

# NAVIN KUMAR

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Indian Citizen, US F1 Holder

## Fields

Applied Microeconomics

## Education

- 2021 Ph.D. Economics, Boston College (Expected)
- 2016 M.A. Economics, Boston College
- 2013 M.A. Economics, Delhi School of Economics
- 2011 B.A. (Honors) Economics, University of Delhi

## Awards & Fellowships

- 2014- Full Tuition Remission and Stipend, Boston College
- 2013 Junior Research Fellowship, University Grants Commission of India
- 2011 Merit Scholarship, Delhi School of Economics
- 2010-11 Editorship, Economics Journal of Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi

## Job Market Paper

“Gun Control & Crime: Evidence from Concealed Carry Laws in the US”

*Abstract:* This paper investigates the impact of handgun deregulation on violent crime and firearm mortality. A third of US states have liberalized the concealed carry of handguns, no longer requiring carriers to acquire permits, take safety classes, or undergo background checks. Proponents of Unrestricted Control Carry (ucc) argue that this will reduce crime because criminals will no longer be able to distinguish between armed and unarmed targets. Opponents argue that these changes will increase crime, as criminals will now face no repercussions if they are caught with a concealed weapon. A third possibility, which I call *neutrality*, is that ucc will have no impact. Handguns are small and easy to conceal, so people need not wait for the state to adopt ucc. I study the impact of this policy by matching counties along the borders of states that liberalized concealed carry with contiguous counties in neighboring states that did not. I construct a county-month panel dataset using crime incident micro-data and death certificate micro-data, and use it to compare differences in crime and mortality between such pairs of counties. Consistent with neutrality, the policy has no impact on firearm mortality or violent crime. In my preferred specification, I find that ucc leads to statistically and economically insignificant 0.15% decline in homicides. It is possible that the positive and negative effects of the law offset each other. However, the policy has no impact on gun

ownership or day-to-day usage, which is consistent with neutrality but not offsetting. I discuss the implications of these results for gun control policy.

## Works in Progress

“Is Disaster Relief Well Targeted? Evidence from an Earthquake in Nepal” (with [Sajala Pandey](#))

“Do Barriers Work? Evidence from Cocaine Deaths and the Fence across the US South”

## Employment History

2019- Teaching Fellow, Department of Economics, Boston College  
2014-19 Graduate Assistant, Department of Economics, Boston College  
2013-14 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Gargi College, University of Delhi  
2013 Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Indian Statistical Institute Delhi  
2012-14 Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics  
2010 Research Intern, Observer Research Foundation Mumbai

## Skills

*Software:* Stata, Python, MATLAB, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

*Languages:* English (Native Speaker), Hindi (Fluent), Tamil (Good)

## References

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## Miscellaneous

*Visa:* US F1, degree is STEM eligible

*Last Updated:* SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

*Latest Version:* [Link](#)

*Twitter:* [@navinksrk](#)