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Statistics Canada for Non-Canadians

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Canada's Statistical System Structure

- Canada like Australia and Sweden has a centralized, primary statistical agency vs. U.S. decentralized system of 13 principal statistical agencies

- Statistics Canada is governed by the Statistics Act, Revised Statutes of Canada 1985

- Statistics Canada is a federal responsibility in Canada and StatCan produces statistics for all the provinces as well as the federal government

- 350 active surveys

- Census every 5 years

Continuum of Access for US Academic Institutions

OPEN ACCESS	LIMITED ACCESS			RESTRICTED ACCESS
Statistics Canada Website	Data Liberation Initiative (DLI) Listserv	Custom Tabulations	Real-Time Remote Access (RTRA)	Research Data Centre (RDC) Canadian Centre for Data Development and Economic Research (CDER)
$0	$ $0	$	$	NOT AVAILABLE NOT AVAILABLE

2012 Open Data License

- February 2, 2012
- "This license agreement allows you to use Statistics Canada information **without restrictions on sharing and redistribution**, for **commercial and non-commercial purposes**. You must always acknowledge Statistics Canada as the source of the information and adhere to the conditions of the Statistics Canada Open License."
- CANSIM free
- PUMFs free but public needs to sign Open Data License and then have files sent to them
- Most aggregate products free, minus those with postal code information (i.e. Postal Code Conversion Files)
- Still pay for custom tabulations

Statistics Canada Website

http://www.statcan.gc.ca/

Canadian Business Patterns

June 2011 (Previous release)

The CD-ROM **Canadian Business Patterns** provides counts of active locations by variables like geography levels, industry classification and employment size.

This product is compiled from the Business Register, which is a repository of information on the Canadian business population.

Nationally, there were 2,410,934 active locations recorded in June.

Data from the June 2011 **Canadian Business Patterns** are available on CD-ROM. They are presented according to the 2006 Standard Geographical Classification, the 2007 North American Industry Classification System and employment categories.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1105.

The June 2011 edition of the CD-ROM **Canadian Business Patterns** (61F0040X, various prices) is now available. The cost varies between $150 and $1,100, depending on the number of tables or cells requested. See How to order products.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Todd Hahn (613-951-6705; brdinfodre@statcan.gc.ca) or Joanne Proulx (613-951-9006), Business Register Division.

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Data Liberation Initiative (DLI)

- Partnership started in 1996 between post-secondary institutions and StatCan that formalized a license agreement for improving access to Canadian data

- Over 350 standard products, including PUMFs

- PUMFs are modified from Master files

- Support and training for DLI contacts (regional and national) (train the trainer model)

- Listserv – open to anyone now

- Access to DLI datafiles available to US Institutions - $5,000

DLI Collection

- [DLI Website](#)
- Surveys available:
  - Census of Agriculture
  - Canadian Internet Use Survey
  - Survey of Household Spending (-> 2011)
  - Canadian Community Health Survey
  - Labour Force Survey
  - General Social Survey
- [DLI Reports](#) and [Training Repository](#)

Custom Tabulations

- Open Data License capped cost to $70/hour

- Feasibility depends on data availability, redisclosure risk and cost on time to compile

- Open Data License allows for purchased data to be made publically available with the consent of purchaser

- All retrospectively purchased custom tabulations can be shared as well

Remote Time Real Access (RTRA)

- Online remote access facility allowing users to submit SAS programs to run, more or less in real time, pulls of data and descriptive stats on (_near_) master-level files located at StatCan

- No travel to RDC required as can access from anywhere

- Get only aggregate tabular output out

- Geography is like CANSIM heavily aggregated (CMA)

- Surveys (60, but intent to grow - though not retrospectively

- Service is available to US Institutions - $5,000 CDN/year

Research Data Centres

- Provides access to Master Files
- Apply for access through SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council)
- Project goes to StatsCan for approval
- Researchers must do a Security Check - may include fingerprints
- Access to the data in a specified RDC for given time - can change RDCs - more paperwork.
- All work stays in the RDC - nothing comes out without vetting by a StatsCan analyst, including handwritten notes
- Great opportunity for Grad students to get hands on experience with Master Files
- No cost - although including in research project budget is encouraged.

CDER

- Established in October 2012
- To provide secure access to business and economic microdata
- Cost recovery basis - initial time limit
- Researchers MUST travel to Ottawa
- Security check - same as RDC access
- Only data required for the project is available - everything else is stripped included the identifiers
- Was talk about eventually getting these files into the RDC program after vetting procedures were ironed out

- Approval takes a LONG time! Not a real option for Graduate students at the moment

More Governmental Sources of Data

- Health Canada
- Immigration / Citizenship Canada
- Industry Canada
- Environment Canada
- Provincial sources
- Municipal Open Data Portals
- Natural Resources Canada

Thank-you!

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