

SOFIA FERNANDEZ GUERRICO

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics , University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2020
<i>Dissertation: "Microeconomic Implications of Trade Shocks in Developing Countries"</i>	
Committee: Richard Akresh (chair), Rebecca Thornton, Alexander Bartik, Mark Borgschulte	
M.S. Economics , University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2016
Licenciada en Economía , <i>Cum Laude</i> , Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina	2010

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Labor Economics, Health Economics, Applied Econometrics
Development Economics, International Economics

CURRENT POSITION

Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management, Université Libre de Bruxelles	August 2020-
<i>Postdoctoral Researcher</i>	

PAST POSITIONS

Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2016 - 2018
<i>Research Assistant</i>	
Institute of Government and Public Affairs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Summer 2019
<i>Research Assistant</i>	
World Bank Group, Poverty Global Practice Unit	Summer 2017
<i>Short Term Consultant</i>	
Centro de Investigaciones para la Transformación (CENIT), Argentina	2011 - 2013
<i>Junior Researcher</i>	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	
▪ <i>Teaching Assistant</i> , "Statistics I"	2015 - 2016 / 2018 - 2020
Department of Economics, Universidad de Buenos Aires	
▪ <i>Instructor</i> , "Economics I"	2012 - 2014
▪ <i>Teaching Assistant</i> , "Economic Development"	2011 - 2014

WORKING PAPERS

"The Effects of Trade-induced Worker Displacement on Health and Mortality in Mexico" (Job Market Paper)
"Trade Shocks, Population Growth, and Migration: Implications for Mortality Rate Calculations"
"Exports, Quality, and Product Differentiation: Evidence from Argentine Manufacturing Firms"

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

2020: Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev); Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics at University of Chicago; Department of Economics at Universidad del Rosario; Department of Economics Pontificia Universidad Javeriana; Facebook Research Growth Team; Population Association of America (PAA)*; IUSSP Population Poverty and Inequality*; European Health Economic Association (EUHEA)*; LACEA Health Economics Workshop at RIDGE May Forum*; Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics*. (* means cancelled due to Covid-19).

2019: Annual Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA-LAMES); Mini Health Conference at O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, University of Indiana.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Conference Travel Award, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2019, 2020
Merit-based Summer Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2015, 2019
Graduate Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2014-2015
Scholarship for Graduate Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2014-2020
Merit-based Graduate Studies Fellowship, Universidad de San Andres, 2011-2012

WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Effect of Job Displacement on Parenting”, with Elizabeth Powers and Eunhye Kwak
“Infant Formula Availability, Breastfeeding Duration and Women’s Labor Force Participation”, with Rebecca Thornton and Mark Borgschulte

POLICY RESEARCH (NON-PEER REVIEWED)

“Promoting Innovation in the Service Sector. Towards Productivity and Competitiveness”, with Andrés López and Daniela Ramos, 2013. Prepared for Centro de Investigaciones Económicas, Uruguay
“Evaluation of Intermediary Institutions Role in the Implementation of Economic Development Policies in Buenos Aires City”, with Laura Goldberg and Daniela Ramos, 2011. Prepared for the Ministry of Economic Development of Buenos Aires, Argentina (In Spanish)
“Telework, Climate Change and Public Policy”, with Daniela Ramos, Andrés López, Verónica Gutman, Sandra Panés, and Martín del Castillo, 2011-2012. Prepared for International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada (In Spanish)
“Business Models for Translatinas: Latin American Investments in Asia”, 2011. Member of research team. Team Leader: Andrés López. Prepared for the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
“Incentive Schemes in Exports and Investment Promotions in the Service Sector: Suggestions for Paraguay and Uruguay”, 2011. Member of research team. Team Leader: Andrés López. Prepared for Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) (In Spanish)
“Investment Promotion Strategies: International Evidence and Suggestions for Uruguay”, 2012. Member of research team. Team Leader: Andrés López. Prepared for IDB (In Spanish)
“Development Diagnosis for Argentina”, 2011. Member of research team. Team Leader: Andrés López. Prepared for IDB (In Spanish)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate)

ABSTRACTS

“The Effects of Trade-induced Worker Displacement on Health and Mortality in Mexico” (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Recent research in the U.S. links trade-induced job displacement to deaths of despair. Should we expect the same mortality response in developing countries? This paper analyzes the effect of a trade-induced negative shock to manufacturing employment on leading causes of mortality in Mexico between 1998 and 2013. I exploit cross-municipality variation in trade exposure based on differences in industry specialization before China's accession to the WTO in 2001 to instrument for changes in local manufacturing employment. I find trade-induced job loss increased mortality from diabetes, raised obesity rates, reduced physical activity, and lowered access to health insurance. These deaths were offset by declines in mortality from alcohol-related liver disease and ischemic heart disease. These findings highlight that negative employment shocks have heterogeneous impacts on mortality in developing countries, where falling incomes lead to less access to health care and nutritious food, but also reduce alcohol and tobacco use.

“Trade Shocks, Population Growth, and Migration: Implications for Mortality Rate Calculations”

Abstract: This paper examines the effect of trade-induced changes in Mexican labor demand on population growth and migration responses at the local level. I exploit cross-municipality variation in exposure to a change in trade policy between the U.S. and China that differentially exposed Mexican municipalities based on their industry structure. In the five years following the change in trade policy, most exposed municipalities exhibit increased population growth, driven by declines in out-migration. Conversely, six to ten years after the change in trade policy, exposure to increased trade competition is associated with decreased population growth, driven by declines in in-migration and returned migration rates, and increased out-migration. I show that accounting for changes in population growth and migration is relevant to analyze the effect of employment shocks on outcomes that are calculated using population estimates, such as mortality rates. I show that results in the recent literature are sensitive to these population adjustments.

“Exports, Quality, and Product Differentiation: Evidence from Argentine Manufacturing Firms”

Abstract: This paper explores the relationship between quality adoption, product differentiation, and export performance. Through tax identification numbers, I match firm-level survey data to administrative customs records containing information about each firm's total value of exports by product type and country of destination. I classify products into differentiated and non-differentiated, and I use ISO 9001 certification as a proxy for firms' ability to produce high quality products. First, I show that firm-product-destination-year unit values are higher for high-quality firms on average. Second, using the 2002 Argentine exchange rate devaluation as a source of variation in export demand, I find that initially high-quality firms increased total export value, export value of differentiated goods to high-income destinations, and investments in R&D more than low-quality firms after the devaluation. These results imply that policies promoting quality adoption may increase firms' exports to high-income markets and help develop a comparative advantage in differentiated products.

REFERENCES

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