CONTINUUM of MICRODATA ACCESS

DATA LIBERATION INITIATIVE (DLI)
- The DLI is a partnership that started in 1996 between post-secondary institutions like Statistics Canada, formalized under a licence agreement for improving access to Canadian data resources.
- Canadian post-secondary institutions can access over 100 standard products, such as Public Use Microdata Files (PUMFs), on machine-readable files.
- Modifications performed by Statistics Canada, including collapsing, grouping, and removing variables before PUMFs are released, ensure that the risk of breaching confidentiality has been removed.
- Support and training for each DLI contact enable contacts to train researchers, professors, students, and employees on how to use information from the DLI collection.
- A listerv, an electronic mailing list, exists where questions related to the collection can be asked and answered by Statistics Canada or specialists.

ACCESS TO PUBLIC USE MICRODATA FILES (PUMFS) COLLECTION
- Access for Canadian or international organizations to standard products on machine-readable files under a licence agreement.
- Support to researchers to enable them to use the information from the PUMFs collection.
- A listerv, an electronic mailing list, exists where questions related to the collection can be asked and answered by Statistics Canada or specialists.
- Data accessed through PUMFs Collection are used for research.

REAL TIME REMOTE ACCESS (RTA)
- Online remote access facility allowing users to submit programs to run, receive results in real time, data analyses on microdata located in a central, secure location.
- Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) programs that run descriptive statistics.
- Confidentiality applied automatically.
- No primary manual interventions.
- Currently over 60 data files.
- Ability to interrogate RTA microdata at any time.
- Access from any computer with Internet access, using a secure username and password—no travel to RDCs required.

RESEARCH DATA CENTRES (RDC)
- A partnership with universities, Statistics Canada, and Canadian research funding agencies to provide access to researchers, in a secure, central setting, to microdata from population and household surveys and administrative data.
- Currently over 350 confidential microdata files.
- University centres are accessible to academic, government, and other researchers.
- One RDC in Ottawa provides access to these data for federal government researchers.

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR DATA DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH (CDDER)
- Superiority for business and economic microdata files containing sufficient detail for researchers to undertake meaningful and complete analysis while safeguarding the confidentiality of the results and the privacy of business respondents and workers in these establishments.
- Two-stage review process feasibility and detailed project review costing.
- Extracts of microdata are provided based on approved project requests.
- Access granted to researchers with approved projects and security clearance.
- CDDER works with researchers and Statistics Canada to produce specific analytical data files.

ACCESS IS A KEY PILLAR IN STATISTICS CANADA’S CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN:
“Increasingly, modern policy research requires access not only to aggregated statistics but also to data at the level of the individual business, household or person. Statistics Canada is committed to removing obstacles to access while preserving the privacy and confidentiality of respondents.”
(CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN 2014-15 TO 2016-17, STATISTICS CANADA)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.statcan.gc.ca