

Christopher Sichko

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Employment

United States Department of Agriculture (*Economic Research Service*) (Boulder, CO)

Research Economist (Rural and Resource Division, Conservation and Environment Branch) 2021 – Present

Education

Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN)

Ph.D. Economics 2021

M.A. Economics 2017

University of Colorado (Boulder, CO)

Post-bachelor coursework in Mathematics and Computer Science 2013 – 2015

***Summa cum Laude*: B.A. Economics, B.A. History, Classics minor** 2011

Research

Published and forthcoming

Sichko, C., 2024. "Migrant Selection and Sorting during the Great American Drought." Accepted by *World Development*.

Muhammad, A., **C. Sichko**, and T. Olson. 2023. "African Americans and Federal Land Policy: Exploring the Homestead Acts of 1862 and 1866." *Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy*.

Baldwin, K., B. Williams, **C. Sichko**, F. Tsiboe, S. Toossi, J. Jones, D. Turner, S. Raszap-Skorbiensky. 2023. "U.S. Agricultural Policy Review, 2022." USDA Economic Research Service, forthcoming.

Warziniack, T., K. Bagstad, M. Knowles, C. Mihlar, A. Nehra, C. Rhodes, L. Sanchez, **C. Sichko**, and C. B. Sims. 2023. Natural Capital Accounting on Forested Lands. In M. Bohman, E. Fenichel, and N. Muller (Eds.) *Measuring and Accounting for Environmental Public Goods: A National Accounts Perspective*. University of Chicago Press.

Under review

Sichko, C., *Drought and Migration during the Great Depression*. Revisions requested by the Journal of Economic Geography.

Sichko, C., A. Zimran, and A. Howlader. *Race and Migration during the Great American Drought*. Revisions requested by the American Journal of Agricultural Economics.

Sichko, C., W. Burnett, K. Baldwin, J. O'Hara, and Daniel Szmurlo. *On-farm Greenhouse Gas Mitigation in U.S. Agriculture*. Revisions requested by the Peer Review Coordinating Council at the Economic Research Service.

A. Hinson, G. McCarty, L. Du, **C. Sichko**, and K. Maguire. *Wetlands and riparian protected lands as non-traditional habitat solutions for native pollinator populations in agricultural landscapes*.

Research and Teaching Fields

Environmental, History, Development, Agriculture

Honors and Awards

IPUMS: best graduate student paper using IPUMS spatial data	2021
Kirk Dornbush Research Assistantship, Vanderbilt University	2020
Kirk Dornbush Research Grant, Vanderbilt University	2018
Phi Beta Kappa, University of Colorado	2011

Teaching Experience

Lumiere Education

Research Mentor 2021 – 2022

Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN)

Teaching Assistant 2016 – 2019

Presentations

2023: American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Conference on Economics of Inequality in Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Systems.

2022: Economics Research Service Brown Bag

2020: University of Colorado at Boulder Economic History Brown Bag, Vanderbilt Economic History Seminar, National Bureau of Economic Research Poster Session, Vanderbilt Economics Applied Micro Seminar, Economic History Association Poster Session

2019: Vanderbilt Economic History Tea, Vanderbilt Graduate Research Day, Vanderbilt Economics Brown Bag

2018: Vanderbilt Graduate Research Day, Economics of Health Working Group

2016: Southern Economics Conference, Vanderbilt Graduate Research Day, Vanderbilt Economics Brown Bag

Previous Research and Industry Experience

Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN)

Research Assistant for Professor Ariell Zimran and Professor Mario Crucini 2018 – 2020

Oracle Corporation (Broomfield, CO) 2012 – 2015

Analyst and Master Scheduler II (World Wide Operations)

Research Triangle Institute (Durham, NC) 2011 – 2012

Economist (Environmental, Technology, and Energy Economics Group)

International Council on Clean Transportation (Washington, D.C.) Summer 2011

Research Intern (Fuels Team)

Skills, Certifications, & Service

Programming: Interested in using programming and computer science to create datasets, improve reproducibility, and promote transparency in research.

- Experience with remote servers, command line, batch scripts, and Linux
- Completed projects in STATA, SAS, GIS, Python, MATLAB, R, SQL, and C++

Example Projects:

STATA: Cleaned and merged U.S. Full Count Census data (120 million detailed observations of people in 1940) with drought data, regression analysis, table and figure production and output for dissertation.

SAS: Linked 20 million individual census records from 1930 to 1940 to study migration, occupation change, and how socio-economic conditions changed for people over the decade.

Python and GIS: Created a data set of county-level drought conditions for each year from 1850 to 1950 by integrating yearly drought data from NOAA to county boundary line shape files from NHGIS.

R: Built ARIMA forecasting models with a co-worker at Oracle, which we used to validate product forecasts from Oracle's Demantra Statistical Engine.

Aviation

Commercial Pilot's License (CSEL) 2022

- Instrument Rating (2019)
- Endorsements: Tailwheel, Complex, High Performance
- Colorado Pilots Association CFI Scholarship winner (2023)

Wing runner at Mile High Gliding (weekends, biweekly) May 2023 – October 2023

Memberships: Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Colorado Pilots Association, Experimental Aircraft Association

Wilderness First Responder, Wilderness Medical Associates Current through 2024

- Medical credential for outdoor educators, guides, search and rescue

Photography

Selected for Colorado Outdoors magazine, Photo Issue (2023)

The Nature Conservancy Photo Contest—Finalist (People and Nature) (2023)

The Nature Conservancy Photo Contest—Finalist (Insects and Arachnids) (2023)

City Nature Challenge by Denver Botanic Garden's—Second Place for Most Colorful (2023)

The Nature Conservancy—Colorado Photo of the Month (December 2021)

Volunteering

Colorado Horse Rescue (2 hours weekly) November 2022 – March 2023

Red Wagon Farms (3 hours weekly—workshare) May 2022 – October 2022

Mountain Flower Goat Dairy at Growing Gardens (2 hours weekly) October 2021 – December 2022

Front Range Nesting Bald Eagles (2 hours weekly) Spring 2021

Nashville Food Rescue (2 hours bi-weekly) 2017 – 2019