Paul Willen is a Senior Economist and Policy Advisor in the Research Department at the Federal Reserve Bank at Boston. Paul does research on household financial management and has devoted much of his time since 2005 studying mortgage markets. His research has appeared in the Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Theory, the Journal of Finance, the Journal of Public Economics, the Journal of Urban Economics, the NBER Macro Annual, the Brookings Papers on Economic Activity and elsewhere. Paul’s research on the subprime crisis has garnered attention both among researchers and in the wider public. Recent papers have been the subject of front page stories in major newspapers including the The Boston Globe and The Washington Post, and have been featured in articles in numerous outlets including The Economist, The New Yorker and Business Week. Paul is a popular speaker who tries to bring serious research to a broad audience: recent presentations have included the national meeting of the American Securitization Forum, the Senate Banking Committee, a group of law students training to work with troubled borrowers and the Harvard Economics Department. In May of 2011, the Boston Globe named Paul one of the “30 most innovative people in Massachusetts.”

Along with his long-time collaborators, Kris Gerardi of the Atlanta Fed and Chris Foote of the Boston Fed, Paul blogs about real estate research and policy at: http://realestateresearch.frbatlanta.org/rer/

Paul was on the faculty at Princeton and the University of Chicago prior to joining the Fed and has been a visiting member of the faculty at MIT. Paul did his undergraduate work at Williams College in 1990 and got his PhD from Yale University in 1997.