

Nikhil Kumar

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Education

Harvard University , Cambridge MA, US PhD in Public Policy (Economics Track) Fields: Development Economics, Labor Economics Presidential Scholar Fellowship	September 2022-Present
Boston University , Boston MA, US M.A. in Economic Policy MA Prize for Academic Excellence in Economics Merit Scholarship	August 2019-January 2021
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay , Mumbai, India B. Tech. in Metallurgical Engineering & Materials Science M. Tech. in Metallurgical Engineering & Materials Science	July 2014-August 2019

Working Papers

Beyond Basics: Whole School Reform and Early Adolescent Development with Andreas de Barros, Alejandra Campos Quintero, Najiba El Amrani Mida, Paul Glewwe, Laure Léphine
Empowerment in Equilibrium: Evidence from a Taxpayer Education Program in Ghana with Anders Jensen, Konstantin Poensgen
The Role of Socioemotional Support in School Reform: A Randomized Evaluation in Morocco's Public Lower Secondary Schools with Andreas de Barros, Alejandra Campos Quintero, Paul Glewwe, Laure Léphine (conditionally accepted via pre-results review at <i>The Journal of Development Economics</i>)

Selected Works in Progress

The Role of Informal Intermediaries in Urban Job Search and Rural-Urban Migration
Insourcing Offshore: Changing Multinational Firm Boundaries, Host Country Firms and Labor Markets
Public Investments in Primary Education and the Rise of Low-Fee Private Schooling in India
Learning from peers: Experimental Evidence from a Scaled-up Peer Tutoring Intervention in Rural India with Palaash Bhargava, Madhavi Jha, Dashleen Kaur, Tarang Tripathi

Teaching

Harvard University , Cambridge MA, US	
The Economics of Infrastructure in Developing Countries, Undergraduate, Instructor	Fall 2024, Fall 2025
Econometric Methods II, PhD Core, Teaching Fellow	Spring 2025
Advanced Quantitative Methods: Causal Inference, MPA/ID Core, Teaching Fellow	Spring 2025
Leading Smart Policy Design, Executive Education, Teaching Fellow	Fall 2023

Research Experience

Harvard University , Cambridge MA, US	
Research Assistant for Anders Jensen	2024
Research Assistant for Rema Hanna	2023
Center for International Development , Cambridge MA, US	
Research Assistant for Rema Hanna, Benjamin Olken and Gabriel Kreindler	2021-2022
Boston University , Boston MA, US	
Research Assistant for Martin Fiszbein	2020-2021
Research Assistant for Mahesh Karra	2020
National Bureau of Economic Research , Cambridge MA, US	
Research Assistant for Jeffrey Furman	2020

Grants

GEM Incubation Fund: Catalyzing AI for Inclusive Change, Harvard University	2025
Jobs and Opportunity Initiative Research Grant, J-PAL	2025
Laxmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute Research Grant, Harvard University	2025, 2026
Institute for Quantitative Social Science Research Grant, Harvard University	2024, 2025
Center for International Development Research Scholars Program, Harvard University	2024-2025
Institute for Human Studies Research Grant, George Mason University	2024-2025
Graduate Society Summer Predissertation Fellowship, Harvard University	2024

Seminars and Conferences (*scheduled)

Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, ISI Delhi	2025
North East Universities Development Consortium, Tufts University	2025
AEFP EdDev Community Meeting	2025

Affiliations

Harvard University , Cambridge MA, US	
Institute for Quantitative Social Science	2024-Present
Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute	2024-Present
Center for International Development	2024-Present

Service

Mentor, Graduate Applications International Network	2024-2025
Harvard University , Cambridge MA, US	
Co-organizer, Development Advising Group	2025-2026
Peer Mentor, PhD in Public Policy Program	2023-2025
Co-organizer, Urban Economics Reading Group	Fall 2024
Co-organizer, Graduate Student Workshop in Political Economy	2023-2024
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay , Mumbai, India	
Mentor, Alumni Student Mentorship Program	2023-2024
Remedial Tutor and Coordinator, Abhyasika Education	2015-2018
Mentor, Individual Research Program, Lumiere Education	2022-2023

Skills

Technical

Proficient: Stata, Python, ArcGIS, R, LaTeX, Qualtrics, SurveyCTO
Intermediate: Tableau, Julia, Matlab, MySQL, Java, C++, AWS

Languages

Proficient: English, Hindi