Working with Business Research Microdata (BRM) in the RDC

McMaster
RDC Showcase
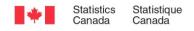May 18, 2022

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BRM: Objectives

The goal of the BRM is to provide external researchers a set of 'core' firm level variables that are able to satisfy the economic questions that their projects seek to answer.

- employment and business dynamics

- productivity growth

- Trade

- firm survival and performance

- gender-based analyses - ownership

2022-05-19

BRM: Introduction

- An administrative cross-sectional dataset covering business sector enterprises with activity in Canada between the years of 2000 – 2017

- At the enterprise-year level, so there is only one row observation for each enterprise-year combination - associated with a full set of financial statements.

- Although the same enterprise ID can be used to follow an enterprise across multiple years, the BRM is not a fully longitudinal file. For instance, it does not reflect merges and acquisitions. If users wish to conduct analysis using panel data, please contact EAD where the dataset can be transformed into a longitudinal structure.
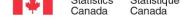
BRM: Features

- Key information on firms includes finances, ownership by gender in private enterprises, merchandise trade, investment and R&D expenditures.

- Data sources from the balance sheet, statements of income, employment slips, etc. of enterprises in Canada.

- A number of derived variables that are based on economic theory and common usage, and helps to alleviate the burden of correct specification for external researchers.

- BRM documentation: an overview of the source files, a user guide, a list of variables, and detailed descriptions of each variable.

BRM: Core Datasets

- Business Register (BR)

- T2 Corporation Income Tax (T2) and General Index of Financial Information (GIFI): Balance Sheet ; Income Statement; Schedule 8 – Investment & Capital Cost Allowance (CCA); Schedule 31 – Investment Tax Credit – Corporations; Schedule 32 – Claim for Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Carried out in Canada (Form T661)

- Statements of Remuneration Paid (T4)

- Payroll Deductions and Remittances (PD7)

- Trade by Exporter Characteristics (TEC): Goods

- Trade by Importer Characteristics (TIC): Goods

- Canadian Employer-Employee Dynamics Database – Business Owner Module (CEEDD-BOM)

BRM: Selection of McMaster projects

- **Oliver Loertscher and Pau Pujolas**: Stunted growth: the role of financial frictions in the lifecycle of firms.

- **Sandra Schillo and Shu Wang**: Design Investment, Design Innovations and Firm Performance

Selected publications using Business Research Microdata

Tapp, Stephen and Beiling Yan. 2021. Superstar Search: Studying the Current and Potential Populations of Canadian Exporters and Foreign Direct Investors Abroad. *Canadian Public Policy* 47(2) (forthcoming).

Gu, W., Ratté, S. and B. Yan. 2018. Long-run Productivity Dispersion in Canadian Manufacturing. Economic Insights, no. 084, Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 11-626-X. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Couture, L. and S. Houle. 2020. Survival and Performance of Start-ups by Gender of Ownership: A Canadian Cohort Analysis. Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series, No. 450, Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 11F0019M. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

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Proposal Using BRM

- Review the Data Dictionary and Variable List before submitting their proposals through the Microdata Access Portal (MAP).

- Final output is restricted to model output described in approved proposal

- No release of intermediate output

- All research to be conducted using only SAS and/or STATA software

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Thank You!

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