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RMRDC Projects and Collaborations

The Rocky Mountain RDC continues to be one of the more productive RDCs in the FSRDC network as seen in Figure 1. Many of the projects are collaborations across institutions, which is highlighted in Figure 2.

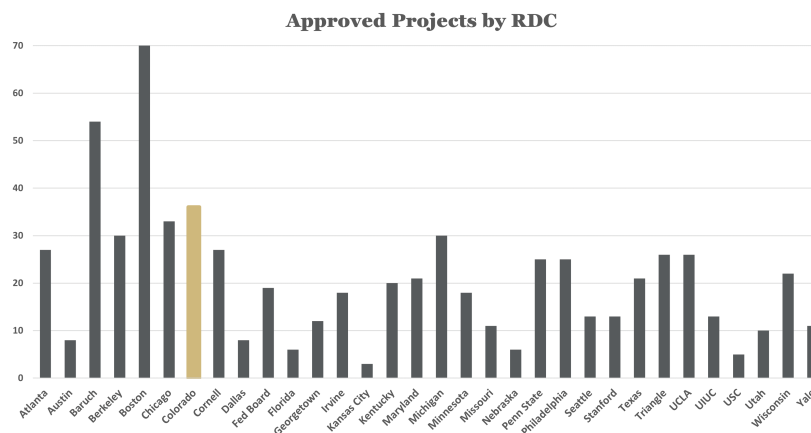


Figure1: RMRDC has the third most number of projects across the FSRDC system.

Please continue to think about ways that restricted-use data could benefit your research and also foster collaborations. It's an invaluable resource and we want to make sure it gets fully utilized.

New LEHD Snapshot Documentation Available

We are excited to say that a long-awaited update to the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) data will be available to researchers in early 2023. In anticipation of this, the Center for Economic Studies at Census has recently published documentation for the updated data here: <https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/lehd-snapshot-doc/latest/>

The new documentation describes important nuances, limitations, and methodology choices that will help users better understand each of the files included in the updated data. Expect more frequent updates to the LEHD in the future, as Census plans to publish new data annually moving forward.

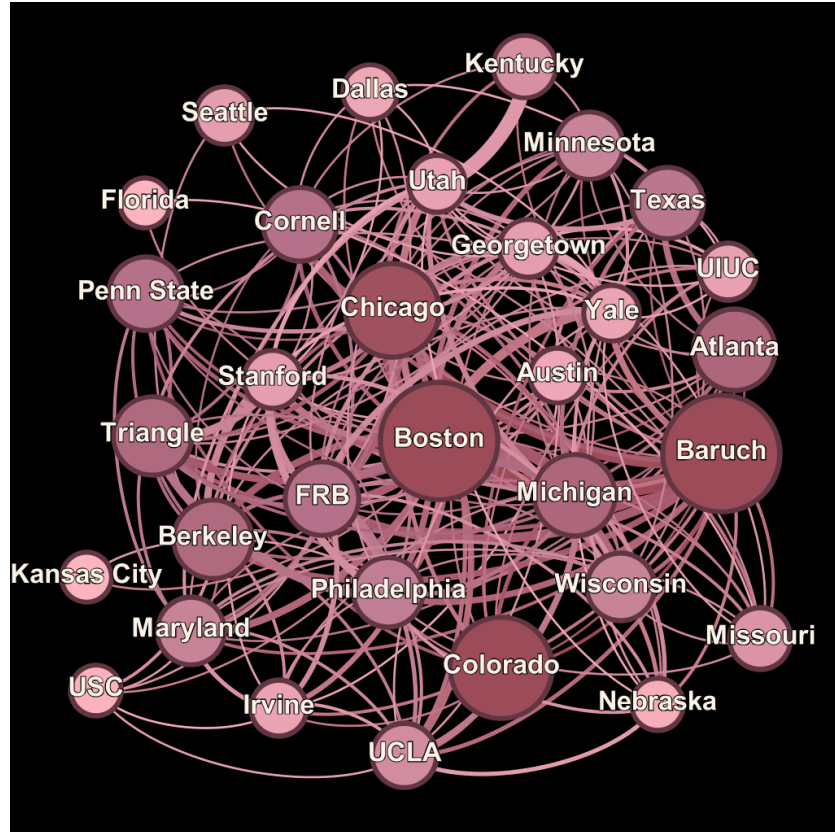


Figure2: Node size indicates total number of projects and line thickness represents number of collaborations between RDCs

New Standard Application Process (SAP) Goes Live

The federal statistical agencies have agreed on a common application process that prospective researchers can now use to request access to federal, restricted data. The SAP considerably streamlines proposal development, especially for projects that request data from multiple agencies. Interested parties can now visit the SAP portal at researchdatagov.org and create a profile through ICPSR to browse data offerings and submit applications. Keep an eye out for a tutorial walking you through how to use the portal, soon, from our very own RDC Administrator, Phil Pendergast!

University of Colorado Boulder
Graduate Student Selected for
Census Mentorship Program

Kas McLean (PhD Student - Economics) has been selected for the Center for Economic Studies (CES) Dissertation Mentorship Program. She is working with Martha Stinson to improve the accuracy of County Business Patterns Business Register (CBPBR) address geolocations and construct an establishment-level matching algorithm between the Longitudinal Business Database (LBD) and the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD). Kas' project will leverage these new geolocations and establishment linkages to estimate impacts of business closures on nearby establishments and those who work there.



New Data to Address Pressing Issues

Veteran's Health and Wellbeing

The Data Linkage Program at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) announced the release of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) linked data files. They have completed the linkage of the 2005-2018 National Health Interview Surveys (NHIS) and National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES) data to administrative VA data through September 30, 2020. Linkage of NCHS survey participants with VA administrative data provides the opportunity to examine a wide range of health-related topics for Veterans, including Veteran status and utilization of VA benefit programs. Read more at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/va.htm>

Financing Rental Housing

The 2021 Rental Housing Finance Survey (RHFS) provides a current and continuous measure of financial, mortgage, and property characteristics of rental housing properties in the United States. The survey focuses on the financing of rental housing properties, with emphasis on new mortgages, refinanced mortgages, or similar devices such as deeds of trust or land contracts, and the characteristics of debt originations. Read more at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/rhfs.html>

Characteristics of Participants in Housing Assistance Programs

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in collaboration with the U.S. Census Bureau announced the release of the ACS-HUD linked data product. The data are based on the linkage of the 2011 through 2018 American Community Surveys (ACS) with HUD administrative records for HUD's largest housing assistance programs: Multifamily, Public Housing, and Housing Choice Vouchers.

The ACS contains a wealth of information not collected in HUD administrative records, including questions about race, employment status, industry of occupation, veteran status, commuting modes, and availability of highspeed internet. Read more at <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/acs-hud-data-linkage.html>

Energy Use in the Manufacturing Sector

The 2019 Manufacturing Energy Consumption Survey (MECS) is a national sample survey that collects information on the stock of U.S. manufacturing establishments, their energy-related building characteristics, and their energy consumption and expenditures. The reference period is the calendar year 2018 with a sample size of approximately 15,000 establishments representing 97-98% of the manufacturing payroll. This sample allows separate estimates of energy use for 21 3-digit industry subsectors, and 50 industry groups and industries according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Read more at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/mecs/about.html>

New Approved Projects

Six projects, listed below, became fully operational in the past year. This includes the first RMRDC project from Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Anders Van Sandt (University of Wyoming, Econ), **Craig Carpenter, and Scott Loveridge** (Michigan State University, Ag Econ). “Exploring the Impact of Comprehensive Health Care Access on Health Outcomes Across the U.S.” American Community Survey (ACS), Business Register, Longitudinal Business Database (LBD).

Shaowei Wan (University of Colorado Anschutz, School of Med) **and Myles Cockburn** (University of Southern California, School of Med). “Identifying Geographic Areas of Unmet Needs for Hospice Care among Persons with Cancer: A National Perspective.” U.S. Cancer Statistics Data.

Rickey Tolliver, Erika Iisa, and Ashley Juhl (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment). “Sub-state

Analysis of the National Survey of Children's Health: Colorado Oversample for State and Local Public Health Planning & Assessment.” National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH).

Justin Denney (Washington State University, Soc) **and Jason Boardman** (University of Colorado Boulder Boulder, Soc).

“Hearing Quality, Social Resources, and Mortality among U.S. Adults.” Mortality Disparities in American Communities (linked American Community Survey (ACS) + National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) records).

Joshua Black and Annika Czizik (Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Safety). “Classifying individuals who progress from nonfatal, opioid-related hospital encounters to fatal overdose”. National Children’s Health Survey (NCHS) linked with National Death Index (NDI) Drug-Involved Mortality (DIM) Dataset.

Phil Pendergast (U.S. Census, RMRDC) **and Bryce Hannibal** (U.S. Census, WFRDC). “FSRDC Impact Study.” Survey of Earned Doctorates, Survey of Doctoral Recipients, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD), UMETRICS.

RMRDC Administrator Prepares to Depart

It is bittersweet to announce to you all that I will be leaving my position with the RMRDC in April, 2023 to start a new, tenure track faculty position in the Sociology department at my alma matter, Western Washington University (WWU). Over the nearly five years that I’ve worked as your administrator, it has been my pleasure to get to know so many of you on both personal and professional levels, during which we’ve experienced some glorious highs (project and publication acceptances, grant funding notifications, dissertation defenses!) and soul-crushing lows (annual trainings, difficult disclosure reviews, annual trainings...) together. I am so grateful to have been a part of your lives and to have helped you pursue such interesting, varied, important topics of research. We have always made a great team together, and I cannot thank Jani and Kas enough for their constant support. I can rest assured knowing you’ll continue to be in good hands with them at the RMRDC.

The position that I will be taking at WWU is so perfectly suited to me that I simply could not ignore it. In addition to getting more involved with undergraduate teaching and mentorship, which I have always had a passion for, I'll be managing a computing and research lab that provides job and research skills training for mostly non-traditional students. I am literally taking over the position recently left by my undergraduate mentor, where I will pay forward the opportunities that I received and that made me who I am today. If that wasn't enough, I'm also very excited to return to one of my favorite places on earth and be closer to family. My couch is always open to anyone who hasn't visited Bellingham before!

— Phil Pendergast