REGIONAL ECONOMIC RESEARCHERS’ ROUNDTABLE
June 14, 2017
Denver, CO
AGENDA

9:00 – 9:15  Welcome and Around-the-Room Introductions
             Bob Ball, Tulsa Regional Chamber

9:15 - 9:30  Regional Chapter Survey Results and Update on
             “Tools of the Trade” Database
             Bob Ball, Tulsa Regional Chamber
             Erol Yildirim, C2ER

9:30 - 10:30 Special Topics in Regional Economic Research
             Ashley Brown, Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise – UNC
             Yvetta Fortova, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
             Timothy F. Slaper, Indiana Business Research Group

10:30 – 10:40 Break

10:40 – 11:00 Special Topics in Regional Economic Research (Cont.)
             Ed Young, Tallahassee/Lee County Office of Economic Vitality

11:00 – 12:15 Open Roundtable Discussion: Group Therapy
             Bob Ball, Tulsa Regional Chamber
             Eric Long, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber
2017 REGIONAL CHAPTER SURVEY RESULTS

Bob Ball

Tulsa Regional Chamber
Survey distributed in Spring 2017
Q1: What challenges do you have with technology?

- Price (Being able to afford): 23
- Training (How to use): 16
- IT Department Restrictions (Being able to use in your office): 5
- Other/Additional Comments: 5
Q1: What challenges do you have with technology? (Other responses)

- Finding new tools or features.
- Expectations of IT expertise by coworkers.
- Finding the time to learn and utilize tools.
Q2: Which vendors/products does your organization use?

- Census Bureau: 27%
- BLS: 26%
- C2ER: 23%
- Google: 22%
- InfoUSA (ReferenceUSA): 21%
- ESRI (ArcGIS): 18%
- U.S. Dept. of Labor: 17%
- National Center for Education Statistics: 16%
- Bureau of Economic Analysis (RIMS II): 15%
- Minnesota Implan Group, Inc. (Implan): 14%
Q2: Which vendors/products does your organization use? (Other responses)

- Maptitude GIS from Caliper
- Haver Analytics
- State data providers
- (NETS) Database
- Zillow
- UniWorldBP
- IRS Migration Data
- Lexis Nexis Dossier
- Economic Research Institute
- IPUMS
- QGIS
- National Science Foundation (HERD)
Q3: Which are your top three to five favorite **FREE** information sources?

- **CENSUS**: 23
- **BLS**: 17
- **BEA**: 6
- **GOOGLE**: 4
- **FRED**: 2
- **NACO COUNTY EXPLORER**: 2
Q4: Which are your top three to five favorite subscription-based info sources?

- **ESRI**: 7
- **EMSI**: 7
- **HOOVERS**: 5
- **INFOUSA**: 3
- **IMPLAN**: 3
- **JOBSEQ**: 2
Q5: What are the top three to five subjects you have the most difficulty finding good data for?

- Utility Data: Electric, Gas
- Taxes: Sales, Parcel, Total Burden
- Employment: Unions, Migration, Export Related, Unemployment Claims, New NAICS
- Education: College Enrollment, Certifications, Skills Gap
- Businesses: Starts/Closures, Import/Export, Minority Owned, Agriculture, Venture Capital, Productivity
Q6: **How can C2ER help in choosing or using appropriate software?**

- Provide a sources catalog of what is available on which source and with which criteria.

- Best Practices on what other states are using and their experiences. Continue to offer opportunities to be exposed to software.

- Negotiate umbrella subscriptions for members and a group discount.

- Guidance on software people have found useful and why.
Q7: What type of BEST PRACTICES information in accessing or using software would be helpful to have?

- Info on quirks of databases.
- How to extract the best information from a database.
- The most useful software packages classified by budget level.
- Shared subscriptions and training.
- Best practices for CRM.
- Open source software that require coding.
- Ease of working with services.
- Maintaining an internal database.
- Data visualization best practices.
TOOLS OF THE TRADE DATABASE UPDATE

Erol Yildirim
C2ER
ABOUT THE DATABASE

- Conceived by the Regional Chapter Committee in 2015.

- GOAL: To provide a platform for sharing ideas among C2ER researchers and offer vendors valuable feedback on the tools they produce.

- Accessible exclusively to C2ER members.
FEATURES

➢ Resources:

✓ Resource name
✓ Company
✓ Type
✓ Category
✓ Description

➢ Reviews:

✓ Resource name
✓ Category
✓ How long used
✓ Rating
✓ Comments
**PROGRESS**

- Added glossary and tutorial.
- Solicited feedback from C2ER Board, past Regional Roundtable attendees, and some C2ER members.
  - ✓ 125 resources and 42 reviews
- Access to the database - July 1, 2017.
THANK YOU

BOB BALL
TULSA REGIONAL CHAMBER

EROL YILDIRIM
C2ER