

Catria Gadwah-Meaden

PhD Candidate, RAND School of Public Policy

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Education

RAND School of Public Policy

Ph.D. Policy Analysis (concentration: Economic Analysis)

Expected June 2026

M.Phil. Policy Analysis

March 2023

Colgate University

B.A. Mathematical Economics (with honors)

May 2020

Working Papers

“Work Requirements under Review: Impacts of SNAP Time Limits on the Labor Supply and Benefit Receipt of Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents”

“Meeting the Needs of Massachusetts Veterans: An Assessment and Draft Strategy for the Commonwealth” (with Stephen Dalzell, Rachel Slama, Alexis Gable, Lauren Kelly, Benjamin Trachik, Michael T. Wilson, Kate Giglio, and Carrie M. Farmer)

“Impacts of California School Based Health Centers on Adolescent Well-Being” (with Christine Mulhern, Ashley Kranz, Laura Faherty, Jessica Richard and Randy Reback)

“Association Between Perceived Racial Discrimination, Socioeconomic Status, and Oral Health among Children: Evidence from the National Survey of Children’s Health 2016-2022” (with Linnea Evans, Ashley Kranz, and Kimberley H. Geissler) *Accepted for Publication in the Journal of Public Health Dentistry*

“Economic Impact Assessments: The Case for a Unified Model of Federal Policy” (with Kathryn Edwards and Jack Kroger)

Publications

Armour, Philip, and **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**. "Veteran Affairs disability compensation: Likely the US’s largest disability program, but what do we know about its impacts on service-disabled veterans?." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 44, no. 1 (2025): 304-314. [\[Link\]](#)

Kranz, Ashley M., Linnea. A. Evans, **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**, and Kimberley H. Geissler. "State-Level Structural Racism and Children’s Dental Care Access and Oral Health." (2024) *JDR Clinical & Translational Research*: 23800844241308149. [\[Link\]](#)

Policy Reports

Calkins, Avery, Samuel Absher, Paul Emslie, **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**, Ashley Gromis, Thomas Light, Anna C. Morgan, Alice Nguyen, Nicolas M. Robles, Stephanie Williamson, Carlos Calvo Hernandez, Barbara Bicksler, and Kimberly J. Lichte. (September 2024). “Recruiter Management in the Department of the Air Force.” RAND Report [\[Link\]](#)

Karney, Benjamin R., Melanie A. Zaber, Molly G. Smith, Samuel J. Mann, Marwa AlFakhri, Jessie Coe, Jamie L. Ryan, **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**, Christy Mallory, Brad Sears, and Chandra Garber. (May 2024). “Twenty Years of Legal Marriage for Same-Sex Couples in the United States: Evidence Review and New Analyses.” RAND Report. [\[Link\]](#)

Brooks Holliday, Stephanie, Andrew Scruggs, Allyson D. Gittens, Samantha Matthews, **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**, Rebecca L. Wolfe, Jack Kroger, Alina I. Palimaru. (November 2023). “Intellectual, Developmental, and Physical Disabilities in U.S. Legal Settings: A Scoping Review.” RAND Report. [\[Link\]](#)

Olaniyan, Motunrayo, Sarah Magnelia, Vanessa Coca, Melissa Abeyta, Marissa C. Vasquez, Frank Harris III, **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**. (October 2023) *Two Pandemics: Racial Disparities in Basic Needs Insecurity Among College Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic*. The Hope Center at Temple University. [\[Link\]](#)

Dubowitz, Tamara, Andrea Richardson, Teague Ruder, and **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**. (September 2023). "Food Insecurity Among Veterans: Examining the Discrepancy Between Veteran Food Insecurity and Use of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)." RAND Report. [\[Link\]](#)

Asch, Beth J., Stephanie Rennane, Thomas E. Trail, Lisa Berdie, Jason M. Ward, Dina Troyanker, **Catria Gadwah-Meaden**, and Jonas Kempf (January 2023). “Food Insecurity Among Members of the Armed Forces and Their Dependents.” RAND Report. [\[Link\]](#)

Works in Progress

The Impact of the 2013 SNAP Benefit Reduction on Veteran Households (with Philip Armour)

Veterans’ Participation in Social Safety Net Programs: A Comparison Across Data Sources (with Philip Armour and LeeAnn Stevens)

Understanding the Impact of Proposed Federal Changes on Veterans’ Health Care in New York (with Claire O’Hanlon, Carrie Farmer, Jonathan Cantor, Ensheng Dong, and Heather Salazar)

Impacts of Oregon School-Based Health Centers on Adolescent Outcomes (with Christine Mulhern, Ashley Kranz, Katherine Rancaño, and Laura Faherty)

Quality of Life Trajectories among Post-9/11 Veterans (with Philip Armour and LeeAnn Stevens)

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

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| 2024-25 | Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Grant (\$10,000) |
| 2024-25 | University of Wisconsin-Madison RDRC JSIT Research Award (\$6000) |
| 2024-25 | Dissertation Award (\$9500), Pardee RAND Graduate School |
| 2023-24 | James Q. Wilson Dissertation Award (\$7000), Pardee RAND Graduate School |
| 2023 | Pardee RAND Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (for Microeconomics) |
| 2022 | Pardee RAND Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (for Microeconomics) |
| 2020 | J. Melbourne Shortliffe Prize (for outstanding graduating seniors in economics) |

Conferences & Workshops

APPAM Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA

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| Presenting “The Impact of the 2013 SNAP Benefit Reduction on Veteran Households” in the panel “Access and Obstacles: Policy in Practice for Individuals with Disabilities” | Nov 2025 |
| Presenting “Impacts of California School Based Health Centers on Adolescent Well-Being” in the panel “The Role of School-based Health in Improving the Health and Wellbeing of Underserved and At-risk Children” | |
| Discussant for Student Research Panel “SNAP Work Requirements and Their Impact on Health and Financial Well-Being Outcomes” | |

VPRI Open House, Washington DC

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| Poster for “Veterans’ Participation in Social Safety Net Programs: A Comparison Across Data Sources” in an open house on RAND’s veteran research for veteran policymakers, advocates, service-providers, and researchers | Sept 2025 |
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ASHEcon Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN

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| Presented “Impacts of California School Based Health Centers on Adolescent Well-Being” in the panel “Emerging Scholars Session: Health by the Bell: School Age Health Interventions” | June 2025 |
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APPAM Annual Meeting, Washington DC

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| Poster for “Work Requirements under Review: Impacts of SNAP Time Limits on the Labor Supply and Benefit Receipt of Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents” | Nov 2024 |
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Junior Scholar Intensive Training, Madison, WI

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| 2024 Cohort Member of the Junior Scholar Intensive Training Program at the University of Wisconsin’s Retirement and Disability Research Center | June 2024 |
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PSID Data User Workshop (Virtual)

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| ICPSR Data User Workshop | June 2022 |
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Research Experience

RAND Corporation

Policy Researcher, Asst.

Sep 2020 – Present

- Conduct econometric, quantitative and qualitative analyses as a member of multiple research teams across diverse topics including: public benefit programs, veteran policy, family policy, disability policy, the social determinants of health, and labor economics.
- Data management including cleaning and analyzing survey and administrative datasets, producing data visualizations, and synthesizing findings for dissemination materials.
- Co-author articles and reports for publication, as well as unpublished reports and briefs for clients, including federal and state government agencies, foundations, and private funders.
- Disseminate findings to key stakeholders and the research community by presenting research at conferences and briefing congressional staffers.

The Hope Center for College, Community and Justice

Research Assistant

Nov 2021 – May 2022

- Provided comprehensive support to the research team, including using Stata for data analysis, data cleaning, and creating tables and figures, conducting literature reviews, writing, and technical reviews.

Hudson Headwaters Health Foundation

Colgate University Upstate Institute Fellow

June – Aug 2020

- Analyzed data on funded population health initiatives and conducted stakeholder interviews to assess the impact of grant work and provide recommendations for future granting.

Teaching Experience

RAND School of Public Policy

Microeconomics Teaching Assistant

Sept 2021 – July 2023

- Developed and led biweekly lectures reviewing class concepts and applications including: consumer theory, producer theory, optimization, market equilibrium, labor supply, market power, game theory, public goods, externalities, adverse selection, and moral hazard.
- Constructed practice problems and led supplemental review sessions in preparation for qualifying exams.
- Graded finals, midterms, and weekly assignments.

Colgate University, Department of Economics

Econometrics Teaching Assistant

Aug 2019 - May 2020

- Led weekly labs, taught students how to prepare data and conduct econometric analyses in Stata, and helped hone their understanding of statistical methods and results.
- Graded weekly lab reports and code, held review sessions, and administered quizzes.

Data Analysis and Research Skills

- Statistical Packages: Stata (intermediate-high), R (intermediate-basic), Python (basic)
- Datasets: American Community Survey (ACS), Current Population Survey (CPS), Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH), National Health and Nutritional Examination Survey (NHANES), Monitoring The Future (MTF), California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), Oregon Health Teens survey (OHT), and administrative datasets.
- Qualitative Methods: Focus groups, interviews, protocol development, systematic reviews

Community and Professional Service

Congressional Staffer Briefings

Briefed staffers from the House and Senate Committees on Veterans Affairs on "Veteran Affairs disability compensation: Likely the US's largest disability program, but what do we know about its impacts on service-disabled veterans?" Fall 2024

Microeconomics Tutor – RAND School of Public Policy

Worked with students in individual and small-group tutoring sessions to identify and overcome barriers to their understanding of key topics in microeconomic theory, mathematical economics, and calculus. Fall 2021 - Summer 2023

RAND Tiger Team on Inequity and Inequality

Member of tiger team tasked with developing a plan for staffing, analytic methods, budget, funding prospects, and potential partnering organizations to advance RAND research in the area of inequity and inequality Winter 2023