



What Are the Benefits of Hosting a Major League Sports Franchise?

by: and Jordan Rappaport

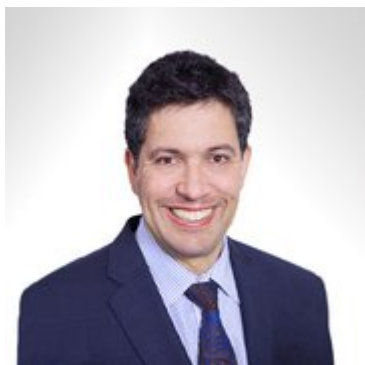
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Over the last few decades the number of U.S. metropolitan areas large enough to host a franchise from one of the four major professional sports leagues has soared. Even as the National Football League, Major League Baseball, the National Basketball Association, and the National Hockey League have expanded to include more franchises, demand by metro areas continues to exceed supply. As a result, metro areas have been forced to compete with each other to retain and attract franchises.

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Jordan Rappaport is a senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. He joined the Bank in 1999 following completing his Ph.D. in economics at Harvard University. Jordan also holds a bachelors' degree from Brown University, from which he graduated in 1990. Jordan's research focuses on issues related to local growth. His articles for the Bank's *Economic Review* primarily focus on U.S. metropolitan area growth and on housing. His empirical research published in peer-reviewed journals has documented the persistence and causes of long run local population growth. His published theoretical research shows that even small costs associated with moving are sufficient to cause high persistence in net population flows and that small productivity and amenity differences can cause very large differences in local population density. Jordan is an associate editor of *Regional Science and Urban Economics* and the *Journal of Regional Science*.
