

# Rocío Valdebenito

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📍 Erasmo Escala 1835, Santiago, Chile

## EMPLOYMENT

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<b>Universidad Alberto Hurtado</b>	Santiago, Chile
<i>Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, School of Economics and Business</i>	<i>2024 - Present</i>

## EDUCATION

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<b>University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</b>	Illinois, USA
<i>PhD Agricultural and Applied Economics</i>	<i>2024</i>
<i>Fields: Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics</i>	
<b>Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Business School</b>	Santiago, Chile
<i>Master of Science, Management</i>	<i>2014</i>
<b>Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Business School</b>	Santiago, Chile
<i>Bachelor's Degree, Business Administration</i>	<i>2013</i>

## PUBLICATIONS

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Anukriti, Herrera-Almanza, Karra, Valdebenito (2022). Convincing the Mummy-ji: Improving Mother-in-Law Approval of Family Planning in India. *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 112, 568-72.

Aroca, González, Valdebenito (2017). The heterogeneous level of life quality across Chilean regions. *Habitat International*, 68, 84-98.

Valdebenito, Ridley, Arends-Kuenning, Dall'Erba (*forthcoming*). Migration of High School Graduates for Higher Education: The Role of Degree Type and Field of Study. *Education Economics*.

## WORKING PAPERS

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Peer Influence and College Major Choices in Male-Dominated Fields.

Signaling Quality or Gaming the System? Evidence from College-Major Accreditation. *with Cristhian Molina*.

To Profit or not to Profit? Evidence from Chile's For-Profit Voucher Schools. *with Bárbara Boggiano and Cristián Sánchez*.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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The Effect of Transitory Environmental Factors on Human Capital Formation: Evidence from Chile. *with Verónica Vienne, Ron Chan, Jeanne Tschopp, and Martino Pelli*.

Assessing the Effect of Commuting on Students' Achievement: Evidence from Chile. *with Esteban López and Patricio Aroca*.

The effect of Vocational Education on Outcomes in Higher Education. *with Patricio Aroca and Juan Eberhard*.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Research Assistant

Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois

2021 – 2023

- Social Networks and Women's Reproductive Outcomes: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment in Rural India. PIs: S Anukriti, Catalina Herrera-Almanza, Mahesh Karra.

### Short-term Consultant World Bank

Development Economics Research Group. Task team lead: S Anukriti

2022 – 2023

- Informational Barriers to Female Employment in India: Experimental Evidence from Vocational Training Students. PI: S Anukriti.

### Associate Researcher

Center of Regional Economics and Policy, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez

2015 – 2018

- Competitiveness Index of the Chilean Regions. Ministry of Interior and Public Security, Chile.
- Regional Economic Elements of the Chilean Educational Policy. PI: Patricio Aroca, Professor, Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile.
- Methodology to Assess the Establishment of New Administrative Divisions. Ministry of Interior and Public Security, Chile.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Instructor (Full responsibility)

Universidad Alberto Hurtado - Department of Economics

- Econometrics (Fall 2024 - present)
- Microeconomics (Fall 2025 - present)
- Industrial Organization (Fall 2025 - present)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Applied Statistics Lab using R (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

Universidad Adolfo Ibañez, Business School

- Microeconomics (2016, 2017)
- Econometrics Laboratory (2017, 2018)
- Industrial Organization (2018)

### Teaching Assistant

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Applied Statistical Methods and Data Analytics II (Fall 2022)
- Data Science for Applied Economics (Python) - Graduate Level (Spring 2021)
- Applied Statistical Methods (Fall 2020).

Universidad Adolfo Ibañez, Chile

- Statistics I, Statistics II (2012)
- Operations Research (2013)

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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**Teacher Ranked as Excellent - Spring 2024.** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Spencer Foundation - Small Research Grant.** “The Effect of Transitory Environmental Factors on Human Capital Formation: Evidence from Chile”, *with Verónica Vienne (PI), Ron Chan, Jeanne Tschopp, and Martino Pelli.*

**PhD Scholarship 2018–2022.** Chilean National Commission of Scientific and Technological Research (ANID).

**Graduate Student Fellowship 2018–2019:** Jean M and John F. Due Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS & SOFTWARE

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**Software/Programming:** R, Stata, Python, QGIS

**Languages:** Spanish (Native), English (Fluent)

## PRESENTATIONS: CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

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**2025** SURGE Seminar - University of Huddersfield, *UK* | Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference, *New Mexico*.

**2024** Workshop Economía Regional MIPP-PUCV-CEDIT, *Chile* | Virginia Commonwealth University, *Richmond* | Universidad de Santiago, *Chile* | Universidad de los Andes, *Chile* | Universidad Alberto Hurtado, *Chile*.

**2023** Development Day, *Michigan State University* | Northeastern Universities Development Consortium, *Harvard University* | Southern Economic Association, *New Orleans, LA*. | Department of Human Sciences, *The Ohio State University* | Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, *Washington DC*. | International Policy and Development Seminar, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign* | Midwest Economics Association, *Cleveland, OH*. | Association For Education Finance and Policy, *Denver, CO*.

**2022** Population Association of America, *Atlanta, GA*.

**2020** Regional Economics Applications Laboratory Seminar | North American Regional Science Council, *Online*.

**2014-2017** North American Regional Science Council, *Vancouver, Canada*. Chilean Society of Regional Studies, *Chillan, Chile*. | **2016** Chilean Society of Regional Studies, *Santiago, Chile*. | **2015** Regional Economics Applications Laboratory Seminar | **2014** Chilean Society of Regional Studies, *Chile*.

## SERVICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

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Co-Editor: Revista Análisis Económico RAE

Abstract or Paper Reviewer: Agricultural and Applied Economics Association 2021-2023, Revista Análisis Económico.

Local Organizing Committee of the Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit: Applied Economics, Regional and Urban Studies, 2019.

Local Organizing Committee of the Pacific Regional Science Conference Organization, 2015.