# Article information:

Arthur Frank Burns - Econlib  
<https://www.econlib.org/library/Enc/bios/Burns.html>

# Article summary:

1. Arthur Frank Burns was a prominent economist known for his work on measuring business cycles and forecasting recessions.

2. He coauthored the book "Measuring Business Cycles" with Wesley Mitchell, which distilled statistical indicators into one signal of turning points in the U.S. business cycle.

3. Burns held various prestigious positions, including chairman of President Eisenhower's Council of Economic Advisers and president of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article provides a brief overview of Arthur Frank Burns and his contributions to the field of economics, particularly in the area of business cycle forecasting. However, there are several potential biases and missing points of consideration that should be addressed.

Firstly, the article presents Burns as an expert in business cycle forecasting based on his work with Wesley Mitchell on Measuring Business Cycles. While this may be true, it fails to mention any potential criticisms or limitations of their approach. For example, some economists argue that relying solely on statistical indicators may not capture all the complexities and nuances of economic cycles.

Additionally, the article highlights Burns' positions at prestigious institutions such as Columbia University and the NBER, as well as his role as chairman of President Eisenhower's Council of Economic Advisers. This emphasis on his credentials could be seen as promotional content and may contribute to a biased portrayal of Burns' expertise and influence.

Furthermore, the article mentions Burns' tenure as U.S. ambassador to Germany without providing any context or analysis of his performance in that role. This omission leaves out important information that could provide a more balanced assessment of Burns' career.

Another potential bias is the author's affiliation with the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. While this does not necessarily invalidate the content of the article, it is worth noting as it could potentially influence the author's perspective or selection of information.

In terms of unsupported claims and missing evidence, the article states that Measuring Business Cycles "distilled a large number of statistical indicators" into one signal for turning points in the business cycle. However, no specific examples or evidence are provided to support this claim. Without further information, readers are left to take this assertion at face value.

Moreover, there is no exploration of counterarguments or alternative approaches to business cycle forecasting. This lack of balance limits the depth and objectivity of the analysis presented in the article.

Overall, while the article provides some insights into Arthur Frank Burns' contributions to economics, it is important to approach the content critically and consider potential biases, missing evidence, and unexplored counterarguments.

# Topics for further research:

* Criticisms of Measuring Business Cycles approach in economics
* Limitations of relying solely on statistical indicators for business cycle forecasting
* Arthur Burns' performance as U.S. ambassador to Germany
* Alternative approaches to business cycle forecasting
* Counterarguments to the effectiveness of Measuring Business Cycles
* Analysis of Arthur Burns' influence and expertise in economics beyond his credentials

# Report location:

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