

Leonardo Bonilla Mejía

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Education	Ph.D. in Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Thesis: Three Essays on Education Decisions in Colombia. Committee: Richard Akresh (Chair), Elizabeth Powers, Daniel McMillen, and Adam Osman.	2011-2016
	M.Sc. in Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2013
	B.A. in Economics, Universidad Nacional de Colombia	2003-2008
Research Interest	Development, Education, Environment.	
Professional Experience	Banco de la República de Colombia <i>Researcher</i> : Development, education, and environment. Team Leader: Jaime Bonet.	2016 to present
	The World Bank: Education Global Practice <i>Consultant</i> : Financial analysis of the education sector of Haiti. Team Leader: Juan Barón.	2015-2016
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Department of Economics <i>Graduate Research Assistant</i> : Political polarization. Professors: Stefan Krassa and Mattias Polborn.	2013-2016
	Banco de la República de Colombia <i>Research Analyst</i> : Income inequality and education. Team Leader: Adolfo Meisel.	2008-2011
	Banco de la República de Colombia <i>Research Assistant</i> : Monetary policy and macroeconometrics. Researchers: Martha Misas and Enrique López.	2007-2008
Publications	External Shocks and International Remittances in the Colombian Regions. Forthcoming in <i>Ensayos Sobre Política Económica</i> . (Original in Spanish)	
	Who Chooses an Education Degree in Colombia? Characterizing the Education Degree Students Using Their Exit Exam Performance. <i>Desarrollo y Sociedad</i> , Universidad de los Andes. No. 74. (2014). With Juan Barón, Lina Cardona, and Monica Ospina. (Original in Spanish)	
	Unequal Distribution of Qualified Teachers in Colombia. <i>Economía Institucional</i> , Universidad Externado de Colombia. No. 26. (2012). With Luis A. Galvis. (Original in Spanish)	
	Professionalization of Teachers and Quality of School Education in Colombia. <i>Ensayos Sobre Política Económica</i> , Vol. 29, No. 68. (2012). With Luis A. Galvis. (Original in Spanish)	
	Regional Differences in Income Distribution in Colombia. <i>Sociedad y Economía</i> , Universidad del Valle. Vol. 21. (2011). (Original in Spanish)	
	Double-shift Schools and Quality of Education in Colombia. <i>Coyuntura Económica</i> , Fedesarrollo. Vol. 41, No. 1. (2011). (Original in Spanish)	
	Intergenerational Mobility of Education in the Cities and Regions of Colombia. <i>Revista de Economía del Rosario</i> , Universidad del Rosario. Vol. 13, No. 2. (2010). (Original in Spanish)	

Demographics, Youth and Homicides in Colombia, 1979-2006. *Lecturas de Economía*, Universidad de Antioquia. No. 72. (2010). (Original in Spanish)

Determinants of the Regional Differences in Income Distribution in Colombia, a Micro-Decomposition Analysis. *Ensayos Sobre Política Económica*, Vol. 27, No. 59. (2010). (Original in Spanish)

Country Risk Ratings and Financial Crises 1995-2001: A Survival Analysis. *The Review of Business Journal*, Vol 29, No. 3. (2009). With Andrés García and Mónica Roa.

Book Chapters Interest Rate Pass-through in Colombia: A Multivariate Switching Regime Model Approach. In Jalil, M. and Mhadeva, L. [Eds], Monetary policy transmission mechanisms in Colombia. (2011) Universidad Externado de Colombia - Banco de la República. With Rocío Betancourt and Martha Misas. (Original in Spanish)

Working Papers Information Policies and Higher Education Choices: Experimental Evidence from Colombia. With Andrés Ham and Nicolas Bottan. (under review)

House Prices and School Choice: Evidence from Chicago's Magnet Schools Proximity Lottery. With Esteban López and Daniel McMillen.

Local Effects of Small-Scale Mining on School Education and Child Labor: Evidence from the Colombia's Gold Rush.

Protected Areas Under Weak Institutions: Evidence from Colombia. With Iván Higuera.

Political Alignment in the Time of Weak Parties: Electoral Advantages and Subnational Transfers in Colombia. With Iván Higuera.

Do High School Peers Influence Higher Education Decisions? An Endogenous Network Approach.

Work in Progress When Green Production Yields Poverty: Socioeconomic Effects of Forestry Expansion in Chile. With Esteban López and Patricio Aroca.

The Consequences of Automatic Grade Promotion: Evidence from a Nationwide Education Policy in Colombia. With Andrés Ham.

Do Women Mayors Improve Local Gender Policies? With Ana M. Tribín.

Marginal Effects of Overlapping Protected Areas: Evidence from the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. With Javier Pérez and Iván Higuera.

Teaching Experience University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign 2012
Teaching Assistant: Intermediate microeconomics.

Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar 2009-2011
Instructor: Intermediate econometrics, regional economics.

Universidad Nacional de Colombia 2006-2007
Teaching Assistant: Basic and intermediate statistics.

Awards and Fellowships International Sustainable Development Research Society 2017
Best Paper Award: First Runner-up.

North American Regional Science Association 2016
Graduate-Student-Led Paper Competition: First place.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <i>McNatt Memorial Award (2015), Department of Economics Summer Research Fellowship (2013, 2015), Tinker Foundation's Field Research Grant (2012).</i>	2011-2016
Banco de la República de Colombia <i>Economics Ph.D. Full Scholarship.</i>	2011-2015
Banco Central de Guatemala <i>Manuel Noriega Morales Research Award Paper: Second place.</i>	2010
Universidad Nacional de Colombia <i>Best GPA Scholarship: Five semesters.</i>	2003-2008

Invited Seminars and Conference Presentations	<p><i>2017:</i> Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MIEDC), International Sustainable Development Research Society Conference (ISDRS), Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA), Seminario Internacional de Investigación ICFES, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Universidad ICESI.</p> <p><i>2016:</i> North American Meeting of the Regional Science Association International (NARSC), Regional Economics Applications Laboratory (REAL).</p> <p><i>2015:</i> Development Day - University of Michigan, North American Meeting of the Regional Science Association International (NARSC), Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Meeting, Regional Economics Applications Laboratory (REAL).</p> <p><i>2014:</i> North American Meeting of the Regional Science Association International (NARSC), Regional Economics Applications Laboratory (REAL), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana.</p> <p><i>2013:</i> Applied Economics, Regional and Urban Studies Conference (AERUS), Regional Economics Applications Laboratory (REAL).</p> <p><i>2011:</i> ICFES, Fedesarrollo.</p> <p><i>2009:</i> Regional Science Association for the Americas (RSAI).</p>
Professional Service	<i>Referee:</i> Regional Science and Urban Economics, Regional Science Policy and Practice, Ensayos Sobre Política Económica, Desarrollo y Sociedad, Revista de Economía del Rosario, Cuadernos de Economía, Lecturas de Economía, Economía Institucional, Estudios Gerenciales.
Languages	Spanish (Native), English, French, and Italian (Fluent).
Coding Skills	R, Stata, Matlab, GIS.
References	<p>Richard Akresh: Associate Professor. Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Email: akresh@illinois.edu.</p> <p>Juan Barón: Senior Economist. Education Global Practice, The World Bank. Email: jbaron@worldbank.org.</p> <p>Daniel P. McMillen: Professor of Economics. Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Email: mcmillen@illinois.edu.</p>