

Research Abstract  
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Firms are among the most important economic units in modern-day societies, but our understanding of their dynamics remains limited. A particularly important realm of research is the study of the longevity of the economic firm. I plan to explore the effects of market size and concentration on firm lifecycles by investigating lifespan and frequency across economic and industrial sectors. Using a data set comprised of the records of 28,855 economic firms traded publicly between 1950 and 2009, I will investigate the cross-sectional and longitudinal relationships of firm longevity to measures of sector concentration and size. Ultimately, I hope to expand our understanding of how differing degrees of competitiveness and types of markets affect the dynamics of the economic firm.