

KAZMIERA BREEST

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 University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute
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I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Academics

University of Massachusetts Amherst

M.S. in Data Analytics and Computational Social Science 2021

B.A in Economics, Minor in Mathematics, concentrated in Statistics 2020

Employment

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Research Analyst, Umass Donahue Institute Economic and Public Policy Research Feb 2021 – Current

Research Associate, Umass Donahue Institute Economic and Public Policy Research May 2020 – Nov 2020

Research Assistant, Umass Donahue Institute Economic and Public Policy Research Jun 2019 – May 2020

Peer Tutor, The Writing Center Sep 2017 – May 2020

II. PUBLICATIONS

Stewart, B., **Breest, K.**, McNally, M., Hauff, A. (2022). *Engaging Hidden and Future Workers to Grow the Local Economy*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Breest, K., Aron, E., Hall A. (2022). *New Employee Survey at Encore Boston Harbor: January 2019 through December 2021*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Peake, T., Hall, A., **Breest, K.**, Aron, E. (2022). *SEIGMA COVID-19 Impacts Report*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Melnik, M., Spitzer, K., **Breest, K.** (2022). *Cape Cod Second Homeowners Survey – 2021*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Melnik, M., Spitzer, K., **Breest K.** (2022). *Cape Cod New Homeowners Survey – 2021*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Melnik, M., Bernstein, C., **Breest, K.**, Dinnie, I., Harris, L., McNally, M., Raisz, A. (2022). *Springfield and Pioneer Valley Housing Phase II*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Peake, T., **Breest, K.**, Aron, E., Dinnie, I. (2021). *SEIGMA Commercial Real Estate Report*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Peake, T., **Breest, K.**, Aron, E., Hall A. (2020). *MGM Springfield First Year of Operation: Economic Impact Report*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Melnik, M., Waterhouse, G., **Breest, K.**, Cakir, E., McNally, M., Hall A. (2020). *Labor Analysis of the Youth Workforce in Greater Lowell*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Hall, A., **Breest, K.**, Aron, E. (2020). *New Employee Survey at MGM Springfield: March 2018 through December 2019*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Stewart, B., Hall, A., Raisz, A., Aron, E., **Breest, K.**, Dinnie, I., Swotes, J. (2020). *FY18 University of Massachusetts Economic Contribution Analysis*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

Peake, T. and **Breest, K.** (2020). *The Economic Impacts of Plainridge Park Casino: Four Years of Operations*. Hadley, MA: University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Motamedi, R., McNally, M., **Breest, K.**, Harris, L. (April 2023). *An Evaluation of Current Conditions in the Nantucket Housing and Short-Term Rentals Markets*. Prepared presentation as a part of the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group in Hadley, MA.

Loveland, R., **Breest, K.** (November, 2022). *New Employees at Encore Boston Harbor: Survey Findings*. Survey findings presented to the Massachusetts Gaming Committee.

Breest, K. (August 2021). *So, How much is Minimum Wage actually Worth?* Research presented at the Data Analytics and Computational Social Science's Inaugural Research Symposium at UMass Amherst's campus center.

Motamedi, R., McNally, M., **Breest, K.**, Dinnie, I. (May 2021). *Nantucket Short Term Rental Analysis*. Prepared presentation as a part of the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, Economic and Public Policy Research Group in Hadley, MA.

Breest, K., Jovellanos, S., McMurray, K., Stoppiello, K., Sumner, S. (April 2019). *Disability in the Writing Center: Towards a Collaborative Approach*. Presented research and hosted roundtable discussion at the Northeast Writing Centers Association Conference.

IV. CITATIONS

Gierzynski, A., Clark, F., Miller, C., Sette-Ducati, O. (2021). *Impacts of Casino Legalization*. The University of Vermont, Vermont Legislative Research Service.

V. PROJECTS (In progress or not publicly released)

MassDevelopment Inclusive Economic Development. Scoped to develop an instructive, analytical, and planning document for advancing regional inclusive economic development around the Commonwealth. The project would serve as a supporting reference document outlining potential pathways and recommendations for MassDevelopment's role as the state's development finance agency.

Mount Ida Healthcare Workforce Shortages. The Joint Committee on Healthcare Financing introduced legislation directing a study to aid and accelerate healthcare workforce innovation in Massachusetts. UMass Amherst has

engaged the Donahue Institute to study the industry's challenges and the feasibility of utilizing the Mount Ida campus in Newton to stimulate healthcare workforce innovation.

MassArt Economic Impact Analysis. Scoped to develop a report quantifying the economic contributions of MassArt to the Commonwealth. The legislature has recently provided MassArt with funding for the first stages of a long-planned rehabilitation of an important campus building. Since future financing is not yet secured, there is an increased need for engagement with lawmakers, policymakers, and the public. The report would serve as a snapshot of MassArt's contributions to the creative economy and worthiness of funding.

North Central Chamber of Commerce Landbank Study. The North Central Chamber of Commerce has engaged the Economic and Public Policy Research group at the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute to develop a planning study to help the Chamber implement the real estate development objectives of a regional land bank.

Plymouth Entrepreneurship Study. The UMass Donahue Institute has been tasked with performing a comprehensive study of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Town of Plymouth and the surrounding Southeast region of Massachusetts. Research Analyst. Conducted literature review with intent to create typologies of entrepreneurs and entrepreneur centers. Created concept maps and graphics to operationalize variables and define typologies. Assigned tasks to Research Assistants to help me draft a survey instrument with the help of an intern under my supervision. Participated in interviews to take notes and record meetings. Stepped in as primary analyst for organizing report writing and editing while team members were away. Helped with writing and figure design for the report and presentation(s), including a land-use map in ArcGIS Pro.

Head Start Community Assessment Population Projections Project. EPPR would conduct a qualitative evaluation of the current Head Start Community Assessments. Research Analyst. Prepared a request for and collected Head Start Community Assessments with the EPPR and PMFO team. Analyzed Community Assessments according to a rubric to determine if the organization should be requested for an interview. Participated in over 10 interviews with a Head Start director and UMDI Research Manager regarding the nature of their Community Assessment to take diligent notes and record meetings. Analyzed themes from interviews to propose a pilot project program design based on findings.

Worcester Diverse Business Goal-Setting Report. Research Analyst. Reviewed Literature and policy documents to understand the state of diversity and inclusion in the City of Worcester. Met with the Chief Development Officer to discuss the state of current procurement goals and request contract data. Developed methods of estimating availability and utilization of W/MBE firms by industry. Conducted focus groups with team members in break-out groups and in a large group with 5-8 business owners and community leaders from Worcester. Populated report sections with policy context and themes from focus groups to form recommendations on goal setting.