi”, *Data & Policy*, 7, Article e52.

[A25] Zhang, Y., and **D. Xu**. 2025. “The Effects of IP Revelation on Location-Based Name-Calling and User Engagement: Evidence from a Chinese Online Platform”, *Journal of the Association for Information Systems*, 26(5), 1268-1293.

[A24] **Xu, D.** 2025. “Building Cleaner Communities in Equatorial Africa: Road Upgrades and Household Waste Management in Northern Benin”, *Environmental Development*, 54, Article 101179.

[A23] **Xu, D.** 2025. “Nigeria’s Rural-Urban Inequality in Drinking Water Accessibility as a Socioeconomic Outcome”, *Utilities Policy*, 93, Article 101864.

[A22] **Xu, D.**, and Adler Kang. 2025. “The Administrative Mechanism Behind Sustainable Waste Disposal Practices: Evidence from State-Level Specific Authorities in Nigeria”, *Growth and Change*, 56(2), e70029.

[A21] **Xu, D.** 2024. “Effect of Environmental Regulation on Sustainable Household Waste Management in Nigeria”, *Utilities Policy*, 91, Article 101823.

[A20] Zhang, Y., and **D. Xu**. 2024. “Transportation Upgrades and Structural Transformation in the Labor Market: Evidence from a Road Improvement Project in Benin”, *Transport Economics and Management*, 2, 143 - 153.

[A19] **Xu, D.** 2024. “Tracking the Adoption of Sustainable Trash Disposal Practices: Evidence from Benin’s Waste Management amid Urbanization”, *Urban Governance*, 4(3), 198 - 209.

[A18] Zhang, Y., and **D. Xu**. 2024. “Public Transit Commuting Among U.S. Immigrants: The Role of English Skills”, *Travel Behaviour and Society*, 37, Article 100840.

[A17] **Xu, D.** 2024. “The Expatriation Act of 1907, Marital Assimilation, and Citizenship-Based Inter marriage in the U.S.”, *History of the Family*, 29(2), 299 - 329.

[A16] **Xu, D.** 2024. “The Wording Matters: Gender Equality Laws and Women’s Attitudes Towards Domestic Violence in Africa”, *Social Science & Medicine*, 345, Article 116668.

[A15] Zhang, Y., and **D. Xu**. 2023. “Who Joins Which Network, and Why?”, *Social Network Analysis and Mining*, 13, Article 127.

[A14] Zhang, Y., and **D. Xu**. 2023. “Service on the Rise, Agriculture and Manufacturing in Decline: The Labor Market Effects of High-speed Rail Services in Spain”, *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*, 171, Article 103617.

[A13] Zhang, S., **D. Xu**, and B. Zhao. “‘Small’ Analysis of Big Data: An Evaluation of the Effects of Social Distancing in the United States”, *Methodological Innovations*, 2022,

15(2), 142 - 151.

[A12] **Xu, D.**, and Y. Zhang. 2022. “Immigrants’ Language Skills and Carpooling as Need-Based Social Networking: Evidence from Large-Scale National Survey Data”, *Travel Behaviour and Society*, 2022, 29, 236 - 245.

[A11] Zhang, Y., and **D. Xu**. 2022. “The Bus Is Arriving: Population Growth and Public Transportation Ridership in Rural America”, *Journal of Rural Studies*, 95, 467 - 474.

[A10] **Xu, D.**, and Y. Zhang. “Identifying Ethnic Occupational Segregation”, *Journal of Population Economics*, 2022, 35, 1261 - 1296.

[A9] **Xu, D.** “Physical Mobility under Stay-at-Home Orders: A Comparative Analysis of Movement Restrictions between the U.S. and Europe”, *Economics and Human Biology*, 2021, 40, Article 100936.

[A8] **Xu, D.** “*Free Wheel, Free Will!* The Effects of Bikeshare Systems on Urban Commuting Patterns in the U.S.”, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 2020, 39(3), 664 - 685.

[A7] **Xu, D.** “The Effects of Immigration Restriction Laws on Immigrant Segregation in the Early Twentieth Century U.S.”, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2020, 48(2), 422 - 447.

[A6] **Xu, D.** “Educational Assortative Mating among Mexican Families: Are Migrants Different?”, *Marriage & Family Review*, 2019, 55(4), 366 - 383.

[A5] **Xu, D.** “Surname-Based Ethnicity and Ethnic Segregation in the Early Twentieth Century U.S.”, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 2019, 77, 1 - 19.

[A4] **Xu, D.** “*Burn Calories, Not Fuel!* The Effects of Bikeshare Programs on Obesity Rates”, *Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment*, 2019, 67, 89 - 108.

[A3] **Xu, D.** “Transportation Assimilation Revisited: New Evidence from Repeated Cross-Sectional Survey Data”, *PLoS ONE*, 2018, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194296>.

[A2] **Xu, D.** “Acculturational Homophily”, *Economics of Education Review*, 2017, 59, 29 - 42.

[A1] **Xu, D.**, G. Song, P. Gao, R. Cao, X. Nie, and K. Xie. “Transportation Modes Identification from Mobile Phone Data Using Probabilistic Models”, *Advanced Data Mining and Applications*, 2011, 2, 359 - 371.

NON-PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS & REPORTS

[N3] Zhang, Y., and **D. Xu**. 2023. “Ethnic Occupational Segregation”, in *Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics*, Springer, edited by Klaus F. Zimmermann.

[N2] Warren, J. R., F. Pfeffer, J. Helgertz, **D. Xu**. “Linking 1940 U.S. Census Data to the Panel Study of Income Dynamics: Technical Documentation”

[N1] Warren, J. R., F. Pfeffer, J. Helgertz, **D. Xu**. “Linking 1940 U.S. Census Data to the Health and Retirement Survey: Technical Documentation”

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

2026-2027: Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NAS-PAA) Conference.

2025-2026: Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG) Conference, Public Management Research Conference (PMRC), Association of Public Policy and Management (APPAM) Conference, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference.

2024-2025: U Washington, ACSP.

2023-2024: APPAM, Journal of the Association for Information Systems (JAIS) Workshop, ACSP.

2022-2023: ACSP, International Association for China Planning (IACP) Conference, Global Labor Organization (GLO) Workshop.

2021-2022: Cornell University.

2020-2021: Urban Economics Association (UEA); Jinan U (IESR); Population Association of America (PAA).

2019-2020: APPAM; U Washington; 13th Migration and Development Conference (World Bank).

2018-2019: Minnesota Population Center; APPAM; ASSA; PAA; UT-San Antonio, James Madison U, U Washington, UNC-Charlotte, Rutgers-New Brunswick, USC, George Mason U.

2017-2018: U Minnesota; 11th Migration and Development Conference (Stanford); PAA; Association of American Geographers (AAG); APPAM.

2016-2017: UEA; PAA.

2015-2016: North American Regional Science Congress (NARSC); Cornell; Royal Economic Society; PAA; 9th Migration and Development Conference (EUI); Urban Economics Association-Europe (UEA-Europe); European Population Conference.

2014-2015: NARSC; Cornell; PAA; Society of Labor Economists; American Sociological Association; UEA-Europe.

2013-2014: UEA-Europe.

TEACHING

Quantitative Analysis I, Winter 2020, Winter 2021, Winter 2022, Winter 2023, Winter 2026.

GIS for Public Policy (Graduate), Winter 2020, Winter 2021, Winter 2022, Winter 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Winter 2026.

GIS for Public Policy (Undergraduate), Spring 2026.

Data Science for Public Policy, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Fall 2025.

Immigration Policy, Spring 2021.

Data Science, Economy, and Policy, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023.

Natural Language Processing for Public Policy, Spring 2024, Winter 2025.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Guest Editor:

Environmental Policy and Governance Special Issue (Chinas Environmental Governance in Transition: Lessons and Challenges)

Reviewer:

African Identities, Archives of Public Health, Asia-Pacific Journal of Regional Science, Applied Economics, Applied Geography, Big Data & Society, BMJ Public Health, BMJ Global Health, Cities, Conference on Information Systems and Technology, Data & Policy, Demography, Discover Global Society, Economic Modelling, Economics & Human Biology, Economics of Education Review, Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space, Environmental and Sustainability Indicators, Environmental Challenges, Envi-

ronmental Research: Health, Heliyon, International Journal of Intercultural Relations, Journal of Asian Economics, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Journal of Planning Education and Research, Journal of Psychology in Africa, Journal of Public Health Policy, Journal of Rural Studies, Journal of Transport Geography, Journal of Tourism History, Journal of Urban Management, North American Actuarial Journal, Personality and Individual Differences, PLoS ONE, Policy & Law Horizons, Research in Transportation Business & Management, Research in Transportation Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Social Currents, Social Network Analysis and Mining, Social Science Computer Review, Social Sciences & Humanities Open, Social Science Research, Sociological Perspectives, Sustainable Futures, Transport Policy, Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives, Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice, Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment, Urban Studies, Utilities Policy, Violence and Gender, World Development Sustainability.