

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

Job Market Paper

- *Misbeliefs and Education Decisions by Gender*. Developed a general-equilibrium education-choice model showing how gender differences in subjective beliefs about graduation contribute to enrollment decisions, dropout, talent misallocation, and wage outcomes.

Working Paper

- *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.

Work in Progress

- *Spatial Patterns of Migration in Developing Countries* (with Tasso Adamopoulos)
- *Misallocation of Female Talent: The Puzzling Case of Iran*.

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)

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