**Vikas PD Gawai**

Economist, Ph.D. Candidate, Phone: +1 608-628-8674 • gawai@wisc.edu • LinkedIn: Vikas PD Gawai • University of Wisconsin-Madison

**EDUCATION**

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| **Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison**  *Relevant Coursework*: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics (theory and applied), Public, Health, and Development Economics. (Coursework covers Causal Inference, Data Science), *Recipient of several research and diversity (DEI) awards* | **2018-24** |
| **MS in Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison**  *Relevant Coursework*: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics | *Recipient of the ‘Best Paper scholarship’* | **2016-18** |
| **Bachelor of Technology, Civil Engineering, Mumbai University**  *Relevant Coursework*: Linear Algebra, C, C++ | **2004-08** |

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

**Data Analysis:** Visualisation, Data Cleaning, Economic Modelling, Communication, Inference, Econometric Analysis

**Programming:** Stata (advance), Python (basic), R (basic)

**Platforms/Tools:** git, LaTeX, MS Office

**RESEARCH INTEREST**

Health, Aging, Human Capital, Agriculture, Social Security, Causal Inference, Applied Econometrics, Development

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES**

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| **Researcher, University of Wisconsin-Madison**   * Co-authored a paper with my advisor estimating the wage gap between foreign-born and US-born academic faculty by developing a framework to identify and test sources of the wage gap; used Kitagawa-Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition to identify the explained and unexplained (discrimination) part of the wage gap; conducted analysis in Stata with the novel survey data; conference presentation- AAEA * Led two papers with co-authors estimating the causal effect of an increase in agriculture productivity in early life on later-life health, aging, and the next generation’s human capital (funded by NIA grant); crosswalked the historical agricultural data with the contemporary health and education data; used various applied econometrics tools; produced geospatial maps and visualization that show the spatial and temporal variation in agricultural productivity; conference presentation- PAA, APPAM * Co-authored a paper with interdisciplinary co-authors from sociology, economics, and public policy; contributed better data on the proxy for the 1939 Great Depression in the US and studied how the Great Depression affected later life mortality   **Research Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison**   * Assisted a project of Profs. Lauren Schmitz and Valentina Duque that evaluates early exposure to the Great Depression in the US on later life mortality; data analysis using the restricted HRS data. * Assisted Andra Ghent (Wisconsin School of Business) in a project that uses the WRDS data to plot time series of Treasuries, corporate debt, common stock, residential real estate, and commercial real estate. | **2018-** |
| **Assistant Manager (Sub-contracts, Business Development, and Planning), L&T, ITDC, VEL, Gammon India Ltd**   * Worked in various leadership positions in top construction firms in India; supervised about 40 construction workers and 3 supervisors; led a building foundation (deep foundation) project with over 100 manpower including engineers, supervisors, and workers; led a planning department to achieve a 32% profit on a project; achieved a saving of over 6 million INR under the sub-contract negotiations. | **2008-16** |

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

**Does the availability of better broadband improve the social security disability applications after the social security administration (SSA) field office closures?-** (funded from an award from the RDRC, CFS at UW-Madison, in collaboration with SSA)

* Working on getting the restricted SSA administrative data; developing a proposal using the advanced econometrics method

**Does the minimum teacher rule affect students’ test scores?- A Multiple Regression Discontinuity Approach**

* Revisited the common question in the economics literature in the uncommon setting with the unique econometric method of multiple RD design for the largest education system in the world

**Does giving bicycles to grade-9 girls motivate grade-6 girls to continue schooling?- Spillover effect of a bicycle policy** (Best paper award scholarship during Masters of Economics)

* Used census of administrative data and DID method to find a significant spillover effect of a bicycle policy on girl’s enrollment

**ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

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| * Junior Scholar Intensive Training (CFS, UW-Madison, with SSA) | 2022 |
| * Affiliated with interdisciplinary departments (Center for Demography of Health and Aging (CDHA), Institute of Research on Poverty (IRP), Retirement and Disability Research Center (RDRC) | Various years |