Measuring Innovation and Productivity Change in Agriculture: UMETRICS Data and the Innovation Measurement Initiative

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Federal Statistical Research Data Centers are partnerships between federal statistical agencies and leading research institutions. They are secure facilities providing authorized access to restricted-use microdata for statistical purposes only.

2018 Research Data Center Annual Conference
September 2018
Pennsylvania State University will host the 2018 Research Data Center Annual Conference.
Research Using the Innovation Measurement Initiative's (IMI) UMETRICS Data

IMI’s Universities: Measuring the Impacts of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Science (UMETRICS) data are useful for analyzing the social and economic effects of research investments; the scientific production function; the career outcomes and earnings of graduate students and trainees; questions pertaining to science and engineering workforce and the STEM pipeline; and many other possible topics. The Census Bureau partnered with the University of Michigan's Institute for Research on Innovation and Science (IRIS) to provide data-driven insights into the impact of research funding on the broader economy. Work in progress by researchers utilizing IMI UMETRICS data will provide more detailed analyses of entrepreneurial outcomes and human capital, the economic effects of research related to food safety, and the relationship between research funding and subsequent entrepreneurship for various demographic groups.

About the Current Data Release

The 2018 IMI UMETRICS data release includes information on awards, wage payments from awards to university research employees, vendor purchases, subcontracts, and the unit performing the funded research for 26 universities, released in May 2018. University employee data are linked to internal Census Bureau data products, such as the Decennial Census, American Communities Survey, Longitudinal Employee-Employer Household Dynamics database (LEHD), integrated Longitudinal Business Database, and other demographic information. Vendors paid by research grants are linked to the Business Register, Longitudinal Business Database, and the LEHD, providing researchers with a comprehensive view on the businesses associated with the production of scientific research.

The dataset includes transactions from approximately 300,000 federal and non-federal awards including payments to over 350,000 individuals as well as payments to over 600,000 vendors, sub-contractors, and other research performers totaling $27 billion. We integrate this information with detailed data on over 300,000 federal and non-federal awards.

The next release of IMI UMETRICS data is planned for May 2019, and each spring thereafter.
Envisioning the Future of the Research Enterprise

The Institute for Research on Innovation and Science (IRIS) is a national consortium of research universities organized around an IRB-approved data repository. IRIS develops data for research and reporting to understand, explain and improve the public value of academic research. Currently, IRIS member institutions account for more than 25% of all federal R&D spending.
Measuring the Economic Value of Research: The Case of Food Safety
Kaye Husbands Fealing, Julia I. Lane, John L. King, and Stanley R. Johnson editors
Cambridge University Press, December 2017
ISBN: 9781316612415

Why the US science and engineering workforce is aging rapidly
David Blau and Bruce A. Weinberg
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
Early Edition: approved February 14, 2017

STEM Training and Early Career Outcomes of Female and Male Graduate Students: Evidence from UMETRICRS Data Linked to the 2010 Census
Catherine Buffington, Benjamin Cerf, Christina Jones, and Bruce A. Weinberg
American Economic Review May 2016
106(5): 333–338

Wrapping it up in a person: Examining employment and earnings outcomes for Ph.D. recipients
Nikolas Zolas, Nathan Goldschlag, Ron Jarmin, Paula Stephan, Jason Owen-Smith, Rebecca F. Rosen, Barbara McFadden Allen, Bruce A. Weinberg, Julia I. Lane
Science 11 December 2015
Vol. 350 no. 6266 pp. 1367-1371
DOI: 10.1126/science.aac5949

Science Funding and Short-Term Economic Activity
Bruce A. Weinberg, Jason Owen-Smith, Rebecca F. Rosen, Lou Schwarz, Barbara McFadden Allen, Roy F. Weiss, Julia Lane
Science 4 April 2014
Vol. 344 no. 6179 pp. 41-43
DOI: 10.1126/science.1250055

New linked data on research investments: Scientific workforce, productivity, and public value
Julia I. Lane, Jason Owen-Smith, Rebecca F. Rosen, and Bruce A. Weinberg
Research Policy Volume 44, Issue 9
December 2014, Pages 1659–1671
The New Data Frontier
Data Relationships

UMETRICS DATA
University data on Federal awards:
Employee, vendor, subaward transactions

CENSUS DATA
Secure data on people and businesses:
Employment records, business dynamics & characteristics

Employee Name/DOB
Organization Name/Location

JOB PLACEMENTS
Where research employees get their next jobs

START-UP ACTIVITY
What types of businesses research employees found

VENDOR CHARACTERISTICS
What types of businesses supply research
Opportunities for policy research in agriculture

- Federal funding and business start-up
- Complementarity between federal and private funding
- Employment and wages in food and agricultural industries
- Comprehensive picture of complex farm-to-agribusiness links (requires links between USDA and other fed data products => RDCs at LGUs partnering with ERS/USDA researchers).
Links for further information

- Federal Statistical Research Data Center Program
- Commission on Evidence-Based Policy
- Institute for Research on Innovation and Science
- Census Center for Economic Studies, UMETRICS Data Product

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