

Accessing SUL Provided Social Science Data with R

Online at: bit.ly/sul-db-R

Last updated: December 01, 2016 – cengel @ stanford

The Stanford Libraries offer a number of datasets for social science research. This is a document detailing if and how those can be accessed when using R. It is work in progress.

Data providers marked with (*) are presenters at the *Social Science Gear Up 2016 event*.

Data from SUL

- Bloomberg (*)
 - Restricted to designated machines at GSB
 - Details here: <http://libguides.stanford.edu/bloomberg>
- Bureau of Economic Analysis
 - has API
 - R package announced for late Oct 2016
- California Attorney General's Open Justice Portal
 - Use `read.csv(url("http:..."))` to load *CSV* from their data portal.
- Census public/RDC (*)
 - Public census has APIs
 - RDC restricted to designated, offline machines
 - R packages:
 - * `acs` (some instructions here)
 - * `UScensus2010`
 - * `tigris`
 - References, slightly outdated:
 - * Getting data from the ACS into R
 - * Performing spatial regression modeling in R with ACS data
- CoreLogic (*)
 - Stanford only, download *XLS* from Stanford Digital Repository
 - **need to read End User License Agreement before use**
- DataPlanet (*)
 - Stanford only via EzProxy and export *CSV*
 - Supposedly has API(?), but request form is not accessible
- Gallup Analytics (*)
 - Stanford only, via EzProxy
 - Data download through web interface as *XLSX* only – **broken or disabled(?)**
- ICPSR (*)
 - R package `icpsrdata` (GitHub)
- IMF (*)
 - Has API
 - R packages:
 - * `IMFData` (GitHub)
 - * `rWEO` for IMF-WEO data
- MapLight (*)
 - Bill Positions has API
 - Some R code from Hadley Wickham (not a package!). Last commit several years back, but still seems to work.
 - Download California Money and Politics Bulk Data Set and Federal Money and Politics Data Set as zipped *CSV*, like this.

- OECD
 - R package `OECD` (GitHub)
- ProQuest Statistical Products
 - Stanford only, via EzProxy
 - Data download as *XLS* (or *PDF*)
- RefUSA
 - Stanford only, via GSB
 - Data download as *CSV*, *TSV*, *Excel* (275 downloads per search)
- Roper iPoll
 - Stanford only, via EzProxy
 - Data download seems tedious. I was only able to download *CSV* for a single question at a time.
- San Mateo County Open Data
 - Use generic Socrata Open Data API
 - R package `RSocrata` (GitHub)
- SimplyMap
 - Stanford extended access via <http://simplymap.com/> – need to be either on campus, or use VPN or set up browser proxy. 5 concurrent licenses.
 - Manual data download, no remote access (guest account allows to download *CSV*, Stanford access allows to download *SHP* as well)
- World Bank (*)
 - Currently 60 databases
 - Has API
 - R packages:
 - * `WDI` (GitHub)
 - * `wbstats`
 - * `rWBData`
 - * `rWBclimate` for the World Bank climate data
- Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS) (*)
 - Stanford login via GSB
 - Data access via remote connection to SAS/SHARE server, which allows direct query of WRDS data via standard database queries, using their (remote) R version.
 - Documentation:
 - * WRDS Data Directly from Python, R, and MATLAB
 - * Using R with WRDS
 - Sparsely documented R package `wrds`

Other R packages

- US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):
 - `rUnemploymentData`
 - `blscraperR`
- DataCite: `rdatacite`
- Medicare public files: `medicare`
- Social Media for Network Analysis: `SocialMediaLab`