

Carlos César Chávez Padilla

cesarchavezpadilla@gmail.com | +1 (202) 696-5595 | cesarchavezp29.github.io | [Google Scholar](#)

Economist working at the intersection of development, human capital, and public policy. Master in Public Policy (U. of Chicago) with hands-on experience at the IMF and the IDB, and builder of Qhawarina, a real-time open-data platform that nowcasts Peru's economy from web data.

Education

University of Chicago, M.A. in Public Policy (Harris School), Merit Scholarship	2024–2025
Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, B.A. Economics, honors, GPA 3.9/4.0	2013–2017
Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería, Diplomas in Applied Econometrics & Finance	2018

Policy & Research Experience

International Monetary Fund — Research Analyst / Assistant, MCM Department	2020–2023
- Supported Article IV and country missions (Sweden, South Africa, Caribbean); produced macro-financial analysis used in surveillance work. - Co-authored IMF Working Paper 2022/180 on closing Peru's ethnic income gaps; quantified the policy levers behind inclusive growth. - Built a 180-country panel linking political instability to growth and productivity, informing risk assessment.	
Inter-American Development Bank — Research Consultant, Pension Fund Department	2019–2020
Analyzed pension-system design and old-age coverage gaps across Latin America.	
University of Chicago — Research Professional, Center for the Economics of Human Development	2024–present
Work with Prof. James J. Heckman on early-childhood policy and skill formation; translate structural results into policy-relevant terms.	

Flagship Project — Qhawarina

Founder and sole builder of **Qhawarina**, a real-time open-data platform for Peru: scrapes 42,000+ products daily across all 25 regions and nowcasts GDP and inflation from prices, filling the gap left by lagged official statistics. Open, transparent, and updated daily. cesarchavezp29.github.io/projects/qhawarina

Policy-Relevant Research

- Minimum wage & ethnic gaps in Peru** — who gains and who is left out (*J. Economics, Race & Policy*; bunching estimator working paper).
- Mining and local welfare** — effects of extractive activity on inequality, income, and poverty (*Mineral Economics*).
- Political instability & macro outcomes** — coups, productivity, and sovereign risk across countries.
- Election integrity** — a forensic test of fraud allegations in Peru's 2021 runoff (*under review, Political Analysis*).

Skills

Data & programming: Stata, R (advanced); Python, SQL, web scraping, machine learning (proficient). **Communication:** policy briefs, data visualization, public dashboards. **Languages:** Spanish (native), English (fluent).