Celebrating Two Years of EconoFact: An Alternative to ‘Alternative Facts’

Published by the Murrow Center at The Fletcher School, EconoFact is a non-partisan digital media project designed to bring incisive economic analysis to the national debate on economic and social policies.

In the two years since its launch in January 2017, EconoFact has enlisted 90 leading academic economists from across the country to succinctly explain key data and other relevant facts that should influence policy decisions. Memos provide economic analysis on a wide range of topics including education, immigration, trade, and jobs.

EconoFact is a direct and innovative response to concerns in politics and policy formation and in the tenor of public debate. Our goal is to contribute to the public debate through outreach to journalists, to those directly affecting policy in the corridors of Washington and in our state capitols, and to the public at large so that policies are well conceived and achieve desired aims.

Fast Facts
- 90 top economists in the network
- 155+ memos published
- 840,000 content views
- Strong reach across red and blue states

Newsletter
- 135+ published to date
- 39% open rate; 3.5% click rate
- 2,240 subscribers

Social Media
- Twitter: 2,575 followers
- Facebook: 1,670 followers

Impact
- Partnering with Macmillan Publishers
- Traction with policymakers

Road Map
Continuing our mission of providing data, analysis, and historical experience in a dispassionate manner, over the next year, EconoFact's activities will include:

Editorial: Increase pace and scope of content creation.

Reach: Establish content distribution partnerships with leading national and regional news media, and with policy-makers, as well as with educational material providers.

Influence: Increase use of EconoFact content and Network Economists by media as well as by national and state-level legislators and administration officials and their staffs.

Utility: Implement website features that highlight analysis through greater use of interactive graphics and through new means of dissemination such as podcasts and forums.

Sustainability: Increase funding from individuals and foundations who are committed to support a more informed and nuanced public debate on important and timely economic issues, and find ways to create a business model for EconoFact.
SAMPLE OF ECONOFACT ANALYSES

Jobs in Steel-Intensive Industries by State (2016)

New York City Hurricane Evacuation Zones

Budget Deficits and Economic Performance

Government Budget Surplus / GDP and GDP Gap

Program Participation in 2017, among Children Under 18

Non-citizen children living in mixed citizenship households (1 million children)

Citizen children living in mixed citizenship households (11.5 million children)

Non-citizen children living in all non-citizen households (1.1 million children)

Citizen children living in all citizen households (60.5 million children)

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