

# Alexander Ahammer

Department of Economics, Johannes Kepler University Linz  
Room K157D, Altenberger Straße 69, 4040 Linz, Austria

+43(0)732/2468/7372   
+43(0)732/2468/7368   
alexander.ahammer@jku.at   
twitter.com/AhammerAlex 

<b>Web</b>	<b>Research available at ...</b>	
	Website	<a href="http://www.alexander-ahammer.com">www.alexander-ahammer.com</a>
	RePec	<a href="https://ideas.repec.org/e/pah166.html">ideas.repec.org/e/pah166.html</a>
	Google Scholar	<a href="https://scholar.google.at/citations?user=5ZR6pqcAAAAJ">scholar.google.at/citations?user=5ZR6pqcAAAAJ</a>
<b>Academic positions</b>	<b>Assistant Professor for Applied Econometrics and Big Data (tenure track)</b>	2019 – now
	Johannes Kepler University Linz, Department of Economics	
	<b>Research Affiliate</b>	2023 – now
	IZA — Institute of Labor Economics	
	<b>Research Associate</b>	2014 – 2022
	Christian Doppler Laboratory Aging, Health, and the Labor Market	
	<b>Post-doc</b>	2018 – 2019
	Johannes Kepler University Linz, Department of Economics	
	<b>Faculty Research Assistant</b>	2015 – 2018
	Johannes Kepler University Linz, Department of Economics	
<b>Education</b>	<b>Ph.D. in Economics</b>	2018
	Johannes Kepler University Linz	
	Thesis: <i>On the Role of Health in the Labor Market</i>	
	Committee: Rudolf Winter-Ebmer (chair), Gerald Pruckner, Andrea Weber (CEU Budapest)	
	<b>Mag. rer. soc. oec. in Economics</b>	2014
	Johannes Kepler University Linz	
	Thesis: <i>Socioeconomic Determinants of Mortality</i>	
	Advisor: Rudolf Winter-Ebmer	
<b>Publications</b>	<i>“The Health Effects of Downsizing Survival”</i> with Dominik Grübl and Rudolf Winter-Ebmer <b>Review of Economics and Statistics</b> , forthcoming Press: <i>VoxEU, Ökonomenstimme, Der Standard, Salzburger Nachrichten, APA</i>	
	<i>“Effects of unemployment insurance duration on mental and physical health”</i> with Analisa Packham <b>Journal of Public Economics</b> , 2023, 226	
	<i>“Mass gatherings contributed to early COVID-19 mortality: Evidence from US sports”</i> with Martin Halla and Mario Lackner <b>Contemporary Economic Policy</b> , 2023, 41(3), 471–488 Press: <i>VoxEU, Forbes, Público, OÖN, Die Welt</i>	
	<i>“The intergenerational persistence of opioid dependence: Evidence from administrative data”</i> with Martin Halla <b>Health Economics</b> , 2022, 31(11), 2425–2444	
	<i>“Minimum legal drinking age and the social gradient in binge drinking”</i> with Stefan Bauernschuster, Martin Halla, and Hannah Lachenmaier <b>Journal of Health Economics</b> , 2022, 81 Press: <i>VoxEU, Der Standard, Kronen Zeitung, OÖN 1, ORF, Passauer Neue Presse, Die Presse, Volksblatt, OÖN 2</i>	
	<i>“Exploring variations in health-care expenditures—What is the role of practice styles?”</i> with Thomas Schober <b>Health Economics</b> , 2020, 29(6), 683–699	

*“The effect of prenatal maternity leave on short and long-term child outcomes”*  
with Martin Halla and Nicole Schneeweis  
**Journal of Health Economics**, 2020, 70

*“Does confidence enhance performance? Causal evidence from the field”*  
with Mario Lackner and Jasmin Voigt  
**Managerial and Decision Economics**, 2019, 40(6), 704–717

*“Physicians, sick leave certificates, and patients’ subsequent employment outcomes”*  
**Health Economics**, 2018, 27(6), 923–936

*“The effect of income on mortality—new evidence for the absence of a causal link”*  
with G. Thomas Horvath and Rudolf Winter-Ebmer  
**Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A**, 2017, 180(3), 793–816  
Press: *Der Standard*

*“Wage Discrimination Against Immigrants in Austria?”*  
with Helmut Hofer, Gerlinde Titelbach, and Rudolf Winter-Ebmer  
**Labour**, 2017, 31(2), 105–126

- Chapters** Ahammer, A., Wiesinger, R., and Zocher, K. (2021), “The Austrian Healthcare System: Changes and Challenges”, Baltagi, B.H. and Moscone, F. (Ed.) *The Sustainability of Health Care Systems in Europe (Contributions to Economic Analysis, Vol. 295)*, Emerald Publishing Limited | [chapter](#)
- Working papers** “Outside options and worker motivation” (2023), with Matthias Fahn and Flora Stiftinger | [Working paper](#)  
“The Parenthood Penalty in Mental Health: Evidence from Austria and Denmark” (2023), with Ulrich Glogowsky, Martin Halla, and Timo Hener | [IZA working paper](#)  
Press: *Die Presse, Weekendavisen, Der Standard, Heute, ORF, Schrödingers Katze*  
“Disability Insurance Screening and Worker Outcomes” (2023), with Analisa Packham | [IZA working paper](#)  
Press: *American Enterprise Institute*  
“Do Financial Incentives Alter Physician Prescription Behavior? — Evidence from Random Patient-GP Allocations” (2017), with Ivan Zilic | [latest version](#) | [resting](#)  
“Poverty in Times of Crisis” (2017), with Stefan Kranzinger | [latest version](#) | [resting](#)
- In preparation** “Income Taxes and Workplace Absenteeism” with Michael Brottrager, Ulrich Glogowsky, and Rudolf Winter-Ebmer  
“Firms and worker health” with Analisa Packham and Jonathan Smith  
“Strict patient monitoring and prescription drug abuse” (formerly circulated as ‘A novel supply-side measure to combat abuse of addictive prescription drugs,’ JKU Linz working paper 1911; currently being revised)
- Opinion pieces** Die Presse (2021), ‘*Ein Plädoyer für liberalere Drogenpolitik*’ | [pdf](#)  
Der Standard (2020), ‘*Arbeitslosigkeit macht krank*’ | [pdf](#)
- Talks** 2024 Passau University <sup>i</sup> [[scheduled](#)] | CINCH Essen <sup>i</sup> [[scheduled](#)]  
2023 Vanderbilt University <sup>i</sup> | University of Georgia <sup>i</sup> | Georgia State University <sup>i</sup> | Georgia Institute of Technology <sup>i</sup> | Friedrich-Alexander-University Nürnberg <sup>i</sup> [[scheduled](#)] | SEA, New Orleans | iHEA, Cape Town | ESPE, Belgrade | Annual Research Workshop, JKU Economics, Wesenufer  
2022 WIFO Vienna <sup>i</sup> | University of Potsdam <sup>i</sup> | ESPE, Calabria | NOeG, Vienna | Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting NextGen Sessions | Annual Research Workshop, JKU Economics, Wesenufer  
2021 Virtual Seminar on the Economics of Risky Health Behaviors (VERB) <sup>i</sup> | Essen Economics of Mental Health Workshop (as discussant) <sup>i</sup> | Workshop on Policy and Societal Problems, Engelberg | Essen Health Conference, virtual | SOLE, virtual | ESPE, virtual | ATHEA, Vienna | NOeG, virtual  
2020 University of Pittsburgh <sup>i</sup> | WU Vienna <sup>i</sup> | NOeG, Vienna | SOLE, virtual | ESPE, Barcelona [[canceled](#)]

- 2019 University of Cape Town<sup>i</sup> | Risky Health Behavior Workshop, Hamburg | 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop on Applied Microeconomics, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano | CD Labor Evaluation Meeting, Linz | Annual Research Workshop, JKU Economics, Wesenufer
- 2018 University of Cologne<sup>i</sup> | Counterfactual Methods for Policy Impact Evaluation, Berlin | ESPE, Antwerp | NOeG, Vienna | Annual Research Workshop, JKU Economics, Wesenufer
- 2017 Institute of Economics, Zagreb<sup>i</sup> | Labor Market Workshop, IHS Vienna | NORFACE Meeting, Vienna | NOeG, Linz | ESPE, Glasgow
- 2016 Austrian Statistical Society, Lecture Series, Vienna<sup>i</sup> | WUWAETRIX<sup>4</sup> Workshop, WU Vienna | ATHEA/ÖGOR Fall Meeting, University of Graz | Ski & Labor Seminar, St. Anton, Arlberg | Annual Research Workshop, JKU Economics, Schlierbach | EEA, Geneva | EuHEA, Hamburg | ESPE, Berlin | NOeG, Bratislava | ATHEA, Vienna
- 2015 ZEW Mannheim | WUWAETRIX<sup>3</sup> Workshop, WU Vienna | Annual Research Workshop, JKU Economics, St. Agatha | PhD Seminar, University of Linz

<sup>i</sup> Invited talk

#### Awards

**Hanns Abele Prize** | 2021  
**Best Publication Award** | JKU Econ, 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2022  
**Early Research Achievement Award** | JKU, 2019 | Award for ‘outstanding scientific achievement’  
**Young Economists’ Award** | Austrian Economic Association, 2017  
**Merit Grant (undergrad and PhD)** | JKU, 2014 and 2018 | for exceptional academic performance

#### Grants

“What determines worker motivation?,” Linz Institute of Technology LIFTC-2022-1-115, 2023–2025, Principal Investigator, EUR 110,626.

Heinrich Graf Hardegg’sche Stiftung Research Grant, 2021, EUR 5,500.

“New Insights on the Effects of Downsizing,” National Research Network funded by the Austrian Science Fund, 2020–2023, Co-Investigator (PI: Rudolf Winter-Ebmer), EUR 318,702.

#### Other experiences

##### Refereeing

Quarterly Journal of Economics (2×) | American Economic Review: Insights | American Journal of Health Economics | Journal of Health Economics (3×) | Journal of Public Economics | Health Economics (5×) | Journal of Policy Analysis and Management | Journal of Population Economics | Oxford Economic Papers | Review of Income and Wealth | Southern Economic Journal (2×) | Empirica (2×) | Empirical Economics | European Journal of Health Economics | International Journal of Manpower (3×) | Journal of Labor Research | Social Science & Medicine | Socio-Economic Review | Statistical Papers

##### Program committees

EuHEA, Student Supervisor Conference 2023 | ATHEA, Annual Conference 2023 | Verein für Socialpolitik, Annual Conference 2022 | Austrian Economic Association, Annual Conference 2022 | EuHEA, Annual Conference 2020

##### Summer Schools, research visits, and other events

Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings 2022, 7<sup>th</sup> Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences

Visiting Researcher, Fall 2023, Vanderbilt University

Short visits at the University of Cape Town, South Africa (2019) and the University of California, Santa Cruz (2019)

DFG SPP 1764 Summer School “The German Labor Market in a Globalized World: Trade, Technology, and Demographics,” 2015, ZEW Mannheim

##### Memberships

American Economic Association | European Economic Association | European Association of Labor Economics | Royal Economic Society | Austrian Economic Association | Austrian Health Economics Association

##### Other Services to the scientific community

Member of multiple academic committees representing junior faculty at the University of Linz | Reviewer for EU Joint Research Centre Working Paper Series | Elected student representative for the Doctorate program “Business and Social Sciences” at the University of Linz (as independent candidate)

**Advisees**      **Primary advisor for MSc theses:** Manfred Küllinger (ongoing), Gerhard Maisriemler (ongoing), Viktoriia Zakharycheva (ongoing), Marlene Brandmair (ongoing), Johannes Hoja, Julia Wenninger, Petra Schimbäck, Iva Orlova, Maximilian Sieber, Anushka Singh, Alexander Artner, Dietmar Bok, Matthias Hilgarth

**Teaching**      **As Lecturer**

2022 –	Public, Health, and Environmental Economics		MSc level	JKU Linz
2020	Risky Health Behavior – Sex, Drugs, and Crime	<i>Syllabus</i>	MSc level	JKU Linz
2018 – 2021	Programming, Data Management, and Visualization	<i>Syllabus</i>	MSc level	JKU Linz
2017, 2019	Microeconometrics		MSc level	JKU Linz
2021 –	Data and Research Designs in Economics		BSc level	JKU Linz
2019, 2021	Seminar Applied Economics		BSc level	JKU Linz
2017 – 2019	Seminar Firms and Markets		BSc level	JKU Linz
2016 – 2018	Intermediate Econometrics		BSc level	JKU Linz
2015 – 2018	Intermediate Econometrics Tutorial		BSc level	JKU Linz
2015 – 2021	Introductory Microeconomics Tutorial		BSc level	JKU Linz

**Personal**      **Details**  
Austrian citizen, born 1989

**Skills**

Data processing	STATA, Python
Typesetting	LaTeX, MS Office (duh)
Languages	German (native), English (fluent)