

Matías Navarro

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Education

Ph.D. in Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University.	May 2026 (expected)
M.S. in Economics, University of Texas at Austin.	2019
M.S. in Transportation Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.	2014
B.S. in Industrial Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.	2012

Research Interests

Primary: Environmental and Energy Economics, Urban and Transportation Economics.
Secondary: Empirical Industrial Organization, Spatial Economics.

Working Papers

"Paying at the pump and at the ballot box: Electoral penalties of motor fuel taxes" with Gian-Claudia Sciara, and Andrew Waxman.

Work in Progress

"On the right track? Designing optimal public transit contracts" (Job Market Paper).
"Optimal congestion pricing in road networks" with Avralt-Od Purevjav, and Shanjun Li.
"Bridges in Bangladesh" with Alejandro Molnar, and Forhad Shilpi.

Publications

Basso, L.J., Navarro, M. and Silva, H.E., 2021. "Public transport and urban structure." *Economics of Transportation*, 28, p.100232.

Research Experience

<i>Research Assistant</i> to Prof. Todd Gerarden	2022 - 2023
<i>Research Assistant</i> to Prof. Andrew Waxman	2019
<i>Research Assistant</i> to Profs. Leonardo J. Basso and Hugo E. Silva	2016 - 2017

Teaching Experience

<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Cornell University	2021 - 2022
Undergraduate: Environmental and Resource Economics, Introductory Microeconomics.	
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , University of Texas at Austin	2017 - 2019
Undergraduate: Introduction to Microeconomics, Introduction to Economics, Economics of Ethics and Social Justice (×2).	
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile	2011 - 2013
Graduate: Transportation Economics, Advanced Traffic Modeling, Highway Traffic Flow.	
Undergraduate: Operations Research (×2), Introduction to Public Policy, Fundamentals of Transportation Engineering, Traffic Flow Theory (×2).	

Work Experience

<i>Consultant</i> , Development Research Group (DECSI), World Bank	2023 - 2024
Evaluated the effect of transportation infrastructure on economic activity in Bangladesh.	
<i>Consultant</i> , Education Division, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)	2019 - 2020
Supported the implementation of centralized school choice systems in Perú, Ecuador, and Brazil.	
<i>Consultant</i> , Center for Sustainable Urban Development (CEDEUS)	2014 - 2017

| Advised the Metropolitan Public Transit Authority of Santiago, Chile.

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Lourdes Benería Award, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University.	2024
Interdisciplinary Transportation Doctoral Fellowship, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.	2024 - 2025
Edward and Janet Heslop Fellowship, Cornell University.	2022 - 2023
Cornell Graduate School Fellowship.	2020
Dean's Prestigious Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.	2018
Biennial Award of the Chilean Society of Transport Engineering.	2015
Padre Hurtado Award, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.	2007

Seminar and Conference Presentations (including scheduled)

2025: Cornell SEERE Seminar, Cornell IO Brown Bag, Cornell Real Estate and Urban Economics Symposium, AERE Summer Conference, ITEA Annual Conference.

Programming languages and Software

R, Julia, Matlab, Python, QGIS, and \LaTeX .

Other

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (basic).
Citizenship: Chilean.

Updated on September 12, 2025