

**Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, New Orleans Branch**  
**525 St. Charles Avenue**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana 70130**

**November 7–9, 2023**

The annual Central Bank Business Survey Conference, organized in partnership with the Central Bank Business Survey and Liaison Programs, provides a forum for researchers, practitioners, and business liaisons to share their expertise in business survey administration and methodology and to discuss survey results and analysis. The conference is designed to promote open discussion and exchange of ideas on a range of topics, including but not limited to the collection and analysis of qualitative business intelligence, business survey results as an input into central bank decision-making processes, and innovations in survey administration and methodology.

For comments or questions, please email the [CBBS Conference Mailbox](#).

## **Agenda**

### **Tuesday, November 7**

- 5:30 p.m.            Opening reception and heavy hors d'oeuvres
- 7:00                 New Orleans Ghost Walking Tour (optional)

### **Wednesday, November 8**

- 8 a.m.                Breakfast
- 8:30                 **Opening Remarks**  
*David Altig*, Executive Vice President and Chief Economic Adviser, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
- 8:45                 **Session 1: Using Surveys to Obtain Expectations**  
Chair: *David Altig*, Executive Vice President and Chief Economic Adviser, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
- Perceptions and expectations surveys with flexible questions: A way to generate experimental models, to know and understand the reality of companies  
*Ignacio Zapata*, Senior Analyst, Central Bank of Chile
- From convenience sample to representative sample: Can we improve the sampling of the Bureau for Economic Research (BER) inflation expectations survey?

*Monique Reid*, Lead Economist, South African Reserve Bank

Evolution of sales and employment expectations and uncertainty during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

*Mathieu Utting*, Research Assistant, Bank of Canada

10:15 Break

10:30 **Session 2: Methods and Tools to Analyze Surveys**

Chair: TBD

Matching business survey and administrative data to analyze the recent evolution of firm liquidity

*Marco Bottone*, Economist, Directorate General for Economics, Statistics and Research, Bank of Italy

Using natural language processing techniques to make the digitized history of liaison write-ups machine searchable

*James Holloway*, Deputy Head of Department, Reserve Bank of Australia

Estimation of economic activity indexes from ordinal business survey data

*Thomas Walstrum*, Senior Business Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

Noon Lunch

12:30 p.m. **Lunch Keynote**

*Dr. Ron S. Jarmin*, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer, US Census Bureau

1:00 **Session 3: Leveraging Survey Data to Obtain Actionable Insight**

Chair: TBD

Understanding labor market conditions by surveying those who recruit

*Jason Kosakow*, Survey Director, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Using insights from business surveys for monetary policy decision making

*Emily Kerr*, Senior Business Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Decoding central banks' practices: A closer look at inflation expectation surveys

*Ignacio Zapata*, Senior Analyst, Central Bank of Chile

On the effects of the minimum wage increase: Evidence from the Bundesbank's Firm Survey

*Pawel Smietanka*, Senior Economist, Bundesbank

3:00 Break

3:15 **Session 4: Generating Cross-Country Comparisons from Business Surveys**

Chair: TBD

Business expectations and uncertainty in developing and emerging economies

*Jose Maria Barrero*, Assistant Professor of Finance, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México

Firms' climate investment and responses to climate policies

*Brent Meyer*, Assistant Vice President and Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

4:00 Depart for Vue Orleans (transportation will be provided to venue and dinner)

6:30 Reception and Dinner at [Arnaud's Restaurant](#)

### Thursday, November 9

8 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 **Fireside chat**

*Raphael Bostic*, President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

*Thomas Barkin*, President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

9:30 **Break**

9:45 **Session 5: The Determinants/Formation of Inflation and Inflation Expectations**

Chair: Brent Meyer, Assistant Vice President and Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

The formation of long-term inflation expectations in Switzerland: the impact of short run shocks, current business conditions and preferences

*Jean-Marc Falter*, Member of Senior Management, Swiss National Bank

CPI releases and inflation expectations: Evidence from the DMP

*Ivan Yotzov*, Lead Economic Analyst, Bank of England

10:45 **Break**

11:00 Does monetary policy matter? Inflation expectations of firms in the Business Leaders' Pulse survey

*Kevin MacLean*, Economist, Survey and Economic Intelligence Division, Bank of Canada

Supply chain disruptions, energy price shocks and inflation in Poland

*Łukasz Postek*, Economist, Bank of Poland

Noon	Lunch
1 p.m.	<p><b>Session 6: How Does Elevated Inflation Impact Firm Pricing Behavior?</b> Chair: TBD</p> <p>Firms' inflation expectations and price-setting behaviour in Canada: Evidence from a business survey <i>Jane Voll</i>, Regional Director, Bank of Canada</p> <p>What is the connection between firms' inflation expectations and their own pricing plans? Evidence from one set of business surveys <i>Sonya Ravindranath Waddell</i>, Vice President and Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond</p> <p>Firms' price setting and inflation outlook from the Tankan survey <i>Kyosuke Shiotani</i>, Economic Statistics Division, Bank of Japan</p>
2:30	Break
2:45	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Approaches to Gathering Intelligence across Regional Networks</b> Moderator: <i>Anoop Mishra</i>, Vice President and Regional Executive, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta</p> <p>Discussants: <i>Roland Scheurer</i>, Member of Senior Management, Swiss National Bank <i>Reginald Chever</i>, Vice President and Regional Executive, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta <i>James Holloway</i>, Deputy Head of Department, Reserve Bank of Australia</p>
3:45	Conference Adjourns