Real Time Remote Access (RTRA)
Real Time Remote Access

On-line remote access facility allowing users to run more or less in real-time, data analyses on microdata located in a central, secure location.

• Benefits of RTRA
  ▪ Fast access to a pool of data sets
    – 1 week for account creation
    – Deemed employee status not required
    – Access to data sets aren’t restricted to approved projects
  ▪ Vetting of outputs is fully automated
  ▪ Accessible at any time through the internet.
  ▪ Full range of descriptive statistics available through the RTRA.
Uses of the RTRA System

Uses of the RTRA

- Projects that don’t require complex modeling can be accomplished through the RTRA with descriptive statistics.
- RTRA would be suitable when the PUMF data lacks the required detailed but the project is too small or timelines preclude a submission to get access at an RDC.
- Access to data sets that don’t have a PUMF.
- Project feasibility can be determined using the RTRA before finalising and submitting a project proposal.
RDC’s & RTRA complementary: User requirements

Simple/Quick Tabulations for briefing notes/articles

- **RDC:** Not met
- **RTRA:** met

Analytical modeling for policy research

- **RDC:** Met
- **RTRA:** Not met

Many large scale tables for reports or web publishing

- **RDC:** Not met
- **RTRA:** Met
RTRA system process

- RTRA System comprises other corporate systems
  - CRMS
  - EFT
- Pre-Scan & processing in SAS
- Disclosure control post scan via custom program
Datasets available through the RTRA

- 27 Surveys and data collections

- For a Full list of surveys please visit:

- Of particular interest:
  - Canadian Survey on Disability
  - Aboriginal Peoples Survey
  - Participation and Activity Limitation Survey
  - Canadian Community Health Survey
  - Post-secondary Student Information System
Survey of Labor and Income Dynamics and Labor Force Surveys

- **SLID data RETrievel system (SLIDRET)**
  - available free of charge via the client service unit at
    [income@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:income@statcan.gc.ca).
  - Longitudinal results not yet available.

- **Monthly Labor Force Data available**
  - Monthly files are grouped into data sets by 5 year intervals
Administrative Data Collections

- Uniform Crime Reporting
- Canadian Cancer Registry
- Registered Apprenticeship Information System
- Postsecondary Student Information System
RTRA features

- Data Quality Indicators for Bootstrap weight Surveys

- Several Statistics available through RTRA
  - Frequencies
  - Means
  - Medians
  - Percentiles
  - Ratios
  - Proportions
Disclosure controls

- Simple and efficient
  - Controlled Rounding
  - Bound variation
  - Primary cell suppression
  - Cell size limitations

- Impacts of Disclosure control
  - Rounding base is survey-driven
  - Protect respondent confidentiality and against possible link to PUMF
  - Small impact on precision is as close to controlled as possible
  - All outputs are weighted
Your Implementation of the RTRA

While the RTRA can provide fast access to a lot of data, however a particular set of skills are required to use the system

- Capacity to understand and work with microdata
- Basic level SAS programming

We encourage collaborative projects and for organizations to designate focal points who will become experts in using the RTRA.
Your Implementation of the RTRA

Letter of agreement with organization subscribing to the RTRA Service.

End User Accounts for individuals who must sign terms and conditions of use.

www.statcan.gc.ca/rtra
Training and Contact

- Training on how to use the RTRA is available
  - 2 hour training session
  - Covers RTRA web resources & basic programming techniques

- Please contact us:
  - rtra_adtr@statcan.gc.ca