

Empowering Economic Ecosystems with Data-Driven Insight

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REMI Background



Founded in 1980, based on research from UMass Amherst

Pioneer in dynamic regional economic modeling

Trusted by :

Federal and state agencies

Universities and research institutions

Economic development organizations

Focus on long-term policy analysis and economic forecasting



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Agenda



REMI Background

Introduction: Understanding UEDA mission

Making Economic Ecosystem Impact Measurable

What are we modeling?

PROSERIS

Model Demonstration

Conclusion

Q&A

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INTRODUCTION: Building Modern Economic Systems



- Economic Development = Ecosystem Building
- Shift :
From isolated efforts → to collaborative systems
- Drivers of success:
 - Talent → workforce growth & retention
 - Innovation → entrepreneurship & knowledge transfer
 - Place → attractive, vibrant communities
- Key collaborators:
 - Universities & colleges
 - Economic developers & government
 - Industry & developers



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Making Economic Ecosystem Impact Measurable



- The key question :
 - How do these translate into real economic outcomes?
- Shared Key Performance Indicators :
 - Business formation and innovation activity
 - Job creation and industry growth
 - Income and productivity
 - Population attraction and regional competitiveness
- Ripple Effects :
 - Supply chains and industry linkages
 - Workforce and migration patterns
 - Housing, amenities, and cost of living
- The opportunity :
 - Align on common metrics → quantify and demonstrate impact



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What are we Modeling?



Scenario 1 : Decrease the housing prices by 5% in City of Pittsburgh

More housing supply → lower prices

What happens next :

- Improved affordability
- Population & workforce growth
- Greater labor access

Why it matters :

- Attracts and retains talent
- Strengthens regional competitiveness

- Lower housing costs → reduced household spending burden
- More disposable income → increased consumer spending
- Greater talent attraction → in-migration of skilled workers
- Improved labor supply → business investment growth

- Economic developers: Housing is economic development
- Universities: Link affordability to talent retention
- Community colleges: Connect cost of living to enrollment & retention
- Place strategists: Quantify returns on zoning and housing supply

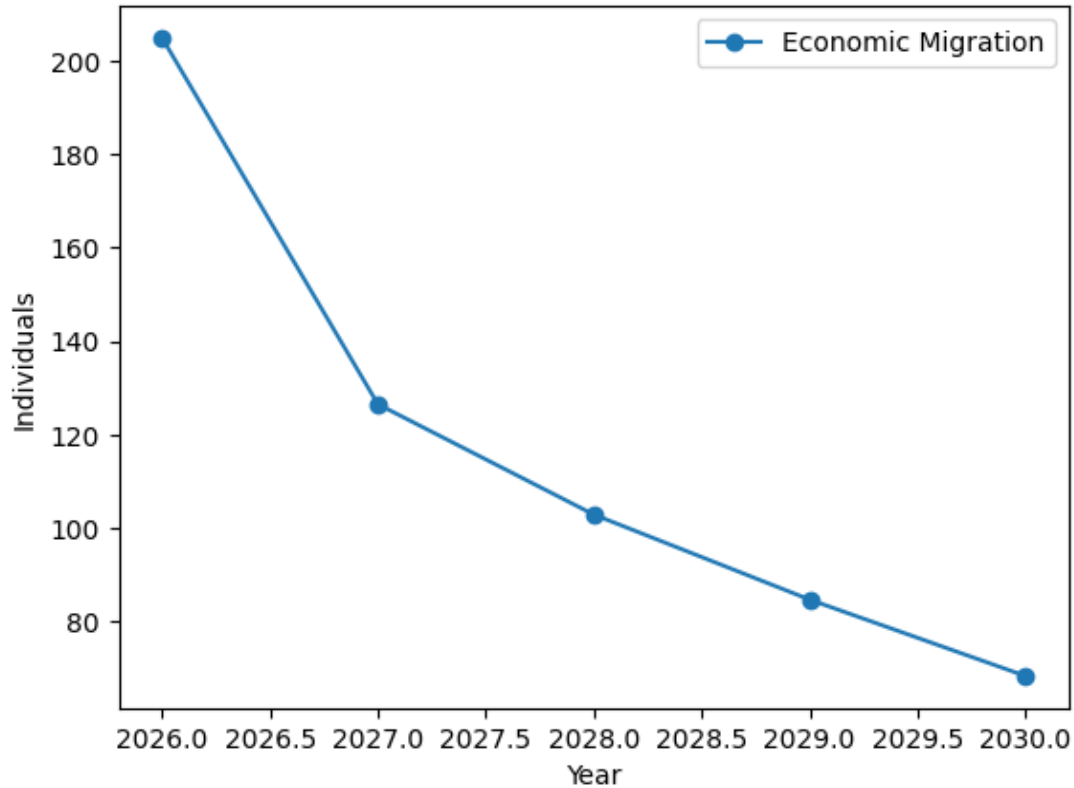
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What are we Modeling?



Scenario 1 : Results

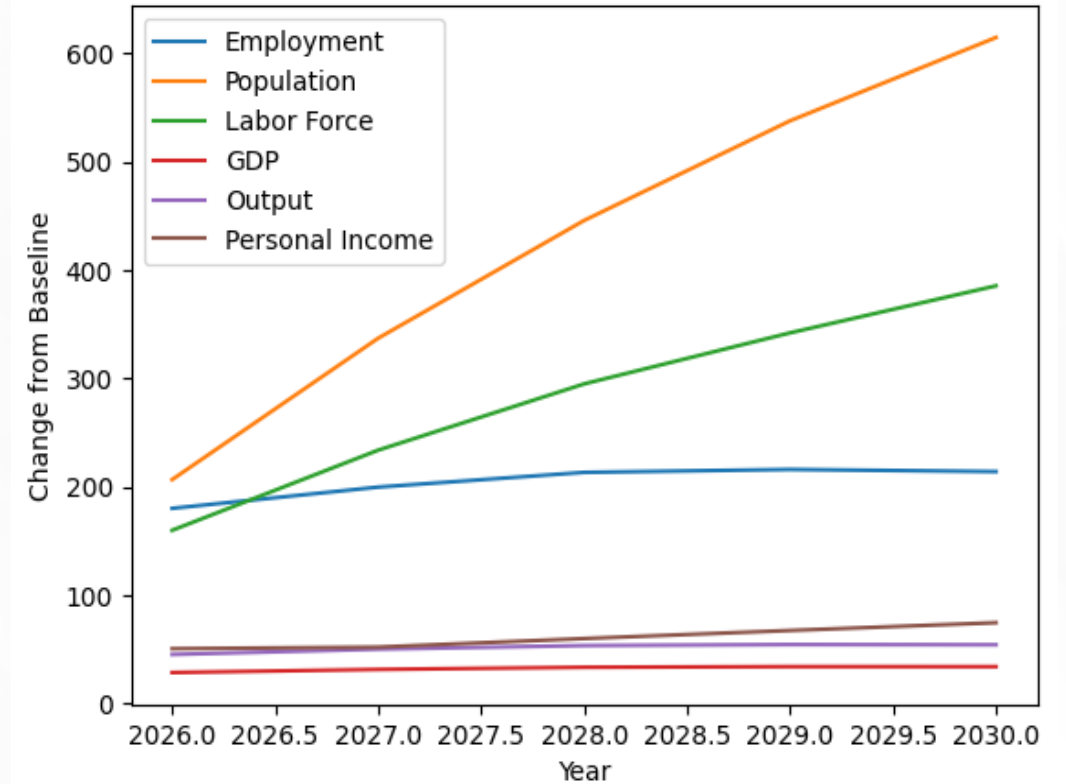
Economic Migration



- Net new migration starts at ~205 people in 2026
- Stabilizes to ~68 net new people by 2030

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Economic Summary



- Population increases by ~615 people by 2030
- Labor force grows by ~385 workers
- Employment rises by ~214 jobs
- Personal income increases by ~\$74M

What are we Modeling?



Scenario 2 : Increased Amenity Aspect in Omaha

What happens next :

- Improved quality of place
- Population & in-migration
- Growth in local demand & jobs

- Amenity cost reduction → area more attractive to households and firms
- Induced migration of talent-class workers who value quality of place
- Property value appreciation → expanded tax base for reinvestment

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Park development adds Amenity

Why it matters :

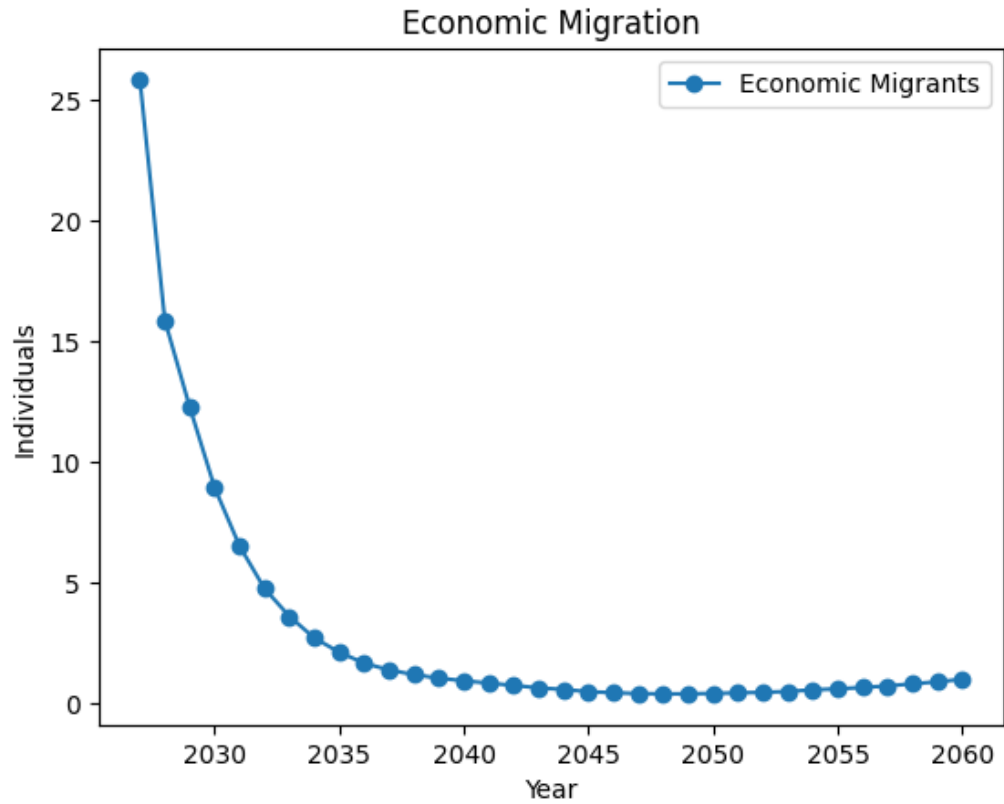
- Better amenities
- More people move in
- Increased local economic activity

- **Universities:** Link amenities to talent attraction
- **Economic developers:** Position placemaking as strategy
- **Innovation districts:** Show place as a talent advantage

What are we Modeling?

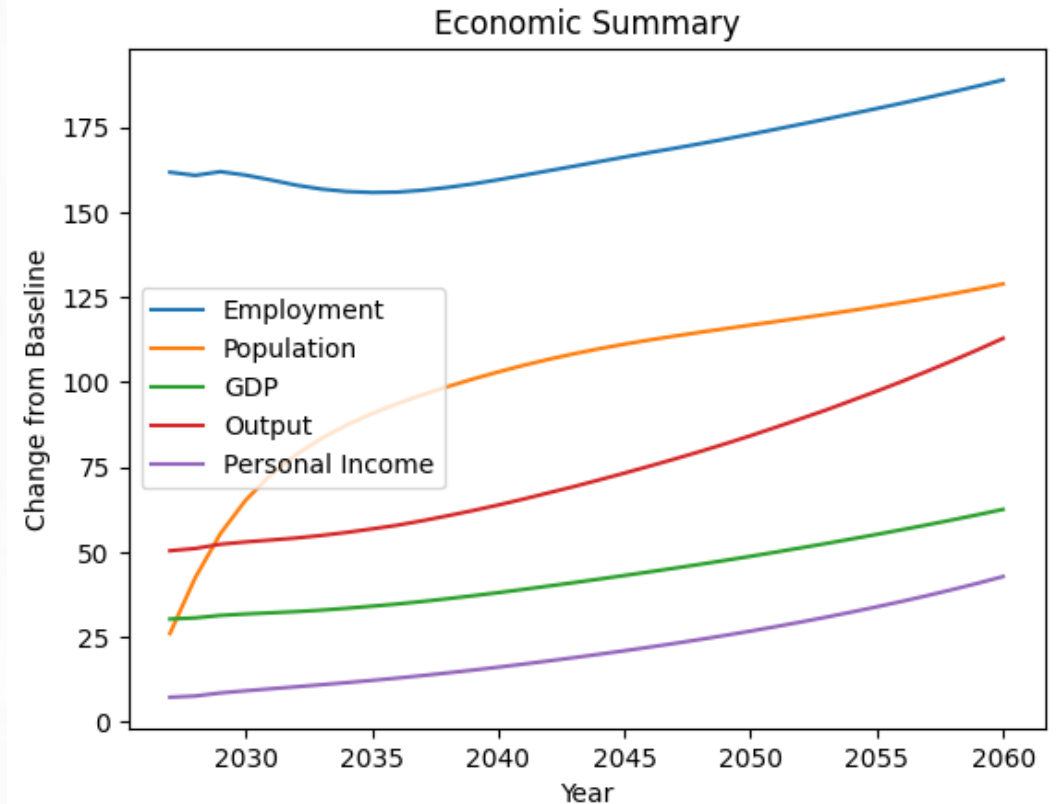


Scenario 2 : Results



- Sharp initial inflow (~26 people) : net new people
- Stabilization over time (~0.4 – 1.0) : net new people

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- Employment: increases ~+189 jobs
- Population: grows ~+129 people
- GDP ~\$30M to ~\$63M
- Output ~\$50M to ~\$113M
- Personal Income ~\$7M to ~\$43M

What are we Modeling?



Scenario 3 : Mixed – Use Development in Sacramento

- An input-output simulation showing how commercializing an area through mixed-use development (retail, food & beverage, and construction) generates direct, indirect, and induced employment across three key sectors:
 - **Construction:** Direct jobs from build-out + ongoing maintenance & expansion
 - **Retail Trade:** Permanent jobs created by new commercial tenants & increased foot traffic
 - **Food & Beverage:** Restaurant and service-sector jobs supporting the activated district
- REMI traces multiplier effects - each job created supports additional spending and employment across the broader regional economy.

- **Designed for university-driven economic development**
 - Captures impacts of research, education, and innovation
- **Separates key impact channels**
 - Construction, operations, and innovation (spin-offs)
 - Captures capital investments, employment, industry sales, and supply chains
- **Captures broader regional effects**
 - Workforce development, population growth, and business expansion
- **Enables clear communication**
 - Translates impacts into jobs, GDP, and economic growth
- **Interactive modeling with AI-supported insights**
 - Simplifies complex university impacts into clear narratives through reports and presentations

Model Demonstration

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Conclusion



Different levers, same system :

- Housing → affordability → workforce access
- Amenities → desirability → population attraction
- Development → activity → job creation

What connects them :

- Population growth
- Labor force expansion
- Ripple effects across industries

Conclusion

- Economic outcomes are driven by interconnected systems
- Small changes in policy or investment scale into regional impact
- The opportunity:
 - Move from assumptions → measurable, data-driven decisions

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Thank you for attending!


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Community Concerns


 **Power Demand & Grid Strain** - Data centers use large amounts of electricity, which can raise fears about grid reliability and higher utility rates for residents and questions about whether new power plants or transmission lines will be needed.

 **Water Use** - Some data centers use water for cooling, raising concerns in drought-prone or water-stressed areas.

 **Land Use & Visual Impact** - Data centers are large, industrial-looking buildings that may not “fit” community character.

 **Construction Disruption** - Multi-year construction can lead to truck traffic, noise, dust, and road wear which can impact on nearby neighborhoods.

 **Noise** - Cooling equipment and backup generators can create a constant humming sound close to the data centers.

 **Environmental Impact** - Questions about carbon footprint, diesel backup generators, and overall sustainability.

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