Atlanta RDC Research Conference Big Success

Six papers, presented by researchers from around the Atlanta RDC Consortium were presented at GA Tech on Friday, October 9, 2015. Roughly 30 people were registered to attend.

Attendees got a preview of research on which Tim Dunne (FRBA) is collaborating that may produce a valuable new forward-looking indicator of new business formation using Federal applications for Employer Identification Numbers (EIN). The research is still in its early stages, but Tim and his team are pleased with their early results. Patricia Angle (GA Tech) and Ian Schmutte (UGA) presented their research making use of a variety of other firm level data and the LEHD, respectively.

Chuck Courtemanche (GSU, pictured above) presented what may be surprising results to some -- Walmart Super Centers appear to improve food security in the neighborhoods in which they are located. Other papers using demographic data were presented by Julie Hotchkiss (FRBA) and Christopher Clapp (FSU).

A highlight of the conference was Melissa Banzhaf’s report on new data available in the Federal Statistical RDCs. You can download Melissa’s PowerPoint presentation by clicking here. The full conference agenda can still be found here.

Don't Forget about the ARDC Research Assistant

The Atlanta RDC has several Consortium members at least 100 miles away from Atlanta. In order to make those researchers' time in Atlanta as productive as possible, the ARDC funds a research assistant to help with preliminary data cleaning, organization, and analysis. The current RA, Tom Qu (pictured left), has Special Sworn Status and can, therefore, be added to your RDC project quickly. Please contact Melissa Banzhaf to discuss your research assistance needs.
Approved and Active Projects
See the ARDC web site (http://atlantardc.org) for information and links for writing proposals. The list below reflects only those projects that are active, or are approved but not yet started. There are many more in production.

University of Georgia:
"Food Allergen Labeling Mandates: Optimal Design of Risk Information Policies"
Maria Vyshmya Aslam
"The Impact of Health Insurance Coverage on the Labor Supply of Welfare Recipients"
Vincent Pohl
"LEHD Infrastructure Project"
Ian Schmutte and others at Cornell U
"Employee Risk Tolerance and Corporate Decisions"
Jack He, Tao Shu, Huan Yang
"Home Equity Lending and Small Business: Relaxing Constraints in Texas"
Ian Schmutte, William Lastrapes, and Chadi Abdallah (Miami University)
"Immigrant Entrepreneurship with a Focus on Latino Entrepreneurship"
Myriam Quispe-Agnoli (Mercer), Anil Rupasingha (USDA), Craig Carpenter (Michigan State) and Scott Loveridge (Michigan State)

University of Tennessee-Knoxville:
"Tuskegee & Disparities in Healthcare and Health Outcomes"
Marianne Wanamaker and Marcella Alsan (Stanford)
"Imputing Small Area Sample Weights for Public Use Microdata: Increasing the Geographic Scope of the PUMS"
Nicholas Nagle, Kevin Krivacsy; and Barbara Buttenfield and Stefan Leyke (U of CO)
"Contextual Effects of Community Characteristics on Health Care Behaviors among Older Foreign-born Individuals"
Sunha Choi
Sunha Choi

Georgia Institute of Technology:
"Analyzing the Long-term Effectiveness of Business Assistance on Firm Productivity and Survival"
Jan Youtie and Sanjay Arora; Cliff Lipscomb and Andy Krause (Greenfield Advisors)
"Organizations in the Digital Economy: Information Technology Use, Complementary Investments, and Their Impacts on Firm Outcomes"
Chris Forman and Patricia Angle; Kristina McElheran (U of Toronto); Lynn Riggs (Baylor), Naomi Hausman (Hebrew University of Jerusalem); Robert Bray (Northwestern); and Mercedes Delgado (Temple University)
Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta:
"An Empirical Study of Entry and Exit with Multiple Firm Types"
  Tim Dunne, Shawn Klimek (Census), Mark Roberts (Penn State), Yi Xu (Duke)
"Research on Regional Economic Indicators and Current Business Dynamics"
  Tim Dunne; Javier Miranda and Emin Dinlersoz (Census); Kimberley Bayard and John Stevens
  (Fed Board of Governors)
"The Role of Social Capital in Labor Markets, Migration, and Survey Response"
  Julie Hotchkiss, Anil Rupasingha (USDA), and Tom Qu (GSU)
"Developing Historic Data on U.S. Manufacturing"
  Tim Dunne; Randy Becker and Cheryl Grim (Census)

Georgia State University:
"Consequence of Earnings Nonresponse in CPS"
  Barry Hirsch; Chris Bollinger, Charles Hokayem, Jim Ziliak (U of KY)
"Determinants of Educational and Developmental Outcomes among Adopted and Non-adopted
  Children"
  Tomeka Davis, Regina Werum (Emory), Irene Browne (Emory), and Simon Cheng (U of CT)
"Geospatial Factors and Impacts II"
  Lee Mobley and Tzy-Mey Kuo (UNC-Chapel Hill)
"An Econometric Framework for Causal Analysis of Obesity Policy Alternatives"
  Charles Courtemanche
"Estimating Long-run Determinants of Social, Demographic, and Economic Characteristics" by
  Spencer Banzhaf, Melissa Banzhaf (Census), Martha Bailey (U of Michigan), Janet Currie
  (Princeton), and W. Reed Walker (UC – Berkeley)
"Identifying Agglomeration Spillovers: New Evidence from Large Plant Openings"
  Carlianne Patrick and Mark Partridge (Ohio State U)
"Do Big Box Grocers Improve Food Security?"
  Charles Courtemanche
"The Effect of Regulating Meals and Gifts to Prescribers"
  J. Dustin Tracy

Emory University:
"Assess the Effect of Indoor Tanning on Melanoma"
  Ying Zhou; Yang Liu (Emory)
"Costs and Productivity Losses Associated with Chronic Migraine"
  Kenneth E. Thorpe and Peter J. Joski
"The Contribution of Cardiovascular Risk Factors to Health Expectancies and Medicare Costs
  Among U.S. Adults"
  Neil Mehta and David Frisvold (U of Iowa)
"Business Cycles and the Behavior of Constrained and Unconstrained Firms"
  Kaiji Chen, Anne Hannusch, Zhao Li, and Tong Xu; and Patrick Higgins and Tao Zha (FRBA)
Florida State University:
"Improving the Connection Between the Spatial and the Survey Sciences"
   David Folch; Nicholas Nagle and Parmanand Sinha (UT-Knoxville); and Seth Spielman (U of CO)
"Should My Car Move or Should I? A Model of Residential and Commuting Choices"
   Christopher Clapp

Other:
"Disability Insurance and Employment Decisions"
   Susan Chen (University of Alabama); Tanya Byker, John Bound, Peter Hudomiet, Ann Rodgers, Bryan Stuart, Desmond Toohey (University of Michigan); and Angela VanDerwerken (University of Albany)

Some Demographics to Ponder this Holiday Season

Religious Diversity in the U.S.

Protestant 46.5%
Catholic 20.8%
Orthodox Christian 0.5%
Jehovah's Witness 0.8%
Other Christian 0.4%
Mormon 1.6%
Other Religions 5.9%

Unaffiliated 22.8%
Atheist 3.1%
Agnostic 4.0%
Nothing in particular 15.8%

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