

Haeseong Park

✉ haeseong.park@colorado.edu
 🌐 haeseongpark-econ.github.io

University of Colorado Boulder
 Department of Economics
 256 UCB
 Boulder, CO 80309

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Colorado Boulder	<i>May 2027 (expected)</i>
M.A. Economics, University of Colorado Boulder	<i>2023</i>
M.A. Economics, Sungkyunkwan University	<i>2020</i>
B.A. History, Sungkyunkwan University	<i>2016</i>

FIELD OF INTERESTS

Environmental Economics, Urban Economics, Labor Economics

JOB MARKET PAPER

Agglomeration Beyond Productivity: Economic Organization and Resilience to Natural Disasters

Agglomeration generates economic benefits by concentrating economic activity, but whether these same urban structures amplify or mitigate vulnerability to natural disasters remains unclear. I examine how industrial composition, road networks, and trade linkages shape disaster resilience across U.S. metropolitan areas. Natural disasters reduce local economic activity by approximately 3 percent on average. Valuing the associated loss in electricity service, the median estimated economic loss is equivalent to approximately 14 percent of monthly MSA GDP. The effect varies substantially with urban structure. Greater industrial concentration more than doubles the decline, whereas more centralized road networks and stronger intra-city goods sourcing reduce it by around half. The effects of industrial concentration also depend on where that concentration occurs, with concentration in Manufacturing mitigating disaster impacts and concentration in Accommodation, Wholesale Trade, and Transportation and in Health and Education amplifying them. These findings show that urban structures associated with agglomeration can either amplify or mitigate disaster impacts, making resilience an important dimension of how the benefits and costs of agglomeration are evaluated.

WORKING PAPERS

Who Bears the Cost of Staying Urban? -Skill-Differentiated Migration Responses to Natural Disasters

This paper examines how natural disasters shape migration responses of high-skilled and low-skilled workers across metropolitan and rural areas in the United States. I measure within commuting zone migration using a binary location choice framework that accounts for disaster conditions in both the current place of residence and potential next destinations. Using disaster driven monetary losses, I find that a one percent increase in four year cumulative disaster damage growth raises out migration of low-skilled workers from metropolitan areas by 1.44 percentage points, while high-skilled inflows rise by 0.63 percentage points. I also consider a measure of relative spatial disaster exposure, defined as the likelihood that surrounding areas experience greater damage than the focal location. A one percentage point increase in this measure raises low-skilled population growth in rural areas by 2.58 percentage points over four years and 1.79 percentage points over five years, while generating no comparable response in metropolitan areas. Overall, the results show that natural disasters reinforce skill based

spatial sorting, shifting low-skilled workers away from urban areas, with implications for unequal access to the opportunities provided by cities and longer run inequality across skill groups.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Local Economic Structure and Young Firm Survival After Disasters

Mobility-Driven Economic Interdependence and the Spatial Propagation of Disaster Shocks

RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, The Rocky Mountain Research Data Center (RMRDC)

- Graduate Research Assistant *Aug 2023- Present*
- Instructor, Graduate Course on Federal Data for Health Research and Policy *Spring 2024, Spring 2025*

Instructor of Record

- Principles of Macroeconomics, CU Boulder *Summer 2025*
- Natural Resource Economics, CU Boulder *Fall 2025*

Teaching Assistant

- Principles of Microeconomics, University of Colorado Boulder *Fall 2021, Fall 2022-Spring 2023, Fall 2026*
- Principles of Macroeconomics, University of Colorado Boulder *Spring 2022, Spring 2025*

Professional Service

- Organizer, Graduate Student Seminar, University of Colorado Boulder *Fall 2024-Present*

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Bacon Family ECON Graduate Scholarship, University of Colorado Boulder	<i>2025</i>
Third Year Paper Prize, University of Colorado Boulder	<i>2024</i>
Reuben A. Zubrow Fellowship in Economics, University of Colorado Boulder	<i>2024</i>
Graduate Award for Public Policy Research, University of Colorado Boulder	<i>2023</i>
Bacon Family ECON Graduate Scholarship	<i>2022</i>

PRESENTATIONS

2026:

Urban Economics Association Summer School 2026 London

Western Economic Association International 101st Annual Conference

20th North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association (Scheduled)

Southern Economics Association 96th Annual Meeting (Scheduled)

2025:

Successfully Navigating Your Economics PhD workshop, AEA Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP) South, Southern Economics Association (SEA)

University of Colorado Boulder Graduate Student Seminar

University of Colorado Boulder Applied Economics Seminar

University of Colorado Boulder Environmental Economics Seminar

2024:

14th Annual Front Range Energy and Environmental Economics Camp

University of Colorado Boulder Environmental Economics Seminar

University of Colorado Boulder Graduate Student Seminar

2023:

13th Annual Front Range Energy and Environmental Economics Camp

University of Colorado Boulder Environmental Economics Seminar

SKILLS/LANGUAGES

Programming Languages
Languages

Stata, Python, MATLAB, R, SAS
English (Fluent), Korean (Native)

NATIONALITY

Republic of Korea (U.S. F1 visa)

REFERENCES

Advisor

Prof. Jonathan Hughes

Department of Economics

University of Colorado Boulder

256 UCB

Boulder, CO 80309

Email: jonathan.e.hughes@colorado.edu

Committee Member

Prof. Daniel Kaffine

Department of Economics

University of Colorado Boulder

256 UCB

Boulder, CO 80309

Email: daniel.kaffine@colorado.edu

Committee Member

Prof. Brian Cadena

Department of Economics

University of Colorado Boulder

256 UCB

Boulder, CO 80309

Email: brian.cadena@colorado.edu

Committee Member

Prof. Nicholas Flores

Department of Economics

University of Colorado Boulder

256 UCB

Boulder, CO 80309

Email: nicholas.flores@colorado.edu