#### Joaquín A. Serrano

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INFORMATION Department of Economics

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REFERENCES Adriana Lleras-Muney

alleras@econ.ucla.edu Martha Bailey marthabailey@g.ucla.edu Natalie Bau nbau@g.ucla.edu

Daniel Haanwinckel haanwinckel@econ.ucla.edu

**FIELDS** Primary field: Labor Economics

Secondary Field: Development Economics

**EDUCATION** University of California, Los Angeles

Ph.D., Economics, 2018 - Intended graduation June 2024

M.A., Economics, 2019

Universidad Nacional de La Plata, La Plata, Buenos Aires

M.S., Economics, October 2016

B.S., Economics, With Honors, March 2013

JOB MARKET **PAPER** 

Do Robots Necessarily Displace Workers? Evidence from Mexican Local Labor Markets

This study uses Mexico's rapid rise in automation to examine the labor market effects of industrial robot adoption in industrializing countries. To study this question, I combine unique data on robot imports with administrative, survey data, and economic censuses. I exploit spatial and time variations in robot importations across commuting zones to estimate the impacts of automation on labor market outcomes. I find that industrial robot adoption does not negatively affect formal employment and average wages in Mexico, diverging from findings observed in developed countries. I can rule out adverse effects on formal employment of the size as large as -0.7%, and -0.01% for formal wages in the short-run, and 6%, 3% in the long. I also provide evidence that these results are not due to compositional effects. Additionally, I show that after a CZ starts importing robots, the aggregated gross value added per worker increases consistent with the scale effect dominating or compensating for any adverse displacement effect. Despite a substantial pool of unskilled labor, automation in industrializing economies like Mexico can yield non-negative employment effects due to significant productivity enhancements associated with a higher price elasticity of demand and the early stages of automation.

**PUBLICATIONS** 

- [1] Neidhöfer, G., Ciaschi, M., Gasparini L., and Serrano, J. (2023). "Social mobility and economic development". Journal of Economic Growth.
- [2] Serrano, J., Gasparini, L., Marchionni, M. and Gluzmann, P. (2019). "Economic Cycle and Deceleration of Female Labor Force Participation in Latin America". Journal for Labour Market Research, Vol. 53.
- [3] Neidhöfer G., Serrano, J. and Gasparini, L. (2018). "Educational Inequality and Intergenerational Mobility in Latin America: A New Database". Journal of Development Economics, Vol. 134, pp. 329-349. [webpage + data]
- [4] Serrano, J., Benzaquén, I. (2017). "The Inequality Possibility Frontier in Latin America". El Trimestre Económico, Fondo de Cultura Económica, México, Vol. 84(2), Núm. 334
- [5] Gasparini, L., Marchionni, M., Badaracco, N., and Serrano, J. (2015). "Characterizing Female Participation Changes". In Gasparini, L. and Marchionni, M., editors, Bridging Gender Gaps? The Rise and Deceleration of Female Labor Force Participation in Latin America, volume 1, chapter 4, pp. 199-260. Center for Distributive, Labor and Social Studies, 1st edition. [webpage]

#### WORKING PAPERS

Gasparini, L., Marchionni, M., Badaracco, N. and **Serrano, J.** (2014). "Female Labor Force Participation in Latin America: Evidence of Deceleration". Anales de la Asociación Argentina de Economía Política, XLIX Annual Meeting, Posadas, Argentina, pp. 1-34. Also as CEDLAS Working Paper 181.

# WORKS IN PROGRESS

Reconciling the Evidence on False Links in Historical Data (with Martha Bailey, Connor Cole, and Jonas Helgertz)

Social Mobility and Economic Development: Cohort Level Evidence (with Guido Neidhöfer, Matias Ciaschi, Antonio Ciccone, and Leonardo Gasparini)

Effectiveness and Consequences of Occupation and Industry-specific Minimum Wages (with Tomas Guanziroli)

# AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Dissertation Year Fellowship, Graduate Division, UCLA, 2023

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program, Graduate Division, UCLA, 2019.

Graduate Division Fellowship, Department of Economics, UCLA, 2018

**Distinguished Graduate Award**, UNLP, 2017 (awarded to the most outstanding graduate of the MA in Economics at UNLP each year)

**Graduate Scolarship**, Granted by the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (equivalent to NSF), Argentina. June 2014 - June 2018.

**Young Economist Award 2016** for the best paper presented by a junior researcher under 29 years old, granted by the Argentine Association of Political Economy (AAEP), 2016.

**Dr. Joaquín V. González Award**, Municipality of La Plata, 2013 (awarded to the top three graduates in Economic Sciences at UNLP each year).

**Manuel Belgrano Award**, Facultad de Ciencias Económicas, UNLP, 2013 (awarded to the most outstanding graduate of the BA in Economics at UNLP each year).

### RELEVANT POSITIONS

CCPR Student Affiliate, California Ceneter for Population Research, UCLA. Since 2019.

**Associate Researcher**, Center for Distributive, Labor and Social Studies (CEDLAS) Universidad Nacional de La Plata. Since 2018.

Research Assistant with Prof. Martha Bailey, LIFE-M Project, UCLA. 2020-2022.

**Research Assistant** with Prof. Michela Giorcelli, *Project: Developing Down Under: The Case of Italian Prisoners of War in Australia*, UCLA. 2019-2021.

**Junior Researcher**, Center for Distributive, Labor and Social Studies (CEDLAS) Universidad Nacional de La Plata. 2014-2018.

**Research Assistant**, Center for Distributive, Labor and Social Studies (CEDLAS) Universidad Nacional de La Plata. 2012-2013.

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant at UCLA in:

ECON 133 (Intergenerational Poverty in the US), undergraduate. Fall 22

ECON 1 (Microeconomics), undergraduate. Fall 20, Winter 22, Winter and Spring 23.

ECON 101 (Advanced Microeconomics), undergraduate. Spring 20.

ECON 103 (Econometrics), undergraduate. Winter 20.

ECON 2 (Macroeconomics), undergraduate. Fall 19.

Teaching Assistant at Universidad Nacional de La Plata in:

Labor Economics, M.A. in Economics. 2014-2018.

Advanced Econometrics, M.A. in Economics. 2014-2018.

Econometrics I, B.A. in Economics. 2012-2018.

Political Economy II, B.A. in Economics. 2013-2018.

**Topics in Econometrics: Quantile Regressions & Non-Parametric Econometrics**, M.A. in Economics. 2015-2018.

Public Finances I, B.A. in Economics. 2012-2013.

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS **LACEA-LAMES 2017 Meeting**, Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 2017. **IV International Seminar on Inequality and Social Mobility in Latin America**, Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 2017.

**VIII National Congress of Graduate Students in Economics**, Universidad Nacional del Sur, Bahía Blanca, Argentina, March 2017.

**1º Academic cooperation meeting on social information**, Universidad del Litoral, Santa Fe, 5Argentina, June 2017.

Annual Meetings of Argentine Association of Political Economy (AAEP), 2017, 2016, 2015, 1014 editions.

Professional Service Referee: Journal of Labor Economics (JOLE), Journal of Development Economics (JDE), World

Development (WD)

OTHERS Citizenship: Argentina

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), Italian (fluent)

Software: STATA, R, Matlab