Maria C. Sanchez Linares

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EDUCATION

Macalester College, St. Paul, MN | **B.A. in Data Science**, Minor in Economics
GPA: 3.51/4.00 | Honors: Kofi Annan Scholarship for Academic Excellence
Relevant Coursework: Intermediate Data Science, Statistical Machine Learning, Statistical Modeling, Database Management Systems, Probability, Intermediate Microeconomics & Macroeconomics, Econometrics.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Education Analytics Inc.

Research Analyst Assistant I → Assistant II   August 2024 – July 2025

- Assessed alternative methods for calculating Student Performance Measures (SPMs) used in Pasco County's annual teacher bonus policy using value-added growth models and assessment data; delivered findings and policy recommendations in a slide presentation to the district data team.
- Developed an R Markdown QC report to replace a manual, console-based process for validating post-load assessment data from Snowflake; added automated checks and diagnostics, visualizations, and summary metrics, improving usability, version control, and cross-team communication.
- Identified links between socio-emotional learning goals and academic outcomes across NewSchools Venture Fund's school portfolio; developed 4 visualizations for their annual presentation using the *ggplot2* package in R and SQL to query the relevant data.
- Engaged in weekly meetings with 2 different clients to review project progress, validate data accuracy, obtain feedback, and ensure alignment with partner goals and expectations.

Research Analyst Intern   June 2024 – August 2024

- Led a 3-month independent research project on teacher turnover rates across 2,276 Wisconsin public schools, utilizing panel data to calculate metrics, perform a trend analysis, and generate summary statistics to identify underlying causes and their impact on student outcomes. Culminated with a presentation to company leadership.
- Collaborated with the analyst team on ad hoc tasks, including data cleaning, quality control, and investigative analysis, to develop SPM ratings for Pasco County using district assessment data and state value-added models.
- Collected and processed enrollment and demographic data on Washington, D.C. public schools to develop metrics informing improvement and investment decisions for the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation.

PREDOC & Opportunity Insights | *Research Fellow*   June 2023 – August 2023

- Conducted a research project on social mobility under the mentorship of Prof. Bruich from Harvard's Department of Economics, engaging in coursework and weekly advisory meetings.
- Designed and implemented an empirical study to analyze US-wide tax revenue and census tract-level demographic data, leveraging Stata for data wrangling and statistical modeling.
- Co-authored a research paper, interpreting 4 linear regression models and evaluating results.
- Selected as one of the 5 best students out of 50 to present my research at a Federal Reserve Board Conference.

UVA School of Data Science, Data Justice Academy | *Research Fellow*   May 2023 – August 2023

- Analyzed different data collection methods and developed a comprehensive literature review on the invisibility and misrepresentation of transgender people in official health statistics.
- Employed R tools to curate a list of all federally supported survey data and designed a set of visualizations displaying the proportion of surveys collecting specific information across different SOGI areas.
- Contributed research findings to a report being developed by the UVA Center for Global Health Equity.

Starr Hill Pathways | *Student Mentor*   June 2023 – July 2023

- Taught Intro to Sports Analytics workshops to 30 middle schoolers at a STEM career exploration program aimed at expanding college pathways for students from underrepresented backgrounds.
- Expanded the program's curriculum to incorporate the achievements and perspectives of female athletes, enriching the students' educational experience through the design of a new workshop.

SKILLS

- **Languages**: Spanish (native speaker), English (fluent).
- **Programming Languages:** R, Python, Java, Stata, SQL, SPSS, LaTeX.
- **Software & Tools:** Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite, Tableau, Plotly, Git, Snowflake, Preset, VS Code.