

Grace Ortuzar

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FIELDS

Public economics, labor economics, urban economics, health economics

EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame — Notre Dame, IN

Ph.D. Economics (Expected) May 2026

Committee: James Sullivan, Kasey Buckles, William Evans, Winnie van Dijk

M.A. Economics May 2021

Indiana University — Bloomington, IN

B.A. Economics & Political Science, Honors May 2014

Minors in Mathematics and Spanish Literature

London School of Economics, Summer Institute, 2013

PUBLICATION

“Reducing Readmissions by Addressing the Social Determinants of Health” with William N. Evans, Sarah Kroeger, Elizabeth L. Munnich, and Kathryn L. Wagner *American Journal of Health Economics*, 2024.

JOB MARKET PAPER

The Effects of Public Eviction Records on Low-Income Households” with Hsi-Ling Liao, Alison Lodermeier, and Stephen Stapleton

Housing advocates, media outlets, and policymakers have long argued that a public eviction filing record—often referred to as the “Scarlet E”—carries significant consequences, particularly for low-income households. In this paper, we exploit variation induced by a record-sealing policy in Illinois to provide the first causal estimates of the effect of a public eviction filing on residential mobility, neighborhood quality, homelessness, and financial health. Two findings stand out: (i) sealing eviction records at the time of filing prevents tenant screening companies from accessing case information, whereas retroactive record sealing is ineffective in restricting public access; (ii) tenants with public evictions records are more likely to live doubled up with friends or family within the first year of the filing. Our results suggest that housing instability due to public eviction filings manifests primarily through household doubling up rather than through the more extreme forms of homelessness.

WORKING PAPERS

“The Impact of Temporary Rental Subsidies on Homelessness: A Randomized Controlled Trial” with David Phillips and James Sullivan

“Better Outcomes, Lower Costs: Evidence from Competitive Bidding in WIC” with Rebecca Brough

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Hidden Homelessness: Measuring Doubled-Up Rates with Consumer Reference Data” with Alison Lodermeier”

“The Effects of Temporary Rental Subsidies on Crime and Health” with David Phillips and Jim Sullivan”

OTHER WRITING

(in Spanish) “Estimación e impacto de los embarazos no deseados producto de la entrega de pastillas anticonceptivas defectuosas en Chile durante 2020.” with Stephanie Otth Varnava. *Quinto Informe sobre Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos en Chile*, 2023

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities Emerging Scholar Affiliate	2025-
University of Chicago Inclusive Economy Lab Research Affiliate	2025-

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

NBER Graduate Fellowship in Consumer Financial Management	2024-2026
AREUEA Junior Scholars Program	2025
University of Notre Dame Dean’s Fellowship	2020
Indiana University James E. Moffat Scholarship Recognition Award	2014
IU Jordan River Conference Undergraduate Student Paper Award	2014
IU Phi Beta Kappa	2013

RESEARCH GRANTS

Russell Sage Dissertation Research Grant (\$10,000)	2024
Notre Dame’s Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts	
American Dream Summer Grant (\$2,500)	2023
Graduate Research Grant (\$4,000)	2022

PRESENTATIONS

2025 APPAM Fall Research Conference*[‡], Southern Economic Association*, UEA North America*, Urban Economics NBER Summer Institute[‡], SOLE[‡], Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) Summer Research Workshop, AREUEA National Conference, Notre Dame’s Lab for Economic Opportunities Mini Conference

2024 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Notre Dame Applied Micro Brown Bag, Notre Dame Economics Graduate Student Workshop

*Scheduled presentation [‡] Coauthor Presentation

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Graduate Research Assistant for Notre Dame's Lab for Economic Opportunities	2022-2024
Graduate Research Assistant for Kirsten Cornelson, University of Notre Dame	2022
Senior Research Associate for Notre Dame's Lab for Economic Opportunities	2018 - 2020
Research Analyst for RTI International at Waltham, MA and Durham, NC	2015 - 2017
Intern for the Secretariat for Legal Affairs at the Organization of American States	2014
Intern at the Ministry of Finance in Santiago, Chile	2013

TEACHING

University of Notre Dame

Instructor, Principles of Microeconomics	Summer 2023
Teaching Assistant, Principles of Microeconomics	Fall 2021
Workshop Co-Instructor, Nonprofit Program Evaluation Training	Fall 2018

Indiana University

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Microeconomics	2011-2014
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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University of Notre Dame

Organizer, Graduate Student Research Workshop	2022-2023
Co-Chair, Economics Department Graduate Student Council	2022-2023

OTHER

Language Skills: English (native, reading and writing), Spanish (native, reading and writing)

Computer Skills: Stata, ArcGIS, MATLAB, SurveyCTO, Qualtrics, LaTeX, Microsoft Office

Citizenship: United States, Chile

REFERENCES

James Sullivan (Chair) University of Notre Dame jsulliv4@nd.edu	Kasey Buckles University of Notre Dame kbuckles@nd.edu
William Evans University of Notre Dame wevans1@nd.edu	Winnie van Dijk Yale University winnie.vandijk@yale.edu

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