

## Adam R. Scavette

adam.scavette@phil.frb.org

<https://adamscavette.github.io/>

### Current Positions

**Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia**, Community Development  
Economic Advisor, 2024–Present

**West Virginia University**, Regional Research Institute  
Visiting Researcher, 2024–Present

### Previous Positions

**Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond**, Research Department  
Regional Economist, 2022–2024

**Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia**, Research Department  
Senior Regional Economic Analyst, 2019–2021  
Economic Analyst, 2015–2018  
Research Associate, 2013–2015  
Research Analyst, 2011–2013

### Education

Ph.D., **Rutgers University–New Brunswick**, Public Policy, 2024  
M.S.E., **University of Pennsylvania**, Systems Engineering, 2018  
M.Sc., **University of Edinburgh**, Economics, 2011  
B.S., **Villanova University**, Economics, 2010

### Research Interests

Urban economics; labor economics; public economics; housing economics; place-based policies

### Working Papers

“A better Sahm rule? Introducing the SOS recession indicator” (with John O’Trakoun). Submitted.

“Do Research Universities Recession Proof Their Regions? Evidence from State Flagship College Towns” (with Robert Calvert Jump). FRB Richmond WP 24-05. Revision requested at *Journal of Economic Geography*.

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

“JUE Insight: The Labor Market Effects of Place-Based Policies: Evidence from England's Neighbourhood Renewal Fund” (with Robert Calvert Jump), *Journal of Urban Economics*, 144, 2024. Previous Version: FRB Richmond WP 22-02.

“Aerospace Place-Based Policy: The Impact of Boeing on South Carolina's Aerospace Industry.” *Economic Development Quarterly*, 2024.

“The Economic Impact of a Casino Monopoly: Evidence from Atlantic City,” *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 103, 2023. Previous Version: FRB Richmond WP 23-07.

“The Impact of New Jersey’s Urban Enterprise Zones on Local Employment: A Synthetic Control Approach,” *Economic Development Quarterly*, 37(2), 2023, pp. 127-142.

“Exploiting a Natural Hub: Turning a Stopover into a Destination” (with Leah Goldsberry), *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2672(23), 2018, pp. 8-14.

## **Works in Progress**

*Placemaking from Westminster: British Economic Development Policy Since Thatcher* (book project, Routledge Press)

“The Housing Price Effects of Place-Based Policies: Evidence from England’s New Enterprise Zones” (with Robert Calvert Jump and Sierra Stoney).

“The Local Economic Impact of the Post-2008 U.S. Coal Bust: Evidence from Appalachian Coal Mine Closures” (with Heather Stephens).

“The Capitalization of School Funding in Urban Housing Markets: Evidence from New Jersey’s Abbott Districts” (with William Buchanan).

“Identifying the Long-Run Effects of Place-Based Policies in the United Kingdom” (with Robert Calvert Jump and Sierra Stoney).

“Gambling Out of the Great Depression: Legalized Gambling and Economic Growth in Nevada” (with Karl Geisler).

## **Federal Reserve Publications (Selected)**

“Understanding SNAP’s Role” (with Carrie Cook, Stephanie Norris, and Alvaro Sanchez), *Econ Focus*, 2024: Q1.

“Social Capital Across the Fifth District” (with Stephanie Norris), *Econ Focus*, 2023: Q3.

“Casinos and Regional Economies: Has the Game Changed?” *Economic Brief*, No. 22-28, July 2022.

“Regional Spotlight: Making Ends Meet,” *Economic Insights*, 2022: Q2.

“Broadband Subscription, Computer Use, and Labor Market Attachment across U.S. Metros” (with Alvaro Sanchez), *Community Development Report*, June 2021.

“Regional Spotlight: Evaluating Metro Unemployment Rates Throughout the Business Cycle,” *Economic Insights*, 2019: Q4.

“Exploring the Economic Effects of the Opioid Epidemic,” *Economic Insights*, 2019: Q2.

“Regional Spotlight: Purchasing Power Across the U.S.” (with Elif Sen), *Economic Insights*, 2017: Q4.

“Is Urban Cool Cooling New Jersey’s Job Market?” (with Ethan Haswell), *Research Brief*, December 2016.

## Media Mentions

*New York Times* [[link](#)], *Wall Street Journal*, *Chicago Sun-Times* [[link](#)], *Bloomberg* [[link](#)], *MarketWatch* [[link](#)], NPR, Torsten Slok Newsletter, Congressional Research Service (2) [[link](#); [link](#)], *Inside U.S. Trade* [[link](#)], *National Affairs*, *American Enterprise Institute* [[link](#)], *Baltimore Banner* [[link](#)], *Baltimore Business Journal*, *City Observatory* [[link](#)], Indiana Public Media [[link](#)], *Travel Weekly* [[link](#)]

## Awards

Susan S. Fainstein Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award, Rutgers University, 2024  
Runner-up, Tiebout Prize for Best PhD Paper, Western Regional Science Association, 2024  
Winner, Moriarty Prize for Best PhD Paper, Southern Regional Science Association, 2023  
Runner-up, Tiebout Prize for Best PhD Paper, Western Regional Science Association, 2022  
Augustinian Scholarship, Full-tuition merit scholarship, Villanova University, 2006-2010

## Academic Presentations

2025: West Virginia University (scheduled)

2024: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (scheduled), The Urban Institute, WHY Symposium on Policy Evaluation and Causal Inference, Johns Hopkins University, West Virginia University, National Conference of State Legislatures Roundtable on Evaluating Economic Development Tax Incentives, Federal Reserve System Committee on Regional Analysis, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Society for Economic Measurement Conference, College of Charleston, Southern Regional Science Association, Western Regional Science Association

2023: Federal Reserve System Committee on Regional Analysis, WHY Symposium on Policy Evaluation and Causal Inference, Southern Regional Science Association, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

2022: Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, WHY Symposium on Policy Evaluation and Causal Inference, APPAM Fall Research Conference, Society of Government Economists Annual Meeting, Rutgers University Krueckeberg Doctoral Conference, Western Regional Science Association Annual Meeting

2021: Urban Economics Association (UEA) – North American Meeting, Federal Reserve System Committee on Regional Analysis, Rutgers University

2018-2019: Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, Federal Reserve System Committee on Regional Analysis

## Outreach Presentations

2023-2024: United Way National ALICE Summit – Federal Reserve Roundtable, Garrett College's Maryland Manufacturing Conference, Maryland Council on Economic Education, Garrett College Workforce Summit, Rural Maryland Council, South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, Investing in Rural America Conference

2021-2022: West Virginia University Economic Outlook Conference, Western North Carolina Rebounding Stronger Summit, United States Congressional Representatives and Staff, Pennsylvania Governor's Advisory Council on Rural Affairs, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

## Referee Reports

*Contemporary Economic Policy*  
*Economic Development Quarterly*  
*Journal of Public Economics*  
*Papers in Regional Science*  
*Regional Science and Urban Economics*  
*Telecommunications Policy*

## Podcasts

“The Role of Anchor Institutions in Regional Economies” (with Deborah Diamond), *Speaking of the Economy*, June 2024.

“The Economic Impact of the Key Bridge Collapse” (with Jason Kosakow), *Speaking of the Economy*, June 2024.

“Figuring Out Maryland's Out-Migration” (with Keith Waters), *Speaking of the Economy*, April 2024.

## Op-Eds and Commentary

“Port of Baltimore well positioned to bounce back from Key Bridge loss,” *Baltimore Banner*, April 12, 2024.

“The Revival of Urban Enterprise Zones in New Jersey,” *New Jersey State Policy Lab*, May 27, 2022.

## Teaching

Teaching Assistant

Research Methods in Policy (10:775:395), Rutgers University, Fall 2021  
Applied Multivariate Methods (833:525:01), Rutgers University, Fall 2020  
Engineering Statistics (ESE 302), University of Pennsylvania, Fall 2016–Spring 2018  
Intermediate Microeconomics (ECO 2102), Villanova University, Spring 2010