

ROSHANI BULKUNDE

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EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA	
Ph.D. in Economics, School of Economics	Fall 2021 - Spring 2026
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA	
Masters in Economics, College of Arts and Science	May 2020
Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur, India	
Bachelor of Engineering	September 2015

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Economics, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics

RESEARCH PAPERS

Working Papers

“Wealth Shocks and Loneliness”—(JMP)

“Subjective Economic Hardships during the COVID-19 Pandemic in the United States.” With Erdal Asker and Shatakshee Dhongde

Abstract: In this paper, we analyze multidimensional hardships experienced by Americans during the COVID-19 pandemic. We use a unique household survey data between 2018 and 2021 to compile information on self-reported economic hardships, including the inability to pay bills or afford health care, unemployment, and experiencing financial strain. We combine this household survey data with state-level data on lockdown measures. Our findings indicate that stricter lockdowns were associated with a greater number of hardships. During the pandemic, 28 percent or almost 1 in 3 adults experienced multiple hardships. These difficulties were prevalent among both women and men, as well as across White, Black, and Hispanic populations. Our results underscore the fact that the pandemic intensified the hardships experienced by Americans and has had a lasting impact on their overall well-being.

“Effects of a Conditional Cash Transfer for Maternal and Infant Health with 29 Million Beneficiaries.”

Abstract: This paper studies the effects of a conditional cash transfer program on health outcomes. It uses data from India’s largest conditional cash transfer program, in terms of the number of beneficiaries, designed to incentivize health-promoting behaviors the Pradhan Mantri Matritva Vandana Yojana (PMMVY). The difference-in-differences and event-study analyses leverage variation in program eligibility by birth order to identify causal effects of the program on health outcomes. We find no measurable impact on health outcomes, including pregnancy registration, antenatal care visits, maternal anemia, birth weight, and child vaccination.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Graduate Assistant

August 2021-Present

Georgia Institute of Technology

- **Instructor of Record:**

- ECON 2105: Principles of Macroeconomics | Undergraduate

Spring 2025

- **Research Assistant:**

- Dr. Shatakshee Dhongde

May 2022 –December 2024

- **Teaching Assistant:**

- ECON 2106- Principles of Microeconomics

Summer 2025

- ECON 3120-Advanced Macroeconomic Analysis
- ECON 6510-Health Economics

Spring 2022
Fall 2021

Research Associate, Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, India Nov 2020–Aug 2021
Collaborated with project investigators on data collection on [household survey data](#) collected monthly from the selected panchayats from field sites in India, and Nepal for the project "Institutional Networks and Self-Adaption". Worked on compiling high-frequency monthly datasets individually and consolidating them into big datasets.

Research Assistant, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, India Jun 2020-Nov 2020
Collaborated with team on a project "Lights out? COVID-19 containment policies and economic output". Collated administrative data on COVID-19 infections and containment policies in India, and merged with village and ward level data on socio-economic characteristics, district-level Night-time light data from the VIIRS-DNB, Mobility data from Facebook, and CMIE data.
Beyer, Robert CM, Tarun Jain, and Sonalika Sinha. "Lights out? COVID-19 containment policies and economic activity." *Journal of Asian Economics* 85 (2023): 101589.

PRESENTATIONS

2025: American Society of Health Economist (ASHEcon), Southeast Exchange of Development Studies (SEEDS); 2024: Sothern Economic Association (SEA), Southeast Exchange of Development Studies (SEEDS); 2023: Sothern Economic Association (SEA), Southeast Exchange of Development Studies (SEEDS)

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

• Association for Mentoring & Inclusion in Economics Mentee	2024-2025
• Graduate Student Award, Sothern Economic Association (SEA), (\$100)	2024
• Herbert P. Haley Fellowship, Georgia Institute of Technology (\$4,000)	2023-2024
• Associate Level Certificate, Center for Teaching and Learning, Georgia Tech	2022
• Tech to Teaching Certificate, Center for Teaching and Learning, Georgia Tech	2021– 2023
• Academic Excellence Award, Vanderbilt University	2020
• James S. and Rosemary Worley Award, Vanderbilt University (\$2,100)	2019

TECHNICAL SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- STATA, R, Python, and LaTeX

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

• Coach, Leadership Education, and Development, Georgia Tech	2023-2024
• Committee Member, Social Venture Summit, Turner Family Center, Vanderbilt University	2018-2019

REFERENCES

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