

Accessing Administrative Data in New Brunswick



NB-IRDT

New Brunswick Institute for
Research, Data and Training

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NB-IRDT launched 2015



What is NB-IRDT?

- **Research data centre and data custodian as defined in privacy legislation, hosting anonymized but linkable government program data**
- **Makes prepared linked data files available to researchers in a secure environment**
- **Researcher- or custodian-provided data (e.g., clinical trials data) can be linked to administrative data**
- **The data platform for the CIHR SPOR SUPPORT Unit in NB**

Data holdings

- **Current datasets from GNB/DH**
 - Citizen database (medicare registry)
 - Discharge abstracts database, physician billing data
 - Vital statistics, trauma database, chronic disease indicators
 - Cancer registry, cancer screening registries
 - Medicare provider registry
- **In development – DH/Regional Health Authorities**
 - NB drug plan, mental health, lab and clinical data
- **In preparation - other provincial departments**
 - Provincial Nominee landing records (GNB/PETL)
 - Long term care (GNB/SD)
 - Workers comp claims data (Worksafe NB)
- **In development – IRCC**
 - Landing records for immigrants to NB

Using the data - work underway

- **Stage at diagnosis and breast cancer screening**
- **Spatial and seasonal patterns in mental health hospitalizations among youth**
- **The effect of surgical experience on patient outcomes**
- **Evaluating the impact of hospital rationalization**

- **Small area rate variation and forecasting future population**
- **Indicators of community wellness and intergenerational poverty in North End Saint John [LivingSJ]**
- **The costs of occupation-related cancers [Morneau-Shepell]**

An Act Respecting Research

Introduced March 28, 2017

Proclaimed into law May 18, 2017

The NB-IRDT/GNB Partnership

- **Commitment to disclose almost all research relevant person-level data in a linkable form with NB-IRDT**
 - Early years assessment, education outcomes
 - Postsecondary educational enrollment, completions
 - Labour market program participation
 - Social assistance receipt
 - Other forms of income support
 - Justice and public safety
 - Environmental, road accidents

What's missing?

- **Gaps in NB provincial data**

- Income tax data
- Occupation and employment data
- Firm level data
- Federal program data (ESDC, IRCC)
- Linkable Statcan data

- **Challenges**

- Federal and Federal/Provincial legislation
- Coordinating data development across multiple jurisdictions and agencies [provincial data centres, RDCs, government, other orgs]
- Resources