

Data Rescue Project

Presented by Lynda Kellam
on behalf of the DRP

www.datarescueproject.org/



bsky.app/profile/datarescueproject.org

What are public federal data resources?

The Home of the U.S. Government's Open Data

Here you will find data, tools, and resources to conduct research, develop web and mobile applications, design data visualizations, and more.

308,721 DATASETS AVAILABLE

National Center for Education Statistics

Welcome to the National Snow and Ice Data Center

Timely, and Nonpartisan

EXPLORE DATA

OUR RESEARCH



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The data produced by this system are “widely trusted, widely used, and often the most authoritative source of information available on a variety of topics.”

Congressional Research Service. 2024. The Federal Statistical System: An Overview. Legislation. Congressional Research Service Reports. <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R48161>.



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What's happening?

US gov't data resources and websites are being

- removed
- altered
- made inaccessible or endangered

Affected datasets			
Dataset	Description	Organization	Notes
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	widely used national health survey	Centers for Disease Control	[7]
Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System	high school student social determinants of health	CDC	[7][29]
CDC AtlasPlus	HIV, viral hepatitis, STI, and TB, social determinants of health	CDC	[7]
PEPFAR Dashboard	PEPFAR programs	Department of State, Global AIDS Coordinator	[7]
Demographic and Health Surveys	population, health, HIV, and nutrition data from many countries	USAID, ICF International	[7]
foreignassistance.gov	foreign aid data by country, budget, expenditure, program	Department of State, Agency for International Development	[7]
Household Pulse Survey	long COVID	CDC	[14]
Social Vulnerability Index	Relative deprivation	CDC	[29][17]
Environmental Justice Index	Identifies areas "most at risk for the health impacts of environmental burden." ^[30]	CDC	[17][30]
Employment Situation	Unemployment in the United States	Bureau of Labor Statistics	[12]
Federal criminal charge records	January 6 United States Capitol attack	United States Department of Justice	[18]

[2025 United States government online resource removals - Wikipedia](#)



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In Memoriam ...

- ✘ **Food security survey**
- ✘ **Maternal & infant mortality data**
- ✘ **Variables on gender identity**
- ✘ **Infrastructure mapping**

Dearly Departed Data created by [EssentialData.US](https://essentialdata.us), [The Impact Project](https://theimpactproject.org), and [Public Environmental Data Partners](https://publicenvironmentaldata.com). More Information at essentialdata.us/in-memoriam.html



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End of Term Web Archive

<https://eotarchive.org>

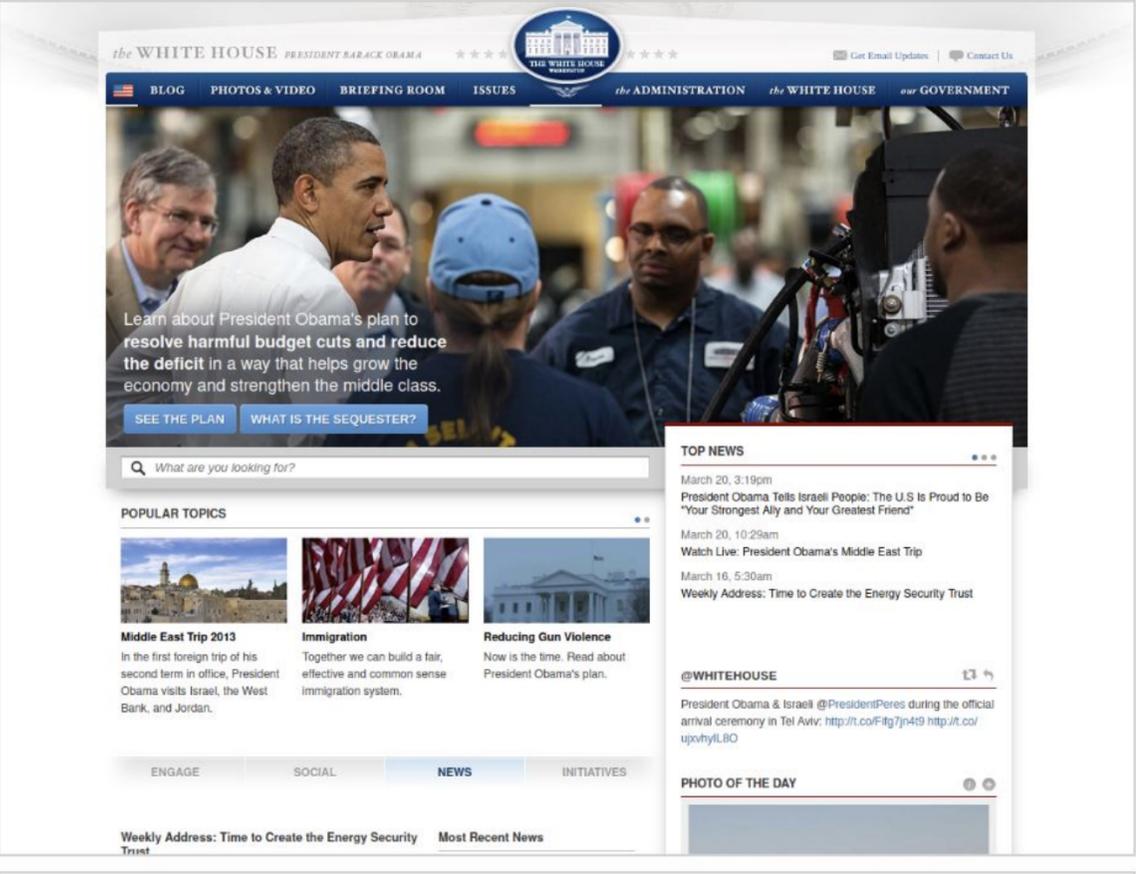
End of Term Web Archive

Background Partners Contribute Media Datasets

Purpose

The End of Term Web Archive captures and saves U.S. Government websites at the end of presidential administrations. The EOT has thus far preserved websites from administration changes in 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020, and 2024. We have closed the EOT seed nomination form for the 2024 harvest.

We are now accepting human-nominated URLs for the **U.S. Government Web & Data Archive 2025**.



Environmental Data & Governance Initiative

<https://envirodatagov.org>



[About](#) [Working Groups](#) [Publications](#) [Projects](#) [Press](#) [Blog](#) [Volunteer](#) [Donate](#)

EDGI REPORT

Climate of Suppression: Environmental Information Under the Second Trump Administration

August 6, 2025

Our mission

The Data Rescue Project is a grassroots volunteer community dedicated to access to public data for the public good.



**Data Rescue
Project**

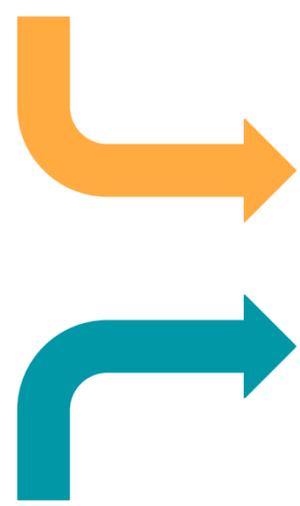


International Association for Social Science
Information Service & Technology



RDAP
ASSOCIATION

**DATA
CURATION
NETWORK**



Data Rescue Project

- Coordinate
- Communicate
- Conserve
- Curate



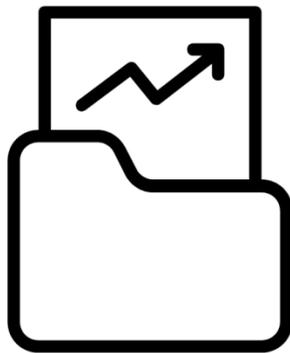
PRESERVATION OF ELECTRONIC
GOVERNMENT INFORMATION



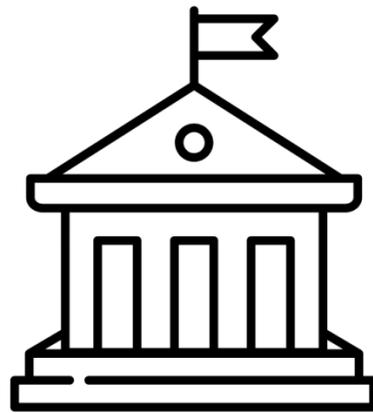
EDGI Environmental Data
& Governance Initiative



The DRP at a Glance



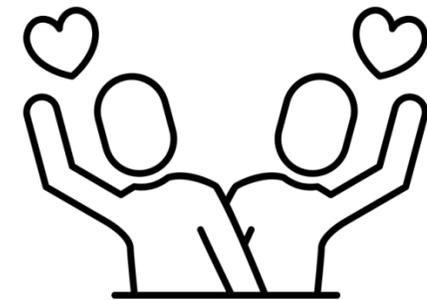
**2000+
rescued
datasets**



**90+ at-risk
gov't offices
covered**



**Hundreds of
Terabytes of
mirrored data**



**500+
volunteers**



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Data Rescue Project Website

Current Efforts

There are many individuals, organizations, and community-based efforts to capture and preserve data in early 2025. Below are the efforts we are aware of and their collecting scopes. This list was developed from the original [Data Rescue Google Doc](#). If you would like to add your efforts, feel free to email us at datarescueproject@protonmail.com. If you want to send us a secure, encrypted email, you can sign up for a free account at protonmail.com or use our public PGP key: <https://keys.openpgp.org/search?q=datarescueproject%40protonmail.com>.

[Larger and Established Data and Website Efforts](#)

[Data Rescue Events](#)

[Ad Hoc Rescue Efforts and Data Archiving Activists](#)

Larger and Established Data and Website Efforts

- [End of Term Archive](#)
 - The main coordinated effort to save U.S. Government websites at the end of presidential administrations.
 - Datasets have been more of a challenge, especially data embedded in databases.
- [Environmental Data & Governance Initiative \(EDGI\)](#)
 - EDGI is a research collaborative and network of diverse professionals promoting evidence-based policy-making and public interest science that advances the

Resources

There are many individuals, organizations, and community-based resources that document and assist with rescuing efforts. Below is the list of tools, data sources, library guides, and articles we are aware of and their associated scopes. This list was developed from the original [Data Rescue Google Doc](#). Please email suggestions to datarescueproject@protonmail.com. If you want to send us a secure, encrypted email, you can sign up for a free account at protonmail.com or use our public PGP key: <https://keys.openpgp.org/search?q=datarescueproject%40protonmail.com>.

[Checklists for Data Rescue](#)

[Tools for Data Rescue](#)

[Existing Alternative Data Sources](#)

- [Economic Indicators](#)

- [Public Health](#)

[Library Guides to Data Rescue](#)

[Further Reading](#)

- [Articles About Current Efforts](#)

- [Contextual Articles](#)



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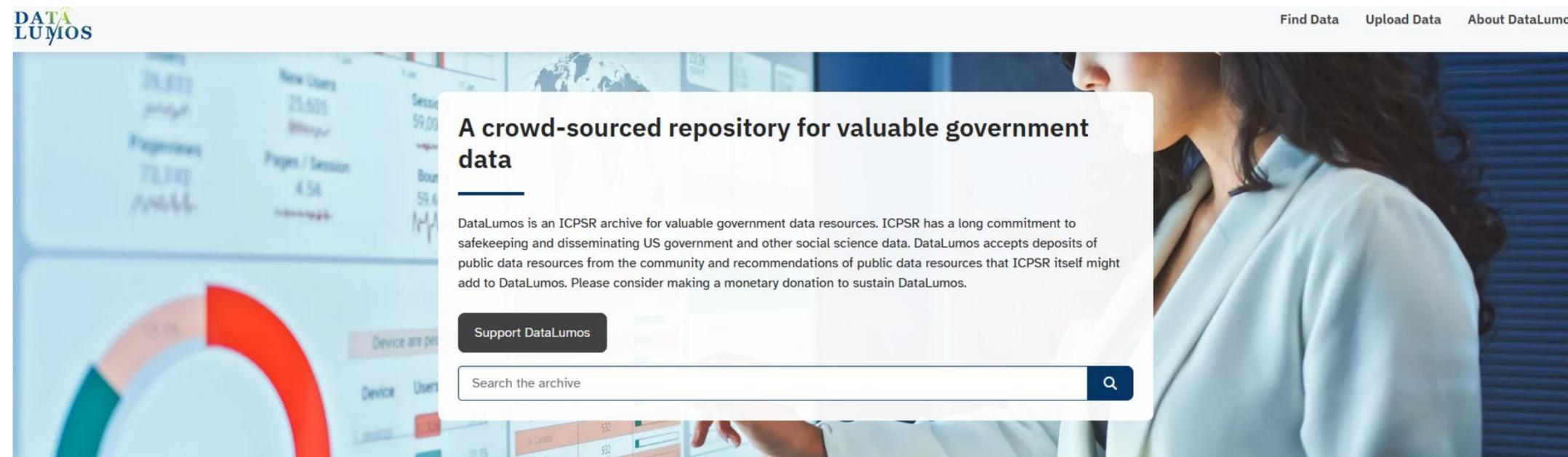


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From Friday, February 7 - today

Over 2500 datasets uploaded to [ICPSR's DataLumos](#) with metadata

Through November, 15,000+ downloads from Data Lumos



 Be the First – [Verify](#) that the data have not already been preserved to ICPSR

 Describe Data – Learn how to [make the data more findable and useful](#)

 Add Data Now – [Start uploading](#) to DataLumos



Data Rescue Project

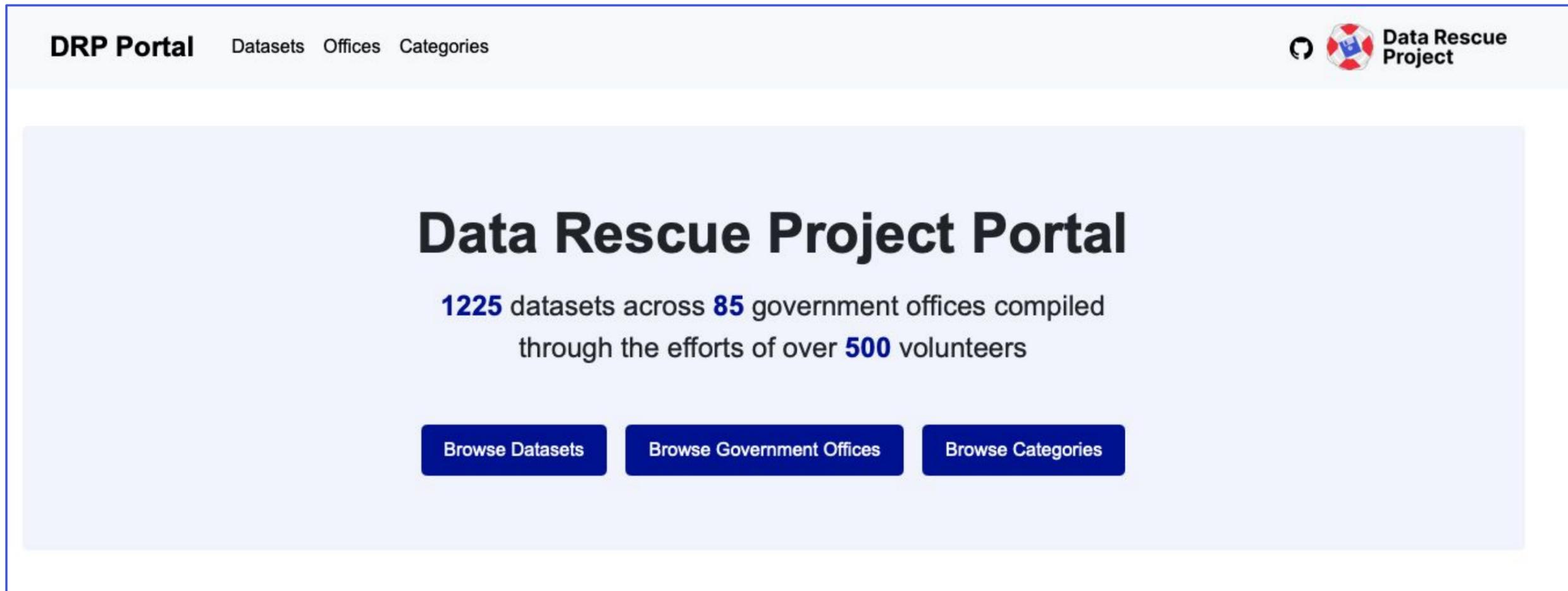
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Data Rescue Project Portal

portal.datarescueproject.org



DRP Portal Datasets Offices Categories

Data Rescue Project

Data Rescue Project Portal

1225 datasets across 85 government offices compiled through the efforts of over 500 volunteers

Browse Datasets Browse Government Offices Browse Categories



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Data Rescue Event Toolkit

- Use our free templates to promote, organize, and run a data rescue event.
- Share your event with us— and let us know how it goes!

osf.io/zbdxt/

This project contains materials for those interested in hosting data rescue events.

List of Contents

1. Lesson Plan - overview of event
2. Sample Communication - Templates for emails and social media posts
3. Attendee worksheet - printable worksheet for attendees
4. Slide deck - template slide deck for organizers

[Static documents \(Files\)](#) | [Dynamic documents \(gDrive\)](#)

Additional Resources

- [Risk Assessment for Scientific Data](#)
- [Hackathon checklist](#)
- [Getting started with the Data Rescue Project](#)
- [Stronger together: the case for cross-sector collaboration in identifying and preserving at-risk data](#)
- [UW-CALMA Data Rescue Gitbook](#)
- [Step by step guide for data preservation from MIT](#)
- [Curating for data rescue from the Data Curation Network](#)



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Share your data user story!

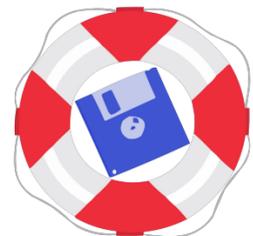
Education Data: A Data User Story



Photo by [Tim Mossholder](#) / [Unsplash](#)

We received a timely [data user story](#) focused on the Department of Education's data, especially the **Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)**. The data user wrote,

[Submit your story today!](#)



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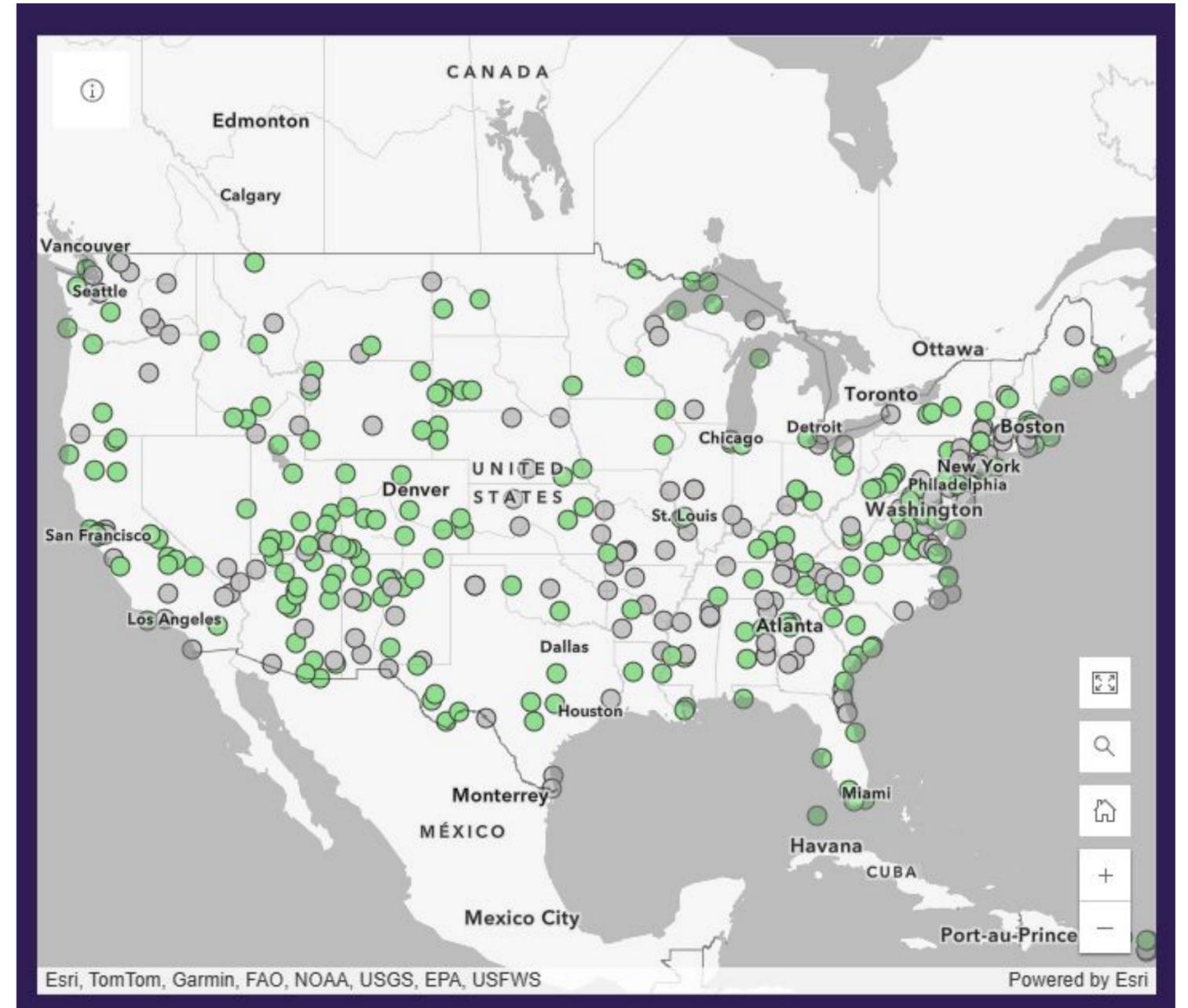


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saveoursigns.org

Save Our Signs

- Crowdsourced effort to archive National Parks Interpretive signs
- Partnership with University of Minnesota and Safeguarding Research and Culture
- 10000+ photos submitted from around the country



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Repository Resilience

How resilient are the repositories you support or access?

From outages to natural disasters and funding or personnel changes, disruptions can happen at any time. The Repository Crisis Scorecards (RCS) project empowers the community to assess repository resilience and understand the impacts of potential disruptions.

Let's build stronger systems together. Join us!

[Evaluate Repository Resilience](#)

[Join the Mailing List](#)

OUR MISSION GET INVOLVED BLOG CONNECT WITH US

Safeguarding Research & Culture

As researchers, we often say, "we need the data."
Today, the data needs us.

Kathy Reid

OUR MISSION
Together, we can ensure that our cultural, intellectual, and scientific heritage is safeguarded. Because people (and our diversity) matter.

DATA INDEX . US ABOUT US CHANGE REQUESTS TAKE ACTION DATASETS NEWSLETTER

America's Data Index

Monitoring America's federal data infrastructure from dataset availability and new releases to planned and unplanned changes to collections.



Take Action!

Every time the government makes a change to a survey or form — or introduces a new survey or form — you have the right to weigh in on that decision.

We highlight surveys and forms the government is changing, renewing, or introducing so you can tell the government what you think about the changes they are making.



Data + Screening Tools

Data & Tools Get Involved About News Donate

Public Environmental Data Partners

The Public Environmental Data Partners are **committed to preserving and providing public access to federal environmental data**. We are a volunteer coalition of several environmental, justice, and policy organizations, researchers across several universities, archivists, and students who rely on federal datasets and tools to support critical research, advocacy, policy, and litigation work. To gather insights on what data to preserve, we reached out to our networks, which consist largely of environmental justice groups and networks, state and local government climate offices, and academic researchers. We compiled a large list of federal databases and tools, and prioritized them based on their relative impact, our confidence that we could archive them, and the relative effort it would take to obtain and archive them.

Fill out the form [here](#) to nominate data for us to preserve.

Updates

- [June 19, 2025] PEDP created a [guide for Environmental Data Mapping & Investment Tools](#), helping users know when to use which tool.
- [March 27, 2025] PEDP shared list of archived resources [here](#).

Tracking Government Information

A project that tracks removed, modified, and impacted federal government information & resources

What's going on with Government Information?

The news media has [widely reported](#) the current U.S. administration's [removal and modification](#) of federal [websites](#) and [information](#). As academic librarians, we have also heard from faculty and researchers about their work [being removed](#) without notice, and received many questions from academics and the public about how widespread this phenomena is.

Librarians, data experts, and others have launched many excellent projects to preserve missing information and data. In particular, we take inspiration from projects including the long-standing [End of Term Archive](#), the newer [Data Rescue Project](#), and [many others](#). While removed or threatened data has been [well-tracked](#) by various data rescue groups, we hope to supplement these efforts by focusing on tracking non-data materials and information that have been impacted.

FEDERAL DATA FORUM FDF Home Discussion Blogs Events Member Directory

Log in

Welcome to the Federal Data Forum Online Community

This online community is a place for members of the Federal Data Forum to share messages, materials, and announcements related to U.S. federal data resources.

[Join Now or Login](#)

What is it?

The **Federal Data Forum** is a place to share messages, materials, and announcements related to the U.S. federal statistical system and federal data products.

Who Runs it?

The Federal Data Forum is run by the Population Reference Bureau with support from the Massive Data Institute at Georgetown University and donations from members like you.

Your contributions help support the Federal Data Forum. [Donate now.](#)

Who can join?

Anyone who is interested in learning more about the U.S. federal statistical system and **federal data products**.

[Join now or log in.](#)



PUBLIC DATA PROJECT

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY

Preserving Civic Ground Truth



Data Rescue Project

www.datarescueproject.org/



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BBC Sign in Home News Sport Business Innovation Culture Travel Search BBC

Earth

What is BBC Future? Earth Future Planet Health Gap Sustainability on a Shoestring Time: The Ultimate

EARTH | EARTH

Inside the desperate rush to save decades of US scientific data from deletion

Web archivists scrambling to save public data

U.S. News · US Politics · Politics · Climate Change · Ecology
12 May 2025

ASK FT FINANCIAL TIMES

US COMPANIES TECH MARKETS CLIMATE OPINION LEX WORK & CAREERS LIFE & ARTS HTSI

Opinion US Government

The fight to protect US data has begun

Science, civic life and commerce all rely on safeguarding government statistics from Trump's assault

GILLIAN TETT Added

NETZPOLITIK.ORG

„Digitale Bücherverbrennung“

Diese Menschen retten Daten vor der Trump-Zensur

Brachial lässt Donald Trump Inhalte von Behörden löschen, die nicht seiner rechtsradikalen Ideologie entsprechen. Im Data Rescue Project archivieren Hunderte Freiwillige, was Trump vernichten will – und mittendrin ist ein Historiker aus Köln. Ein Interview.

26.03.2025 um 11:02 Uhr - Sebastian Meineck - in Demokratie - 5 Ergänzungen

Le Monde

Actualités · Économie · Vidéos · Débats · Culture · Le Goût du M

PIXELS · ÉTATS-UNIS

Contre la purge « sans précédent » des sites ordonnée par Trump, les archivistes du numérique à l'offensive

Des décrets signés par le nouveau président des Etats-Unis ont entraîné la disparition de milliers de pages, liées notamment au changement climatique ou aux politiques d'égalité. Plusieurs initiatives coordonnées cherchent à les préserver.

Inside Higher Ed

June 10, 2025

Preserving the Federal Data Trump Is Trying to Purge

For months, the research community has been racing to download and store thousands of demographic data sets the government wants to delete because they don't align with Trump administration's ideological views.

By Kathryn Palmer

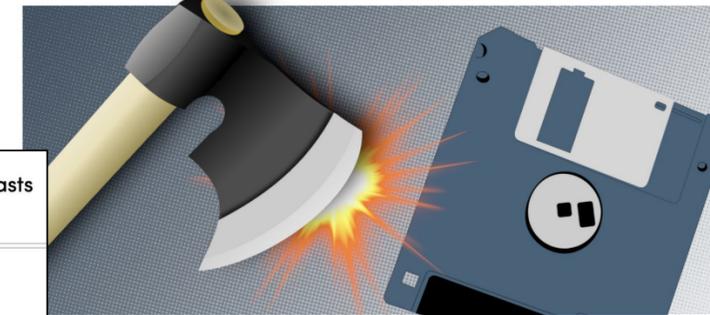
FEDSCOOP Topics TRANSITION COVERAGE Special Reports Events Podcasts

WORKFORCE

Statistics, public data leaders condemn Trump's order to fire BLS commissioner

One group, whose leadership includes two former BLS commissioners, called on Congress to respond immediately and investigate her removal.

BY MADISON ALDER • AUGUST 3, 2025



THE NEW YORKER

THE LEDE

THE DATA HOARDERS RESISTING TRUMP'S PURGE

Can librarians and guerrilla archivists save the country's files from DOGE?

By Julian Lucas
March 14, 2025

TIME

As Trump's White House Purges Public Records, These Independent Databases Are Keeping Their Own Archives

by Chad de Guzman
REPORTER

404 PAGE NOT FOUND

GO TO HOME PAGE

A January 2025 screenshot of the Trump White House's 404 error message for a web page that is no longer active. TIME

FRANCE 24 HOME SHOWS NEWSFEED LIVE

FRANCE AFRICA MIDDLE EAST AMERICAS EUROPE ASIA-PACIFIC

First 100 days: The race to save digital records from the Trump administration

ANALYSIS AMERICAS



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Current Challenges

- What happens to restricted access data?
- What is the impact on data integrity and data collection?
- How do we create infrastructure to support efforts like these over the longer term?
- How create resilient infrastructure for the next time ... or the next country?
- How do we sustain the communities we've built across professions and international borders?



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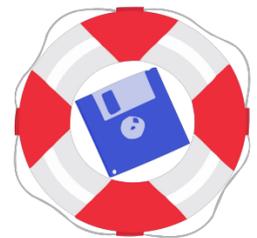
How you can support us.



**Data Rescue
Project**

- Share our resources and projects with your professional and personal circles.
- Add rescued data to our Tracker.
- Advocate for importance of public data

**datarescueproject@
protonmail.com**



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