

## Ahmad Z. Wahdat

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### CONTACT & CITIZENSHIP INFORMATION

West Lafayette, IN 47901 USA  
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*E-mail:* awahdat@purdue.edu ; *Website:* www.ahmadziawahdat.com  
*Citizenship:* United States, Afghanistan

### EDUCATION

**Purdue University**, West Lafayette, Indiana USA

PhD in Agricultural Economics

August 2021

*Fields:* Behavioral & Experimental Economics, Food & Agricultural Economics, Household Finance

*Specialization:* Computational Science

*Econometrics/Data Science Courses:* Probability & Statistics, Econometrics, Nonparametric Econometrics, Microeconometrics, Mathematical Programming, Statistical & Machine Learning, Data Engineering, Linear Algebra for Data Science

**Tufts University**, Medford, Massachusetts USA

M.S. Economics

May 2012

**Oberlin College**, Oberlin, Ohio USA

B.A. Economics (Honors)

May 2010

### EXPERIENCE

**Purdue University**, Department of Agricultural Economics, West Lafayette, IN USA

*Lead Research Economist*

January, 2024 - Present

*Postdoctoral Research Associate*

August, 2021 - December 2023

*Instructor & Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant*

August, 2017 - August, 2021

*Visiting Researcher at the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economics*

February-May, 2020

**The World Bank**, The Development Impact Evaluation Unit (DECIE), Washington, D.C. USA

*Consultant to the Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project (IAPP)* April, 2016 - August, 2017

**Harvard Business School**, Boston, Massachusetts USA

*Research Associate*

Sept., 2013 - March, 2016

**MIT Sloan School of Management**, Cambridge, Massachusetts USA

*Research Assistant*

Sept., 2012 - August, 2013

**German International Cooperation (GIZ)**, Kabul, Afghanistan

*Project Officer*

June, 2010 - August, 2011

## ARTICLES

Polzin, Sam S., Lusk, Jayson L., and Ahmad Zia Wahdat. 2023. "Measuring Sustainable Consumer Food Purchasing and Behavior." *Appetite*, 180, 106369. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2022.106369>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2022. "The Achilles Heel of the U.S. Food Industries: Exposure to Labor and Upstream Industries in the Supply Chain." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajae.12331>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z. 2022. "Economic Impact Payments and Household Food Insufficiency during COVID-19: The Case of Late Recipients." *Economics of Disasters and Climate Change*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41885-022-00115-9>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., Michael A. Gunderson, and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. "Farm Producers' Household Consumption and Individual Risk Behavior after Natural Disasters." *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, 50(1), 127-149. <https://doi.org/10.1017/age.2021.2>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Michael A. Gunderson. 2021. "Principal Operators' Farm Risk Attitudes in Hot and Cold Climates." *Agricultural Finance Review*, Vol. and No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/AFR-06-2021-0087>

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. "Stockpiling, Grocery Shortages, and Consumer Shopping Behavior." (submitted to a field journal)

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. "Extreme Weather Events and Consumers' Dynamic Food Shopping Behavior." (submitted to a field journal)

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Sam Polzin. "From Disasters to Hunger: Investigating the Causal Effect of Natural Disasters on Household Food Insufficiency in the US." (submitted to a field journal)

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., Yuansen Li, and Jayson L. Lusk. "Spatial Vulnerability of the U.S. Meatpacking Industry." (submitted to a field journal)

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Michael S. Delgado. "A Decade of U.S. Natural Disasters and Household Food-at-Home Consumption and Quality: A Quasi-Experimental Study." (Working paper)

Wahdat, Ahmad Z. "Income Shocks and Loss Aversion in Consumption Expenditures." (pending for submission)

## GRANTS

Co-PI on a \$649,517 USDA-NIFA grant project, "Alternative Data to Measure Food-Away-from-Home Markets and their Resiliency." (with Tor Tolhurst (PI), and three Co-PIs, Jayson Lusk, Joseph Balagtas, and Valerie Kilders)

## TEACHING

**Lecturer**, AGEC 217 Macroeconomics (Score=4/5), Summer 2021, Purdue University

**Teaching Assistant**, AGEC 217 Macroeconomics, Fall/Spring 2020-21, Purdue University

**Teaching Assistant**, MS-MBA Quantitative Methods (4.9/5), Fall 2018 & 2019, Purdue University

OTHER  
ACADEMIC WORK

Polzin, Sam, Ahmad Z. Wahdat, and Jayson L. Lusk. 2022. "Why food insecurity among Gen Z is so much higher than for other age groups." The Conversation.

Subramaniam, Annapurni, Ahmad Z. Wahdat, and Jayson L. Lusk. 2022. "Economic Profile of Food Service Industries." Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/economic-profile-of-food-service-industries/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. "Food Industries' Vulnerable Input Purchases via Exposure to Upstream Industries and Labor Occupations." Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/food-industries-vulnerable-input-purchases-via-exposure-to-upstream-industries-and-labor-occupations/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. "Food and Beverage Industries' Covid-19 Vulnerability Index by U.S. State and Counties." Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/food-and-beverage-industries-covid-19-vulnerability-index-by-u-s-state-and-counties/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. "Food and Beverage Industries' Value Added by U.S. State." Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/food-and-beverage-industries-value-added-by-u-s-state/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., Michael A. Gunderson, and Jayson L. Lusk. 2020. "Specialty Farm Households' Consumption and Risk Behavior after Natural Disasters." Special Edition: COVID-19 Impact on Agriculture, Purdue Agricultural Economics Report, Purdue University.

AWARDS

**Ornella Maietta Best Paper Award**, 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics July 2023

**Yirgou Grant**, Purdue University September 2019

**Hicks Grant**, Agricultural Economics, Purdue University March 2019

**PhD Tuition & Stipend**, Agricultural Economics, Purdue University 2017-2018

**Graduate Tuition Scholarship**, Economics Department, Tufts University 2011-2012

**Fulbright Scholarship**, Oberlin College 2007 – 2010

**International Grant**, Oberlin College 2007 – 2010

**W.E. & E.B. Stevenson Scholarship**, Oberlin College 2007 – 2010

CONFERENCES &  
WORKSHOPS

12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics (2023)

183<sup>rd</sup> European Association of Agricultural Economists Seminar (2022)

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference (2019, 2020)

Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference (2020, 2024)

Workshop on Field Experiments, World Bank (2017)

International Carroll Round Conference, Georgetown University (2011)

PRESENTATIONS & CHAIRED SESSIONS    Presenter at Australasian Agricultural & Resource Economics Society Conference, 2024 Canberra, Australia — “Investigating the Causal Effect of Natural Disasters on Household Food Insufficiency in the US”

Presenter at 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 2023, Milan, Italy

Presenter at 183<sup>rd</sup> EAAE Seminar on Experimental and Behavioural Economics Research in Agri-Food and the Environment, 2022, Zagreb, Croatia — “Grocery Shortages and Consumer Shopping Behavior”

Presenter at Purdue Experimental Economics Brown Bag, 2022 — “Grocery Shortages and Consumer Shopping Behavior”

Session Chair & Organizer at AAEA, 2020 — “Specialty Crop Producers’ Managerial Decisions and Risk Preferences: Responding to Consumer Tastes and Natural Disasters”

Presenter at AAEA, 2020 — “Specialty Producers’ Household Consumption and Individual Risk Behavior after Natural Disasters”

Presenter at AARES, 2020 — “U.S. Agricultural CEOs’ Farm-Operation Risk Attitudes between Hot and Cold Temperature Climates”

REVIEWER                            American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Finance Review, Agricultural and Resource Economics Review

SKILLS                                *Computer Languages:* Python, SQL, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X  
*Statistical Programming:* Stata, R, Matlab  
*Application Software:* Microsoft Packages, MySQL, Tableau, ArcGIS, GAMS  
*Fluent Languages:* Pashto, Dari (Farsi), Urdu, Hindi, English, Arabic (Intermediate)