

# Nikhil Rao

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## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

<b>Ph.D., Economics</b> , University of Michigan	April 2025 (Expected)
<b>M.A., Economics</b> , University of Michigan	April 2021
<b>B.A., Economics &amp; Mathematics</b> , University of Massachusetts Amherst	May 2015

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics, and Public Economics

## JOB MARKET PAPER

**“Measuring Discrimination using Natural Experiments”**, with James Reeves.

## PUBLICATIONS

**“Inflation Expectations and Nonlinearities in the Phillips Curve”**, with Alexander Doser, Ricardo Nunes and Viacheslav Sheremirov. *Journal of Applied Econometrics* 38:4 (2023), 453-471.

## IN PROGRESS

**“Using Network Data to Measure Social Returns and Improve Targeting of Crime-Reduction Interventions”**, with Ashley Craig and Sara Heller. ([Preliminary note: spillovers in the READI RCT](#))  
**“Peer Socioeconomic Mismatch, Student Expectations, and Achievement”**, with Micah Y. Baum.  
**“Examining Interventions to Improve Outcomes of Justice-involved Individuals”**, with James Reeves.  
**“Parental Resources and College Major Choice”**, with Zsigmond Pálvölgyi & Tyler Radler.

## PRE-DOCTORAL PUBLICATIONS

**“Sectoral inflation and the Phillips curve: What has changed since the Great Recession?”**, with Maria Jose Luengo-Prado and Viacheslav Sheremirov. *Economics Letters* 172 (2018), 63–68.

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Rackham One Term Dissertation Fellowship	2024
Rackham Conference Travel Grant	2024 (x2)
Department of Economics Conference Travel Grant	2019; 2024 (x2)
Poverty Solutions Doctoral Student RA Award	2023
Department of Economics Research Grant	2022; 2023
Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship	2018

## TEACHING

<b>University of Michigan</b>	
Economics of the Population (ECON 466)	Fall 2020
Introductory Macroeconomics (ECON 102)	Winter 2020
Introductory Microeconomics (ECON 101)	Fall 2019

## EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS

<b>2024 (including upcoming)</b>	
Southern Economic Association Meeting	Washington, DC
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Conference	National Harbor, MD
Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime	Zurich, Switzerland
Western Economic Association Conference	Seattle, WA
Texas Economics of Crime Workshop	Austin, TX
<b>2019</b>	
Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting	Lansing, MI

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & EMPLOYMENT	<b>University of Michigan</b>	
	Graduate Research Assistant to Ashley Craig & Sara Heller	2020–2024
	Summer Research Assistant to Ana Reynoso	2020
	Summer Research Assistant to Lauren Falcao Bergquist	2019
	<b>Federal Reserve Bank of Boston</b>	
	Senior Research Assistant, Jenny Tang & Viacheslav Sheremirov	2015–2018
SERVICE	Referee, <i>American Law and Economics Review</i>	
	Graduate Program Committee, University of Michigan Graduate Economics Society	2021–2022
	Admissions Committee, University of Michigan Graduate Economics Society	2020–2021
	Social Chair, University of Michigan Graduate Economics Society	2019–2020
OTHER	Analytics and Programming: Stata, R, Matlab and L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X	
	Citizenship: USA	
REFERENCES	<i>The Economics Ph.D. Placement Office is handling all reference requests. Please direct all inquiries to Econ-PhDplacements@umich.edu</i>	

**Sara Heller** (Chair)  
Associate Professor  
Department of Economics  
University of Michigan  
[sbheller@umich.edu](mailto:sbheller@umich.edu)

**Basit Zafar**  
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**Michael Mueller-Smith**  
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**Ashley Craig**  
Senior Lecturer  
Research School of Economics  
Australian National University  
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