

CJARS VDE At A Glance

What is the CJARS VDE?

The Criminal Justice Administrative Records System (CJARS) Virtual Data Enclave (VDE) is a highly secure, virtualized server where the CJARS database can be used for research and statistical reporting. The CJARS VDE is hosted at the University of Michigan and managed by CJARS project staff. The environment was designed to minimize barriers to getting data access while still maintaining strong security over the highly sensitive data that can be accessed.

The CJARS VDE is more than just a way to access the CJARS database remotely. The data environment provides a suite of auxiliary data resources and services to support a wide range of research needs. Users are also welcome to bring their own data into the research environment, making the possibilities of the CJARS VDE truly endless.

How can the CJARS VDE support your research?

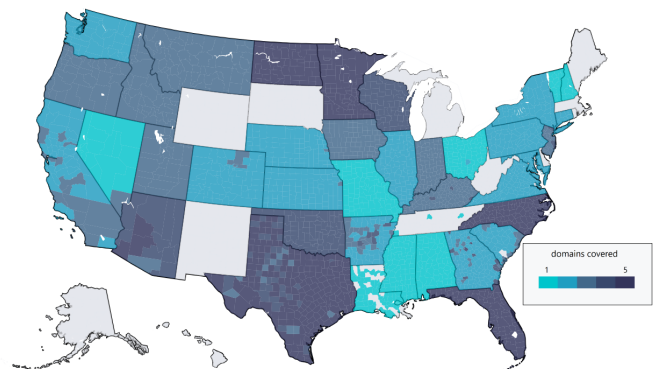
Access to the CJARS database provides opportunity to conduct novel cutting-edge research

- Data on arrests, jail bookings, criminal court case filings, and terms of incarceration, probation, and parole:
 - 206 million criminal justice events,
 - 37 states, and
 - 43 million unique individuals.
- Anonymized individual ID allows for linkage of events to people
- Data are harmonized and integrated into a national schema, allowing you to trace the arc of a criminal episode through the justice system

A robust research environment

- Large server can support even the most intensive analyses
- Example code files provide the basis for new users to start diving into the data
- A curated set of aggregate auxiliary data resources are pre-loaded into all project workspaces
 - population statistics
 - economic data
 - health indicators
 - crime statistics
- Multiple statistical software options: R, Stata, SAS.
- Individual-level linkage of researcher-provided data via CJARS Custom Roster Integration algorithms

Map of CJARS VDE Coverage



How to request CJARS VDE access

- Those with an IRB-approved research project can request access
- A few forms and self-guided data security trainings are required before access is granted
- Initiate a subscription through the CJARS VDE online portal

How to reach out

- Visit <https://cjars.org/vde> to learn more
- Contact us at cjars-vde-users@umich.edu