I am Vikas PD Gawai, a Ph.D. candidate in the [Applied Economics Dept.](https://aae.wisc.edu/grad-students/gawai/) at [the University of Wisconsin-Madison](https://www.wisc.edu/). My research lies in interdisciplinary fields, including economics and public policy, focusing on health, aging, human capital, and inequality in the US and India. My research aims to provide policymakers with empirical evidence and insights to create informed policies. I am engaged in several projects that examine the role of broadband technology in promoting mental health among older adults and mitigating lower Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) application rates after the closure of Social Security Administration offices in the US. In a developing country, I also evaluate how early-life exposure to the Green Revolution agricultural technology affects later-life cognitive function and intergenerational human capital in India.