

Gabriel Cruz

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Education	University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) Ph.D. in Economics Fields: Public/Labor Economics, Industrial Organization, Health Economics	2022-
	Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile (PUC-Chile) M.A. in Economics B.A. in Business and Economics	2015 2014

Publications	The Effects of Equal Pay Laws on Firm Wage Premiums: Evidence from Chile with Tomas Rau <i>Labour Economics</i> , 75, April 2022
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COVID-19 and Automation in a Developing Economy: Evidence from Chile with Pablo Egana del Sol and Alejandro Micco
Technological Forecasting and Social Change, 176, March 2022

Working Papers	Do Students Improve their Academic Achievement when assigned to a Growth Mindset Teacher? with Susana Claro, Valentina Paredes and Veronica Cabezas (R&R Educational Researcher)
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Work in Progress	<p>[1] Does the Power of the Pills Endure? The Effect of Increased Access to Emergency Contraception</p> <p>Abstract: This paper examines the impact of increased access to emergency contraceptives (EC) on fertility and educational outcomes, following Chile's 2015 removal of the EC pill's prescription requirement. Utilizing a novel dataset integrating pharmacy sales, locations, and administrative records, the findings reveal a significant 7% decrease in birth rates in areas with high EC access, particularly a 16.3% decrease among 15-19 year-olds. However, despite reduced teen births, I also find a surprising 0.2 percentage point decrease in graduation rates among students with high pill access, particularly in public schools. These effects are driven by a law that protects pregnant students in high schools.</p>
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[2] The Power of the Market: How the Contraceptive Industry Affects Birth Rates

Abstract: This project analyzes how market structure factors like concentration, product variety, and pricing within the contraceptive market affect birth rates. Preliminary results indicate that the price and variety of contraceptives significantly influence decisions about childbearing. This paper contributes to the "power of the pill" literature by demonstrating that the "power of the market" is a crucial factor in analyzing reproductive decisions.

[3] My Mother Was a Suffragette: The Intergenerational Effects of Women’s Right to Vote with Fernanda Rojas-Ampuero (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Abstract: This project examines the long-term impacts of women’s suffrage on political participation, labor market outcomes, and fertility outcomes for women and their descendants. Utilizing archival data and historical US Census records from 1920 to 1940, we track over 50,000 women in Boston who registered to vote following the Nineteenth Amendment. The research is divided into two parts: firstly, analyzing demographic and occupational differences between women who registered to vote and those who did not; secondly, estimating the causal effects of early voting rights on the economic and political outcomes for these women and their daughters and granddaughters.

Awards and Fellowships

2022 Academic Excellence Scholarship for Doctoral Studies Abroad, Conicyt, Chile
 2018 GCL Fellowship, Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business
 2016 Eugenio Lahera Award, Best Graduate Thesis in Chile, Universidad de Chile
 2015 Maximum Distinction for Thesis, M.A. in Economics, PUC-Chile

Grants

2024 University of Maryland, BSOS Dean’s Research Initiative (PI) - \$3,000
 2024 University of Maryland, Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant
 2020 Columbia University’s Global Center (Co-PI) - \$5,000
 2019 Chilean National Education Council (Co-PI) - \$9,000
 2019 Production Development Corporation, Chile (PI) - \$20,000
 2017 Enseña Chile, Teach for America (PI) - \$7,500

Conferences

04/2025 Economic Demography Workshop (EDW), Washington DC
 04/2025 Population Association of America (PAA) Meeting, Washington DC
 03/2025 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Conference , Washington DC
 12/2024 VI Economics Alumni Conference, PUC, Chile
 10/2024 Economics Graduate Student Conference, Washington University in St. Louis

Policy Reports

Desafíos presentes y futuros para las mujeres en el mercado laboral en Chile
“Tejiendo rutas. Perspectivas para un Chile con equidad de género”, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2023

Futuro del Trabajo: Desafíos para el Futuro del Trabajo en Chile
“Chile tiene Futuro desde sus Territorios.” Editor: Ediciones Biblioteca del Congreso Nacional de Chile, 2022

Poder de negociación y brecha salarial de género: caso chileno
Revista Estudios de Políticas Públicas, 2(1), 4-22, 2016

Relevant Experience

2019-2022 Senior Research Associate, J-PAL LAC
 2016-2018 Math High School Teacher, Enseña Chile (Teach For America Partnership)

Languages and Skills

Spanish (native), English
 Stata, L^AT_EX, Matlab, R

Others

Nationality: Chile
 LGBTQ+ Member, American Economic Association
 Population Association of America (PAA) Member