

NICOLAS OWEN ROCKLER

Personal

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Education

Ph.D., Urban Studies and Planning
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.
Dissertation Title: Regional Economic Performance and Public
Infrastructure Investment

Teaching Assistant: Regional Economic Analysis and
Modeling and Quantitative Research Methods courses.

M.A., Regional Science, U. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.
B.A., Regional Science, U. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Professional Experience

1984-present: Economic Consultant:

Specialized in regional economic, public policy, and development planning analysis, including regional impact analysis, demographic forecasting, local economic modeling/forecasting (econometric, input-output), and local public finance. Principal, Kavet, Rockler and Associates, LLC. (www.kavetrockler.com) Research Affiliate, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Consulting economist to the Economic Development Research Group.

Selected on-going or recent projects include:

- Regional economic impact of avoided flood damage attributable to proposed control structures for Houston, Texas for Harris County Flood Control. (2025).
- Analysis of impending hazardous materials regulation on associated manufacturing and linked industries in the U.S. economy. (2025).

- Review and Analysis of Vermont Economic Development Grant program for the Vermont State Auditor. (2024).
- Analysis of the New England states' food systems, including agricultural production, manufacturing, transportation, distribution, and consumption components to identify potential improvements in Statewide economic performance. (2021-2023)
- Review and Analysis for Economic impact of flood protection plans for Texas Gulf coast, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Inc. Harris County Flood Control, (2020, 2023)
- Review renewable energy project economic analysis for the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. (2020)
- Analysis of the Vermont food systems, including agricultural production, manufacturing for the Vermont State Jobs Fund. (2015, 2019)
- Modeling regional economic impact of climate change policies for the MIT Energy Initiative. (2019-2020)
- Adaptation of Uganda Input-Output Model and Multipliers (2019)
- Input-Output Based Estimates of the Economic Impact of Port of Houston, Texas Ship Channel Closures (2019-2020)
- Vermont Minimum Wage Study (2017, 2019) Estimating the economic consequences of propose changes in the Vermont minimum wage.
- Economic Impact of Goddard Space Flight Center for the Bryce Space and Technology on behalf of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. (2018)
- Economic impact evaluation for the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, Site Evaluation Committee, concerning Northern Pass Transmission, a 192 mile high voltage direct current transmission line through an environmentally sensitive region. (2016-2018)
- For Arcadis, Inc., Texas Gulf Coast Flood Protection Study. (2015-2016) Economic impact of avoided flood losses.

- Vermont Brewers Association, Economic impact of craft brewing on the Vermont economy, including full, survey-based accounting of brewers' direct economic activities. (2014-2015)
- For Transmission Developers, Inc. (TDI, a subsidiary of the Blackstone Group.) Economic impact assessment of the "New England Clean Power Link", a high voltage direct current transmission line located in Vermont. (2006)
- Presentation: "The Economic Consequences of Transitioning from One Idiosyncratic Technology to Several Others (and No Less Peculiar.)" REMI Users Conference (2015)
- Vermont Law School economic impact of the Vermont Law School on the Vermont economy. (2014)
- Research on the economic consequences for future New England agricultural production and revised dietary behavior. A study by researchers in the Environmental Studies department, Brandeis University. (2013)
- General and expert witness and testimony before the Vermont Public Service Board regarding the economic impact of relicensing the Vermont Yankee nuclear power station. (2012-2013)
- Research on the characteristics of southern Vermont retailing and mix-use retailing structures for the Vermont Land Trust. (2012-2013)
- Research and paper on the economic impact of NASA-funded technological development for the Tauri Group. (2012-2013)
- Economic consequences of reforming the Vermont health care system, including new public and single-payer options, in collaboration with the Harvard University School of Public Health. (2011)
- Economic impact of alternatives for Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant: Alternatives include relicensing, decommissioning, replacement capacity investment, and energy efficiency improvement. (2010)
- Updating the East Central Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Plan. (2010)

- Economic Analysis, "Regional Economic Analysis of the Proposed Deerfield Wind Project." Analysis of wind-powered electricity production installation in Deerfield, VT." (2008)
- Instructor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans: Regional economic impact analysis and modeling (2007-2008).
- Outside reviewer (with Dr. Karen R. Polenske, MIT), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Interagency Performance Evaluation Taskforce, economic impact analysis of Hurricane Katrina. Review of regional and national economic impact analyses (2006).
- Economic Analysis Associated With The Sheffield Wind Farm Proposed by UPC Vermont Wind, LLC. Analysis of wind-powered electricity production installation in Sheffield, VT. (2006)
- Development of a regional input-output model and economic development planning study for Aqaba, Jordan (for Nathan Associates, Inc./USAID, 2006-2007).
- Joint Fiscal Office, State of Vermont: Modeling and analysis of Vermont educational expenditures to determine causes for the State having the highest public school expenditures per pupil in the U.S. (2007).
- Joint Fiscal Office, State of Vermont: Analysis of Vermont Healthcare Finance economic impacts of State adoption of universal healthcare insurance (2007).
- Port of Miami, Florida development study (2006).

2008: Lecturer
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Urban Studies and Planning
Cambridge, MA 02139

Course title: "Analyzing and Accounting for Regional Economic Change"

Description: Survey of theories of regional growth, factor mobility, clustering, industrial restructuring, learning regions, and global supply chains from a political-economy perspective.

Examines/critiques accounting frameworks including accounting for the underground economy, multipliers, linkages, and supply chains used to assess employment and environmental impacts,

infrastructure investments. Assesses price indices, industrial location and employment measures, and shift-share analyses. Discussions of US and foreign applications.

**1999-2003: Post-Doctoral Research Fellow
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Urban Studies and Planning
Cambridge, MA 02139**

Design and conduct empirical economic analyses of advanced technology investment by the National Institute of Standards and Technology on behalf of U.S. automobile manufacturers. Research used case-studies and macro-economic models to estimate value of technological change.

**1986-1988: Dodge/DRI-McGraw-Hill, Inc.
24 Hartwell Avenue
Lexington, MA 02173**

Director, Economic Products: Responsible for product development, project management, and contract research services related to U.S. construction markets. Managed several economists and database specialists in maintaining construction databases. Developed timeseries estimates of nonresidential building stocks for all U.S. counties. Prepared monthly analysis of construction market conditions.

**1981-1984: Data Resources, Inc. and F.W. Dodge, Inc. (now, Global Insight, Inc. and Dodge Analytics, Inc.)
24 Hartwell Avenue
Lexington, MA 02173**

Senior Economist: Responsible for analyses and forecasts of economic activity in U.S. regions and states. Supervised several economists' state forecasts. Managed team which developed Data Resources, Inc.'s metropolitan area forecast service. Contributed to quarterly review of regional economic activity for subscription clients.

Economist: Primary responsibility for regional and national analyses/forecasts of construction activity and writing a monthly economic analysis of construction markets.

**1978-1981: Abt Associates, Inc.
55 Wheeler Street**

Cambridge, MA 02138

Analyst: Primary activities in contract research: Projects included local/regional economic impact estimation and evaluation of federal public works programs, economic development research, and survey questionnaire design. Produced reports to the Economic Development Administration, Dept. of Labor, and Dept. of Housing and Urban Development concerning economic impact of federal construction activity and employment development programs.

**1977-1978: Hayes, Seay, Mattern, and Mattern
Architects, Engineers, and Planners
1315 Franklin Road, S.W.
Roanoke, VA 24016**

Regional Economist: Performed economic model estimation, economic/environmental impact and utility rate studies. Produced reports for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, EPA and private clients concerning water resources development and to the State of Maryland concerning the feasibility and impact of planned airport expansion.

Nationality and Foreign Languages

Citizenship: U.S. Fluent Dutch; fair German and French

Awards

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Dissertation Fellowship, 1994.

Volvo Research and Education Foundations, Research Planning Grant (Team member). 2011.

Publications

Polenske, Karen R. and N. Rockler (2013) "Ideal or Not Interregional Input-Output Accounts and Model", International Regional Science Review, Special Issue in memory of Walter Isard.

Biderman, Ciro, K. Polenske, and N. Rockler. (2005) "Demand And Cost Impacts Of The 2 MM Technology Program In The US Motor-Vehicle Market." Economics of Innovation and New Technology, 2005, vol. 14, issue 7, pages 637-655.

Kelley, Maryellen R. and N. Rockler. (2006) *Printing as and Industry, Commodity, and Activity-An Economic Analysis of Growth and Inter-Industry Transactions*. Printing Industry Center, Rochester Institute of Technology. Rochester, NY.

Polenske, K.R., N. Rockler, et al. (2004) "Closing the Competitive Gap: A Retrospective Analysis of the ATP 2mm Project." National Institute of Standards and Technology. Gaithersburg, MD.

Rockler, Nicolas. (2017) "Forward to the Past: The Current State of Regional Economic Impact and Policy Modeling in the U.S. and Beyond." Paper presented at the International Input-Output Association Meetings, Atlantic City, NJ. June, 2017.