

## Ralph B. Gentile

### **Current Affiliations:**

*Research Associate, Institute for Construction Economic Research, Lansing, Michigan.*

*Principal Economist, Construction Labor Market Analyzer (myCLMA), Lexington, Kentucky.*

### **Experience:**

#### Principal Economist, (2015-present)

Construction Labor Market Analyzer

Forecasted skilled trade wage escalation rates for companies planning multi-year projects.

Analyzed and updated market prospects for petroleum, natural gas and commodity chemicals.

#### Senior Economist (1993-2014)

Research & Analytics Group, McGraw-Hill Construction

Wrote and maintained econometric models to forecast construction.

Produced detailed quarterly forecasts and special studies.

Designed and maintained databases for very large construction projects

Areas of Research:

*Large Project Forecasts* – methodology for using Dodge Reports information to forecast construction projects (\$5+ million) to start.

*Skilled Trades Forecasts* – tool for estimating state and national demand for individual construction trades using occupational employment, census of construction, and Dodge starts data.

*Product Demand Studies* – designed methods to forecast demand for building products based on federal (input-output, economic census, put-in-place, and other) data.

#### Economist

Real Estate Analysis and Planning Service, McGraw-Hill Construction. (1989-1993)

Modeled and forecasted construction, rents and absorption for commercial and residential real estate in fifty metropolitan areas for the Real Estate Analysis and Planning Service. Also responsible for forecasting commercial and institutional building at the regional and national levels.

#### Assistant Professor.

Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA. (1984-1989)

Taught courses in microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics, statistics, and quantitative methods to undergraduate and graduate students. Conducted research on the geographic mobility for scientists, engineers and technical workers.

#### Research Associate (1981-1984)

Regional Science Research Center, Cambridge, MA

Responsible for providing research support for input-output models, methods and forecasts

### **Education:**

1981 Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1976 M.A. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1973 B.A. Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania

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### **Selected Publications and Reports:**

Skilled Trades Employment in the Pipeline Industry: 2006-2015. Institute for Construction Economic Research. June 2017.

State Economic, Wage and Per Diem Forecasts for Selected Construction Trades, 2016Q3, (Louisiana, Texas, and Beaumont-Port Arthur). Construction Labor Market Analyzer, (forthcoming), September 2016.

Natural Gas Prices and Construction. Oil and Gas Report #6, Construction Market Analyzer, July 2016.  
Construction Prospects in the Intermediate and Long-Run. Oil and Gas Report, Construction Labor Market Analyzer, May 2016.

Employment, Wages, and Market Share Estimates for the National Association of Construction Boilermakers Employers - Great Lakes Division. Construction Labor Market Analyzer, April 2016.  
State Economic, Wage and Per Diem Forecasts for Selected Construction Trades, 2016Q2, (Louisiana, Texas, and Beaumont-Port Arthur). Construction Labor Market Analyzer, February 2016.

The Industrial Recession: How Bad? Oil and Gas Report #4, Construction Labor Market Analyzer, February 2016.

Wage and Per Diem Forecasts for Selected Construction Trades, 2016Q1, (Louisiana, Texas, and Beaumont-Port Arthur). Construction Labor Market Analyzer, February 2016.

Reading the Tea Leaves: Capital Spending Along the Gulf Coast. Oil and Gas Report, Construction Labor Market Analyzer, November 2015.

Act Two: Low Energy Prices and Construction. Oil & Gas Report #2, Construction Labor Market Analyzer, September 2015.

Wage and Per Diem Forecasts for Selected Construction Trades, 2015Q3, (Louisiana, Texas, and Beaumont-Port Arthur). Construction Labor Market Analyzer, August 2015.

Wage and Per Diem Forecasts for Selected Construction Trades, 2015Q1, (Louisiana, Texas, and Beaumont-Port Arthur). Construction Labor Market Analyzer, February 2015.

### **Presentations and Older Reports:**

Wage Escalation Rates for the Skilled Construction Trades – Some Practical Issues and Modeling Considerations. ICERES Research Symposium, July 21, 2016.

Improving Construction Demand Analytics. A Presentation. National Institute of Building Sciences, Washington, DC (December 12-13, 2013).

Transportation Infrastructure: Gearing Up for Change. *A McGraw-Hill Construction Special Report*: Principal in multiple author study. McGraw-Hill Construction Research and Analytics, (October 2009).

Forecasting Construction Labor Demand—A Working Model. *Paper Presented at Construction Economics Research Network, Washington, DC.* (December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007).

**Associations & Memberships:** American Economic Association, National Association for Business Economics.