

Abby Snay
Deputy Secretary of Workforce Strategy
California Labor and Workforce Development Agency



Abby Snay is deputy secretary for the Future of Work at the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. She has worked to increase economic mobility for immigrants and refugees, to create a new healthcare workforce initiative in partnership with the California Health and Human Service Agency, to expand apprenticeships in California, and to develop training and workforce opportunities through the state's climate strategies. Previously, she served as CEO of Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) in San Francisco for over 35 years. Under her leadership, JVS built training and employment programs to help workers with

employment challenges develop competitive skills and earn wages that will sustain their families. JVS programs in health care, water utilities, financial services, and youth employment have received national recognition for their innovation and impact. She recently completed an 11-year term on the board of directors of the National Skills Coalition, during which she served as board chair for 4 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in counseling from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

John B. Watson, PhD
Data and Tools Advisory Board



John Watson, Ph.D., is Director of the Data and Impact Center of Excellence at the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE), guiding data systems and data science projects that support improving student outcomes. John's roles over the last 20 years include Data Scientist at SDCOE, Senior Director of IT and Analytics at Institute for Evidence-Based Change, a community college research organization operating the Cal-PASS program; Associate Professor of software engineering for National University; and a technical

member of the executive team for two internet startup companies. John completed a bachelor's degree at University of California San Diego in economics, a master's degree focusing on human and artificial cognition at San Diego State University, and a joint Ph.D. in education from Claremont Graduate University and San Diego State University culminating in the California State Graduate Research Award for his work in detecting metacognitive awareness in elementary school students.

Till von Wachter

**Professor of Economics, Faculty Director of California Policy Lab
University of California Los Angeles**



Till von Wachter is Professor of Economics at the University of California Los Angeles, Faculty Director of the California Policy Lab's UCLA site, and Director of the Federal Statistical Research Data Center. Prof. von Wachter's research examines how labor market conditions and institutions affect the well-being of workers and their families. This includes the analysis of unemployment and job loss on workers' long-term earnings and health outcomes, as well as the role of unemployment insurance and disability insurance in buffering such shocks.

Current research projects focus on the role of the Unemployment Insurance program before, during, and after the Pandemic, the effects of minimum wages, as well as several projects on homelessness using administrative data from Los Angeles. Professor von Wachter's research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the National Institute on Aging, the Social Security Administration, the Smith Richardson Foundation, the Sloan Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, the Hilton Foundation, and Arnold Ventures.

Prof. von Wachter has been an expert witness in numerous testimonies before committees of U.S. Congress, and has provided expert assistance to the City and County of Los Angeles, the State of California, the U.S. Department of Labor, the Canadian Labor Ministry, the OECD, the United Nations, and the IMF.