

Bradd Forster

ECONOMIST · CONSULTANT

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Summary

Economic problems require rigorous quantitative analysis grounded in thoughtful theoretical frameworks. However, I believe there's an essential third ingredient: approachable and stimulating explanations. Early in my career, I've been fortunate to collaborate closely with diverse teams across both the public and private sector, applying a range of quantitative tools including regression, forecasting and simulation techniques to a variety of economic topics spanning macroeconomics and microeconomics. My goal is always to deliver insights that resonate by making my analysis and views accessible and engaging for economists and non-economists alike.

Work Experience

Economist

SENSE PARTNERS

May 2023 - Present

- Provide a plain-english explanation of the Monte Carlo simulation that formed my clients legal arguments.
- Assist demographic forecasting for local councils using robust time-series econometric techniques then examine and compare various forecasts.
- Develop and improve our demographic forecasts using an application programming interface (API) to collect official economic statistics for the forecast.
- Solve problems around data-quality in the Sense Partners uncertainty and sentiment indices by learning how to web-scrape and use lexicon-based rules to calculate sentiment in text.
- Combine economic intuition and my knowledge of input-output tables to answer industry valuation questions asked by clients.

Policy Advisor

INLAND REVENUE

Nov. 2020 - May 2023

- Provide economic advice to policy teams within Inland Revenue's Policy & Regulatory Stewardship division, examples include environmental tax and international tax.
- Conduct quantitative research on tax paid by New Zealand's wealthiest individuals.
- Develop a detailed understanding of different tax systems.
- Produce free and frank advice to Ministers in a clear and persuasive manner, often under short time frames.

Tutor

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Mar. 2022 - Dec. 2022

- Tutor introductory microeconomics, providing feedback and guidance to 100-level students.
- Develop connections with several professors and progressing to an econometrics tutor for 300-level students.

Research Assistant

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Jul. 2020 - Nov. 2020

- Build a website that tracks policy enacted by the New Zealand government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Meet with economists creating similar projects in other countries.

Education

Master of Commerce (with credit)

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Mar. 2019 - Jul. 2020

- Specialising in macroeconomics and econometrics.

Bachelors of Commerce with first-class honours (transferred to Masters)

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Mar. 2015 - Nov. 2018

- Majoring in economics and finance with a minor in econometrics.
- Awarded the Victoria Graduate Scholarship for high academic performance.

Extracurricular Activity

Tawa Rugby Football Club

CAPTAIN

Mar. 2015 - Mar. 2024

- Captain of Tawa's senior 1st rugby team.
- Awarded Wellington Rugby's captain of the year by Club Rugby.

Research Paper

AUTHOR

Nov. 2020 - Present

- Producing an empirical research paper that leverages private real-estate company data to examine the effect of specific property characteristics on house prices and sale probability.