

Hitanshu Pandit, Ph.D.

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Summary

Applied microeconomist with expertise in econometric analysis, policy evaluation, and Big Data. Proficient in R, Python, and SQL, with a strong background in labor economics, healthcare, and urban policy. Experienced in developing and leading data-driven strategies to help North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and City of Boston leadership. Passionate about applying economic analysis to solve challenging problems.

Skills

Analysis Methods: Big Data/Real World Data Analytics | A/B Tests | Randomized Control Trials | Difference-in-Differences | Regression Discontinuity Designs | Instrumental Variables

Technical: R | Python | STATA | SQL | rMarkdown | L^AT_EX | Git | Gephi

Professional Experience

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow — Northeastern University — 2023 - Present.

- Led advanced causal inference projects using youth employment data and MA Department of Elementary & Secondary Education data.
- Implemented Randomized Control Trial (Pilot) and conducted econometric analyses that increased youth applications through in-school workshops to contribute to the Mayor's Youth Job Guarantee.
- Developed a model to reduce selection bias in youth employment applications by incorporating fairness metrics, ensuring opportunities for all while maintaining program efficiency.
- Mentored junior team members in statistical analysis of survey data to understand youth experiences and recommend best practices to the Office of Youth Employment, City of Boston.

Research Associate — University of North Carolina — 2021 - 2023.

- Partnered with North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to evaluate cost savings of High Fidelity Wraparounds and Tiered Care Coordination program using Medicaid claims and encounters data.
- Utilized advanced statistical methods such as Synthetic Control and Staggered Difference-in-Differences to find approximately \$3000 savings per youth.

Research Associate — University of North Carolina — Summer 2021.

- Processed and analyzed Mobile-Device data (Real World Data) providing monthly foot traffic information for approximately 5 million establishments in the United States

Teaching Associate — University of North Carolina — 2019 - 2021.

- Delivered undergraduate courses in Business Statistics and Introductory Microeconomics to classes of approximately 90 students each semester.
- Successfully transitioned curriculum to online formats during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Education

Ph.D. in Economics - University of North Carolina, Greensboro

M.A. in Economics - Central University of Kerala, India

B.Sc. (Hons.) in Mathematics - University of Delhi, India

Selected Research & Reports

- Behavioral Responses to Time-Varying Congestion Pricing: A Natural Experiment from NYC.
- Where Do Opportunity Zone Jobs Go? A Social Network Analysis of Employment Flows in Place-Based Tax Policy (*With Kishan Narayan*)
- Simply can't wait: Evaluating the effect of food industry minimum wage increase in California on local labor markets
- Safety Net Under Strain: Measuring Community Health Center visit patterns after Medicaid Unwinding Implementation (*With Nana B. Addai*)
- Conditional Cash Transfer Programs: What Can We Learn from Summer Learn and Earn Programs? (*With Alicia S. Modestino, Mindy Marks & Hanna Hoover*)

- Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Examining Inequities in Summer Youth Employment Programs (*With Alicia S. Modestino, Mindy Marks & Hanna Hoover*)
- City Limits: The relationship between employment and minimum wage using mobile-device locations
- Estimating the Cost Savings of Tiered Care Coordination and High-Fidelity Wraparound: Evidence from North Carolina - Submitted to NC-DHHS
- Assessing the Effectiveness of In-School Workshops on Youth Application and On-boarding Rates for the SuccessLink Summer Jobs Program - Submitted to the Office of Youth Employment, City of Boston

Grants, Honors, Affiliations and Fellowships

IHS-Grant-IHS019702 | Experiential PhD Certificate - Northeastern University, Boston | NULab - Research Affiliate | Global Action for Policy - Research Affiliate | Arnold Ventures - Professional Development Grant | Kathleen Price and Joseph M. Bryan Fellowship | Graduate School Association UNCG - Professional Development Grant | Travel Grant - Dept. of Economics, UNCG | University Grant Commission Merit Scholarship, Govt. of India | CBSE - CSSS Merit Scholarship, Govt. of India

Reviewer Service

Southern Economics Journal | Economics of Education Review | Journal of Development Economics | Nature - Scientific Reports

Selected Conferences & Presentations

Carolina Region Empirical Economics Day (2022) | Western Economic Association International Conference (2022) | Rising Scholars Conference at Chicago Booth (2022) | Southern Economic Association International Conference (2022-24) | Southeastern Micro Labor Workshop by Fed Atlanta (2023) | GAP Policy Seminar, Northeastern University (2024) | C2C Policy Research Seminar, Northeastern University (2025)