



## December 2022 Newsletter

*This is a monthly newsletter of updates from OpenRG Experts.  
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Don Boyd

*Don is Co-Director of the State and Local Government Finance Project at Rockefeller College, SUNY Albany, and a consultant, Open Source Policy Center.*

- Provided consulting advice to a transportation authority on potential revenue options
  - Prepared draft report on housing insecurity in New York
  - Conducted planning and coordination activities for a working group that is monitoring in-migration, out-migration, and related issues in New York
  - Began work on a project to examine risks from incorrect model choice or incorrect model parameterization in the context of pension funding
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Jason DeBacker

*Jason is an Associate Professor of economics at the University of South Carolina and a core maintainer of the open source models [Cost-of-Capital-Calculator](#), [Tax-Calculator](#), and [OG-USA](#), which model business taxes and macroeconomic effects of tax policy, respectively.*

- Refereed papers for *Journal of Public Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*.
- Served as senior editor on a paper for the Center for Growth and Opportunity
- Revised a proposal for the US Census
- Released Tax-Calculator version 3.3.0

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Max Ghenis

*Max is President of the UBI Center, co-founder of PolicyEngine, and a core maintainer of the open source [microdf](#) project.*

- [Documented PolicyEngine's US data enhancement plan](#), which includes integrating survey datasets with machine learning and reweighting it with gradient descent.
- [Wrote a blog post](#) on using PolicyEngine to estimate the impact of charitable contributions on individual income tax liabilities.
- [Published a blog post and demo video](#) on updating PolicyEngine's code base to reflect SNAP reforms in the omnibus bill.
- Posted year in review articles for [PolicyEngine](#) and the [UBI Center](#).

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Jonathan Pycroft

*Jon is an economic modeler and public finance economist based in Seville, Spain. He has experience building and working with computable general equilibrium models, overlapping generations models, and microsimulation models of tax and pension policies in Europe and Africa.*

- Finalized a report into EU pension reform for the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.
- Provided further modeling simulations to support the EU's Business in Europe: Framework for Income Taxation (BEFIT) initiative.