

Gabriel Ugarte Vera

gaugarte@uchicago.edu | (+56 9) 9999 3046

PROFILE

Industrial Civil Engineer and Master in Public Policy from the University of Chicago, with 11 years of experience as a researcher, policy analyst (social and educational policies) and data scientist. He has worked for both public and private institutions in the design, evaluation and analysis of public policies, as well as using data to inform the decision-making process. In the academic field, he has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses on quantitative methodology and analysis as well as educational policies at the P. Universidad Católica. He has advanced analytical skills, experience leading teams, and detailed knowledge of methodologies and development of indicators of socioeconomic characterization.

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago (Chicago, IL): Master of Public Policy June 2017

- Graduated with Honors. Certificate in Survey Research.
- Fulbright and Chicago Harris Dean Scholarships, 2015

Pontificia Universidad Católica (Santiago, Chile): MSc in Engineering Sciences June 2009

- Area of expertise: Economics. Graduated with maximum distinction (Best Thesis award).

Pontificia Universidad Católica (Santiago, Chile): BA in Engineering Sciences June 2006

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Centro de Estudios Públicos (Santiago, Chile) April 2022 – Present

Researcher

- Research in economics and public policies in the following areas of interest: policy evaluation, surveys, socioeconomic characterization, poverty, labor market and education.

Undersecretary of Social Evaluation (Santiago, Chile) November 2019 – March 2022

Chief Advisor

- Coordination of both content within the team of advisors and projects involving multiple divisions. Monitoring the content and strategy of the undersecretariat, especially in topics related to the social characterization of the population and public-private cooperation.
- Supervision of the development of the CASEN survey (design, implementation and results), the main household survey in Chile, and the development of the first diagnosis of social welfare in Chile, which complements the socioeconomic information of CASEN.
- Coordination of key projects, including a digital platform for data visualization of the social reality of Chile (datasocial.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl), that combines information from different sources in one tool, the draft bill on donations for a unified regime for tax benefits, and others.
- Support on the design and implementation of social benefits.

National Opinion Research Center at U. of Chicago (Chicago; norc.org) June 2016 – November 2019

Research Methodologist and Data Scientist (Employee Recognition Award)

- Analysis of administrative and survey data for government and other organizations, including the National Survey of Early Care and Education (NSECE) and the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS).
- Providing support to state and local agencies in the use of their administrative data to inform evaluation and guide improvement of their programs. E.g.: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
- Data quality assessment in administrative and survey data.
- Data linkage between administrative and survey data using Zillow (online real estate marketplace in the U.S.) and survey data.
- Support for external researchers and disclosure analyses.

- Participation in all stages of surveys, including survey design, data collection, data-file construction, and analyses. Creation of the weights of the NSECE household survey.

Accion Educar (Santiago, Chile; accioneducar.cl)

June 2014 – August 2015

Head Policy Analyst

- Analyzed and evaluated the effects of new government educational policies and proposed improvements.
- Conducted short and middle-term research using multiple data sources and descriptive as well as inferential analysis on multiple policy issues.
- Generated 26 formal publications available on Accion Educar’s website.
- Created dynamic charts and graphs of the Chilean educational system using Tableau.

Ministry of Education (Santiago, Chile)

June 2010 - May 2014

Head of Center of Studies | Researcher

- Led a team of 35 analysts and researchers that supported the ministry’s strategic processes, managing the production and dissemination of knowledge necessary for decision-making on public policy.
- Managed different essential processes such as: the evaluations of selected educational programs within the Ministry, the generation of short and middle term research, the calculation of official figures of the educational system, and the relation with international research organizations.
- Organized international seminary together with OECD about teacher evaluation systems. Representative to the OECD at the Indicators for Educational Network Systems (INES) program.
- New organization of the Center of Studies was recognized widely by external researchers and continued operations after a change of administration in March 2014.
- The first two and a half years I worked as a researcher conducting short and medium-term research, managing databases from different sources and generating evidence to support decision-makers.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Pontificia Universidad Católica (Santiago, Chile)

March 2013 – August 2015

Professor

Taught the following courses.

- "Information Analysis in Education" at the School of Engineering (new course for BA)
- "Educational Policies and Systems" at the School of Education (Master Degree).

San Isidro High School (Santiago, Chile)

March 2009 – December 2010

Secondary math teacher

PUBLICATIONS (from 2010)

- Ugarte, G., García, G., & Correa, A. (2022). Evaluation of Educational Incentives Program in Peru Performance Commitments”. Presentation at the Comparative & Intl. Education Society 2022.

- Datta, A.R., Ugarte, G., & Resnick, D. (2020). Linking Survey Data with Commercial or Administrative Data for Data Quality Assessment, Big Data Meets Survey Science: A Collection of Innovative Methods. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

- Seeskin Z., Ugarte, G., & Datta, A.R. (2019). Constructing a Toolkit to Evaluate Quality of State and Local Administrative Data. International Journal of Population Data Science, 4(1).

- Forry, N., Madill, R., Shuey, E., Halle, T., Ugarte, G., & Borton, J. (2019). Snapshots from the NSECE: How Much Did Households in the United States Pay for Child Care in 2012? An Examination of Differences by Child Age. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

- Ugarte, G., & Paredes, R. (2011). Should Students Be Allowed to Miss. Journal of Educational Research, 104(3), p194-201

SKILLS

Statistical software: STATA (expert) SAS, SPSS, Tableau (competent) | Computer skills: Programming in Python, R and C | Written communication (Staff Writer at Chicago Policy Review between 2015 and 2016). Fluent in Spanish and English.