CDER, Productivity Network and Firm Level Data

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Firm Level Productivity Network: Data School
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My Background

Data

- Using administrative datasets since 2000
- LEAP, T2LEAP, LWF

Stages of my accessing administrative data:

1. Statistics Canada regional office in Vancouver - about 1 year
2. Traveling to Ottawa since 2002
   1. Initially somewhat informal procedure to access data
   2. CDER formal procedure

My Background

Research: → **GOAL of the research is to look firm dynamics with a focus on financial leverage**

- Firm size dynamics
- Firm Growth
- Entrant Performance
- Post-Entry Dynamics
- Firm life-cycle patterns
- Impact of firm and industry condition on worker outcomes

Also:

- SSHRC grants for research and data development.

Data Access at Statistics Canada

Similarities and Changes:

1. Old process
   - Proposal subject to approval
   - Travel to Ottawa to work with data
   - Vetting by various STC employees

2. CDER process
   - Proposal subject to approval
   - Travel to Ottawa to work with synthetic data
   - Batch mode to submit jobs on actual data
   - Formal vetting process
   - Matches procedures at other countries

CDER and Data Access

Why the change in data access procedures?

1. Security Security Security
2. Risk management
3. Formalized process

Felix Richie (2010): Access to confidential data poor because of:

- poor incentives; and
- risk or understanding of risk
- http://jdi.econ.queensu.ca/content/how-access-firm-level-data-informs-public-policy-2010

CDER and Data Access

Current advantages of CDER:

1. For Statistics Canada:
   - Minimize risk and costs
2. For Researchers:
   - Formalized process
   - Information transparency - especially with data availability
3. For policy makers:
   - Better data and research to inform policy matters

CDER and Data Access

Future possible CDER data access advantages/improvements:

- Batch mode structure allows for remote access
- Data development
    - Expand research opportunities
    - Recent example: linking emissions data from National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) to ASM
    - Public use firm dynamics statistics
        - US 1976-20012: https://www.census.gov/ces/dataproducts/bds/
        - Canada 2001-2012: CANSIM tables 527-0001 to 527-0012.

Advice

1. Large Fixed costs to working with data
   - Payoff: Research agenda
2. Do not reinvent the wheel $\rightarrow$ Ask for advice and use the help from others
   - Statistics Canada
   - Researchers with a history of working with the data and Statistics Canada
   - Productivity Network
3. But do not over burden others and yourself