

WRDS at Rotman

WRDS refers to **Wharton Research Data Services** which is a data delivery service covering a number of the databases to which we subscribe.

- Access accounts will be administered by our Financial Research and Trading Lab

Summary of WRDS Services

Data Delivery

- Outsourced data management: WRDS receives the data directly from providers and posts the data to their system in SAS data sets. These data are warehoused at Wharton.
- Access is provided to subscribers over the Internet: data is easily retrievable over the Internet—anytime, anywhere—via point-and-click web query pages, SAS/PC Connect, or a Telnet log-in session, whichever method best suits your needs.
- Output formats:
 - From web queries include: fixed space ASCII text, comma or tab delimited ASCII, html tables, Dbase (.dbf), and SAS transport sets
 - Through the Unix system include: SAS code to export to most formats, Fortran and C routines for accessing CRSP binary data, plus direct to Matlab option soon
- Access to multiple data sources simultaneously: WRDS provides a common interface to a variety of databases, simplifying extraction and increasing productivity.
- WRDS makes data access easy enough for undergraduate students and MBAs to access and analyze data for classroom assignments. Class accounts can be set up for web access for an entire semester, with no limit to access other than the request coming from a U. Toronto IP address.
- For research activities, faculty, Ph.D. students and Research Assistants can get their own accounts (and storage space) on the WRDS UNIX server, which is frequently upgraded to keep it abreast of current technology and load levels.
- Delivery of additional databases to which we subscribe (such as, Datastream) has been promised for the future

Applications and Technical Support

- Integrated tools: WRDS provides software tools and sample programs for a wide variety of applications, including security analysis, conducting event studies, and testing asset pricing models using Fama-French portfolios. In addition, complete financial statements for a single company can be downloaded using a simple web interface.
- Professional Technical and Research Support: WRDS provides experienced technical support for all of their supported databases as well as programming support. They can assist you with difficulties pertaining to database access, data queries, and programming in SAS, FORTRAN, or C.

Try the demonstration at <http://wrds.wharton.upenn.edu/demo/index.shtml>

WRDS at Rotman: Details

Our Databases that can currently be delivered by WRDS

- Compustat (Premium Subscription)
 - Full Compustat Subscription
 - Prices/Dividends/Earnings File
 - Complete Back Data Package
 - Bank Annual and Bank Quarterly Files
 - Back Data Industry and Geographic Segment - Active
 - Back Data Industry and Geographic Segment - Research
 - Industry and Geographic Segment -- Research
- CRSP (Center for Research in Security Prices)
- CCM (CRSP/Compustat Merged Database)
- TAQ (NYSE Trade and Quote Data)
- I/B/E/S (Institutional Brokers' Estimate System)
- ISSM (Institute for the Study of Security Markets)
- ExecuComp
- TSX (Toronto Stock Exchange): coming in 1st quarter 2003

Additional Databases offered free of charge with the WRDS subscription

- Dow Jones Averages
- Philadelphia Stock Exchange (PHLX)
- Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)

Access methods:

WRDS provides two different types of access

- Internet point and click interface
- Unix accounts with SAS, Fortran, C programming support
 - Matlab support available soon

Account types:

- Individual accounts (faculty, research assistants, PhDs, staff)
 - Unlimited access to the WRDS web interface
 - Unlimited number of Unix accounts (telnet and FTP access to WRDS server)
 - 25 megabytes of permanent workspace per user
 - 250 megabytes of temporary project space per user
 - 64 gigabytes of common temporary space per user
- Class accounts (undergraduates and MBAs)
 - Unlimited number of accounts
 - Unlimited access to the WRDS web interface
 - Expiration at end of the semester
- Financial Research and Trading Lab and BIC access
 - One click access to WRDS services from the Lab and the BIC

Continued Access to these and other Research Databases in the FRTL:

- For PhD training, etc., research databases delivered by WRDS will continue to be available on our FRTL server as flat ASCII files
- Other databases not available through WRDS are also available in the FRTL as summarized at <http://www.rotman.utoronto.ca/finance/lab/resources0213.htm>