

WRDS usage: 2020-2021

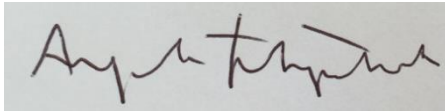
## Introduction

---

On behalf of the students, researchers, faculty, and staff of the University of Cambridge I'd like to again offer our thanks to CERF for their continued support and funding for these specialist financial datasets available through the WRDS platform.

Users of WRDS represent a complex Cambridge community.

Access to these datasets is provided by the Information & Library Services team at Judge Business School. The partnership of CERF's funding of these datasets, and the I&LS team's practical expertise mean we are able to offer access to more students, researchers and es than ever before

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light grey background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Ange Fitzpatrick'.

Ange Fitzpatrick

Information & Library Services Manager, Cambridge Judge Business School

18<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Impact of COVID-19 on services

---

Like most academic libraries in the UK, the Cambridge Libraries Network offered an almost entirely digital offering during the UK Lockdown periods.

Here at Judge Business School, we've been supporting distance learning students for over ten years. We've been investing in that time in digital resources and electronic books. The UK Lockdown period saw the main University Library in Cambridge match then exceed our purchasing in many of these areas, they also shifted some funding normally allocated to print material to databases. New ways of learning and research in this period championed the use of online data over other sources, and we've seen an increase in use across the board. Additionally, extra advertising and promotion of these products has helped in raising awareness of databases across the University. Many online resources have been created specifically to help in this area:

<https://libguides.cam.ac.uk/cjbsdatabases/home>

<https://camguides.lib.cam.ac.uk/masters>

## Report Highlights since Michaelmas 2016

---

- We've seen a massive increase in overall WRDS usage, **up 329%**
- Data for individual products over the last two years shows how crucial WRDS data is for research projects and individual PhDs
- **IVY DB** now heavily used by **Economics researchers**, previously used by a single CJBS Faculty member
- Usage of all individual software packages is up.

## Who are our users?

---

The Information & Library Services Team at Cambridge Judge Business School administer the WRDS data interface and the datasets contained therein on behalf of the University of Cambridge. WRDS data is available for academics and PhD students through individual accounts, and to taught and research MPhil students as part of 'class accounts'. These class accounts offer an easy way for researchers at the beginning of their academic career to access complex financial data, and offer an opportunity for course leaders to include and place a strong emphasis on sophisticated interrogation of real data as part of their teaching and assessment.

We currently have **159 active users** of the WRDS platform.

2020-2021

159 active accounts: (with 72% of accounts being registered to either University faculty or PhD students).

22 class accounts (11 CJBS and 11 non-CJBS)

4 Masters/Undergrads

53 faculty (20 CJBS and 33 non-CJBS)

62 PhD (13 CJBS and 49 non-CJBS)

15 staff

2 visitor

1 research assistant

2019-2020

157 active accounts: (with 70% of accounts being registered to either University faculty or PhD students).

23 class accounts (12 CJBS and 11 non-CJBS)

4 Masters/Undergrads

56 faculty (19 CJBS and 37 non-CJBS)

54 PhD (11 CJBS and 43 non-CJBS)

12 staff

6 visitor

2 research assistants

#### Individual accounts

---

Our WRDS subscription supports research across a range of University faculties and departments. We have a strong presence in Business, Economics and Land Economy, but we also support researchers working in fields as diverse as Astronomy, Mathematics, and Politics. Conversations with these students reveal that WRDS data has been used for deciding if University innovations can succeed in the market, and as raw data to test conceptual models and prototypes.

WRDS offers access to complex, historical, financial data that is often exhaustive in its coverage and cannot be found elsewhere. The data is aimed at postgraduate-level study and above.

Individual faculty accounts cover the following departments and organisations

Individual faculty accounts - 53

CJBS - 20     5% increase since 2020

**Non-CJBS - 33 including: 11% decrease**

- Economics 15
- Engineering 4
- Centre for Business Research 2
- CERF 2
- Politics and International Studies 2

- Colleges 2
- Biochemistry
- CEAM
- Land Economy
- Law
- Physiology
- Sociology

Active PhD accounts (62) cover the following faculties and departments:

CJBS - 13

**Non-CJBS - 49 Including:**

- Economics 22
- Engineering 9
- Chemistry 3
- Land Economy 3
- Sociology 2
- Biochemistry
- Cancer Research
- Chemical Engineering
- Development Studies
- Earth Sciences
- Law
- Medical Research
- Physiology
- Social Anthropology
- Zoology

Active PhD accounts (54) cover the following faculties and departments:

CJBS - 11

**Non-CJBS - 43 Including:**

- Economics 15
- Engineering 11
- Land Economy 3
- Chemistry 2
- Computer Science 2
- Sociology 2
- Biochemistry
- Chemical Engineering
- Development Studies

- Earth Sciences
- Medicine
- Physics
- Social Anthropology
- Zoology

## Class accounts

---

WRDS class accounts support teaching and research across the following courses:

### **At Cambridge Judge Business School:**

- MBA
- EMBA
- MFin
- MPhils in Finance & SMO; Innovation, Strategy and Organization; Technology Policy; and Management
- MSt Social Innovation
- MSt Entrepreneurship
- MAcc
- MST

### **Across the wider University:**

- MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable Development (Engineering)
- MPhil in Bioscience Enterprise (Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology)
- MPhil in Economics (Economics)
- MPhils in Real Estate Finance, Environmental Policy, and Planning, Growth and Regeneration (Land Economy)
- Institute for Manufacturing courses<sup>1</sup>
- Economics undergraduates<sup>2</sup>
- MSt Sustainability Leadership
- Land Economy undergraduates
- MPhil Sociology
- Institute of Continuing Education
- History undergraduates

### **Class Account usage:**

#### **Class Account usage:**

2020-2021

1,780 sessions – 119% increase, **88% from non-CJBS accounts**, most logins from Economics MPhil students

All CJBS class accounts total sessions – 213

MFin – 110

---

MPhil ISO - 41

MPhil Finance & SMO – 40

MBA – 11

EMBA – 10

MST – 1

Non-CJBS class accounts total sessions – 1,567

Economics MPhil – 1,038

Economics Undergraduate – 379

Land Economy MPhil – 127

Institute of Continuing Education – 12

Land Economy Undergraduate – 9

Bioscience – 2

**Class Account usage:**

2019-2020

812 sessions – 50.6% decrease, **80.3% from non-CJBS accounts**, most logins from MPhil Economics students

All CJBS class accounts total sessions – 160

Temporary BLA class account - 62

MPhil Finance & SMO – 59

MST – 15

CJBS MFin – 11

MBA – 8

EMBA – 4

MSt Entrepreneurship – 1

Non-CJBS class accounts total sessions – 652

MPhil Economics – 284

MPhil Land Economy – 210

Institute of Continuing Education – 91

Undergraduates Economics – 57

Bioscience – 6



MET Engineering - 2

MSt Sustainability Leadership - 1

Undergraduates Land Economy – 1

## How is the WRDS platform used?

The WRDS platform can be accessed through its website <https://wrds-web.wharton.upenn.edu> or through a SSH client. The majority of users access the datasets through a browser.

Usage data for those using the WRDS website is much more detailed than those accessing via SSH connection. The website data is described in detail below, but for a complete picture the raw query counts (including SSH queries) are as follows:

	2013-14	2014-15 (web plus SSH)	2015-16 (web plus SSH)	2016-17 (web plus SSH)	2017-18 (web plus SSH)	2018-19 (web plus SSH)	2019-20 (web plus SSH)	2020-21 (web plus SSH)
<b>Compustat</b>	3598	924 (461 plus 459)	635 (518 plus 117)	1626 (1379 plus 247)	939 (848 plus 91)	1,007 (916 plus 91)	974 (656 plus 318)	1,786 (717 plus 1,069)
<b>CRSP</b>	3046	18434 (305 plus 18123)	472 (332 plus 140)	1325 (371 plus 954)	534 (420 plus 114)	726 (673 plus 53)	1470 (695 plus 775)	4,763 (1,097 plus 3,666)
<b>ISS (Risk Metrics)</b>	548	212 (28 plus 184)	19 (11 plus 8)	26 (13 plus 13)	34 (34 plus 0)	44 (44 plus 0)	17 (17 plus 0)	31 (21 plus 10)
<b>Eventus</b>	45	193 (193 web)	5 (5 plus 0)	543 (543 plus 0)	80 (80 plus 0)	24 (24 plus 0)	45 (45 plus 0)	381 (381 plus 0)
<b>IBES</b>	153	340 (95 plus 245)	140 (124 plus 16)	700 (399 plus 301)	92 (90 plus 2)	204 (200 plus 4)	10 (7 plus 3)	n/a cancelled
<b>Totals</b>	7390	20103	1271	4220	1679	2,005	2,516	6,961

Included in this analysis are products bought by CJBS which run on WRDS. Although these products are often purchased with an individual researcher or research group in mind, they are available to and advertised to the whole University

2020-2021 New datasets – 525 queries (**up 54%**) including:

IvyDB US by OptionMetrics – 205

- Biggest user – Economics MPhil class (120 queries)

Reprisk - 144

Markit Credit Default Swap – 65

Mergent FISD – 20 queries

MSCI GMI Ratings CEOs; Companies; Directorships; Takeover - 14

IvyDB Europe by OptionMetrics – 12

2019-2020 New datasets – 342 queries including:

IvyDB US by OptionMetrics – 214

- Biggest user – CJBS faculty member (187 queries)

Markit Credit Default Swap – 39

Mergent FISD – 28 queries

Reprisk - 27

MSCI GMI Ratings CEOs; Companies; Directorships; Takeover - 25

IvyDB Europe by OptionMetrics – 9

**Total number of WRDS queries in 2020-2021: 13,918** (3,278 web plus 10,640 SSH/PC-SAS)

Up 329%

**52 SSH users**, including:

CBR researcher (3,372)

Economics MPhil class (3,310)

CJBS PhD student (536)

Economics Undergraduate class (475)

Land Economy MPhil class (379)

Robinson college researcher (227)

Engineering Faculty member (227)

Economics PhD student (216)

Politics and International Studies Faculty (188)

CCFin/CERF researcher (173)

CCFA researcher (143)

CJBS MFin class (135)

CJBS MPhil Finance & SMO class (132)

Economics PhD student (128)

CJBS Faculty (123)

**Total number of WRDS queries in 2019-2020: 3,247** (1,959 web plus 1,288 SSH/PC-SAS)

4 SSH users:

CCFin/CERF researcher – 935 queries

CJBS faculty member – 182 queries

CCFin/CERF researcher – 144 queries

CCFin/CERF researcher - 27 queries

WRDS web platform usage:

---

2020-2021 Total number of queries: 3,278

Biggest users:

- MPhil Economics class (1,038)
- CJBS PhD student (392)
- Economics Undergraduate class (379)
- Land Economy MPhil class (127)
- Engineering Faculty (103)
- Engineering PhD student (72)
- Economics PhD student (63)
- Robinson college researcher (59)
- Economics PhD student (58)
- CJBS Faculty (47)

2019-2020 Total number of queries: 1,959

Biggest users:

- CJBS Visiting Research Fellow (326)
- MPhil Economics class (284)
- MPhil Land Economy class (210)
- Institute of Continuing Education (91)
- CJBS PhD student (78)
- Temporary BLA class account (62)
- CJBS Visiting Associate (60)
- MPhil Finance & SMO (59)
- Undergraduates Economics class (57)

Dataset breakdown (web platform):

---

2020-2021 Compustat – 717 queries – increase of 9%

CJBS – 141

Non-CJBS - 576

Users: 41 (CJBS - 16, Non-CJBS – 25)

Biggest users:

- Economics Undergraduate class (247)
- Engineering PhD student (103)
- Land Economy MPhil class (42)
- CJBS MPhil ISO class (41)

2019-2020 Compustat – 656 queries – decrease of 28%

CJBS – 423

Non-CJBS - 238

Users: 42 (CJBS - 14, Non-CJBS – 28)

Biggest users:

- CJBS Visiting Research Fellow (326)
- Engineering PhD student (50)
- Temporary BLA class (45)
- MPhil Land Economy class (25)

2020-2021 CRSP – 1,097 queries – increase of 58%

CJBS – 184

Non-CJBS – 913

Users: 40 (CJBS –13, Non-CJBS – 27)

Biggest users:

- Economics MPhil class (613)
- Land Economy MPhil class (77)
- CJBS MFin class (67)
- Economics PhD (53)
- Economics Undergraduate class (44)

2019-2020 CRSP – 695 queries – decrease of 4%

CJBS – 154

Non-CJBS – 541

Users: 32 (CJBS –10, Non-CJBS – 22)

Biggest users:

- MPhil Economics class (250)
- MPhil Land Economy class (126)
- CJBS Visiting Associate (58)
- Economics PhD student (35)
- CJBS MPhil Finance & SMO class (32)

2020-2021 ISS (Risk Metrics) – 21 queries - increase of 24%

CJBS - 5

Non-CJBS – 16

2019-2020 ISS (Risk Metrics) – 17 queries - decrease of 61%

CJBS - 11

Non-CJBS – 6

2020-2021 Eventus – 381 queries - increase of 747%

CJBS – 368

Non-CJBS - 13

2019-2020 Eventus – 45 queries - increase of 87.5%

CJBS – 0

Non-CJBS - 45

Biggest user:

- CCFin/CERF researcher (31)