

# Economic Growth and Presence of Professional Sports Teams in Metropolitan Areas



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## Research Question

How does per capita income differ between cities with and without the **PRESENCE** of professional sports team in these U.S. metropolitan areas?

Does this vary based on the **NUMBER** of professional teams in that metropolitan area?

# Dataset: Obtained from Harvard Dataverse (Cheek, 2022)

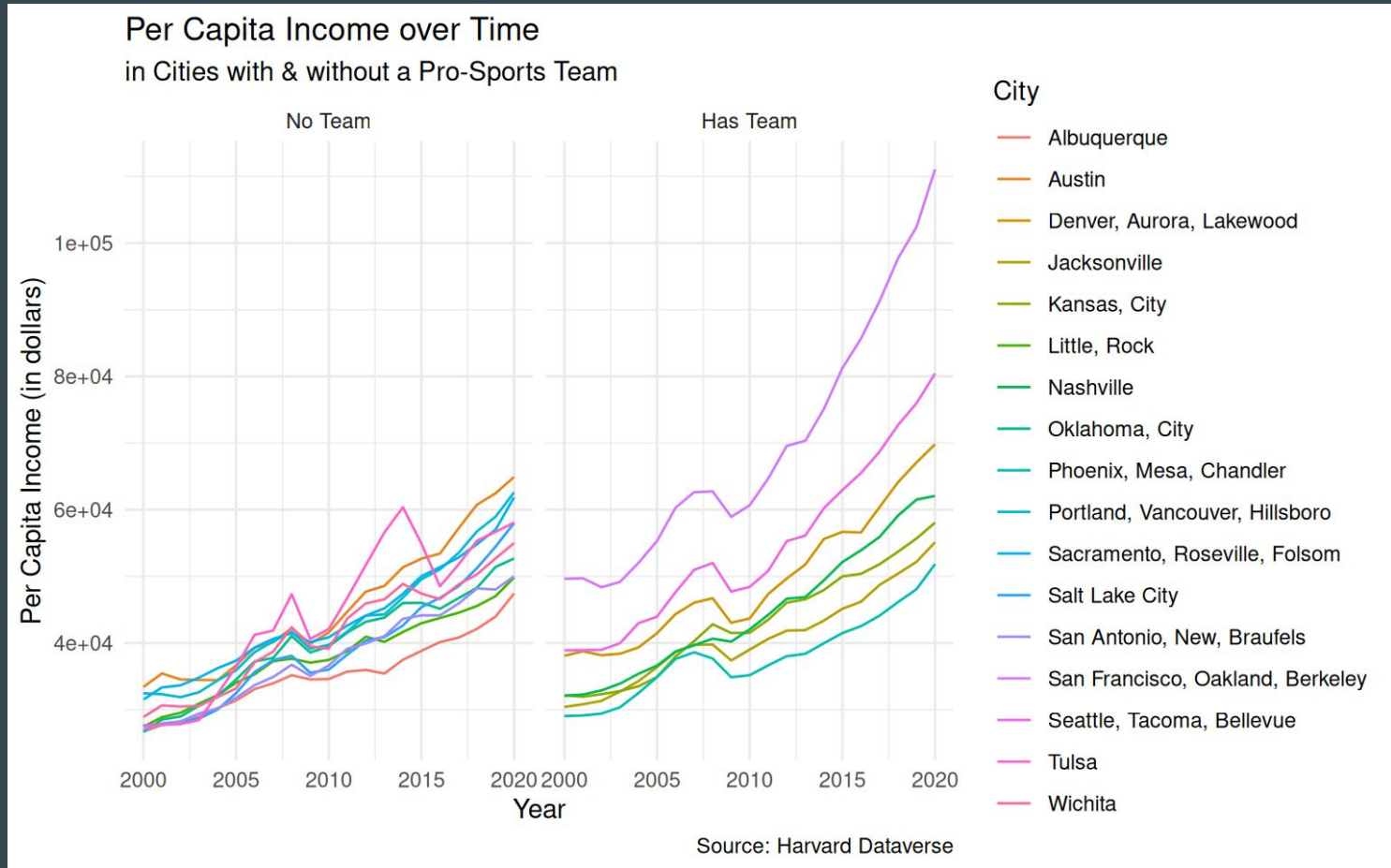
## Dataset Cleaning:

- Removed NA values
- Changed variables types
- Created two new variables: any\_team and number\_team

Primary variables: per capita income, any\_team, number\_teams

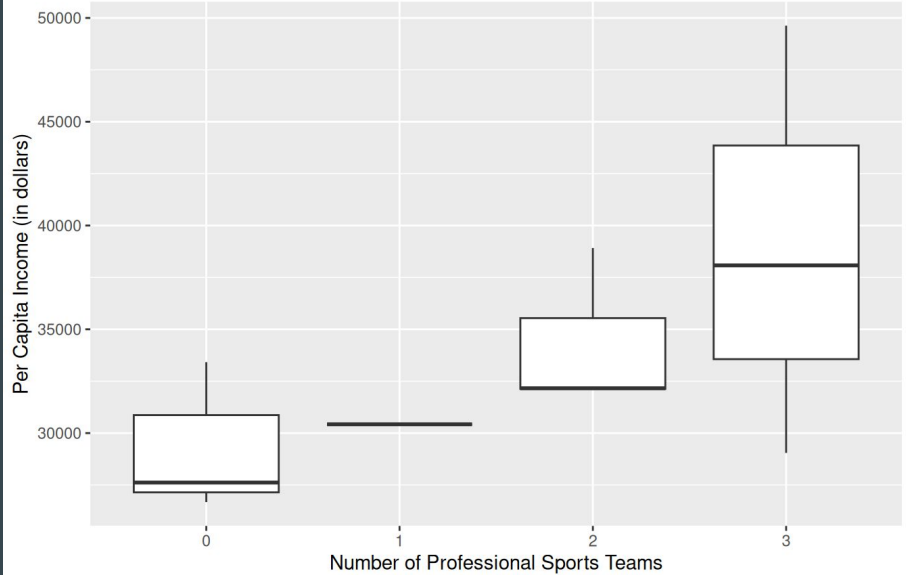
Additional variables: Population, GDP, Unemployment Rate

# Per Capita Income Positively Associated with Presence of Team Over Time



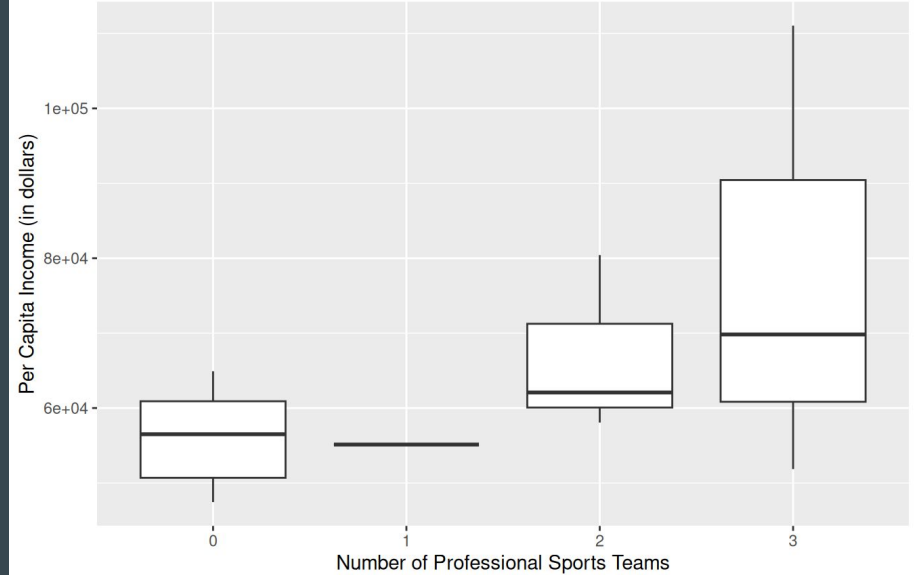
# Per Capita Income Positively Associated with Number of Teams Over Time

Per Capita Income by Number of Professional Sports Team in 2000



Source: Harvard Dataverse

Per Capita Income by Number of Professional Sports Team in 2020



Source: Harvard Dataverse

# Conclusion: Team Presence Indicates, Not Drives, Economic Development

- Similar overall trends, but greater per capita income for cities w/ teams
- Presence of sports teams - **not** primary predictor, but correlated with economic development
- Unaccounted for: Other factors relating to varying infrastructure & economic industries across cities
- Dataset Ambiguities
- Limitations: sample size, outliers, observational study, team presence unchanged