

Itzel De Haro López

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EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics

May 2023, expected

Committee: Priya Mukherjee, Dominic Parker, and Laura Schechter (Chair)

M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics

2019

Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)

B.A. in Economics

2013

FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION

Development Economics, Labor Economics, Crime Economics

WORKING PAPERS

- Avocados: Mexico's green gold. The U.S. opioid crisis and its impact on Mexico's drug cartel violence. [JOB MARKET PAPER]
- The effect of NAFTA on violence and economic growth in Mexico's avocado sector.
- Impact of gender imbalance in women's education and migratory decisions: evidence from Mexico.

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

Ishizawa, O., Miranda, J., & **De Haro, I.** (2017). "Assessment of the economic impact of investment in disaster risk reduction and prevention : the case of Tabasco (English)." The World Bank.

Ishizawa, O., Miranda, J., Paredes, M., **De Haro, I.**, & Pedrozo, A. (2017). "Analysis of the Impact of Investments in Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention in Mexico: Case Study of Tabasco between 2007 and 2011." The World Bank.

OECD (2016), "OECD Reviews of Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Policy in Peru, Assembling the Framework for Regulatory Quality."

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Priya Mukherjee, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Summer 2022

Research Assistant to Cesar A. Cancho, The World Bank

Summer 2019

Research Assistant to Laura Schechter, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2017-2018

Research Assistant to Juan José Miranda & Oscar Ishizawa, The World Bank

Summer 2018

Research Assistant to Juan José Miranda & Oscar Ishizawa, The World Bank

2016-2017

Economist at the Regulatory Policy Division, OECD

2014-2016

Research Assistant to Sandra Sosa, Mexico's National Institute of Public Health (INSP)	2013-2014
Research Assistant to Juan José Miranda & Oscar Ishizawa, The World Bank	2013-2014
Deputy Director, Ministry of Education of Mexico	2014
Research Assistant to Eva Arceo, CIDE	2012-2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin-Madison

AAE 374: The Growth and Development of Nations, Prof. Jeremy Foltz	Spring 2022
SOC 357: Methods of Sociological Inquiry, Prof. Chaeyoon Lim	Fall 2021
STAT 311: Intro. to Theory and Methods of Mathematical Statistics, Prof. Ismor Fischer	Spring 2021
AAE 215: Intro. to Agricultural and Applied Economics. Prof. Fengxia Dong	Fall 2020
AAE 322: Commodity Markets. Prof. Sheldon Du	Spring 2020
AAE 215: Intro. to Agricultural and Applied Economics. Prof. Tessa Conroy	Fall 2019
AAE 215: Intro. to Agricultural and Applied Economics. Prof. Dominic Parker	Fall 2018

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS AND SERVICE

Awards

Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, AAE Dept., UW-Madison	2020
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Grants and Fellowships

Conference Travel Grant, AAE Dept., UW-Madison	2022
CONACyT Doctoral Fellowship	2017-2022
Conference Travel Grant, SMDM	2014
Undergraduate Institutional Scholarship, CIDE	2010-2013
Undergraduate Grant, Ford Foundation	2010-2013

Service

Social Chair, AAE Dept., UW-Madison	2018-2020
Vice-president and Founding Member of the Economics Student Society (SéCIDE), CIDE	2013
Student representative at the Student Society, CIDE	2010 – 2011

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

MEA Annual Meeting (Minneapolis, MN)	2022
AAEA Annual Meeting (Atlanta, GA)	2019
SMDM Annual North American Meeting (Miami, FL)	2014

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate), German (Beginner)
 Software: STATA, L^AT_EX, MATLAB, R, Python (Basic), Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
 Citizenship: Mexican

REFERENCES

Laura Schechter

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Priya Mukherjee

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Dominic Parker

Associate Professor
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Juan José Miranda Montero

Senior Environmental Economist
Environment & Natural Resources Global Practice
The World Bank
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ABSTRACTS

Avocados: Mexico's green gold. The U.S. opioid crisis and its impact on Mexico's drug cartel violence. [JOB MARKET PAPER]

The global increase in the demand for avocados in Mexico has attracted the attention of rent-seeking criminal organizations. As a result, farmers and packing houses have become the targets of Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs). This paper aims to answer why DTOs would target licit businesses, such as avocado farms, rather than continue specializing in producing and distributing illicit drugs. To do this, I exploit exogenous variation from changes in the demand for pure heroin in the U.S. between 2011 and 2019. In particular, I use the introduction of Fentanyl in the U.S. as a proxy for the reduction in the demand for pure heroin from Mexico to answer the following questions: i) Did a decrease in the U.S. demand for heroin increase cartel presence in avocado suitable municipalities?, and ii) Did the introduction of Fentanyl increase the number of murders in poppy and avocado suitable municipalities? Using data on 724 municipalities, I show that the decrease in the demand for heroin increased homicide rates (particularly of agricultural workers) in municipalities more suited for growing avocados. I also find no evidence of higher cartel presence in these municipalities, suggesting that while DTOs do not seem to be moving into these municipalities, they have increased the use of force against civilians. Furthermore, I find that the fall in the demand for heroin decreased cartel presence and homicide rates in municipalities suited for growing poppy. Overall, this paper provides further evidence on how drug demand changes can affect other sectors. (JEL codes: K42, O12, O13, O17, Q17)

The effect of NAFTA on violence and economic growth in Mexico's avocado sector.

The relationship between economic shocks and crime in the literature remains ambiguous. Despite its relevance, there is little consensus on the mechanisms through which a positive economic shock can increase or decrease violence. This paper seeks to contribute to this literature by looking into the impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on violence in the avocado sector of Mexico between 1990 and 2010. Before 1997, Mexican avocados were banned in the U.S. to prevent the introduction of pests. However, the signing of NAFTA in 1994 provided Mexican avocados the opportunity to enter the U.S. market. The gradual opening of avocados into the U.S. market provides a unique opportunity to identify the effect of an economic shock on violence. I use a Difference-in-Differences strategy and municipality-level information on murders and data on the presence of cartels to measure the impact of an increase in the demand for avocado on violence. My preliminary findings suggest that the opening to avocado trade resulted in fewer homicides and lower cartel presence in avocado suitable municipalities in Mexico. (JEL codes: D74, F16, O12)

Impact of gender imbalance in women's education and migratory decisions: evidence from Mexico

While a number of studies have focused on understanding the marriage market, few studies have focused on understanding females' decisions to invest in human capital and migrate when international migration has led to higher uncertainty in the marriage market. Using data from the Mexican Family Life Survey (MxFLS), I analyze the effect of long-term male migration to the U.S. on female education and local migration in Mexico. I use a fixed effects model to estimate the impact of sex ratios on the number of years of education for females between 18 and 35 years old. In addition, I estimate a probit model to measure the effect on the probability of migrating domestically. I use past migration to the U.S. at the municipal level as an instrument for the endogeneity of the sex ratios. My preliminary results show that women that live in communities where there are more females than males, study more and are more likely to migrate.