

# EC 103–004

## Mini Project 1

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**Prof. Santetti**

Spring 2024

**INSTRUCTIONS:** it is still quite early in the semester, and we have many topics to cover. However, this first mini project's purpose is to explore your growing macroeconomic perceptions.

Inspired by this [Washington Post article](#), you are asked to evaluate how your **hometown's** economy has dealt (and has been dealing) with the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is extremely likely that this crisis has affected its economy in some way, and in this assignment you will evaluate that from a *macroeconomic* perspective.

Talk to people, consult local newspapers, the local news, and critically evaluate how the last two years have affected your town's *employment, migration and population, businesses*, and whatever other patterns that you see fit for the purposes of our course.

Write an essay—between 3 and 5 pages, double-spaced—and let our entire course community know the main challenges faced by your city over this critical period.

The most relevant thing from this assignment is for you to evaluate how a *macroeconomic* event can have *local* effects. This way, analyzing your hometown can make it easier. Concentrate on the *stories*, not so much on *theoretical* rigor!

**Assignment due February 21 (W), before class.**

**Points Possible: 20**

- Be honest. Don't cheat.
- As a Skidmore student, always recall your votes of academic integrity, and the **Honor Code** you have abided by:

"I hereby accept membership in the Skidmore College community and, with full realization of the responsibilities inherent in membership, do agree to adhere to honesty and integrity in all relationships, to be considerate of the rights of others, and to abide by the college regulations."

**Have fun!**

#### QUICK RUBRIC:

- Brief demographic information/description about your town/county (e.g., *location, population size, average income, main economic activities*, etc., if available): **5** points;
- Using and mentioning official sources of information (e.g., news articles, town/county official websites, official databases, transcribed statements from consulted individuals, etc.): **5** points;
- Relating the pandemic crisis with the local economy (how businesses dealt with it, how unemployment numbers have changed, migratory changes, supply chain issues, etc.): **5** points;
- Explicitly referencing your sources by the end of your essay (keep these in a separate page—it will not count as an essay page): **5** points.
  - Please don't use lengthy URL links for your references. Wrap them in words (see a [quick tutorial](#))