

Kenneth Rios

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Research & Policy Experience

Senior Statistician – Federal Trade Commission Bureau of Economics, Washington, DC

Jan 2020 – present

- Conducting research in industrial organization and antitrust with staff economists and economics professors to study the economic impact of mergers and divestitures in various industries
- Independently working on various structural and statistical projects (e.g., structural modeling of oligopolistic price coordination, BLP random coefficients nested logit demand estimation, difference-in-difference design with staggered treatment adoption, etc.) included in research papers
- Providing theoretical and empirical input during team research discussions
- Coauthored the *competitiontoolbox* R package web interface for antitrust practitioners using R Shiny
- Supervising FTC interns and providing guidance on economic concepts and programming
- Managing and testing upgrades to the Bureau’s computational infrastructure
- Contributing to the FTC’s mission of protecting American consumers and competition

Research Analyst – Department of Justice Antitrust Division, Washington, DC

Dec 2015 – July 2017

- Worked on antitrust investigations involving mergers, acquisitions, and other anticompetitive practices under the supervision of DOJ economists

Education

New York University

M.A., Economics, May 2019

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

B.Sc., Economics, June 2015

Research Interests

Industrial Organization

Antitrust

Applications of machine learning to public policy

Working Papers

“The Competitive Efficacy of Divestitures: An Empirical Analysis of Generic Drug Markets” (with Viola Chen, Christopher Garmon and David Schmidt). *Revise & Resubmit*.

“The Ups and Downs of an Alcohol Wholesaler Merger” (with Viola Chen, Daniel Hanner and Brett W. Wendling), draft forthcoming.

Software Publications

Charles Taragin, Kenneth Rios and Paulette Wolak (2022). *competitiontoolbox*: A Graphical User Interface for Antitrust and Trade Practitioners. R package version 0.7.1.

<https://cran.r-project.org/package=competitiontoolbox>

Works in Progress

“Can Divestitures Lessen Competition? Evidence from the Reynolds/Lorillard Merger” (with Nathan H. Miller, Aviv Nevo, and Ted Rosenbaum), in progress.

“A Primer on the *competitiontoolbox* R Package for Antitrust Practitioners” (with Charles Taragin), in progress.

“Intra-Industry Coalition Evolution and Changes in Market Structure: Empirical Evidence from Two Mergers”, in progress.

Conference Presentations

2022 20th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference
 DC Industrial Organization Conference

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, New York University, Spring 2019

ECON UA-2 Introduction to Microeconomics, Prof. Edward Steinberg

Skills

Programming

Tools

Languages

Julia, R, Python, Stata, MATLAB, C++, SQL
Git, L^AT_EX, R Shiny, TensorFlow, Emacs, ArcGIS
English, Spanish, Italian

Awards

NYU Graduate School of Arts and Science Scholarship

Assistant Attorney General’s Award of Distinction

Leon B. Borstein Scholarship

Bernard G. & Louise B. Palitz Scholarship

NYU, Mar 2017

DOJ, Jun 2016

MIT, Mar 2015

MIT, Nov 2014

Organizations

Educational Counselor, MIT Educational Council

Oct 2018 – present