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Office Information

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Graduate Studies:

UNC, Greensboro, 2019 to Present

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

Thesis Title: Essays on Mobile-device location and Labor Markets

Expected Completion Date: May 2023

References:

Dr. Martin Sparre Andersen-(Chair)
Associate Professor, Department of Economics
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Dr. Jeremy W. Bray
Jefferson-Pilot Excellence Professor
Department of Economics,
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Undergraduate Studies:

M.A. Economics, Central University of Kerala, Kerala, India, 2018

B.Sc.(Hons.) Mathematics, Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Khalsa College, University of Delhi, India, 2014

Teaching and Research Fields:

Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Urban Economics

Teaching Experience:

Fall, 2019	Economics and Business Statistics, Bryan School of Business and Economics, Teaching Assistant for Dr. Marie C. Hull
Spring, 2020	Economics and Business Statistics, Bryan School of Business and Economics, Teaching Assistant for Dr. Marie C. Hull

Summer, 2020	Economics and Business Statistics, Bryan School of Business and Economics, Instructor on Record
Fall, 2020	Principle of Microeconomics, Bryan School of Business and Economics, Teaching Assistant for Dr. Jeffrey Sarbaum
Spring, 2021	Principle of Microeconomics, Bryan School of Business and Economics, Teaching Assistant for Dr. Jeffrey Sarbaum

Research Experience and Other Employment:

Summer, 2021	Research Assistant to Prof. Martin S. Andersen
2021 - 2023	Research Assistant to Prof. Jeremy W. Bray
2018-2019	Academic Associate at IIM, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India
2011	Field Investigator, 2011 Census of India, Govt. of India, India

Professional Activities:

<u>Conference presentations:</u>	Carolina Region Empirical Economics Day(CREED), Charleston, SC, May 2022 Western Economic Association (WEAI), Portland, OR, June 2022 3MT, UNC, Greensboro, Nov 2022(<i>Scheduled</i>) Rising Scholars Conference at Chicago Booth, Virtual, Nov 2022(<i>Scheduled</i>) Southern Economic Association (SEA), Fort Lauderdale, FL, Nov 2022(<i>Scheduled</i>)
<u>Discussant:</u>	Western Economic Association (WEAI), June 2022 Southern Economic Association (SEA), Nov 2022(<i>Scheduled</i>)
<u>Other Services:</u>	International student ambassador (2021), International Programs Center, UNC, Greensboro

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2022-23	Kathleen Price and Joseph M. Bryan Fellowship
2016-18	University Grant Commission Merit Scholarship, Govt. of India
2011-14	CBSE - CSSS Merit Scholarship, Govt. of India

Research Papers:

City Limits: The relationship between employment and minimum wage using mobile-device locations-(*Job Market Paper*)

Last decade has seen noteworthy local policy decisions, especially a trend in decentralisation of wage determination. Considering local policy changes are aimed at the local areas where boundaries are porous, there is a need for detailed and accurate geographic and time information. Using the establishment location and mobile-device location data by SafeGraph, this study explores how the labor market responds to local minimum wage ordinances. I use the difference-in-differences approach to estimate the effect of increase in minimum wage on the variation in duration of visits at a location which can be used as a proxy to employment hours. I find a decrease in employment hours when there is a proportionate increase in local minimum wage and an increase in distance travelled from home with an increase in minimum wage. The study further demonstrates that the local labor market, especially in the non-tradeable sector, is more responsive to the changes in local minimum wage than the state binded minimum wage changes.

Research Paper(s) in Progress:

Crossing Borders and Changing Lives: Evaluating the labor market response when local areas changes minimum wage

Prior literature finds no relationship between minimum wage and employment in the U.S. restaurant industry. The argument hinges on the use of the contiguous region to study the minimum wage variation by controlling for economic shock which might be correlated with the minimum wage changes. I use the mobile-device location data to study the cross-border moment for local areas when local minimum wage changes. First, I use home census block group (CBG) characteristics to predict the low wage visitor at a POI. I use state-of-the-art ML tool, the gradient-boosting trees learning model to determine the low wage visitor CBG. Second, I use the event study design to assess the impact of local minimum wage change and cross border commuting pattern. I am still working on the robust analysis.

Simply can't wait: Evaluating the effect of voluntary employer minimum wage increase on local labor markets

Due to an increase in public pressure, a number of private employers have voluntarily raised company-wide minimum wages for their employees. In this paper, I study recent minimum wages by Amazon, Walmart, Target, CVS, and Costco to find the effect of private minimum wage on local areas. Assuming no spillover effect of wages on nearby businesses in my initial analysis, I find a negative minimum wage elasticity for employment hour. I will use the burning glass data based on online employment ads to find the spillover effect across the brands to evaluate the changes in employment for local labor markets.

Estimating the Cost Savings of Tiered Care Coordination for At-Risk Youth: Evidence from North Carolina (*With Jeremy Bray, Zubab Moid & Kat Morand*)

Estimating the Cost Savings of High-Fidelity Wraparound: Evidence from North Carolina (*With Jeremy Bray, Zubab Moid & Kat Morand*)