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State Tax Debates Could Use Some (Customized) State Economic Data.

Politicians love to make claims about tax policy. This tax cut will create jobs! That one forced the school district to fire teachers!

But too often such claims are not supported with evidence. So the [State and Local Finance Initiative](#) made an interactive tool that gives you—whether you’re a policymaker, journalist, researcher, or voter—the power of data. The updated [State Economic Monitor](#) lets users graph, analyze, and share statistics on state employment, earnings, gross domestic product (GDP), and housing—and for just the states you’re interested in.

Before you take it out for a spin, I’ll show you how the updated tool can provide evidence for three tax policy issues. Hopefully, you’ll then use it to make customized graphs for your next memo, presentation, or tweet about state tax policy.

[Continue reading.](#)

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