

ENRICO RETTORE. Ph.D.
[enrico.rettore at unipd.it](mailto:enrico.rettore@unipd.it)

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Department of Economics and Management 'Marco Fanno'
University of Padova
Via del Santo 33, 35123 Padova, Italy
[enrico.rettore at unipd.it](mailto:enrico.rettore@unipd.it)
Orcid: 0000-0002-1322-106X
Scopus: 6508089260

Personal Details

Male
October 5th, 1959
Married. Two children (1993, 1997)

Current Position

Since 2020 **University of Padova – Department of Economics and Management**
Professor of Econometrics
Since 2008 **FBK-IRVAPP, Trento (Italy)**
Affiliated / Senior Researcher
Since 2013 **Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Bonn (Germany)**
Research Fellow
Since 2017 **Global Labor Organization (GLO)**
Fellow
Since 2017 **CESifo, Munich (Germany)**
Fellow

Education

1989 **University of Padova – Department of Statistics**
Ph.D. in Statistics (supervisor: Ugo Trivellato)
1984 **University of Padova – *Facoltà di Scienze Statistiche***
Master Degree in Statistics and Economics

Past Academic Positions

2015-2019 **University of Trento – Department of Sociology and Social Research**
Professor of Econometrics
2000-2015 **University of Padova – Department of Economics and Management**
Professor of Economic Statistics
1998-2000 **University of Padova – Department of Statistics**

Associate Professor of Economic Statistics
1989-1998 **University of Padova – Department of Statistics**
Assistant Professor of Statistics

Visiting Fellow

2017 **CESifo (Munich)**
2014 **IZA (Bonn)**
2003 **IFAU (Uppsala)**
1991 **IFS (London)**
1988 **UCL – Department of Economics (London)**

Teaching

After tutoring several courses in Statistics and Econometrics (1989 to 1998), I started teaching 'Econometrics' both at the *Facoltà di Scienze Statistiche* and at the School of Economics and Business Administration, University of Padova, covering all the topics of classical econometrics and modern micro-econometrics, including the econometrics of program evaluation. Then (2015-2019), I taught an undergraduate course of 'Introductory Statistics' and a master course of 'Social inequalities' at the Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento. By now, I teach 'Econometrics' to BA students as well as to PhD students and 'Statistics for Management' to MBA students at my department.

I repeatedly taught selected topics in micro-econometrics at the School for Doctoral Students of the *Consorzio Italiano di Econometria*.

Since 2008, I have also been teaching at the annual FBK-IRVAPP School on Program Evaluation. Special editions of this School have been delivered to the staff of the Research Department of the Bank of Italy (2008, 2013, 2015, 2017), at the Joint Research Center of the European Commission (2017), at the *Ufficio Parlamentare di Bilancio* (Italian Parliament, 2019) and at the DG EcoFin (2019 and 2020).

I supervised several doctoral students working at their dissertation. By now, five of them hold an academic position:

Erich Battistin, *Professor*, University of Maryland
Margherita Fort, *Professore ordinario*, University of Bologna
Gianluca Mazzarella, *Assistant Professor*, University of Pavia
Omar Paccagnella, *Professore associato*, University of Padova
Sara Tonini, *Assistant Professor*, University of Alicante.

Academic journals (and funding bodies) I served as a referee

American Economic J.: Macroeconomics, American Economic R., Annales d'Economie e de Statistique, British J. of Industrial Relations, Demography, Econometrica, Economics of Education R., Economics Letters, European Sociological R., Evaluation R., International J. of Manpower, Israel Science Foundation, Italian Ministry of University&Research, IZA World of Labor, J. of Applied Econometrics, J. of Applied Statistics, J. of Econometrics, J. of Educational and Behavioral Statistics, J. of the European Economic Association, J. of Health Economics, J. of Human Resources, J. of Labor Economics, J. of Official Statistics, J. of Political Economy, J. of Population Economics, J. of the Royal Statistical Society (A), Labour, Labour Economics, Proceedings of the National Academy

of Science, Research in Economics, Scandinavian J. of Economics, Statistica, Statistical Methods and Applications.

Main research interests [please, refer also to the list of publications]

After working on measurement errors in national accounts and their impact on the estimation of macro-econometric models, I moved to micro-econometrics, working with qualitative and limited dependent variable models. In particular, at the time of my doctoral dissertation, I worked on the modelling of female labour supply in Italy in the presence of institutional constraints on the working week length. At the time, a major problem to estimate a labour supply equation for Italy was the lack of *joint* information on earnings, income and labour supply. In the dissertation I derived conditions to identify the equation exploiting data from *two* complementary data sources: earnings and income from the Bank of Italy SHIW and labour supply from the Istat LFS.

My main research interest since the early '90s has been the econometrics of program evaluation within the more general issue of drawing inferences on causal parameters both in observational and in experimental settings. My research includes both studies on methodological issues - in particular, methodological advances on the Regression Discontinuity Design - and on case studies - in particular, the evaluation of public interventions - and more generally the estimation of structural parameters - in the field of labour, welfare and education.

Other research deals with issues of measurement of unemployment and participation at work and measurement of inequality and poverty. Measurement issues and the related matter of accounting for measurement errors in the estimation of causal parameters have been a concern throughout my research career.

Main research grants and awards

- 2019-2021 **Member** of the **scientific committee**: Research project co-funded by the European Commission 'Assess@Learning', in charge of the impact evaluation design.
- 2017-2019 **Member** of the **scientific committee**: Research project co-funded by the European Commission on "TEACH-UP – Teacher Upskilling Policy experimentation", in charge of the impact evaluation design.
- 2015- 2018 **Member** of the **scientific committee**: Research project co-funded by the European Commission on "Mentoring technology enhanced pedagogy", in charge of the impact evaluation design.
- 2015-2017 **Member** of the **scientific committee**: Research project co-funded by the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion on "Affording college with the help of asset building", in charge of the impact evaluation design.
- 2013-2014 **Member** of the **scientific committee**: Research project co-funded by the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion on "Post-secondary vocational training course: are they effective for Italian unemployed youth with a high school diploma?", in charge of the impact evaluation design.
- 2007-2010 **Project Leader**: Research project supported by the Italian Ministry of Economy and Public Finance on the evaluation of the occupational impact of a wage subsidy program.

- 2005-2007 **Project Leader:** Research project supported by the Italian Ministry of University and Research on “Evaluating the impact of public interventions: methods and case studies”.
- 2003 **Project Leader:** Research project supported by the Italian Ministry of Welfare on the impact of benefits to redundant employees on their subsequent labour market history.

Committees and administrative duties

- 2021 - **Member** of the Committee on Research Integrity (chairman, 2025 -), Univ. of Padova.
- 2020 - 2026 **Head** of the PhD Program in Economics and Management, Univ. of Padova.
- 2019 **Chairman** of the *8th Italian Conference of Econometrics and Empirical Economics* – Lecce, Jan. 24-26 2019.
- 2018-2020 'Giorgio Mortara' Scholarship - *Banca d'Italia*, **Member** of the selection committee.
- 2008 - I contributed to the design and the establishment of FBK-IRVAPP, a Research Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies operating in Trento. Currently, I am Senior Researcher at the Institute. FBK-IRVAPP regularly provides impact evaluations of policies adopted by the *Provincia Autonoma di Trento* in the fields of labour, welfare, education and incentive to firms. The Institute, together with other partners, take part on a regular basis in competitive calls issued by, among others, the European Commission.
- 2013-2014 **Member** of the **Scientific Committee** on the monitoring and evaluation of labour market policies - Italian Ministry of Labour.
- 2009-2013 **Member** of the *Senato Accademico*, Univ. of Padova.
- 2009-2011 **Dean** of the School of Economics and Business Administration, Univ. of Padova.
- 2000-2002 **Member** of the **Steering Committee** on the use of Social Security data in official statistics – Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat).
- 2000-2001 **Member** of the **Commission for Inquiry on Social Exclusion** - Italian Prime Minister Cabinet.
- 2000 **Member** of the *Commissione di Garanzia sull'Informazione Statistica*, panel on official statistics on participation at work, earnings and labour cost.
- 1996 Report to the **Commission for Inquiry on Social Exclusion** - Italian Prime Minister Cabinet: on the relationship between participation at work and poverty.
- 1983 - 1995 **Member** of the **Municipality Council**, Monselice (Padova).

List of main publications

'Starting the school year on the right foot. Effects of a summer learning program targeting vulnerable students in Italy', *Educational Researcher*, 2025 (with D. Azzolini, M. Bazzoli, S. Burlacu; DOI: 10.3102/0013189X251361799)

'Making Subsidies Work: Rules vs. Discretion', *Econometrica*, 93(3), 2025 (with F. Cingano, F. Palomba and P. Pinotti; DOI: 10.3982/ECTA21319).

'Exploring the Potential of Self-Assessment for Teachers' Development of ICT Competencies and Beliefs', *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 2025 (with G. Abbiati, D. Azzolini, A. Balanskat, K. Engelhart, D. Piazzalunga, P. Wastiau; DOI: 10.3102/01623737241310449).

'If (My) 6 Was (Your) 9: Reporting Heterogeneity in Student Evaluations of Teaching', *Labour Economics*, 2024 (with M. Bertoni and L. Rocco; DOI: 10.1016/j.labeco.2024.102567)

'Quantiles of the gain distribution of an early childhood intervention', *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 39, 2024 (with E. Battistin and C. Lamarche; DOI: 10.1002/jae.3071)

'Granting more bang for the buck: The heterogeneous effects of firm subsidies', *Labour Economics*, 83, 2023 (with F. Cingano, F. Palomba and P. Pinotti; DOI: 10.1016/j.labeco.2023.102403)

'The chips are down: The Influence of Family on Children's Trust Formation', *Journal of Population Economics*, 36(3), 2023 (with C. Giulietti and S. Tonini; DOI: 10.1007/s00148-022-00921-1).

'Raising Teacher Retention in Online Courses through Personalized Support. Evidence from a Cross-national Randomized Controlled Trial', *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*, 2023 (with D. Azzolini, K. Engelhardt, B. Hertz, S. Marzadro, P. Wastiau; DOI: 10.1080/19345747.2022.2100850).

'Asymmetries in the gender effect of high-performing peers: Evidence from tertiary education', *Labour Economics*, 2022 (with G.M. Tanzi and F. Modena; DOI: 10.1016/j.labeco.2022.102225),

'When Non-Compliance Carries the Day. Evaluating the Effectiveness of an Employment Program for the Severely Mentally Ill', *Evaluation Review*, 46, 5, 2022 (with A. Martini, G. Barbetta, F. Sandrolini, DOI: 10.1177/0193841X211049685).

'The effect of scholarships on university drop out: evidence from the Italian case', *Journal of Human Capital*, 14(3), DOI: 10.1086/710220, 2020 (with F. Modena and G.M. Tanzi).

'The use of administrative data to evaluate the impact of active labor market policies: the case of the Italian *Liste di Mobilità*', in Crato N. and P. Paruolo (eds), 'Data-Driven policy impact evaluation. How access to microdata is transforming policy design', Springer, 2019 (with U. Trivellato).

'Overconfident people are more exposed to "black swan" events: A case study of avalanche risk', *Empirical Economics*, 57(4), 1443-1467, DOI: 10.1007/s00181-018-1489-5, 2019 (with N. Bonini, S. Pighin, L. Savadori, F. Schena, S. Tonini, P. Tosi).

'IC technology and learning. An impact evaluation of Cl@ssi2.0', *Education Economics*, 27(3), 241-264, DOI: 10.1080/09645292.2018.1549654, 2019 (with D. Checchi and S. Girardi).

'Procedures vs. incentives: the university promotion system in Italy', *Education Economics*, 26:3, pp. 213-232, 2018 (with L. Rocco and C. Dal Maso).

'Does random selection of selectors improve the quality of selected candidates? An investigation in the Italian academia', *Italian Economic Journal*, 4 (2), pp. 211-247, 2018 (with D. Checchi and S. De Poli).

'College cost and time to complete a degree: evidence from tuition discontinuities', *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 94:3, pp. 699-711, 2012 (with P. Garibaldi, F. Giavazzi and A. Ichino).

'The retirement consumption puzzle: evidence from a regression discontinuity approach', *The American Economic Review*, 99:5, pp. 2209-2226, 2009 (with E. Battistin, A. Brugiavini and G. Weber).

'Ineligibles and eligible non participants as a double comparison group in a regression discontinuity design', *Journal of Econometrics*, 142, 2, pp. 611-850, 2008 (with Erich Battistin).

'Risk sharing in supplier relations: an agency model for the Italian air conditioning industry', *Strategic Management Journal*, 28, pp. 1257-1266, 2007 (with A. Camuffo e A. Furlan).

'Choosing between alternative classification criteria to measure the labour force state', *The Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*, 170, pp. 5-27, 2007 (with E. Battistin and U. Trivellato).

'Are judges biased by labor market conditions?', *The European Economic Review*, 47, 5, pp. 913-944, 2003 (with A. Ichino and M. Polo).

'Testing for programme effects in a regression discontinuity design with imperfect compliance', *The Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*, 165, pp. 39-57, 2002 (with E. Battistin).

'Why do subsidised firms survive longer? An evaluation of a program promoting youth entrepreneurship in Italy', in M. Lechner, F. Pfeiffer (eds.), *Econometric Evaluation of Active Labour Market Policies*, Physica/Springer-Verlag, Heidelberg, 2001 (with E. Battistin and A. Gavosto).

'Institutional constraints on the working week length, fixed costs and female labour supply', *Statistica*, 53(3), pp. 369-389, 1993.

'A Double-Hurdle labour supply model with fallible indicators of labour force state', *Statistica*, 53(3), pp. 341-367, 1993 (with U. Trivellato).

'Preliminary data errors and their impact on the forecast error of simultaneous-equations models', *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 4(4), pp. 445-453, 1986, (with U. Trivellato).

'Provisional and revised estimates of Italian national accounts aggregates at current prices', *Statistica*, 1984, 44(4), pp. 649-673, (with T. Di Fonzo and U. Trivellato; in Italian).

Work in progress

'Multi-cutoff RD designs with observations located at each cutoff: problems and solutions' (with M. Fort, A. Ichino and G. Zanella).

'The short-term occupational outcome of a temp contract: a quasi-experiment with Italian LFS data'
(with D. Piazzalunga and Sergiu Burlacu)

Conferences/seminars (last five years)

Jan. 21-23, 2021: Società Italiana di Econometria, Conference - Cagliari

Nov. 25-26, 2021: 14th VPDE Workshop in Economics – Collegio Carlo Alberto, Torino

Dec. 16, 2021: Annual conference of www.lavoce.info - Bocconi University, Milano

Jul. 4-6, 2022: Counterfactual Methods for Policy Impact Evaluation – Mannheim, conference

Sept. 8-10, 2022: EALE conference, Padova

Dec. 1-3, 2022: GLO global conference

Sept. 21-23, 2023: EALE conference, Prague

Nov. 24, 2023: INVALSI conference, Roma

Dic. 19, 2023: JRC, Ispra - seminar

Jan. 18, 2024: Collegio Carlo Alberto, Torino, seminar

Jun. 24-26, 2024: Counterfactual Methods for Policy Impact Evaluation – Amsterdam, conference

Oct. 3-5, 2024: Italian Association of Labour Economics - Napoli, conference

Jun. 19-20, 2025: EU Joint Research Center, workshop - Ispra (VA)

Jan. 16-17, 2026: Società Italiana di Econometria, workshop - Ancona

Articles to the general public (mostly in Italian; last five years)

2021

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/91934/ricoveri-e-decessi-la-soluzione-continua-a-essere-il-vaccino/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/90044/autunno-2021-e-autunno-2020-cosa-cambia-per-la-pandemia/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/88771/vaccinarsi-taglia-la-strada-al-covid/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/88427/scialpinisti-e-no-vax-lo-stesso-errore-rovinoso/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/88009/la-pandemia-letta-nei-numeri-della-mortalita-totale/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/73738/un-inverno-senza-influenza/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/74483/tre-regioni-e-una-provincia-le-misure-anti-covid-funzionano/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/72878/leffetto-dei-vaccini-gia-si-vede/>

<https://www.lavoce.info/archives/91140/il-diritto-dei-no-vax-contro-il-diritto-di-tutti/>

2022

<https://www.suerf.org/suer-policy-brief/46615/making-subsidies-work-rules-vs-discretion>

2023

<https://www.neodemos.info/2023/03/10/i-decessi-non-evitati-nel-veneto-durante-la-seconda-ondata-di-covid-19/?fbclid=IwAR3KihwgzGeNisLbfXyoAFHl9m2sG1wQQ3oxfvO3x1QS38mQQKgJ3jD2HGA>

<https://lavoce.info/archives/101184/a-scuola-destate-si-impara-meglio/>

2024

<http://www.rivistaeco.com/2024/09/21/unestate-a-scuola/>

2025

https://studirandomizzati.wordpress.com/2025/12/17/come-combinare-dati-sperimentali-e-osservazionali-per-valutare-gli-effetti-di-una-politica/?fbclid=IwY2xjawO3QRNleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETBKQ3BHco81bHNzdlITS3BOc3JoYwZhcHBfaWQQMjIyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHnYCNjPIIPotPFMZfVRCyPg1oxgDaXKPbnqLqT5QN6OXY5643vFs4RB_czml_aem_ZWZDQ9NDRtI73YEtIvyFag

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