OpenRG
Open Research Group, Inc.

May 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 an improved version of an enhanced microdata file for input to [Tax-Calculator](#), and other policy analysis tools, under a project led by the PSL Foundation.
- Developed a draft report to the Society of Actuaries examining pension model risk, including analysis of alternative model structures and parameterizations.

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.

- Received a college-wide award for teaching
- Helped organize and run the NTA Spring Symposium, which took place in Washington, DC on May 9-10.
- Visited the Federal Research Data Center in Atlanta to work with Census data to answer questions about the effectiveness of place-based tax policy.
- Various developments to the OG-Core, OG-USA, Cost-of-Capital-Calculator, Tax-Brain, and ParamTools models.

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.*

- [Presented](#) PolicyEngine's models of energy policies at the Johns Hopkins / LF Energy Open Sustainability Policy Summit.
- [Presented](#) PolicyEngine's machine learning data enhancement and AI microsimulation interface at the National Tax Association Spring Symposium.
- Presented PolicyEngine's new labor supply model at the Tax Economists Forum.

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.

- Received a revise and resubmit from *Economic Modelling* for an article concerning gender, the labour market, and pension sustainability.