The Saskatchewan Research Data Centre

SKY RDC

Amelie A Gagnon, RDC Analyst
18 November 2008

What is a Research Data Centre?

- Secure Statistics Canada environment in a university setting
  - Houses Statistics Canada microdata files
  - Staffed by a Statistics Canada employee at all times

- Access limited to researchers with approved projects and “sworn-in” under Statistics Act as “deemed employees”
What data is available in the RDC?

- More variables, in a more detailed fashion
  - Age groups = age years
  - Regions/provinces = postal codes or CMAs

- Every data set that is available in PUMF
  - + many more!
Immigrant-Related Data

- Ethnic Diversity Survey
- Longitudinal Study of Immigrants in Canada
- Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics
- Canadian Community Health Survey
- Census

Ethnic Diversity Survey (EDS)

- The EDS provides information on how people's backgrounds affect their participation in Canada's social, economic and cultural life of Canada.
  - As well, it indicates how Canadians of different ethnic backgrounds interpret and report their ethnicity.

- Topics covered in the survey include
  - ethnic ancestry, ethnic identity, place of birth, visible minority status, religion, religious participation, family background, family interaction, social networks, civic participation, interaction with society, attitudes, satisfaction with life, trust and socio-economic activities.
**Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC)**

- Designed to examine the first 4 years of settlement, a time when newcomers establish economic, social, and cultural ties to Canadian society.

- Topics covered include:
  - Language proficiency, housing, education, foreign credential recognition, employment, health, values and attitudes, the development and use of social networks, income, and perceptions of settlement in Canada.

**Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)**

- Longitudinal data:
  - Individuals are followed for a 6-year period
  - Annual contact used to update information

- Measures changes in the economic well-being of Canadians

- Labour market and income data together:
  - Family make-up and changes are key factors
  - Employer attributes, work factors
Canadian Community Health Survey

- The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) provides data for health regions across Canada.

- It includes information on a wide range of topics, including:
  - Alcohol consumption, chronic health conditions, fruit and vegetable consumption, general health, use of health services, height and weight, injuries, physical activity, restriction of activities, smoking.

- It also provides information on the socio-demographic, income, and labour force characteristics of the population.

Census

- The census collects information on the total number of persons who once were, or are now, landed immigrants or permanent residents.

- Questions include:
  - Ethnic origin, mobility, religion, education, work activity, income, housing, disability

- Currently have data for 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census

- The analytic document entitled "Immigration in Canada: A Portrait of the Foreign-born Population, 2006 Census", released on December 4, 2007 provides 2006 Census results on immigration and citizenship as well as trends over the last few years.
**Some RDC Projects**

- Evaluating the Source of Low Returns to Immigrants Foreign Experience and Credentials in Canada
- Migration Patterns of Skilled Workers
- Investigation of Longitudinal Patterns of Changes in Mental Health of Immigrant Women
- Internal Migration of Canadian-born and Immigrant Minorities in Canada (SLID)

**Gaining Access to the RDC**

- Prepare a project proposal
- Proposal evaluation
- Security clearance - enhanced reliability check
- Orientation session, oath of office and value code
- Carry out the research project
- Researcher provides product to the RDC
Opportunities for Funding

- Projects that utilize RDC data are suitable for national-level funding
  - At both Operating Grant and Fellowship levels

What Does All of This Mean For You?

- Easy access to data that has already been collected
  - Can save time, funding, and effort

- Great opportunity for projects at all levels
  - Undergraduate
  - Graduate and PhD
  - Funding proposals
The RDC Facility

- Secure space in the Murray Building
- 11 workstations and 1 printer
- Statistical software
  - SAS, SPSS, STATA
  - LISREL, SUDAAN, HLM
- Word-processing and spreadsheet packages
- Hours: Tu to Th, 9:00 to 4:00

For further information