

Relevancy/Usefulness rating code: *1 = very useful, *2 = moderately useful, *3 = slightly useful

Boskin, Michael J. et al (1997). "The CPI Commission: Findings and Recommendations". American Economic Association. Accessed online 5 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://0-www.jstor.org.cals.evergreen.edu:80/stable/2950888>]

(*2) This is the first extensive external evaluation of the nation's CPI price statistics since 1961. The report states that due to substantial changes in costs of living in the United States and the unstable nature of the country's GDP, the CPI index has been updated with bias and has not been done considering every facet of American society. The commission recommends, among other things, to reweight the consumption basket more frequently and increase the pace of sampling so that new products enter more quickly so that the prices collected are more representative of current market activity. This is complicated stuff, but it is important to become aware of the faults and pitfalls professional analysts see in the CPI system. If we are to use this index as a model for our index, we must consider and become familiar with its weaknesses so that those same weaknesses can be avoided (as carefully as possible) in our model.

Cage, Robert (1998). "New Methodology for Selecting CPI Outlet Samples". Monthly Labor Review. Accessed 3 July via internet search [<http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/1996/12/art7full.pdf>]

(*2) This article is very difficult to grasp as it is written in a technical manner from someone versed in the way that the CPI is constructed and maintained. After reading the entire article, I have gleaned that the author is proposing a new methodology for selecting criteria for baskets of goods possibly to be included in the consumer price index. The article uses several technical terms and acronyms with which I have limited familiarity. Its utility for our purposes is yet to be seen, although a more careful reading may uncover a methodology that may be conducive to the construction of an index of our own.

Colorado Nonprofit Association (2008). "Return on Investment: The economic impact of the nonprofit sector in Colorado". Denver, CO: Colorado Nonprofit Association. Accessed online 6 July 2008 via WorldCat [OCLC: 191970394, <http://www.coloradononprofits.org/impact/ROI-Report.pdf>].

(*1) Another example of a statewide evaluation of nonprofit economic activity, this report similarly focuses on employment and direct economic flows to describe the nonprofit world in Colorado. Comparing the detailed results and methodologies of this study to similar efforts will be of use to our research.

Gary, T. (2007). *Inspired Philanthropy: Your Step by Step Guide to Creating a Giving Plan and Leaving a Legacy* (3d ed.). Berkeley, CA: Jossey Bass.

(*1) This handbook is written for donors who wish to fully analyze the values behind and impact of their giving. The perspective this book provides is invaluable for us as we determine what to measure and how to express such measurements in ways that can succinctly and clearly communicate value to the public.

Giving USA Foundation (2007). *Giving USA 2006: The annual report on philanthropy for the year 2006*. Indianapolis, IN.

(*1) This annual survey dates back to 1954 and consists of a survey of individuals who have contributed to non-profit organizations, as well as a survey of several non-profits, in an effort to estimate the amount of support given to the non-profit sector overall. The publication includes a great deal of data from the most recent survey, as well as in-depth findings regarding change over time, outlying factors that influence total giving in a certain

year, and other information. This series provides a benchmark for the nonprofit community as to how outputs and outcomes are reported to the general public. The methodology behind this survey and analysis is of significant use for our purposes.

Grace, Kay Sprinkel and Wendroff, Alan L. (2001). *High Impact Philanthropy: How Donors, Boards, and Nonprofit Organizations Can Transform Nonprofit Organizations*. New York, John Wiley and Sons. Accessed 3 July 2008 via WorldCat [ISBN: 04714337476, <http://www.netLibrary.com/urlapi.asp?action=summary&v=1&bookid=56777>]

(*2) This book was published as a tool to aid nonprofit organizations in donor recruitment and sustainability. Its chapters include discussions on redefining major gifts, enhancing missions, making the case for major gifts, the keys to transformational giving, and the impact of major gifts on organizations and communities. This book will prove useful because it is important to realize what makes a nonprofit organization useful to the community and successful. Recognizing these successes locally will help us aim our research at organizations that have proven results locally.

Hay, Leon and Earl R. Wilson (1995). *Accounting For Governmental and Nonprofit Entities*. Irwin Publishing, Chicago.

(*2) This book serves as a guide explaining how and why income and expenditure reporting for governmental and no-for-profit entities is important. It presents the principles of accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments, explains the auditing procedures of governmental entities, and devotes an entire chapter to terminologies associated with accounting and auditing in the public sector. This book will aid in our study by providing resources that illustrate how and why not-for-profit institutions report their revenues and expenditures. Grasping a sense of why this is important will help us make recommendations as to which institutions should represent the local nonprofit community in an index.

Jouts, Frederick J. (1997). "Forecasting CPI Food Prices: An Assessment". *American Agricultural Economics Association*. Blackwell Publishing. Accessed online 5 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://www.jstor.org.cals.evergreen.edu:80/stable/1244403>]

(*1) This paper summarizes motivations of possible CPI food drivers by official forecasters. It compares the forecasts of 1997 and 1998 and discusses three hypothetical but potential scenarios that these forecasters were asked to consider. The author notes that there was a wide range of food price forecasts in a given year by different forecasters because they use different assumptions about exogenous variables. The author concludes that the forecasts for certain food price items provide important information to analysts and policymakers. They reflect the differences in emphasis, intuition, and modeling techniques of the different forecasters. This article is relevant to our research because it emphasizes the fact that the final product (in this case being an index model) will reflect the assumptions and intuition of its modelers. Reading an assessment of different modeling techniques will aid us in constructing a model that is aware of and explanative of our assumptions and techniques.

Koo, Jahyeong and Phillips, Keith R. (2000). "Measuring Regional Cost of Living". Dallas, TX: Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Texas. Accessed online 5 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://www.jstor.org.cals.evergreen.edu:80/stable/1392142>]

(*2) The cost of living index is another useful tool for figuring out how much it will cost to comfortably live in a particular region. This article offers and explains some measurement tools for how to figure this cost out. In

order to give to philanthropic causes, one would like to have a certain level of disposable income. The usefulness of this article is twofold: it provides a model for figuring out how to measure cost of living; a model in which we may borrow from when constructing our model for nonprofits in Thurston County, and it shows differences between the CPI and RCI models due to theoretical design, data collection, and sampling design. We will look at these differences and hopefully extract the strengths from each (relevancy permitting) when constructing our model and writing our literature review.

Koschinsky, J. (2003). "A \$4 Billion Growth Industry that Cares: The impact of the nonprofit sector on the Capital region of New York State". Albany, NY: State University of New York. Accessed online 6 July 2008 via WorldCat [OCLC: 83257620, <http://purl.org/net/nysl/nysdocs/83257620>].

(*1) This study looks at the total economic impact of nonprofit organizations in a metropolitan region of New York (Albany, Schenectady, Troy). Similarly to other studies, it reviews job creation and other plain economic factors. Two specifics make this study of particular interest. First, it looks at a metropolitan region, rather than a state; this is closer to the scope of what we are reviewing. Second, it calculates the indirect economic activity attributable to nonprofits in the region, via a tool called the gross metropolitan product. This tool is meant to be a regional gauge similar to gross national product. I look forward to reviewing this source more closely to examine the methodology of the report and the calculations behind the gross metropolitan product indicator.

Lebow, D. and Rudd, J. (March, 2003). "Measurement Error in the Consumer Price Index: Where Do We Stand?" Journal of Economic Literature, Vol. 41, No. 1, pp. 159-201. Accessed online 6 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3217390>].

(*1) Article examines the flaws in measurements used to calculate the Consumer Price Index, and suggests remedies for these flaws. If we pursue a CPI-type measurement, this article will provide insight on how to set up such a metric.

Long, K. and Kimberly, G. (2002). "Not the Non-Sector: The facts about the charitable non-profit community in Vermont". Burlington, VT: Vermont Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations. Accessed online 6 July 2008 via WorldCat [OCLC: 52611360, <http://www.vanpo.org;vanpo.asp?pagename=nonprofit>].

(*1) This report gives a detailed portrait of nonprofit organizations in Vermont during 2002. The authors compare nonprofits to other sectors in terms of business acumen, economic contributions, efficiency and effectiveness, community participation, and revenue sources. The authors further look at the role of volunteerism and philanthropy specifically in Vermont, and outline challenges facing the nonprofit sector. We will benefit from a detailed methodology section, as well as internet and other resources profiled throughout the report. In the end, this report may be the highest example of what we might consider in our study of Thurston County.

Long, K. and Kimberly, G. (2002). "Not Small Business: The economic impact of charitable non-profit organizations in Vermont". Burlington, VT: Vermont Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations. Accessed online 6 July 2008 at <http://www.vanpo.org;vanpo.asp?pagename=nonprofit>.

(*1) This supplement to the larger report (see above) succinctly details the economic contributions, jobs created, and investment returns coming from the nonprofit sector in Vermont. The details are skewed a bit differently from the larger report, as its purpose seems to be directed toward awareness and advocacy. This report provides a contrast to the lengthy report it supplements.

Mitchell, J. (2005). "The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Organizations in New Mexico". Santa Fe, NM: University of New Mexico Bureau of Business and Economic Research. Accessed online 6 July 2008 via WorldCat [OCLC: 71203283].

(*1) This study looks at the economic impact of nonprofit organizations across the state of New Mexico, especially in regard to employment and jobs created. A detailed methodology section lists the sources used including tax forms and data from unemployment insurance systems. Throughout the report the authors clearly capture the difficulty of enumerating nonprofit organizations and finding relevant data. Since this study is similar, if larger in scale, to the type of study we are examining, I expect this to be a relevant example in support of our final conclusions.

Moulton, Brent R. and Stewart, Kenneth J. (1999). "An Overview of Experimental U.S. Consumer Price Indexes". Journal of Business and Economic Statistics. American Statistical Association. Accessed online 5 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://0-www.jstor.org.cals.evergreen.edu:80/stable/1392469>]

(*1) This article overviews an experimental CPI which was offered as a possible solution to the scrutiny the current CPI index has recently suffered. The article contrasts how the CPI is currently constructed with those experimental indexes. The experimental CPIs were constructed with two specific populations in mind: older American populations and poor American populations. This article will be useful in our research because it gives an overview and some analysis of the efficacy of experimental indexes; indexes which we may be able to extract some ideas or methodologies from when constructing our local nonprofit health index.

Raymond, Susan Ueber (2004). "The Future of Philanthropy: Economics, Ethics, and Management". Hoboken, NJ, John Wiley and Sons. Accessed 3 July 2008 via WorldCat [ISBN: 0471655893, <http://www.netlibrary.com/urlapi.asp?action=summary&v=1&bookid=108618>]

(*1) This book is a summative source that examines the economical, ethical and managerial side of philanthropic giving. It attempts to measure the economic importance of nonprofits on a nationwide scale and discusses what happens (economically and socially) when collection and retention methods change. It also discusses the interplay between economic, ethical, and managerial relationships and issues in the wider philanthropic community. The book is both a summative and prescriptive. Its usefulness will be proven in the way that it presents a number of issues alive in the nonprofit world, while also providing prescriptions in successfully solving those issues and debates. It is important to realize the fiscal health of the nonprofit world on a larger stage before speaking to these concepts and issues locally. It will also be useful because of the scope of issues (looking at the economics, ethics, and management sides) the book addresses.

Reiner, T. and Wolpert, J. (January 1981) "The Non-Profit Sector in the Metropolitan Economy". Economic Geography, Vol. 57, No. 1, pp. 23-33. Accessed online 6 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/144222>].

(*1) This article draws a connection between levels of giving to nonprofit organizations and the growth or decline of the affected metropolitan area. The authors assert that in times of regional decline, "immobile" organizations contribute a disproportional share of support to the nonprofit sector while "footloose" organizations reduce their support of regional nonprofits. One factor on which I am not yet clear is the timeliness of this article; nearly three decades later, I am not sure the dividing line between immobile and footloose organizations still exists. While I am not yet sure if I understand or accept the authors' argument, this article does provide a sense of the "so what" behind the type of research we are examining.

Rose-Ackerman, S. (Jun., 1996). "Altruism, Nonprofits, and Economic Theory". *Journal of Economic Literature*, Vol. 34, No. 2, pp. 701-728. Accessed online 6 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2729219>].

(*2) The author asserts that the nonprofit sector has largely been ignored in economic theory, and that separating the nonprofit, public and private sectors is problematic. This article will provide an underpinning in basic economic theory for our research.

Rosso, Hank (2003). *Achieving Excellence in Fund Raising*. Jossey-Bass, San Francisco.

(*2) An updated edition to the 1991 version of Hank Rosso's compilation. It prescriptive in how to raise money, recruit donors, maintain successful fundraising practices, and speaks to the ethics and the future of the fund raising profession. The updated volume builds upon the first edition by adding chapters related to ethics in fund raising, how to establish a planned giving system, along with many others. This book will serve a purpose in our feasibility study because it is a reference tool and overall guide as to how nonprofit institutions develop and implement their donor recruitment and retention. It also contains a "Fundraising Risk Scale" which assesses the financial risks and results associated with fundraising campaigns. This assessment will be a useful comparison tool when we are assessing risks associated with implementing certain models intended to represent the fiscal health of local nonprofits.

Shapiro, Matthew D. and Wilcox, David W. (1996). "Mismeasurement in the Consumer Price Index: An Evaluation". *NBER Macroeconomics Manual*. University of Chicago Press. Accessed online 5 July 2008 via JSTOR [URL: <http://0-www.jstor.org.cals.evergreen.edu:80/stable/3585191>]

(*2) This paper's intent is to undertake a detailed examination of the evidence of the claim that the consumer price index overstates the true rate of increase of the cost of living. The authors argue that this claim is overstated and is subject to a number of varying interpretations and biases. A secondary purpose of the article was to present an index that could possibly serve as a prototype for an alternative approach to the pricing of medical care. This article will serve use in our research through its exploration of the debates surrounding the efficacy and fairness of the consumer price index. It provides and addresses many debates surrounding the current models for the CPI. The better we become familiar with the limitations and arguments behind the efficacy of the CPI, the better served we will be in constructing our model and writing our literature review and analysis.

United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (2008). *Consumer Price Index Home Page*. <http://www.bls.gov/CPI/>

(*1) This site will serve as a valuable resource when gathering data for our project. It is the official site of the US Department of Labor concerning the methodology, important concepts and terms, overview, statistics, news releases, publications, and frequently asked questions concerning the Consumer Price Index. If we are to produce a model applicable to local nonprofits, we must first become familiar with how one possible model works. It is also important to recognize the possible limitations and debate over the fairness and efficacy of this particular model. This site provides links to resources that will aid us in uncovering and deciphering the limitations and positives of this particular index.