Retrieving Compustat Financial Statement Data from the WRDS Database (Day Pass Access)

A Step by Step Demo for the Brock University Community
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Step 1: From the Brock Library Home Page, Choose Research -> then Databases
Step 2: From the **Databases** page, choose the **Accounting and Finance** subject area.
Step 3:

- Choose **Compustat via WRDS (Day Pass Access)** from the list of databases
- If off-campus, sign in with your Brock username and password
- **Day Pass Access** is for undergraduate students (who are not eligible for WRDS accounts)
Step 4: Enter your **Brock University Email address** where indicated and click **Sign In**

**Welcome to WRDS!**

Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS) is the award-winning research platform and business intelligence tool for over 30,000 corporate, academic, government and nonprofit clients at over 375 institutions in 33 countries.

WRDS provides the user with one location to access over 200 terabytes of data across multiple disciplines including Accounting, Banking, Economics, Finance, ESG, and Statistics.

Flexible data delivery options include a powerful web query method that reduces research time, the WRDS Cloud for executing research and strategy development, and the WRDS client server using PCSAS, Matlab, Python and R.

Our Analytics team, doctoral-level support and rigorous data review and validation give clients the confidence to tailor research within complex databases and create a wide range of reliable data models.

WRDS provides access to S&P Capital IQ, CRSP, NYSE, Thomson Reuters, Bureau van Dijk, Global Insight, OptionMetrics and other important business research databases.

**Why do we ask for an email address?**

We occasionally need to contact users due to long running or problematic queries. By giving us a contact address, we are better able to serve you if there are any problems with your query.
Step 5: You will be prompted to check your Brock University email for a message from wrds-support.

Email Sent
We have just sent an email with the subject "WRDS Day Pass" from wrds-support@wharton.upenn.edu to @brocku.ca. Please click on the link in that email to sign in. Please also make sure that your email filtering does not mark emails from wrds-support@wharton.upenn.edu as junk mail.
Step 6: Click on the link (connection string) embedded in your email from wrds-support to connect to WRDS as a Day Pass User. The Day Pass is valid for 24 hours.

Dear WRDS User,

Thank you for requesting a Day Pass for WRDS access. Your connection string is:

https://wrds-web.wharton.upenn.edu/wrds/connect/daypass.cfm

The above link is valid for a 1 day pass to WRDS, enabling you to access the data your institution holds subscriptions to via the WRDS platform. Clicking on the link will take you directly to the WRDS website.

Please make sure to enter your email address on the query page of any jobs you run which may finish after this pass has expired. Obtaining results which are only available after this pass has expired will then simply require a new day pass.

Please note that your use of the WRDS website and other services offered by WRDS is contingent upon your acceptance of and agreement to the WRDS Terms of Use, available here: https://wrds-web.wharton.upenn.edu/wrds/about/terms.cfm

If you have any issues or further questions, please reply directly to this email (wrds-support@wharton.upenn.edu).

Kind Regards,
WRDS Team

[Link mailed at 1:51:50 PM EST on 28-Jan-16]
Step 7: Select Compustat – Capital IQ from the Your Subscriptions tab.
Step 8: You have 2 options

1) Choose **Compustat Monthly Updates** if you wish to download *specific variables (e.g. revenue)* for a set of companies.

2) Choose **Tools** if you wish to download *Complete Financial Statements* *(balance sheet, income statement, etc.)* or *Data and Ratios* in XLS format for a few specific companies.

3) I recommend **Tools**.
Step 10:

- Follow the instructions as laid out on the screen.
- If you do not know the ticker symbol, use the **Code Lookup** to search by company name.
- Click on **Submit Query**.
Step 11:
Once the output is complete, click on the link to open the file.
Step 12: This is a read-only Excel File. Choose File – Save As to save this File as an Excel Workbook.