

Unlocking New Insights through Restricted Microdata: 30 Years of Innovative Research from Federal Statistical Research Data Centers

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Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology

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What are FSRDCs?

- Partnerships between federal agencies, research institutions, researchers
 - Provide access to restricted microdata for research
 - Findings benefit agencies, researchers and organizations, public
- 33 secure, networked locations
 - Universities or Federal Reserve Banks; virtual access



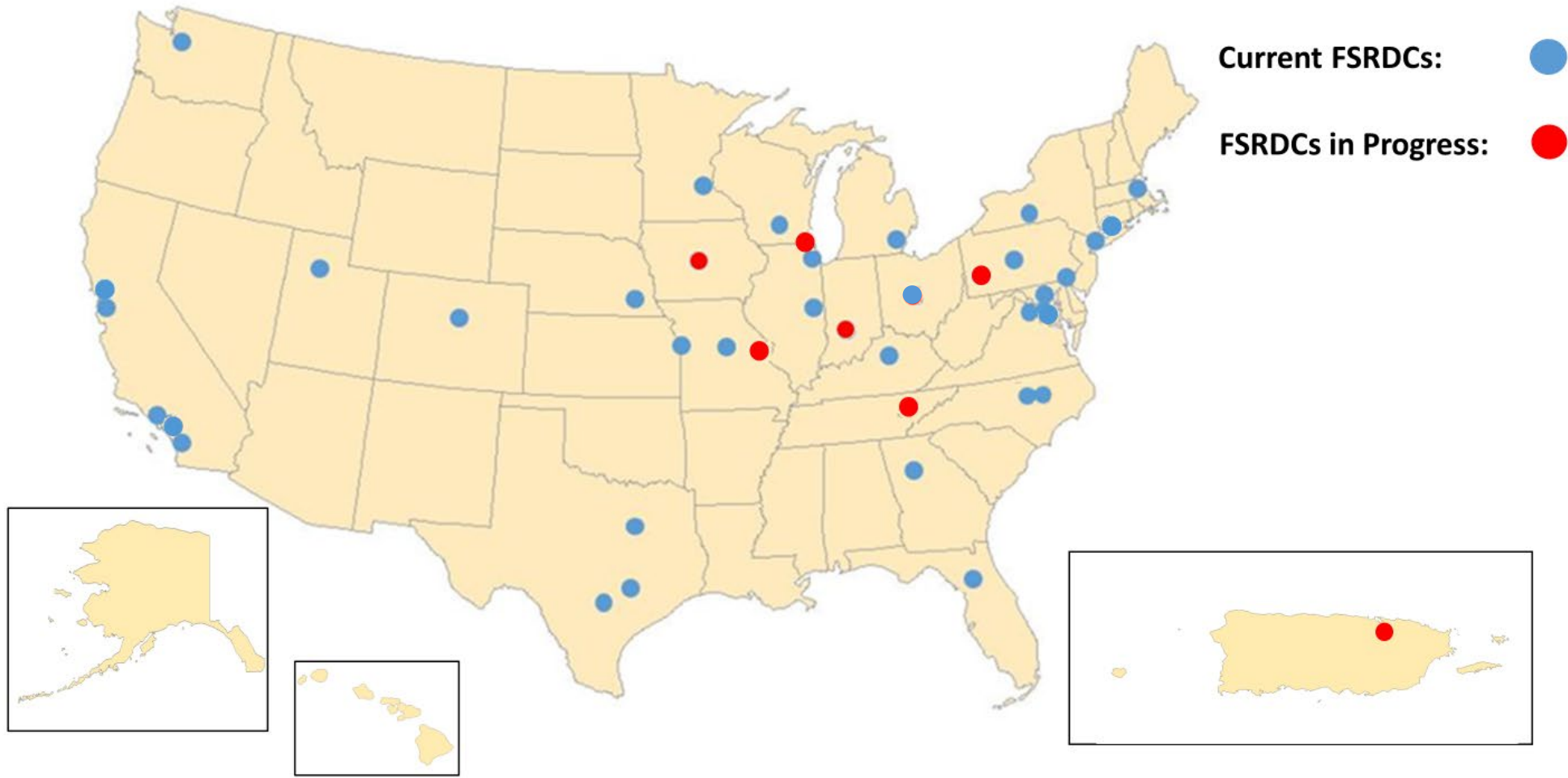
U.S. Equal Employment
Opportunity Commission



BOARD OF GOVERNORS *of the*
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

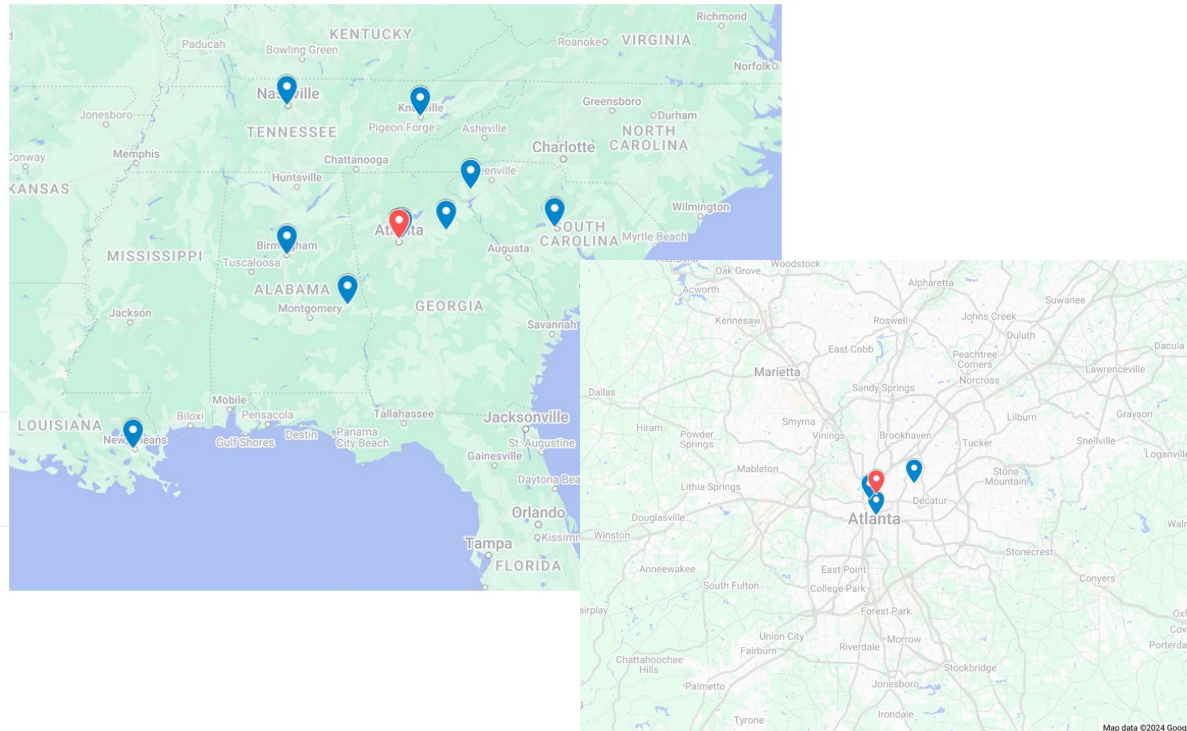


FSRDC Geographic Coverage



FSRDC Program Reach

- Collaborations between local institutional partners
- 125+ academic and non-profit research organizations members



Atlanta FSRDC Partner Institutions (Example):

Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank

Auburn University

Clemson University

Emory University

Georgia Institute of Technology

Georgia State University

Tulane University

University of Alabama-Birmingham

University of Georgia

University of South Carolina

University of Tennessee

Vanderbilt University

Spectrum of Statistical Products

FSRDCs represent
one end of the data
dissemination
spectrum



Agency specific
confidential microdata



Simple,
public use
products

Data Highlights



People and programs



Employment and earnings



Economic



Housing



Health

Examples of survey data

Survey of Earned Doctorates

Current Population Survey

Economic Census

American Housing Survey

National Health Interview Survey

Examples of administrative data

SSA Numident

Longitudinal Employer Household

Historic IRS 1040 tax filings

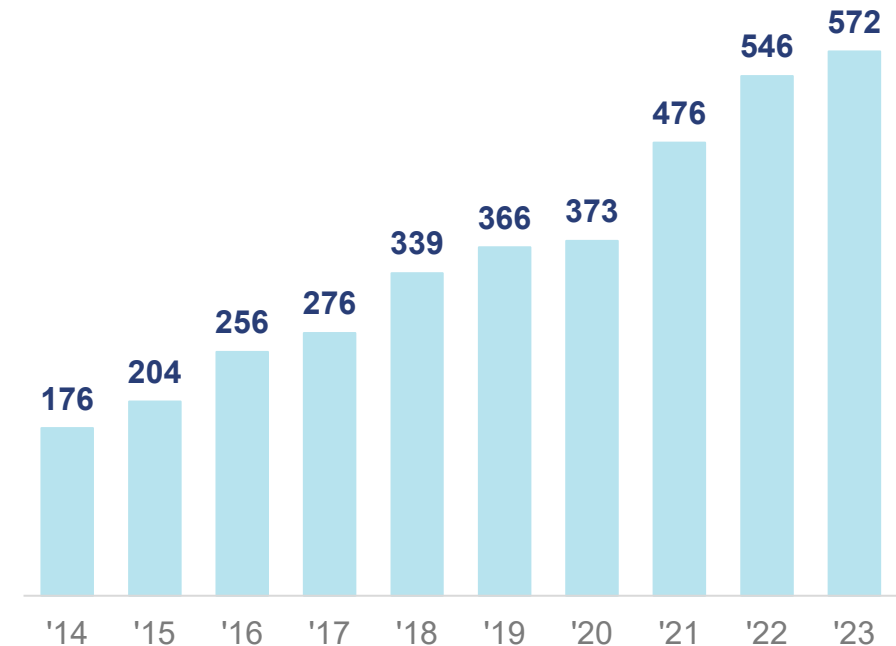
Moving to Opportunity database

Medicare/Medicaid Enrollment

Program Status and Transparent Use of the Network

- 570+ active projects
- 1200+ active researchers
- Project Metadata and outputs made publicly available
- Standard Application Process via researchdatagov.org

Number of Active FSRDC Projects



FSRDC Research Successes

Ben Hyman

Three FSRDC projects

“Wage Insurance for Displaced Workers” (2024)

Research Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Early career

Later career

Claudia Goldin

Awarded Nobel Prize in Economics in 2023

“The Expanding Gender Earnings Gap: Evidence from the LEHD-2000 Census” (2017)

Harvard University Professor

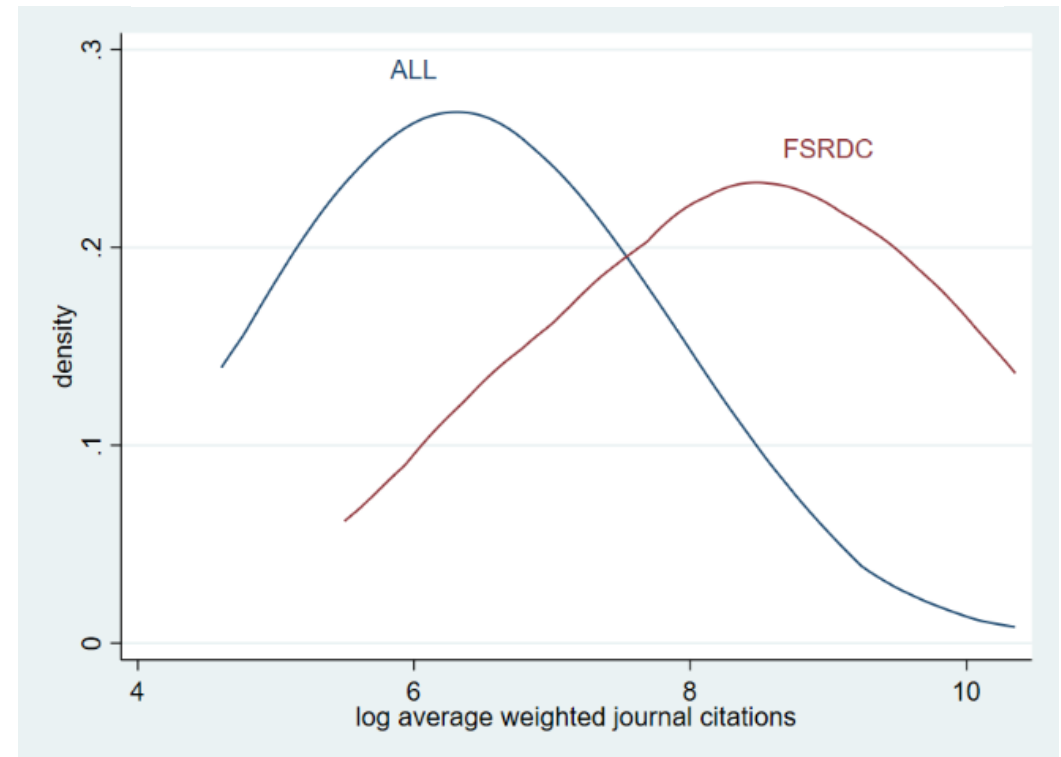
FSRDC Research Published in Highly Cited Journals

88% of economics articles published in the top quartile of economics journals (versus 41%)

45% of economics articles published in the top 20 economics journals (versus 2%)

23% of economics articles published in the top five economics journals (versus 1%)

Distribution of FSRDC and All Economic Articles by Journal Citation Intensity



Journal rankings based on the [SCImago Journal Rank \(SJR\) Indicator for Economics, Econometrics, and Finance](#).

Challenge: Expand Equitable Access



Expand user-base beyond Research-1 institutions

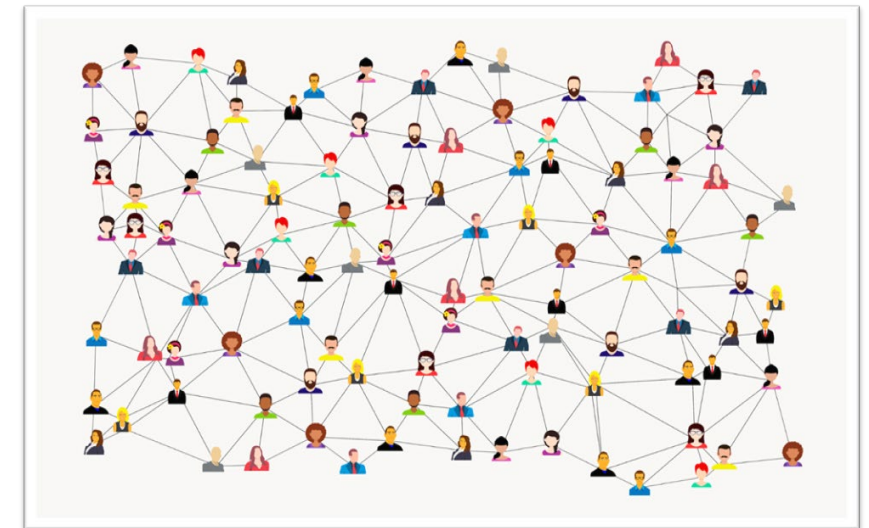


Be a resource for:

- Minority Serving Institutions
- Non-R1 universities
- State and local governments
- Non-profit institutions



Level the playing field so qualified users are equally capable of utilizing FSRDCs



Efforts to Expand Equitable Access



Federal Statistical Research Data Center Executive Committee Strategic Action Plan for Increasing Equitable Access to Data

Introduction

The Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC) Executive Committee (EXCOM) has endeavored to identify a collective vision for the FSRDC program that represents the diverse views of Federal agency and institution partners, enabling it to meet present and future challenges and opportunities. *The central objective of this vision is to expand equitable access for underserved communities to confidential data provisioned through the FSRDC program. Expanding access to the FSRDC program will accelerate scientific discovery, improve the accessibility and utility of federal statistical data, and promote greater equity by increasing the user-base of Federal statistical system data. This goal is to be pursued by bolstering training and financial support to data users and by leveraging virtual access technology.* The action plan presented here develops a framework for the FSRDC program to expand equitable access to its data holdings. The key concepts from this framework are explored in greater detail below, along with a proposal to empower working groups to investigate major questions and decision-points, and bring forward recommended courses of action with decision points to the FSRDC EXCOM.

This action plan was developed through consultation between FSRDC Federal agency and institutional partner members and derived through member participation in a budget workshop, two quarterly meetings, and the FSRDC program's annual conference and business meetings. Members have answered multiple questionnaires requesting their input on priorities and preferences and suggested actionable ideas on how best to move the program forward. Federal agency and institutional partner members have also met separately on multiple occasions to discuss these and other issues in more detail.



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Award: Expanding Equitable Access to Restricted-Use Data through Federal Statistical Research Data Centers (FSRDC)

Award Date: 10/27/2023

Project Title: Expanding Equitable Access to Restricted-Use Data through Federal Statistical Research Data Centers

Project Performers: Regents of the University of Michigan (Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research), Mary E. Campbell, Director (Texas Federal Statistical Research Data Center, Texas A&M University), Shannon Degenhart, Research Specialist II (Texas Federal Statistical Research Data Center, Texas A&M University), Konane Martinez, Director (National Latino Research Center, California State University – San Marcos)

Award Amount: \$499,406.00

Objective: The objective of this project is to conduct an environmental scan of user demand/need and strategies for expanding access to the restricted-use data made available through Federal Statistical Research Data Centers

Thank You!

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