July 2024 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.

- Delivered final version of an enhanced microdata file for input to Tax-Calculator, and other policy analysis tools, under a project led by the PSL Foundation.
- Submitted draft report to the Society of Actuaries on how structure and parameterization of economic scenario generators can alter assessment of funding risks for pension plans.
- Began a project examining how rural school districts with declining enrollment are affected by legacy costs such as pension funding and debt service.

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.*

- Added a new pension module to [OG-Core](#)
- Completed a draft of a paper on the macroeconomics of improving biological aging
- Began a training mission to South Africa, Indonesia, and Philippines in partnership with the United Nations

Max Ghenis
Max is co-founder of PolicyEngine and a core maintainer of their open source projects, including the `policyengine-us` tax-benefit microsimulation model.

- Published a [PolicyEngine analysis](#) of Kamala Harris's 2019 LIFT Act

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.

- Published a [VoxEU article](#) concerning the impact of the Inflation Reduction Act and how EU funding programmes could counterbalance the economic effects for Europe.
- Published an [Economic Systems Research article](#) concerning the macroeconomic impact of the UK digital services tax.