

Emanuel J. Agu

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CONTACT INFORMATION	Program in Economics The Graduate Center City University of New York (CUNY) New York, NY 10016	Phone: + 1 (646) 660-6869 Email: eagu@gradcenter.cuny.edu
EDUCATION	Ph.D. in Economics , Graduate Center, CUNY MPhil in Economics , Graduate Center, CUNY Certificate in Demography , Graduate Center, CUNY MA in Economics , University of Buenos Aires Licentiate in Economics , University of Buenos Aires (5.5 years program)	Expected: 2025 2023 2022 2019 2010
RESEARCH FIELDS	Labor Economics, Urban Economics, Demographic Economics	
PUBLICATIONS	Agency for Inclusive Social Development (Eds.), <i>Aproximación a las políticas públicas, empleabilidad y promoción del empleo</i> . Ministry of Economic Development and Production of the City of Buenos Aires. Pluma Digital. Chapters on policy to promote gender equality and decent work.	
WORKING PAPERS	Spatial Dynamics of Mortality during the COVID-19 Pandemic in New York City: Evidence from Hart Island Mass Burials with Heiland, Frank W., Jennifer Brite, and Deborah Balk During the COVID-19 pandemic, New York City (NYC) saw the highest number of confirmed cases and deaths of any major city in the United States. Low-income and immigrant neighborhoods and communities of color were particularly hard hit. This paper presents new evidence on the temporal and spatial impact the pandemic had on mortality in NYC using burial records from Hart Island – NYC’s potter’s field. We geocode location-at-death information and study how the distribution of Hart Island deaths changed over time and across boroughs and neighborhoods during the first wave of the pandemic and how it compares to pre-pandemic levels. We find the mortality toll in the early stage of the pandemic was even larger in disadvantaged communities than previously estimated. This provides new insights into the temporal and spatial dynamics of the impact of COVID-19 on particularly socio-economically vulnerable populations. Secondary School Attendance in Urban Argentina a Decade After the Extension of Compulsory Education and Large Scale Up of Conditional Cash Transfer Programs (Second Year Paper) This paper investigates the major factors influencing secondary school dropout in the largest urban areas of Argentina. The analysis explores possible explanations for the persistent school dropout rates a decade after institutional reforms that included secondary school completion in compulsory education and established massive cash transfer programs conditional on school attendance. Adopting the human capital framework, the research addresses family background factors traditionally described as having a significant impact on children’s educational attainment, such as short-term liquidity constraints and parental educational attainment. The strategy also tests whether leaving school early and joining the labor force are simultaneous and exclusive decisions. The results indicate that children living in households where the head did not attain a secondary school diploma are 15 percent more likely to drop out of school and 5.5 percent more likely to be employed or actively seeking employment. In contrast, liquidity constraints are found to play a secondary role in explaining either school attendance or labor force participation. Moreover, the estimates provide evidence that both decisions are negatively influenced by unmeasured factors, which existing literature identifies as adolescent parenthood, neighborhood environment, or school quality.	

The Impact of the Pension System on Income Distribution and Poverty. Empirical Evidence from Argentina, 2003-2013

Previous works have documented significant impacts of the pension system on income distribution and poverty in Argentina. These impacts have become more relevant since the first decade of the 21st century, based on pension policies that have increased coverage and provided benefits to a large population living in low-income households. In this paper, the incidence of these changes is studied by distinguishing the living arrangements of older people as a determinant of the global impact. To perform this analysis, decompositions of the Gini and Theil inequality indexes and absolute and relative poverty indicators are implemented. Results from these exercises suggest that changes in pension income contributed largely to reducing inequality and poverty among households composed of older people and more moderately at a general level.

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

Urbanization Effects on Intergenerational Mobility in the United States

High-Mobility Colleges in the United States

Urban Projections: New Blended, Spatial Demographic Approaches for Understanding Our Urban Future with Deborah Balk, Mark Montgomery, Stefan Leyk, and Alessandra Carioli.

Life course exposure to household mortality and racial inequality. An Empirical Analysis on the Older Population in Brazil with Angela Dixon and Jacqueline Jahn.

Spatial Distribution of Households with Unsatisfied Basic Needs in the City of Buenos Aires

The Role of Aging and Household Size in Shaping the Income Distribution

RESEARCH GRANTS

High-Mobility Colleges in the United States. Principal Investigator. The Social Mobility Lab, CUNY.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Stone Center Junior Scholar, The Stone Center, CUNY	2023
Ray Quinlan Award, Economics Program, CUNY	2022
Supplementary Fellowship, Institute for Demographic Research, CUNY	2021-2022
Graduate Student Research Assistant Award, The Stone Center, CUNY	2021
Graduate Student Research Assistant Award, The Stone Center, CUNY	2020
Graduate Student Fellowship, Economics Program, CUNY	2019
Amartya Sen Program: Economics, Ethics, and Justice, University of Buenos Aires	2015

WORK EXPERIENCE

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

Economic Analyst, Manufacturing Enterprise, Argentina	2002-2016
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CONSULTING

Ministry of Economic Development and Production, Buenos Aires City, Argentina	2021-2022
Luxembourg Income Study (LIS), Luxembourg	2020
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Evaluation Office, New York	2019
Secretary of Economic Development of the City of Santa Fe, Argentina	2018-2019
Ministry of Health, Argentina	2018
Housing Institute of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina	2018
Ministry of Science, Technology and Production, Argentina	2015
National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC), Argentina	2014

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Baruch College, Marx School of Public and International Affairs

Adjunct Lecturer, Master’s level (hybrid): Economic Analysis and Public Policy	2024-present
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SUNY College at Old Westbury

Adjunct Instructor, Undergraduate level (remote instruction): Urban Economics	2021
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UNIVERSITY SERVICE	<p>Student Member, Admission and Awards Committee, Economics Program, CUNY 2024-25</p> <p>Large Representative Alternate and Program Representative, DSC, CUNY 2024</p> <p>Student Member, Admission and Awards Committee, Economics Program, CUNY 2023-24</p> <p>Mentor, Economic Program, CUNY 2022</p> <p>Program Representative, Doctoral Student Council (DSC), CUNY 2021</p> <p>Student Member, Curriculum and Examination Committee and Elections Committee, Economics Program, CUNY</p>	
PRESENTATIONS (LAST 5 YEARS)	<p>Population Association of America. Columbus, Ohio 2024</p> <p>Population Association of America. New Orleans, Louisiana 2023</p> <p>Population Association of America. Atlanta, Georgia 2022</p>	
PRESENTATIONS (EARLIER)	<p>12th National Congress of Labor Studies of the Argentine Association of Specialists in Labor Studies (ASET); 3rd International Seminar on Inequality and Social Mobility in Latin America; 7th and 8th International Congress of Economics and Management, University of Buenos Aires; 8th Conference of Sociology, University of General Sarmiento, Argentina; 18th ISA World Congress, Research Committee No. 19; 1st National Conference on Econometrics, University of Buenos Aires; 2nd International Seminar on Inequality and Social Mobility in Latin America, University of Cuyo, Argentina; Institute for the International Education of Students (IES Abroad), City of Buenos Aires, Argentina</p>	
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS	<p>Population Association of America (PAA)</p> <p>Argentine Association for Population Studies (AEPA)</p> <p>City of Buenos Aires Professional Council of Economic Sciences (CPCECABA)</p> <p>European Association of Labour Economists (EALE)</p> <p>International Sociological Association (ISA) and Research Committee No. 19</p>	
LANGUAGES	<p>English (fluent), Spanish (native), Portuguese (conversant), Swedish (basic)</p>	
COMPUTER SKILLS	<p>Data Analysis: Stata, R, Python, QGIS, ArcGIS</p> <p>Census and household databases: IPUMS, DHS, MICS, LIS, PSID, REDATAM, NCDB</p> <p>Geospatial databases: GHSL, CCI-LC, GRIP</p>	
OTHER ACADEMIC TRAINING	<p>IPUMS Summer Workshop; PSID Data User Workshop; Advanced Spatial Analysis: Spatial Clusters and Hotspots using GIS; Survival Analysis Using Stata (StataCorp); Inequality by the Numbers; Social Program Evaluation (JPAL); Programming in Stata (FLACSO)</p>	