

Nidhi Kalra, Ph.D. is a senior information scientist at the RAND Corporation and spearheads RAND's autonomous vehicle policy work. She is the lead author of the study "Driving to Safety: How Many Miles of Driving Would It Take to Demonstrate Autonomous Vehicle Reliability? (2016)" and co-author of the flagship report "Autonomous Vehicle Technology: A Guide for Policymakers (2016)." She has over ten years of experience in autonomous vehicle policy and is committed to using her expertise to further evidence-based policy making. She has testified on autonomous vehicle policy at two congressional hearings and is also a member of the California Road Charge Technical Advisory Committee, which provides guidance to the State legislature on road use charge alternatives to the gas tax. She has also authored and is cited in many media articles and programs and recently gave a TEDx talk on sound long-term decision making (<https://goo.gl/qcEkVe>).

As a director of RAND's Center for Decision Making under Uncertainty, her research addresses a variety of long-term transportation, energy, environment, and science and technology policy issues. In 2013, she served as a senior decision scientist in the Office of the Chief Economist of Sustainable Development at the World Bank. Her clients include the U.S. National Cooperative Highway Research Program, the Federal Highway Administration, the California Energy Commission, and the Department of Defense. Kalra developed educational technology tools to promote literacy among blind children in India, a project that recently received the Louis Braille Touch of Genius Prize for Innovation. Kalra received her Ph.D. in robotics from Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Institute.