Hitanshu Pandit, Ph.D.

Boston, MA · +1-336-392-7901 · drhitanshupandit@gmail.com · github.com/hitanshupandit · hitanshupandit.com · LinkedIn

Summary

Labor economist who builds measures of work from large, messy data (job postings, worker profiles, mobile-device location, card transactions, Medicaid claims; 100M+ records) and pairs them with causal inference. Python, SQL and R pipelines on HPC; text as data and machine learning. Two 2026 publications and 12 memos for the City of Boston.

Education

Ph.D., Economics, University of North Carolina at Greensboro 2023
M.A., Economics, Central University of Kerala, India 2018
B.Sc. (Honors), Mathematics, SGTB Khalsa College, University of Delhi, India 2014

Technical Skills

Languages	Python (pandas, NumPy, matplotlib, Plotly), SQL, R (fixest, rdrobust), Stata, SAS, Git, LaTeX
Methods	DiD (incl. staggered), event studies, synthetic control, (fuzzy) RDD, IV, RCTs and A/B tests, PPML gravity models
Text and ML	Topic models (BERTopic), sentence embeddings, classification and validation, network analysis
Data	LinkUp job postings, People Data Labs profiles, mobile-device location, card transactions, Medicaid claims, LEHD/LODES, ACS, CPS

Experience

Bates College **2026–present**
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics *Lewiston, ME*

- Teach Statistics with weekly Stata labs; Data Science for Economists (Python, ML, text as data) in Winter 2027.

Northeastern University, Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy **2023–present**
Visiting Research Fellow (2026–present); Postdoctoral Research Fellow (2023–2026) *Boston, MA*

- Lead economist in a research partnership with the City of Boston on youth jobs programs serving 10K+ young people a year; wrote 12 analytical memos for the director of the City's Worker Empowerment Cabinet.
- Linked state education records, applications and employers' final hiring decisions; supported the Mayor's Youth Job Guarantee, increasing youth applications by 10%+ (DiD, IV, fuzzy RDD, A/B tests).
- Designed a randomized controlled trial, built fairness-aware ML models, and mentored 6+ analysts on survey design and data storytelling.

University of North Carolina at Greensboro **2019–2023**
Graduate Research Assistant to Jeremy W. Bray and Martin S. Andersen; Instructor (2019–2021) *Greensboro, NC*

- Evaluated a statewide Medicaid care-coordination program for NC DHHS with fee-for-service claims (500K+ users; 50M+ records); estimated about a 20% decline in emergency department spending (staggered DiD).
- Processed behavioral data (100M+ monthly observations; 5M establishments) in Python, R and SQL on HPC.

Selected Research

Splitting the Stack: Generative AI and the Cross-Country Division of Technical Work (job market paper). Classified the full LinkUp postings of about 4,500 U.S. multinationals in the U.S. and India into seven kinds of technical work with a topic model and an embedding classifier; estimated a five-country gravity model. ChatGPT's release brought no unusual change in the U.S.–India division of technical work; the largest shifts came with remote work in 2020–21.

Who Supplies the AI Frontier? (with Mahima Nambiar). Traced the education and moves of the 68,000 technical staff of 56 frontier AI firms: 64% of their doctorates are from U.S. universities, and half of U.S. model builders were first trained abroad.

California's $20 fast-food minimum wage. On-site staffing fell 8% at covered outlets (mobile-device data); customer visits and transactions fell 6–7% and revenue about 5% (card transactions).

Opportunity Zones and commuting networks (with Kishan Narayan). Mapped LODES commuting ties for every tract, 2011–2023; designation loosened ties among zones by 4–7% while job counts barely moved.

Publications and Writing

"Simply Can't Wait: Evaluating the Effect of Food Industry Minimum Wage Increase in California on Local Labor Markets." *Applied Economics Letters*, 2026. Covered by *Inc.* and Phys.org.
"Behavioral Responses to Time-Varying Congestion Pricing: A Natural Experiment from NYC." *Applied Economics Letters*, 2026.
Policy brief on Boston's SuccessLink program (Northeastern); op-ed in *New India Abroad* on India's airlines.

Honors and Service

Grants from Bates College (2026), the Institute for Humane Studies (2025) and Arnold Ventures (2024); Price and Bryan Fellowship (2022–2023); GLO Research Affiliate. Referee for *Journal of Development Economics*, *Economics of Education Review* and others.