CBER, established in 1930, is an outreach within Culverhouse College of Commerce at The University of Alabama that promotes Alabama’s economic development by providing insight through research and public service.

**CBER** works to advance The University of Alabama research and services mission and support economic development throughout Alabama.
Clientele

- Federal, state, and local government agencies
- Private companies
- UA and other academic institutions
- Chambers of Commerce
- Trade Associations
- Public and private researchers
- Individuals
- Groups
- Media
Center Activities

- Economic and socioeconomic modeling & data collection and analysis
- Economic development tools (UA funded, http://www.alabamaonline.ua.edu/)
- Workforce and economic development studies
- Economic policy analysis, forecasting, and economic impact studies (e.g. 2011 tornadoes, 2010 BP oil spill, tax and other economic policy issues, new and expanding industry)
- Demographic studies including population projections
- Industry analysis and area profiles
- Transportation corridor socioeconomic studies
- Environmental economics and environmental justice analyses
- Alabama business confidence index
- Economic outlook conference and ASDC activities
- Publications (Economic Outlook, Alabama Business, Alabama Business Confidence Index
- Information requests—walk-ins, email, and phone
- Internet presence (web and social media)
- Speaking engagements
Forecasting Program

- **Alabama Econometric Model**
  - Annual & Quarterly Forecasts
  - Economic Impact & Policy Studies

- **Regional Economic Models**
  - US, Southeast, AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN, and County Level Models
  - Econometric, Input-Output, and General Equilibrium Models
Economic model describes the workings an economy and are used for simulating and forecasting:

1. How would the economy change if there is a change in another variable?
2. Governments and businesses use economic forecasts to help determine strategy, future planning, and budgeting.
CBER publishes its annual short-term forecast for the Alabama economy, the *Alabama Economic Outlook*, issued in January and debuted at the Center’s annual *Economic Outlook Conference*.

The forecast covers output and employment by sector. Current economic conditions and trends and their likely effects on the national, Alabama state and metropolitan area economies are also examined.
Newsletters

Alabama Business and Alabama Business Confidence Index™
- Both newsletters are released quarterly and are available online at http://cber.cba.ua.edu/publications.html

Alabama Business, contains regular features including Alabama economic forecasts and key economic indicators.

Alabama Business also includes timely information about population and other socioeconomic topics.

The Center provides a measurement of how local business leaders view specific economic factors. The measurement is called the Alabama Business Confidence Index™ (ABCI). ABCI is compiled quarterly.