

Heidi Shierholz, Ph.D.

Home Address

721 Silver Spring Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20910

(202) 257-2362
hshierholz@epi.org

Work Address

1225 Eye St. NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

Work History

Economic Policy Institute

President

August 2021 – Present

Washington, DC

Economic Policy Institute

Senior Economist and Director of Policy

January 2017 – August 2021

Washington, DC

- Set goals and priorities for highly productive and effective federal policy program.
- Lead team of four policy professionals using collaborative and supportive management style. Attract and retain talented, high-performing staff.
- Develop and cultivate relationships with policymakers, unions, and coalition partners to increase EPI's influence and effectiveness. Regularly brief and collaborate with these stakeholders on economic issues and policy priorities.
- Produce research and analysis on economic policy. Edit and assure quality of team members' work.
- Represent EPI's economic and policy priorities on tv, radio, and in print media.
- Represent the policy team as an active member of senior staff. Participate in decisions related to internal EPI operations and participate in board meetings and executive committee meetings.
- Develop and implement an EPI-wide system to track lobbying and C4 activities for reporting purposes.
- Explore and secure new sources of revenue for the organization.
- Participate in hiring committees throughout EPI.
- As an active member of EPI's DEI committee, help establish priorities for EPI's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, with the goal of EPI becoming a truly anti-racist organization and a leader in the movement for equity.

U.S. Department of Labor

Chief Economist

August 2014-January 2017

Washington, DC

- Advised the Secretary of Labor on matters relating to the labor market and the broader economy, including the economic impacts of administration policy initiatives and general economic developments.
- Worked with political appointees at the Department of Labor (DOL) and the White House to develop, refine, and enact administration policy.
- Developed, reviewed, and approved economic impact analyses for DOL regulations. Negotiated with and secured sign-off from the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the White House.
- Authored blog posts and gave presentations and interviews on the economy and DOL policy initiatives.

Economic Policy Institute

Economist

2007-2014

Washington, DC

University of Toronto

Assistant Professor of Economics

2005-2007

Ontario, Canada

Pre-Ph.D. Professional Experience

- Lecturer in Mathematics, St. Olaf College. Calculus I, Calculus II, Intro to Statistics (1998-1999)
- Lecturer in Statistics, Grinnell College (1998)
- Statistician, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C. (1996-1997)

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY

- Testimony before the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. “The Civil Rights Implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic,” April 28, 2021.
- Testimony before the House Committee on Small Business. “Perspectives from Main Street: Raising the Wage,” February 24, 2024.
- Testimony before the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. “Implementation of Title IV of the CARES Act,” June 2, 2020.
- Testimony before the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor. “Restoring the Value of Work: Evaluating DOL’s Efforts to Undermine Strong Overtime Protections,” June 12, 2019.
- Testimony before the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce. “Regulatory Reform: Unleashing Economic Opportunity for Workers and Employers,” May 23, 2018.
- Testimony before the Subcommittee on Economic Policy of the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. “Dreams Deferred: Young Workers and Recent Graduates in the U.S. Economy,” June 25th, 2014.
- Testimony before the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress at a hearing on “Empowerment in the Workplace,” June 18th, 2014.
- Testimony before the Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement of the House Committee on the Judiciary, Hearing on “New Jobs in Recession and Recovery: Who Are [sic] Getting Them and Who Are [sic] Not,” March 10th, 2011.
- Testimony before the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support of the House Committee on Ways and Means, Hearing on the Unemployment Insurance Provisions in ARRA, April 23rd, 2009.
- Testimony before the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support of the House Committee on Ways and Means, Hearing on Extending Unemployment Insurance, April 10th, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENTATOR

- **Selected media appearances:** NBC Nightly News, CBS Evening News, The Today Show, Matter of Fact with Soledad O’Brien, MSNBC, CNN, CNBC, CSPAN, Fox Business, Bloomberg, NPR, PRI, New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times
- **Selected speaking engagements:** Council on Foreign Relations, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, City University of New York, Labor and Employment Relations Association, Brookings Institution, Peterson Institute for International Economics, Iowa State University, CLE seminar offered by the Office of the Minnesota Attorney General
- 12,700 mentions in media reports in 2020

SELECTED RECENT REPORTS

- “Downturn in strike activity reflects COVID-19 recession but fails to capture many walkouts for worker safety,” EPI report with Margaret Poydock and Celine McNicholas, February 2021.
- “Union workers had more job security during the pandemic, but unionization remains historically low: Data on union representation in 2020 reinforce the need for dismantling barriers to union organizing,” EPI report with Celine McNicholas and Margaret Poydock, January 2021.
- “Why unions are good for workers—especially in a crisis like COVID-19: 12 policies that would boost worker rights, safety, and wages,” EPI report with Celine McNicholas, Lynn Rhinehart, Margaret Poydock, and Daniel Perez, August 2020.
- “Domestic workers chartbook: A comprehensive look at the demographics, wages, benefits, and poverty rates of the professionals who care for our family members and clean our homes,” EPI report with Julia Wolfe, Jori Kandra, and Lora Engdahl, May 2020.

- “Continued surge in strike activity signals worker dissatisfaction with wage growth,” EPI report with Margaret Poydock, February 2020.
- “Noncompete agreements: Ubiquitous, harmful to wages and to competition, and part of a growth trend of employers requiring workers to sign away their rights,” EPI report with Alex Colvin, December 2019.
- “Working people have been thwarted in their efforts to bargain for better wages by attacks on unions,” EPI report, August 2019.
- “Unchecked corporate power: Forced arbitration, the enforcement crisis, and how workers are fighting back,” EPI report with Kate Hamaji, Rachel Deutsch, Elizabeth Nicolas, Celine McNicholas, and Margaret Poydock, May 2019.
- “More than 8 million workers will be left behind by the Trump overtime proposal,” EPI Report, April 2019.
- “What labor market changes have generated inequality and wage suppression?” EPI Report with Josh Bivens, December 2018.
- “First Day Fairness: An agenda to build worker power and ensure job quality,” with Celine McNicholas and Samantha Sanders, August 2018.
- “Right-to-work is wrong for Missouri: A breadth of national evidence shows why Missouri voters should reject RTW law,” EPI report with Janelle Jones, July 2018.
- “Supreme Court decision in *Janus* threatens the quality of public-sector jobs and public services: Key data on the roles these workers fill and the pay gaps they face,” EPI report with Celine McNicholas, June 2018.
- “Workers’ health, safety, and pay are among the casualties of Trump’s war on regulations: A deregulation year in review,” EPI Report with Celine McNicholas and Marni von Wilpert, January 2018.
- “Women would lose \$4.6 billion in earned tips if the administrations ‘tip stealing’ rule is finalized: Overall, workers would lose \$5.8 billion,” EPI Report with David Cooper, Julia Wolfe, and Ben Zipperer, Jan 2018.
- “What union coverage numbers might look like without NLRA preemption,” Working paper prepared for a symposium on NLRA preemption hosted by the Harvard Labor and Worklife Program, September 2017.
- “The first 100 days: President Trump’s top priorities include rolling back protections to workers’ wages, health, and safety,” EPI Report with Celine McNicholas, Josh Bivens, and Daniel Costa, April 2017.

SELECTED PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCIES

- “EPI comment on the withdrawal of the independent contractor rule,” with Margaret Poydock, April 2021.
- “EPI comment on the rescission of the joint employer rule,” with Margaret Poydock, April 2021.
- “EPI comment on independent contractor status under the Fair Labor Standards Act,” October 2020.
- “EPI comment on the Department of Labor’s proposed rule regarding tip regulations,” with Margaret Poydock, December 2019.
- “Proposed rule to privatize the federal Employment Service would likely reduce services for unemployed workers,” with Celine McNicholas and Margaret Poydock, July 2019.
- “EPI comments regarding the Department of Labor’s proposed joint employer standard,” with Celine McNicholas, June 2019.
- “EPI comment regarding the Department of Labor’s proposed overtime rule,” May 2019.
- “EPI comments regarding the NLRB’s standard for determining joint-employer status,” with John Schmitt and Celine McNicholas, February 2019.
- “EPI comments on proposed information collection on 2020 Census,” August 2018.
- “EPI comment regarding DOL’s proposed ‘tip stealing’ rule,” February 2018.
- “EPI comment on the proposed 18-month delay of key provisions of the fiduciary rule,” September 2017.

EXPERT WITNESS

- Expert witness in *State of New York, et al. vs. Eugene Scalia, et al. on the economics of the U.S. Department of Labor's joint employer rule*. 2020.
- Expert witness in *AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Council 61 et al. vs. the State of Missouri on the economics of just cause provisions*. 2019.

BOOKS AND CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

- Chapter in *Combating Inequality: Rethinking Government's Role*. Olivier Blanchard and Dani Rodrik, eds. The MIT Press. 2021.
- "Fair Competition in Labor Markets Requires a Policymaker's Thumb on the Workers' Side of the Scale," with Josh Bivens. Chapter in *Inequality and the Labor Market: The Case for Greater Competition*. Sharon Block and Benjamin H. Harris, eds. Brookings Institution Press. 2021.
- "Is there Really a Shortage of Skilled Workers?" Chapter in *Restoring Shared Prosperity: A Policy Agenda from Leading Keynesian Economists*. Thomas I. Palley and Gustav A. Horn, eds. 2013.
- "The Great Recession's Impact on Jobs, Wages, and Incomes," with Josh Bivens. Chapter in *The Handbook of The Political Economy of Financial Crises*. Martin H. Wolfson and Gerald A. Epstein, eds. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- "A lost decade, not a burst bubble: the declining living standards of middle-class households in the US and Britain," with Lawrence Mishel. Chapter in *The Squeezed Middle*, Sophia Parker, ed. Bristol, UK: Policy Press, 2013.
- *The State of Working America, 12th Edition*, with Lawrence Mishel, Josh Bivens, and Elise Gould. An Economic Policy Institute Book. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2012
- "The US Labor Market." Chapter in *The Oxford Companion to American Politics*. David Coates, ed. Oxford University Press, June 2012.
- *The State of Working America, 2008/2009*, with Lawrence Mishel and Jared Bernstein. An Economic Policy Institute Book. Ithaca, N.Y.: ILR Press, an imprint of Cornell University Press, 2009.

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Economics, University of Michigan (2005)
- M.A., Economics, University of Michigan (2001)
- M.S., Statistics, Iowa State University (1996)
- B.A., Mathematics, Grinnell College (1994)