Zahra Shahidi

PhD Candidate in Economics, York University

Email — LinkedIn — GitHub — Website

Education

2021–Present	PhD in Economics, York University, Toronto
2016–2019	MSc in Economics, Institute for Management and Planning Studies (IMPS), Tehran
2010–2015	BSc in Mathematics and Applications, Iran University of Science and Technology, Tehran

Research Interests

Macroeconomics, Development, Growth, Gender and Inequality, Labor Economics

Publications

- *Liquidity Constraints and Durable/Non-durable Consumption Relationship in Iran. Journal of Planning and Budget*, 2020. (with Majid Einian and Seyed Ahmadreza Jalali-Naini)

Work in Progress

- *Information Frictions in Rural–Urban Migration* (with Tasso Adamopoulos). Developing a macroeconomic model to quantify how information frictions shape migration decisions, combining theory with household data analysis.

- *Misallocation of Female Talent: The Puzzling Case of Iran.* Analyzing how barriers and misallocation reduce female labor force participation and quantifying their economic impact.

Other Works & Published Reports

- *Analysis of Household Expenditures and Income Data 2019: Average Caloric Requirements of Iranian Households.* Parliament Research Center, 2020.

- *Poverty Monitoring Reports: Poverty Monitoring in 2020.* Ministry of Welfare & Parliament Research Center, 2021.

Research Experience

2023–Present   Research Assistant, York University

- Conducted empirical research on development and migration
- Worked with IPUMS survey data in Stata and MATLAB to produce reports for academic research

2021   Researcher & Data Scientist, Ministry of Cooperatives, Labor, and Social Welfare, Tehran

- Conducted poverty and welfare analysis
- Developed coding pipelines in Stata and R for official reports

2019–2021   Researcher & Data Scientist, Parliament Research Center – Department of Economic Studies, Tehran

- Collaborated on projects examining poverty and inequality using large-scale household survey data
- Prepared official poverty monitoring reports

2018–2019   Research Assistant, Tehran Municipality

- Assisted in transportation research and data preparation

Teaching Experience

2021–Present   Teaching Assistant, York University

- Supported undergraduate and graduate economics courses
- Guided students in coursework and assignments

Fellowships & Awards

2024–2025   Dissertation Fieldwork Fellowship, York University

2010–2019   Fully Funded Scholarship, BSc at Iran University of Science and Technology; MSc at IMPS

Academic Service

2024–Present   Vice President, Economics Graduate Students Association (EGSA), York University

Technical Skills

Stata, MATLAB, R, Python, SQL, GitHub, EViews, LaTeX