



September 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.

- Continued investigation into an enhanced microdata file for input to Tax-Calculator and other microsimulation models.
 - Continued work with the Society of Actuaries, assessing funding risks for pension plans.
 - Continued a project examining how rural school districts with declining enrollment are affected by legacy costs such as pension funding and debt service.
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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.

- Met with economists in the Tax Analysis division of the Congressional Research Services to demonstrate Tax-Calculator and Tax-Brain
- Presented on the economic policies of the Presidential candidates to the Carolina CFO Roundtable
- Published new releases of Cost-of-Capital-Calculator, OG-Core, Tax-Calculator, and ParamTools
- Attended NBER's Tax Policy and the Economy conference, the Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, and Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis Conference

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.

- [Co-authored report](#) on the Oregon Rebate ballot measure's poverty impact using PolicyEngine.
- Presented research on using large language models to explain benefit eligibility calculations at Georgetown's BenCon conference.

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.

- Resubmit revised version of “Mind the (Narrowing) Gender Gap” to the Journal Economic Modelling, which uses lifecycle macro-modelling to analyze the importance of gender gaps in the labor market with regard to EU pension sustainability.
- Continue with analysis of minimum income guarantees for retirees as part of a collaboration with the Directorate for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission.