

David Card, Raj Chetty, Martin Feldstein, Emmanuel Saez, 2011

*We argue that the development and expansion of direct, secure access to administrative micro-data should be a top priority for the NSF...*

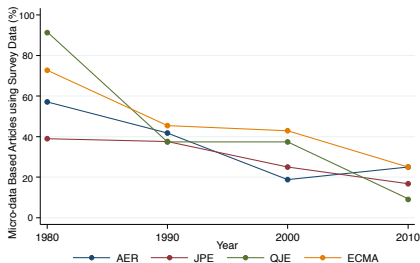
*... The United States would be much better positioned in this scientific race if access to US administrative data was the norm rather than the exception in limited pilot programs.*

Liran Einav, Jonathan Levin, 2014

*Government administrative data are almost certainly under-utilized, both by government agencies and, because of limited and restricted access, by researchers ... In cases where the government has allowed access to administrative datasets, there often have been profound consequences for economic policy discussions.*

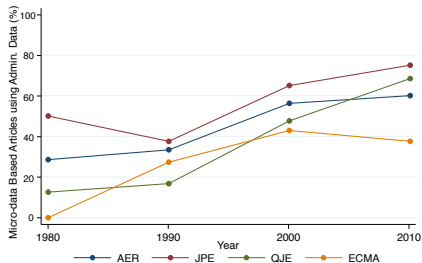
# Trends in Research : Raj Chetty, 2012

Use of Pre-Existing Survey Data in Publications in Leading Journals, 1980-2010



Note: "Pre-existing survey" datasets refer to micro surveys such as the CPS or SIPP and do not include surveys designed by researchers for their study. Sample excludes studies whose primary data source is from developing countries.

Use of Administrative Data in Publications in Leading Journals, 1980-2010



Note: "Administrative" datasets refer to any dataset that was collected without directly surveying individuals (e.g., scanner data, stock prices, school district records, social security records). Sample excludes studies whose primary data source is from developing countries.

## Not Distinct

- 1 Chief Information officer, very stringent rules
- 2 Currently drafting an “Open Data Directive”
- 3 Access granted on a per-project basis (very lengthy)

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## Distinct

- 1 Quebec has its own RDC network (2 sites) : CADRISQ
  - ▶ Service d'accès aux données de recherche (SAD)
  - ▶ Houses ISQ data only
  - ▶ No administrative data
- 2 Data sharing is a sensitive political issue
- 3 Some ministries have good research capacity
- 4 Specificity : FQRSC (SSHRC) Actions concertées

## Own experience

- 1 Access difficult when initiated by a researcher
- 2 Information Officer : Bottleneck
- 3 Much easier when initiated by a given Ministry
  - ▶ Entire welfare files, evaluate training programs and welfare dynamics
  - ▶ Labour Market Agreement : Survey data, Quebec welfare files, T4 files, Status Vector, ROE (2003, 2013)
  - ▶ Entire R1 (T4) tax files (on-site), evaluate QPIP (Quebec Parental Insurance Plan)
  - ▶ Tomorrow : Public Safety Quebec, evaluate training programs for inmates (Auditor General)

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## Conclusion

- 1 Not very optimistic
- 2 Access to data not a priority for government
- 3 Concerted efforts required to convince ministers