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LIS 545

Term Project - Repository Profile

The repository chosen for this aspect of the project is the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD), as created by the Institute for Social Research, which is an academic arm of the University of Michigan. Of the repositories offered on re3data.org, the NACJD is the repository that fits most with the data chosen in the Data and Metadata Profile: The Violent Crime Rate of California 2000-2013. Of the repositories offered under the specific label of Humanities and Social Sciences, narrowed down to Social and Behavioral Sciences, narrowed again to Jurisprudence, and finally down to Criminology, only the NACJD fits fairly well with that specific dataset.

This repository has several options for sharing data, though it does depend on where that data is coming from as most of their data comes directly from their sponsors: the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. They do offer another option, but when selecting it, you are given this message:

“Thank you for your interest in sharing data with NACJD. Most of our data come from studies sponsored by NIJ, OJJDP, or BJS. If you wish to deposit data from a project sponsored by any of those agencies, please go to the Share Data page and select the appropriate option.

We also accept data from other sources. For more information about including your data in the NACJD and ICPSR collections, please email us at nacjd@icpsr.umich.edu. We look forward to discussing your data sharing needs.”

Based on this, it appears that this repository does accept outside submissions, though you do need to consult with them directly ahead of time in order to make sure you’re submitting relevant data. Invariably, the information one would get from could likely be classified as the Submission Information Package (SIP). While it’s understandable why this information isn’t readily available, as this repository obviously has strict specifications, it would have been interesting to examine what the SIP and other requirements for submissions are like.

To access the data from the repository, a user would need to first be able to locate what data it is they’re seeking. In this case, the entity ‘ABC News Poll of Public Opinion on Crime, December 1982 (ICPSR 8100)’ will be used. A user would be able to search for this in a few ways: they could simply utilize the site’s search bar if they had the name of the specific article or even had keywords. Alternatively, the site has some interesting metadata selections that are available. For this particular article, a user could select, under ‘Special Topics,’ the word ‘Homicide.’ They can then search under that label. That would allow them to locate the article just as quickly.

Once they have located it, they can download the data in several different ways: documentation only, SAS, SPSS, Stata, ASCII. There are also options on the landing page for the article: ‘At A Glance,’ ‘Data & Documentation,’ ‘Variables,’ ‘Data-related Publications,’ and ‘Export Metadata.’ When reviewing each of them, the two that most stood out were the ‘Data-related Publications and ‘Export Metadata.’ Data-related publications offered articles that are similar to the one chosen. And export metadata offered the following:

“ICPSR study-level metadata records are available for export in the following formats:

* [Dublin Core](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/studies/8100/export)
* [DDI 2.5](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/studies/8100/export)
* [DATS 2.2](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/studies/8100/export) (JSON)
* [DCAT-US 1.1](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/studies/8100/export) (beta)

**NOTE:** ICPSR study-level descriptions, or metadata records, do not refer to the larger documentation files associated with each study, nor to the actual data files. By downloading ICPSR metadata records, you agree to ICPSR's [Conditions of Use](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/membership/or/metadata/index.html#conditions) regarding those records. If you are looking for collection-level metadata rather than an individual metadata record, please visit our [Metadata Records page](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/membership/or/metadata/index.html).”

This repository’s Dissemination Information Package consists of an article’s title, its version date, principal investigators, series, and its version, along with the described metadata as listed earlier within this paper. This is inevitably going to be useful for any user, as this information is trackable and, as described before, can actually lead the user to other articles or entities that correspond well with the subject they’re searching for.

Overall, even without knowing exactly what this repository’s SIP is as well as what other specifications they have for submitting, based on the data that one can locate with a basic search or utilizing the offered metadata, it’s clear that this repository is the best one for the dataset The Violent Crime Rate of California 2000-2013. They are most certainly specialists when it comes to that precise type of data and would therefore curate it expertly.

**Bibliography**

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