Alejandra Rivera Rivera

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Economist with a master's degree in Economics, specializing in data analysis and research methodologies for academic and applied purposes. Experienced in all stages of research projects, from planning and instrument design to empirical analysis and policy- and academic-oriented writing. I have developed research planning tools, led and collaborated with field teams, and served as a liaison between researchers, field teams, and policymakers. Additionally, I have conducted econometric analyses across diverse contexts and implemented innovative data collection and processing strategies. Passionate about project management and using social research to inform public policy.

Education

Universidad de los Andes   2018 – 2021
M.Sc. Economics – GPA: 4.6/5.0.   *Bogotá, Colombia*
Thesis Director and grade: Leopoldo Fergusson, 5.0/5.0
Title: *Timing With a Scalpel: Motivations and Consequences of using C-Sections for Birth Timing*

Universidad Nacional de Colombia   2013 – 2018
B.A. Economics – GPA: 4.7/5.0.   *Bogotá, Colombia*
Universidade de São Paulo   2016-I
Academic Exchange   *São Paulo, Brazil*

Professional Experience

Inter-American Development Bank   September, 2022 – Present
Economics Consultant   *Washington D.C.*
- I contribute to a research agenda focused on migrant integration in Latin America and the Caribbean, addressing social cohesion, labor integration, and regularization across all stages of the projects. I designed surveys, supervised fieldwork, and conducted econometric analyses using methods like difference-in-differences, regression discontinuity, instrumental variables, and fixed effects. I also contributed to technical notes, academic papers, and presented our findings at a LACEA seminar. I performed power calculations and assisted in the design of educational materials for a randomized control trial (RCT), participated in government meetings, and managed the RCT registry and approval process.

Innovations for poverty action   May 2020 – September, 2022
Research Associate   *Bogotá, Colombia*
- I contributed to the early development of a migration research agenda, overseeing evaluations, field experiments, and data collection design. I developed planning and budgeting tools and managed teams of analysts, interns, and field supervisors. I also served as a liaison between researchers, field teams, and policy teams and conducted field visits in Barranquilla and Santa Marta, Colombia. I also oversaw the first data collection via WhatsApp surveys and established the institutional base at IPA's IRB for future collections.

Research Analyst

- Designed and programmed complex surveys on SurveyCTO for migrant integration and regularization data. Developed data control systems for fieldwork monitoring and incentive processing. Supported data collection, prepared metadata reports, and led data cleaning for dataset delivery. Participated in IPA Colombia's data cleaning best practices group. Assisted in developing reports and presentations on study designs and research findings for diverse audiences in English and Spanish

Fedesarrollo, Economic and Social Research Center   April, 2019 – May, 2020
Research Assistant   *Bogotá, Colombia*
- I supported research projects by collecting and organizing data from public and administrative sources. I collaborated closely with researchers and policymakers to understand project needs, identify key data, and provide insights to inform policy recommendations. I was responsible for data processing and visualization, I participated in writing two policy papers on Colombia's national planning policies and the dairy industry, with a focus on regulated milk prices.

Democracy Observatory - Universidad de los Andes   August 2018 - April 2019
Research Assistant   *Bogotá, Colombia*

- Supervised fieldwork for the Latinobarómetro database in Colombia and implemented monitoring tools to ensure data quality. Analyzed datasets, contributed to reports, and participated in writing on public opinion and political economy for *El Barómetro de las Américas*.

Banco de la República de Colombia - Economics Research Unit   June 2017- June 2018
Intern   *Bogotá, Colombia*
- Conducted literature reviews, analyzed databases, estimated semi-parametric models, and wrote academic papers on inflation targeting.

Awards and Honors

Scholarship - Exemption scholarship for academic excellence
Universidad de los Andes   *2018-2020*
Scholarship - Top ten GPA in Economics faculty
Universidad Nacional de Colombia   *2013-2018*
Honor tuition - Highest GPA in Economics faculty
Universidad Nacional de Colombia   *2015 − 2016*

Teaching Experience and Seminars

Universidad de Los Andes   2019 - II
Teaching Assistant
- Natural Resources and Development (Master) to professor Guillermo Perry

Universidad Nacional de Colombia   2017 I-II,
Teaching Assistant   2016 - I
- Econometrics (Undergraduate) to professor Héctor Maecha
- Introduction to Economics (Undergraduate) to professor Álvaro Zerda

LACEA HUMANS Network Meeting
Panelist at Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA)   *2024*
- Presented *Labor Market Effect of Granting Amnesty to Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants in the Dominican Republic*

Published Documents

- Kaplan, D., Rivera, A., & Van der Werf, C. (2023). *A fair chance for migrants in the labor market*. IDB, Inter-American Development Bank

- Bandiera, A., Loschmann, C., Luzes, M., Rivera, A., & Van der Werf, C. (2023). *Profiling Venezuelan refugees and migrants in the Dominican Republic*. IDB, Inter-American Development Bank

- Mejía, L., Reina M., Oviedo S., Rivera A. (2020). *Planes Nacionales de Desarrollo en Colombia: análisis estructural y recomendaciones de política*. Bogotá: Fedesarrollo, 53 p.

- Cadena, X., Reina, M., Rivera A. (2019). *Precio regulado de la leche: ineficiencias, costos y alternativas*. Bogotá: Fedesarrollo, 91 p.

- Rivera, A., Plata, J. C., & Rodríguez, J. C. (2018). *Barómetro de las Américas, Colombia 2018. Democracia e Instituciones*. Observatorio de la Democracia, Universidad de Los Andes.

Blogs

- Rivera, A. Van Der Werf, C. "Cinco claves para regularizar migrantes". February 6, 2023. Inter-American Development Bank"

- Granados, S. Rivera, A., Vargas, L. "Encuestas de WhatsApp: una solución innovadora y de bajo costo para la recopilación remota de datos". June 22, 2022. Innovations for Pverty Action

Skills

Programming Languages and Softwares: Stata, Python, R, LaTeX, QGIS, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, Powerpoint.
Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), Portuguese (Advance - Celpe Bras Certification, 2016)