

Biography

Nari Rhee, Ph.D. has served as Director of the Retirement Security Program at the UC Berkeley Labor Center since 2014. A broadly trained social scientist, she employs both quantitative and qualitative methods to investigate policy issues related to worker economic security. Dr. Rhee's research focuses primarily on the U.S. retirement crisis, including policy solutions to preserve and enhance retirement benefits for low- and middle-wage workers amid declining pension coverage. Her analysis of retirement wealth disparities has informed state and national policy debates. She also conducts research on the long-term care sector; unpaid family caregiving; social insurance and safety net programs affecting aging; older workers; and workforce development.

Dr. Rhee was appointed by the California state senate to the CalSavers Retirement Savings Board in July 2025 and has been a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance since 2014. She holds a Ph.D. in Geography from UC Berkeley (2007), an M.A. in Urban Planning from UCLA (1998), and a B.A. in Anthropology from UC Santa Cruz (1996).