

Saani Rawat

University of Cincinnati
Department of Economics
Cincinnati OH, 45220

Email: rawatsa@mail.uc.edu
Website: [Link](#)
LinkedIn: [Link](#)

Education

University of Cincinnati, PhD, Concentration: Economics 2021- Present

Dissertation: *Economics of Maintenance*

Dissertation Committee: Dr. David Brasington (Chair), Dr. Gary Painter & Dr. Olivier Parent

University of Cincinnati, M.S, Mathematics 2022-2023

University of Cincinnati, M.S, Applied Economics 2017-2018

University of Delhi, B.COM (Honors) 2014-2017

Fields of Interest

Urban & Regional Economics, Economics with AI, Public & Real Estate Economics

Employment

Analyst, Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati May 2024 - Jan 2025

Research Assistant & Instructor, University of Cincinnati Aug 2021 - Present

Quantitative Analyst III, Truist Financial Corporation May 2018 - Aug 2021

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Cincinnati Aug 2017 - Apr 2018

Job Market Paper

The Effect of Cutting Local Road Taxes on House Values, with Dr. David Brasington

Abstract: *We investigate the economic impact of cutting local road maintenance tax levies in Ohio. Using a regression discontinuity design, we design a quasi-experiment to study city-level referendums introduced to renew road maintenance taxes, which are typically levied via property taxes and represent about 34% of road funding. We compare housing sale prices, wages, and employment between similar cities that narrowly pass or fail road tax levies and use satellite images of roads to fine-tune a Machine Learning model to classify road quality. We show that cities that vote to cut local road maintenance taxes have lower road maintenance funds, poorer road quality and suffer an average decrease in housing*

prices of \$15,350 (9%) over 10 years relative to cities that renewed funding. Heterogeneity analysis reveals differential decline in urban and rural areas and for expensive homes relative to their cheaper counterparts.

Published papers

Impact of COVID-19 on jobs in Ohio's Healthcare Sector, *Ohio Journal of Public Health* 2023
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.18061/ojph.v5i2.9142>

Papers under Review

Diverging Opinions on Standardized Testing: A survey-based approach (with Dr. Vikram Suresh), Revise & Resubmit at *Economics Letters* 2025

GPT takes SAT exams: Tracing the changes in Test Difficulty and Students' Math Performance (with Dr. Vikram Suresh), under review at *Plos One* 2025
<https://ssrn.com/abstract=4915452>, (Podcast: [link](#))

Working Papers

Building Ownership and Maintenance (with Dr. Gary Painter & Dr. Clemens Pilgram) 2025

Teaching Experience

ECON7011C Econometrics for Finance, 35 MS Finance students Fall 2023

ECON2020 Intermediate Microeconomics, 47 undergraduate students Spring 2024

ECON2020 Intermediate Microeconomics, 34 undergraduate students Fall 2024

Leadership and Affiliation

Lindner Graduate Student Association (LGSA), *President* Jun 2024-Present

American Economic Association (AEA), *Member* Mar 2020-Present

The Econometric Society, *Member* Oct 2021-Present

American Real Estate & Urban Economics Association (AREUEA), *Member* Jan 2023-Present

National Association for Business Economics (NABE), *Member* Apr 2017-Present

Global Association for Risk Professionals (GARP), *Member* Jan 2018-Present

Presentations

- The effect of Cutting Local Road Taxes on House Values, Wages and Employment** Jan 2025
American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA),
with Allied Social Sciences Association (ASSA) 2025 Annual Meeting
- The Effect of Cutting Road Maintenance Spending: Evidence from Ohio** Aug 2023
Causal Inference Workshop, Northwestern University
- Impact of COVID-19 on Ohio's Healthcare Sector** Oct 2022
Midwest Econometric Group (MEG), Michigan State University
- Impact of COVID-19 on Ohio's Healthcare Sector** Oct 2022
Kentucky Economics Association (KEA) 2022 Annual Meeting,
Northern Kentucky University
- Impact of COVID-19 on Ohio's Healthcare Sector** Sep 2022
Ohio Association of Economists and Political Scientists (OAEPS)
2022 Annual Meeting, University of Dayton

Achievements/Awards

- Maita Levine Award** for Outstanding Finishing Master's Student 2024
Department of Mathematics, University of Cincinnati
- Best Graduate Student Paper Award** 2022
Ohio Association of Economists and Political Scientists (OAEPS) 2022 Annual Meeting
- Wolfgang Mayer Fellowship** 2021
Department of Economics, University of Cincinnati
- Data Science Fellowship Award** 2020
The Data Incubator
- Financial Risk Manager (FRM)** 2019
Global Association of Risk Professionals (GARP)
- Certified Business Economist (CBE)** 2018
National Association for Business Economics (NABE)
- Outstanding Academic Achievement Award** 2018
Department of Economics, University of Cincinnati

Skills

R, SAS, STATA, Python, ArcGIS, Google Earth Engine, Julia, LaTeX, HTML, Bash, Git