**Pesticide Data Program**

United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service. (2016). *PDP Databases, 1992-2014*. [ZIP archives with data files]. Retrieved September 9, 2016, from: https://www.ams.usda.gov/datasets/pdp/pdpdata

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) of the USDA specifies on its privacy page that all information on its site is public and can be copied or distributed if credit is given (URL: https://www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/privacy).

As food is one of the fundamental things we cannot live without, the safety of our food products is of great importance. So, openly available data on pesticide residue found in our food commodities, such as those provided in this Pesticide Residue Program, are valuable. AMS tests for pesticide residue on over ten thousand samples of agricultural goods sold in the US every year. These datasets include details such as where and when the item samples were collected, the types of processing the products had undergone, the types and amounts of residue, and whether the products had organic or pesticide-free claims.

Concerned consumers or groups who are willing to put forth the effort to look into detailed pesticide residue information would be interested in these data to help themselves make educated decisions and know what to watch out for when purchasing food products for themselves or their families. Government agencies from other countries might use the data to compare with their domestic pesticide residue levels or to decide on the importing of US produce, while US government agencies could use the data to help monitor residue level changes or for consideration of policy changes. Independent research labs or organizations, both domestic and foreign, may also be interested in using the data from here as comparison or reference for their own study or investigation.

Some questions these databases can help answer include: What are the most common types of pesticide residue found on organic produce and which particular products have more residue compared to other organic fruits and vegetables? USDA's summary said over 99% of its samples meet EPA residue requirements, but what types of produce were the ones that did not, and is there a pattern or do they appear random from year to year? On average, do imported produce have less or more residue compared to domestic US produced products?

**World Economic Outlook**

International Monetary Fund. (2016). *World Economic Outlook Database, April 2016*. [XLS data file]. Retrieved September 10, 2016, from: http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2016/01/weodata/download.aspx

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) mentioned in the FAQ section for the World Economic Outlook (URL: http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/faq.htm#q1e) that the data can be used for written work as long as the database is cited. The terms are outlined in further detail in the “Special Terms and Conditions Pertaining to the Use of Data” section of their Copyright and Usage page (URL: http://www.imf.org/external/terms.htm) where it is stated that users are permitted to use, distribute, create derivative works, publish, and even sell data from IMF if the source of the data is cited.

The World Economic Outlook (WEO) has aggregated economic data from countries around the globe, including major topics such as gross domestic product (GDP), inflation, unemployment rate, commodity prices, government finance, national accounts, and trade. The WEO also makes projections for the next two years to help estimate what we might face going forward. As the economies of different countries are now very much interconnected and are easily influenced by major changes in other parts of the world, it is important to have a centralized database of economic indicators from around the world to help monitor the global situation and to assist decision-makers in the creation of financial policies and decisions.

Economists can use the data to analyze the world’s economic situation and produce forecasts, or see how the economies of different countries around the world correlate with each other and which countries might be experiencing or are forecasted to have difficulties financially. Government policy makers can use the WEO as insight for making legislative decisions on finance and economy related matters. Companies and investors can use the information gained from the WEO to determine the economic environment nationally and globally, and then use that as a factor of consideration in investment decisions.

The WEO can help people answer questions such as: Which countries have government debt that exceeded 100% of their GDP? Which countries have the largest import and export gap, and is there a correlation between that and the GDP of the country? Which country has the highest unemployment rate in the world, and how has their GDP changed in recent years?

**United States Cancer Statistics**

U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. (2016). *United States Cancer Statistics Data, 1999–2013.* [ZIP archives with data files]. Retrieved September 10, 2016, from: http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/npcr/uscs/download\_data.htm

The disclaimer at the bottom of the homepage for the United States Cancer Statistics (USCS) (URL: https://nccd.cdc.gov/uscs/) states that the contents of the report is public domain and does not require additional permission to use if source citation is provided. The only restriction is that the data is to be used for statistics and analysis only and cannot be used with other databases to identify a particular individual.

The United States Cancer Statistics data contain information on cancer incidences and mortalities in the United States from 1999 to 2013. In addition to the type of cancer for each case recorded, the data also include information on age, gender, ethnicity, and location. Since cancer is a leading cause of death and a concern for many people around the country, if not the world, data on which cancers have high occurrences and mortality rates are very important for prevention, care, and cancer related research.

Health organizations or statistic reporting agencies could use the data for analysis of leading cancers in the US and any changes in occurrences over time. They could also perhaps use them to check whether innovative preventive measures and treatments recently put into practice correlate to any overall decreases in occurrence and mortality rates of certain types of cancers as one possible indicator of effectiveness. Researchers in pharmaceutical or other healthcare sectors could examine the data to identify important areas for further treatment and prevention study. The statistics could also help provide healthcare providers with information on which groups (race, age, gender, etc.) seem to be more at risk for certain types of cancer, which could help them better tailor the care they provide to their patients and better educate the patients on what they are at-risk for and what they should do as preventive measures.

With the information these statistics provide, we could find answers to questions like: What is the number one cancer occurring for women over 50 in the US? Are there any differences in the most frequently occurring cancer types between different races, and how have they changed over the time covered by the data? Which cancers resulted in the highest mortality rate in recent years?

Total word count: 1134