

Reza Moradi

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics | University of Toronto

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EDUCATION

2021-Present	Ph.D. in Economics , University of Toronto Expected completion: August 2027
2020	M.A. in Economics , University of Toronto
2019	M.Sc. in Economics , Sharif University of Technology
2016	B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering , Sharif University of Technology

RESEARCH FIELDS

Applied Microeconomics

JOB MARKET PAPER

Who Bears the Cost of School Closures? Evidence from Puerto Rico

This paper studies how the consequences of school consolidation depend on the effectiveness and accessibility of the schools that remain. Using linked student-teacher records and enrollment before and after closures in Puerto Rico, I estimate a structural model in which families choose schools, while schools and teachers jointly contribute to achievement. Among closures before Hurricane María, high-poverty rural schools had higher estimated school effects, net of teacher composition, than their surviving local alternatives. Children displaced from high-poverty rural schools entered schools with estimated school effects averaging 0.16 test-score standard deviations below those of their origins, with little average improvement over the surviving local benchmark. The demand estimates show greater distance sensitivity among rural households. In the baseline model, rural-poor households bear 76.3 percent of model-implied access losses while accounting for 46.3 percent of predicted displacement. These findings show why enrollment alone is an incomplete guide to the distributional consequences of school consolidation.

PUBLICATIONS

Madanizadeh, S. A., H. Joshaghani, and R. Moradi (2023). Ride-hailing demand elasticity: A regression discontinuity method. *Journal of Industrial and Business Economics*, 50: 907-932.

OTHER WORKING PAPERS

The Effects of School Consolidation on Students and Teachers: Evidence from an Underperforming System

with Gustavo J. Bobonis, Orlando J. Sotomayor, Jeancarlo Vélez Lebrón, and Jessica Wagner

Limiting the Influence of Rich Voters on Elections: The Case of Democracy Voucher in Seattle

WORK IN PROGRESS

Democracy Vouchers and Candidate Policy Positions in Seattle

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Jun 2020-2024 **University of Toronto, Department of Economics**

Research Assistant to Gustavo J. Bobonis

Improving and Sustaining Management Practices in Public Schools: Evidence from Puerto Rico.

Understanding the Consequences of School Closures in Puerto Rico.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

External Presentations

Nov 2026 Northeastern Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca (*scheduled*).

Oct 2026 MidSouth Education Policy Workshop, University of Kentucky, Lexington (*scheduled*).

Aug 2026 European Association for Research in Industrial Economics Annual Conference, Mannheim.

Jun 2026 Canadian Economics Association Annual Meetings, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver.

Aug 2025 European Economic Association Congress, Bordeaux School of Economics.

Jun 2025 International Association for Applied Econometrics Conference, University of Torino.

Jun 2024 Empirical Microeconomics Workshop, Banff.

Internal Presentations - University of Toronto

Oct 2026 Empirical Microeconomics Seminar Series (*scheduled*).

Jul 2026 SWEAT Seminar Series.

Winter 2026 Development / Political Economy / Economic History Workshop.

Aug 2025 Annual Urban Day Seminar, Rotman School of Management.

Winter 2025 Urban and Real Estate Workshop, Rotman School of Management.

Fall 2024 Development / Political Economy / Economic History Workshop.

Dec 2023 Applied Microeconomics Seminar.

Other Activities

Jul 2026 NBER Summer Institute, Economics of Education. Invited participant.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Toronto, Department of Economics

Teaching Assistant, St. George and Mississauga campuses

September 2019-Present | Undergraduate courses

Foundations of Econometrics	Fall/Winter 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26
Quantitative Methods in Economics	Summer 2022, 2024, 2025; Fall/Winter 2025-26
Microeconomic Theory (with Calculus)	Summer 2026 (<i>scheduled</i>)
Microeconomic Theory	Fall/Winter 2021-22, 2022-23
Public Economics (Mississauga)	Winter 2025
Applied Econometrics (Mississauga)	Fall/Winter 2023-24
Studying Social Science Questions with Big Data	Fall 2024
Financial Economics I & II	Summer 2023
Principles of Microeconomics / Macroeconomics	Fall/Winter 2019-20

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Awards and fellowships held at the University of Toronto.

2023-27	Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Faculty of Arts and Science
2025-26	Department of Economics Student Award
2025-26	University of Toronto Fellowship, Department of Economics
2025-26	University of Toronto Tuition Fellowship, Department of Economics
2023-25	University of Toronto Grant - UTAPS
2022-25	University of Toronto Top-Up Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Science
2021-26	Department of Economics Graduate Program Award
2021-25	University of Toronto Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Science
2021-24	University of Toronto Tuition Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Science
2021-24	Faculty of Arts and Science Program-level Fellowship
2019-20	Master of Financial Economics Award, Department of Economics

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Software	Stata, R, Python, C++, Julia, MATLAB, SQL, MQL, LaTeX, Git
Methods	Causal inference (RDD, DiD, IV); structural estimation; panel econometrics; machine learning for applied work
Languages	English (fluent); Persian (native); French (basic)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Canadian Economics Association; European Economic Association; The Econometric Society.

REFERENCES

Gustavo J. Bobonis (*Supervisor*)
 Department of Economics
 University of Toronto
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Stephan Heblich (*Co-Supervisor*)
 Department of Economics
 University of Toronto
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Robert McMillan
 Department of Economics
 University of Toronto
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