

## **RDC Project Pre-screening.**

*What data sets do you need? What years do you need for each data set?*

LBD Restricted-Use Microdata, 1992-2018

LFTTD Restricted-Use Microdata, 1992-2018

*What variables do you need for your outcome variables?*

Employment at county and NAICS 4-digit industry level

Number of establishments (possibly gross entry and exit flows) at county/CZ and NAICS 4-digit industry level

Working age population (and possibly unemployment) at county/CZ-year level (from other datasets)

*What variables do you need for your explanatory variables?*

Value of imports at destination county/CZ and NAICS 4-digit industry level (matched from HS codes)

Employment at county/CZ and NAICS 4-digit industry level (to compute industry concentration of employment at county level)

*What variables do you need for your control variables?*

Local educational achievement

*Please describe your research questions with variables and in terms of the relationship between x and y. For example, I will assess the effect of income on education.*

Assess effect of plausibly exogenous shocks (such as a trade shock) on local labor market outcomes (employment-to-working-age-population ratio, unemployment, net migration) after controlling for local industry composition (concentrated vs. diversified).

In preliminary work for this project we used the CBP and USATRADE datasets to explore the same research question. The results suggest a statistically and economically significant relationship, in most but not all regression specifications. One concern is that the imputation method we employed in the CBP dataset accounts for some of the imprecision of our results.

*Regarding your output, at what geography will results be released? For example, do you need results at the town level, state level, national level?*

Analysis is at the county and/or commuting zone level. Data moments and regression coefficients are used to inform a structural spatial model of economic activity.

*What is your timeline? This is important for grad students who hope to disclose results before graduating.*

We are ready to begin work immediately, but as faculty members, we expect the project to proceed over the next few years. We have no externally imposed deadlines.

*If researchers are foreign nationals, they must meet the SSS eligibility requirement of living in the US for at least 3 out of the last 5 years? If any researchers are FN please describe their stay in the US.*

Simeon Alder is permanent resident alien and has lived in the U.S. with no interruptions since 2003.