



Request for Proposals
Research Data Centre Program
Statistics Canada
Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) -- Pilot Project
April 25, 2016

In order to increase access to the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) data, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, together with Statistics Canada's Research Data Centres (RDCs), is conducting a pilot project in which Integrated Criminal Court Survey data from 2005/2006 to 2013/2014 will be available in certain RDCs. This pilot project will give university researchers greater access to data on criminal court cases and will aim to evaluate and improve confidentiality vetting rules. It will also help to improve survey documents for users.

The Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) is administered by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (Statistics Canada) in collaboration with provincial and territorial government departments responsible for criminal courts in Canada. The survey collects statistical information on adult and youth court cases involving Criminal Code and other federal statute offences.

The primary unit of analysis is a case. A case is defined as one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. A case combines all charges against the same person having one or more key overlapping dates (date of offence, date of initiation, date of first appearance, or date of decision) into a single case.

The micro-data for the ICCS are included in the Charge File. The Charge File contains all the completed charges for all completed cases and each record in the file represents a completed charge and has information on the record used to identify which completed case it belongs to.

The data file will be helpful for analysis of characteristics of criminal incidents before the courts, particularly the number of completed cases (including the most common types of offences), the decisions made in cases, as well as the types of sentences that are imposed on accused persons who are found guilty. In addition, age and sex of the accused, median sentence lengths, as well as the amount of time it takes to process completed court cases and the factors which may influence court timeliness can all be examined. The data from these 9 years give researchers a bigger sample to analyze characteristics of incidents, the accused and victims and make it possible to **analyze data from year to year**.

General information on the Integrated Criminal Court Survey can be found on the Statistics Canada website at:

<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2&SDDS=3312>

Additional information is available in the Integrated Criminal Court Survey - RDC User Manual. To obtain an electronic version please contact Kelly Cranswick at: Kelly.Cranswick@canada.ca.

As the primary objective of this pilot project is to evaluate and refine confidentiality vetting rules for the ICCS data, to adequately test these rules, preference will be given to proposed studies on the following basis:

1. Studies involving the production of basic tabular outputs (e.g., frequencies, means, medians, ratios), including supplemental tables (to produce graphical outputs or support covariance matrices).
2. Studies that focus on one or more of the following:
 - Regional, or Provincial/Territorial-level analysis;
 - Analysis using sex or specific ages or age groups (e.g., youth, adults) of the accused;
 - Analysis using particular variables, for example: survey (adult/youth), level of court, court type, type of decision, type of offence, type of sentence, sentencing details, or case elapsed time.

The pilot study will run over a 2-year period. All confidentiality vetting requests will be reviewed by a special CCJS-RDC pilot committee which will require additional time to organize. Researchers should bear these factors in mind when considering the appropriateness of this pilot and any potential impact on the timely completion of their own work.

Proposals should be submitted by **June 10, 2016**. In addition to the above criteria, proposals will be assessed on the viability of the proposed research. The proposals must meet the requirements of: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/rdc/faculty> Proposals will be evaluated as they are received. It is expected that 10 to 12 proposals will be accepted for inclusion in this pilot project. All researchers will be notified by June 25, 2016 if their proposal has been approved. If you have not been contacted by this date please check the CRDCN website for a status update of pilot (<http://www.rdc-cdr.ca/datasets/iccs-integrated-criminal-courts-survey>)

Proposals should be submitted by June 10, 2016 to:

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Research Data Centre Program
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