

Call for Proposals
Economic Research using T2-Longitudinal Employment Analysis Program in the
Research Data Centres
Statistics Canada

Deadline for submissions of proposals: April 30, 2018

Introduction

Since 2011, professional researchers have been accessing Statistics Canada's holdings of business microdata to conduct approved research projects at its headquarters in Ottawa, through the Canadian Centre for Data Development and Economic Research program (CDER).

In this call for proposals, Statistics Canada is piloting the use of business microdata at its Research Data Centres (RDCs) located in 23 universities across Canada. As through CDER, researchers will work directly with synthetic business microdata before submitting their programs to Statistics Canada staff to be run on the actual microdata. The pilot will consider only research proposals using the T2-Longitudinal Employment Analysis Program (T2-LEAP), an enterprise-level database that contains key information on firm entry and exit, demographics, finances, and performance. The T2-LEAP has been used to study: employment and business dynamics, industry turnover, productivity growth, high-growth firms, and firm financing, survival and performance.

Researchers are invited to review the following documents on the T2-LEAP data and/or contact CDER at statcan.cder-cdre.statcan@canada.ca to discuss their prospective projects before making an application.

Scope of pilot

- Research projects using only the T2-LEAP database described in the T2-LEAP documentation;
- Projects where a draft research paper can be provided to Statistics Canada by March 31, 2019;
- Research projects conducted using SAS and/or STATA.

Submission and evaluation process

Researchers are invited to submit project proposals in accordance with the following requirements and to indicate in their proposal that they would like to participate in this pilot project:

- Title of Project
- Justification of the research: include context, research questions and project's contribution to the literature
- Analytical framework and proposed methodology
- Justification for using the microdata
- Detailed data requirements
- Expected output: detailed descriptions of tabulations and regressions models

- Software requirements – SAS or Stata
- Name and contact information of principal researcher and all other researchers

Proposals will be assessed by two academic peers and by Statistics Canada. Approval will be based on:

- Scientific merit and viability of the proposed research;
- Relevance of the methods to be applied and the T2-LEAP data to be analyzed;
- Demonstrated need for access to the T2-LEAP microdata;
- Expertise and ability of the researchers to carry out the research.

Proposals will be accepted and evaluated on an ongoing basis until April 30, 2018. It is expected that the evaluation process will take four weeks. This period may be extended to accommodate resubmissions based on feedback from reviewers.

Eligibility

The principal investigator identified in the application must be a faculty member or student of a Canadian post-secondary institution, and be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada.

All investigators under the research project must undergo a security screening process, provide a letter of acknowledgement from their employer/academic institution, and take the *Oath or Affirmation of Office and Secrecy* in Section 6(1) of the *Statistics Act* to become a deemed employee of Statistics Canada for the duration of the project.

Costs

There are no costs for applicants whose principal investigator is affiliated with an academic institution that is a member of the Canadian Research Data Centre Network. Proposals from other applicants will be costed on a project-by-project basis.

Working with the T2-LEAP from the RDC

Researchers with approved projects for the pilot will conduct their research on a synthetic version of T2-LEAP at the RDC. The core of this dataset is the Canadian Synthetic Longitudinal Business Database, produced through simulations generated from statistical models. All LEAP variables are synthesized, or modeled, in a way that modifies the observed values while preserving the underlying covariate relationships between the variables.

Once researchers have finalized their analysis, they will submit documented and error-free programs to CDER. A CDER analyst will run the programs on the confidential micro data and will perform the confidentiality review of the results to ensure that only non-confidential output is released to the researcher.

Obligation of Researchers

In addition to providing Statistics Canada with a draft research paper by March 31, 2019, researchers are expected to give written feedback on the Canadian Synthetic Longitudinal Business Database, the T2-LEAP, the documentation provided to them, and the working environment.

Proposals should be submitted to CDER by April 30, 2018:
Canadian Center for Data Development and Economic Research
statcan.cder-cdre.statcan@canada.ca