

Professor. Ranjan Ray
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Biography

Ranjan undertook his undergraduate studies in Presidency College at the University of Calcutta, his postgraduate studies at the Delhi School of Economics and completed his Ph.D. from the London School of Economics. Prior to moving to Monash, Ranjan served as Lecturer in Econometrics at Manchester University, UK, Professor of Public Economics at the Delhi School of Economic, India and Professor and Head of Economics at the University of Tasmania, Australia. He has also held visiting positions at the University of British Columbia, Canada, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy and Cornell University, USA. Ranjan is currently on the editorial board of the *Review of Income and Wealth* (journal of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth) and *Economic Record* (journal of the Economic Society of Australia).

A measure of social justice

Deprivation and social justice are not only recurring themes in Professor Ranjan Ray's wide-ranging research, but ones that cut firmly through some established boundaries. 'The old line between developed and developing countries, and development and non-development economics, is blurred and that's reflected in my research,' he says. 'I don't divorce the two.'

An early interest in data, methodology, analytical framework and policy has persisted throughout Ranjan's 30 or so years in economics research, but he has slowly shifted his emphasis away from statistics and towards development.

'I don't see development as being only the preserve of or restricted to third world countries,' he says. 'There are a lot of developmental issues and implications for people in Australia; the divide between indigenous and non-indigenous people, for example.'

One-time boundaries are also collapsing, he says, as booming countries like India and China close the gap in one direction, and global financial crises draw others back.

Poverty and inequality are relevant across the spectrum. Ranjan has recently been widening his study of such issues to multidimensional deprivation, a term that recognises the complex nature of deprivation, of which capacity to spend is merely one aspect.

'You may not be poor but you may be deprived,' he says. 'It is perfectly possible that you are above the poverty line but still don't have access to health, to electricity, to schooling, to water.'

His research drills deeper to determine how different groups in society are affected, comparing, for example, those who own their own homes and those who don't, city dwellers and those in remote areas, and indigenous and non-indigenous people.

This project highlights Ranjan's broad view of his field, using not only data from developing countries but also Australian data from the HILDA (Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia) survey.

Other research relates to issues arising throughout the development spectrum.

Child labour is a longstanding interest that sits at the developing end, as does a current project on the interplay between corruption and the informal sector. Small businesses such as tea-stalls tend to slip under the radar; some may be entirely legitimate, others may not. Ranjan is considering whether corruption contributes to the informal sector, and vice versa.

Quite different issues -- the effects of price changes, measurements of equality, and how inflation redistributes wealth towards or away from certain socioeconomic groups - involve study of developed nations such as Australia and Britain.

Australian Research Council Discovery Project grants have supported many of Ranjan's projects.

Related Links:

For detailed information about Ranjan, please refer to Ranjan's CV.

More information about Ranjan can be found on IDEAS webpage.

Ranjan is also featured on Google Scholar.

Employment

Professor

Department of Economics

MONASH UNIVERSITY

23 Jan 2008 → present

Research outputs

Coal plants, air pollution and anaemia: evidence from India

Datt, G., Maitra, P., Menon, N. & Ray, R., 2022, (Accepted/In press) In: Journal of Development Studies. 19 p.

Optimal commodity taxation – a new computational procedure with application to India

Majumder, A., Ray, R. & Santra, S., 2022, In: Indian Growth and Development Review. 15, 1, p. 123-138 16 p.

Progressivity and redistributive effects of income taxes: evidence from India
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Should commodity tax rates be uniform across regions in a heterogeneous country? Evidence from India
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COVID-19: facts, figures, estimated relationships and analysis
Ray, R. & Kumar, S., 2021, In: *Indian Economic Review*. 56, p. 173-214 42 p.

Regionally disaggregated estimates of global income inequality with evidence on sensitivity to purchasing power parity
Ray, R. & Singh, P., 2021, In: *Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy*. 26, 2, p. 252-270 19 p.

National and subnational purchasing power parity: a review
Majumder, A. & Ray, R., 2020, In: *Decision*. 47, p. 103-124 22 p.

The spatial price map of India drawn using pseudo unit values
Majumder, A., Ray, R. & Santra, S., 2020, In: *Indian Growth and Development Review*. 13, 3, p. 537-560 24 p.

Review of Deprivation, Inequality and Polarization: Essays in Honour of Satya Ranjan Chakravarty, by Dasgupta, Indraneel and Mitra, Manipushpak (eds.) (Springer Nature, Singapore, 2019), pp. xiii + 220.
Ray, R., Dec 2019, In: *Economic Record*. 95, 311, p. 522-525 4 p.

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A multidimensional dynamic measure of child disadvantage: a methodological tool for policymakers
Mishra, A., Ray, R. & Risse, L., Oct 2018, In: *Social Indicators Research*. 139, 3, p. 1187-1218 32 p.

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Chakrabarty, M., Majumder, A. & Ray, R., Sep 2018, In: *Review of Income and Wealth*. 64, 3, p. 703-730 28 p.

Do *in utero* shocks have adverse effects on child health outcomes and can welfare schemes ameliorate such effects? Evidence from Andhra Pradesh, India
Ahmed, S. & Ray, R., 2018, In: *Journal of Biosocial Science*. 50, 6, p. 770-799 30 p.

Household Behaviour, Prices, and Welfare: A Collection of Essays Including Selected Empirical Studies
Ray, R., 2018, 1st ed. Singapore Singapore: Springer. 431 p. (Themes in Economics: Theory, Empirics, and Policy)

How does child disadvantage change with age? An analysis of Australian children
Mishra, A., Ray, R. & Risse, L., 2018, In: *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*. 19, 4, p. 477-498 22 p.

Sensitivity of global and regional poverty rates to alternative purchasing power parities
Majumder, A., Ray, R. & Santra, S., 2018, In: *Indian Growth and Development Review*. 11, 1, p. 34-56 23 p.

The link between preferences, prices, inequality, and poverty: the Indian evidence

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The role of prices in welfare comparisons: methodological developments and a selective survey of the empirical literature

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Estimates of spatial prices in India and their sensitivity to alternative estimation methods and choice of commodities

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Majumder, A., Ray, R. & Sinha, K., 2015, In: *Review of Income and Wealth*. 61, 2, p. 302 - 328 27 p.

Multidimensional deprivation in China, India and Vietnam: A comparative study on micro data

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International comparison program of the World Bank: How meaningful is the exercise for India?

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Spatial variation in prices and expenditure inequalities in Australia

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Child health in West Bengal - Comparison with other regions in India

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Food consumption patterns and malnourished Indian children: Is there a link?

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Calculating rural-urban food price differentials from unit values in household expenditure surveys: A comparison with existing methods and a new procedure

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Duration and persistence in multidimensional deprivation: Methodology and Australian application

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Interaction between HIV awareness, knowledge, safe sex practice and HIV prevalence: Evidence from Botswana

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Multi-dimensional deprivation in the awakening giants: A comparison of China and India on micro data

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Do inequality and prices affect comparisons in living standards? The Indian evidence

Mishra, A. & Ray, R., 2011, In: *Economic and Political Weekly*. 46, 3, p. 39 - 46 8 p.

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Chatterjee, S., Rae, A. & Ray, R., 2011, *Globalisation, Agriculture and Development: Perspectives from the Asia-Pacific*. Tonts, M. & Siddique, M. A. B. (eds.). Cheltenham UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, p. 102-130 29 p.

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Dietary diversity, food security and undernourishment: The Vietnamese evidence
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Education and child labor: A global perspective

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Food insecurity, undernourishment and poverty in India during the 1990s

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Diversity in calorie sources and undernourishment during rapid economic growth

Ray, R., 2008, In: *Economic and Political Weekly*. 43, 8, p. 51 - 57 7 p.

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Changes in household and child nutritional status and their determinants in a transition economy: Evidence from Vietnamese panel data

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Endogenous intra-household balance of power and its impact on expenditure patterns: Evidence from India

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Equity implications of reforms on living standards and child health in post-apartheid South Africa

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Analysis of resource inflows and their impact on household behaviour: evidence from South Africa

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The impact of resource inflows on child health: evidence from Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa, 1993-98

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How have the disadvantaged fared in India after the economic reforms?

Meenakshi, J. V. & Ray, R., 2 Apr 2003, *Trade Policy, Growth and Poverty in Asian Developing Countries*. Taylor & Francis, p. 202-213 12 p.

Intra-household resource allocation, consumer preferences and commodity tax reforms: Australian evidence

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Resource inflows and household composition: evidence from South African panel data

Maitra, P. & Ray, R., 2003, In: *Journal of International Development*. 15, p. 1037 - 1047 11 p.

The effect of transfers on household expenditure patterns and poverty in South Africa

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Impact of household size and family composition on poverty in rural India

Meenakshi, J. V. & Ray, R., 2002, In: *Journal of Policy Modeling*. 24, 6, p. 539 - 559 21 p.

International poverty comparisons on unit record data of developing and developed countries

Lancaster, G. & Ray, R., 2002, In: *Australian Economic Papers*. 41, 2, p. 129 - 139 11 p.

Tests of income pooling on household budget data: The Australian evidence

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The determinants of child labour and child schooling in Ghana

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The joint estimation of child participation in schooling and employment: comparative evidence from three continents

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Ray, R., 2000, In: *The World Bank Economic Review*. 14, 2, p. 347 - 367 21 p.

A Cross-Country Study of Equivalence Scales and Expenditure Inequality on Unit Record Household Budget Data
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A Cross-Country Study of Household Poverty and Inequality on Unit Record Household Budget Data
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Marginal and non-marginal commodity tax reforms with rank two and rank three demographic demand systems
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Measuring the costs of children: An alternative approach
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Projects

Living Standards, HIV/AIDS and its Impact on the Next Generation
Maitra, P., Inder, B., Ray, R. & Ray, R.
Australian Research Council (ARC), Monash University
2/01/08 → 30/06/13

Modelling Food Expenditure, analysing Nutrient Security, Measuring Hunger and Calculating Purchasing Power Parity: Methodological Advances with Policy Applications
Ray, R.
Australian Research Council (ARC)
1/01/07 → 31/12/13

Modelling decision making within the household and analysing its welfare implication: Methodological advances with policy applications
Maitra, P., Ray, R., Basu, K. & Ray, R.
Australian Research Council (ARC)
1/01/04 → 31/12/06

Resource Inflows, Intra-household Resource Allocation and their Impact on Expenditure Patterns, Child Health and Household Composition
Maitra, P., Ray, R., Chatterji, M. & Ray, R.
Australian Research Council (ARC), Monash University
1/01/02 → 31/12/05

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