

Political and Criminal Violence in Latin America

Javier Osorio

School of Government and Public Policy

Prepared for the
2021 Symposium on Resilience Research
For Global Development Challenges
of the University of Arizona

September 30 and October 1, 2021
Tucson Arizona

Research Agenda



- Dynamics of political and criminal violence
- Focus on Latin America
- Quantitative methodologies
 - Computational Social Science
 - Randomized Controlled Trials
 - Survey Experiments
- Difficult to measure actors or behaviors
- Security and democratic governance

Organized Criminal Groups in Mexico



- NSF funding
- Track the presence and behavior of organized criminal groups in Mexico
- Computerized text analysis of newspapers
- Dynamic GIS interface



Migration from Central America

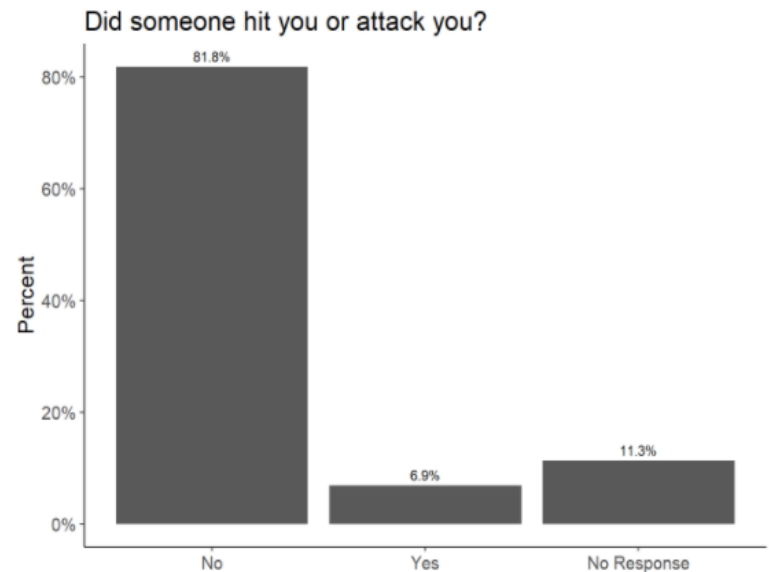


- DOD funding
- Alex Braithwaite (SGPP) + 2 postdocs
- Analyze structural determinants of migration
 - Security
 - Political
 - Economic
 - Environmental
- Disaggregated data
 - El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico
 - US entry points

School Violence Prevention in El Salvador



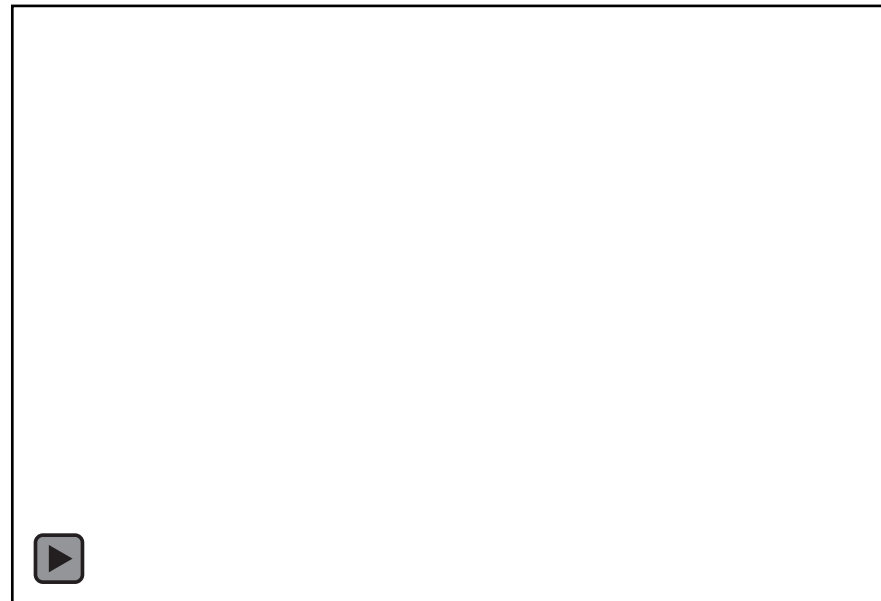
- Ministry of Education of El Salvador
- RCT
- Effect of School Violence Prevention program on:
 - COVID-related issues
 - Security
 - Verbal and physical violence
 - Gang recruitment and protection
 - Weapons and drugs
 - Mental health
 - Coping mechanisms
 - Academic achievement



Violent Presence of Armed Actors in Colombia



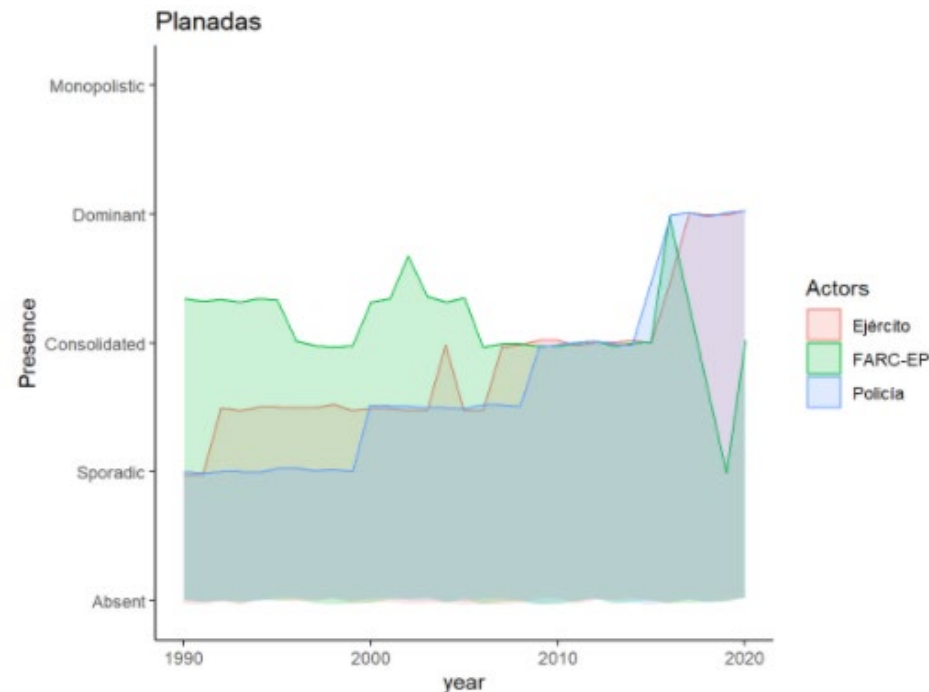
- DOD funding
- Presence and behavior of armed actors
 - Government forces
 - Insurgents
 - Paramilitaries
 - Criminal groups
- Computerized text analysis
- Dynamic GIS interface



Armed Governance in Colombia



- DOD funding + NSF for Mexico
- Violent and Non-violent behavior
 - Violence
 - Economic extraction
 - Social and political control
 - Security and justice
 - Public goods
- Online expert survey
 - Hundreds of experts



Thank you!

Javier Osorio

School of Government and Public Policy

josorio1@arizona.edu