#### TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

# TRB Webinar: Managing and Sharing Research Data for Public Access

**April 20, 2022** 

2:00-3:00 PM Eastern

@NASEMTRB #TRBwebinar

## **Learning Objectives**

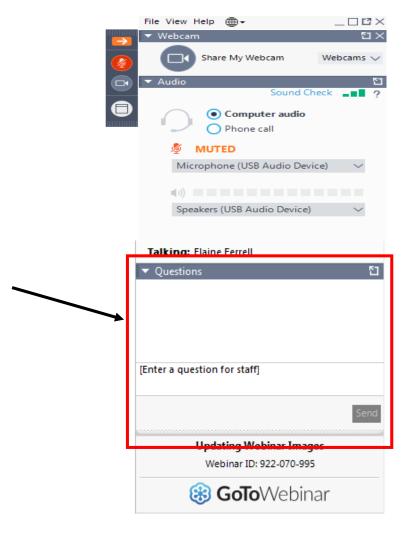
- 1. Implement data management best practices
- 2. Identify how to make data discoverable via TRID and ROSA P

**#TRBwebinar** 

### **Questions and Answers**

- Please type your questions into your webinar control panel
- We will read your questions out loud, and answer as many as time allows

**#TRBwebinar** 





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# Managing and Sharing Research Data for Public Access

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## Disclaimer

Opinions expressed by me during this presentation, the discussion period, or at other times during the webinar are mine alone, and do NOT necessarily represent the opinions, practices, polices, and/or laws of the National Transportation Library, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, the U.S. Department of Transportation, or the United States government.

(Typographic errors are also mine.)

# Webinar Description



NCHRP Report 936, "Guide to Ensuring Access to the Publications and Data of Federally Funded Transportation Research," devotes a few chapters on helping research managers manage and share their research data.

This webinar will focus first on best practices for managing your research data, focusing on chapter 7 of the guide.

Secondly, the webinar will go into strategies and tools for sharing research data in pursuit of public access goals.

Access NCHRP 936 at: <a href="https://doi.org/10.17226/25704">https://doi.org/10.17226/25704</a>

## Webinar Outcomes



- 1. Attendees will be able to implement new data management best practices.
- 2. Attendees will understand how to make their data discoverable via TRID and ROSA P.

Access NCHRP 936 at: https://doi.org/10.17226/25704

## Webinar Outline

- Best Practices for Managing Your
   Research Data (Chapter 7)
- Sharing Your Research Data
- Questions
- Supplemental Slides
- Links to resources

# Managing Research Data



#### **Chapter 7**

- 1. Definition of Research Data
- 2. Explaining Essential Requirements for Research Data
- 3. Going Beyond: Research Data Management and Access
- 4. Understanding Data Preservation
- 5. Deciding What to Preserve: Data Scope and Coverage
- 6. Deciding Which Formats to Preserve
- 7. Managing Quality of Research Data
- 8. Understanding Metadata Standards and Metadata for Transportation Data
- 9. Deciding Where to Preserve Data
- 10. Understanding How Long to Preserve Data
- 11. Chapter Checklist

# Defining Research Data: 1

#### **Research Data Topics**

- Air transportation
- Crashes and safety
- Driver and transport user
- Environment
- Marine transportation
- Public transit
- Rail transportation
- Statistics
- Transportation infrastructure engineering and construction
- Weather and climate

#### **Research Data Types**

- GIS data
- Research lab observation data
- Sensor and log data
- Statistics
- Survey data
- Video and photo data

## Defining Research Data: 2

#### **Research Data Definition 2013**

...the digital recorded factual material commonly accepted in the scientific community as necessary to validate research findings including data sets used to support scholarly publications...

#### **Research Data Definition 2022**

FAR 52.227-14

(https://www.acquisition.gov/far/52.227-14) defines data as: "...recorded information, regardless of form or the media on which it may be recorded. The term includes technical data and computer software."

#### **Best Practice:**

Read all contracts with, or grants from, U.S. DOT carefully.

# Explaining Essential Requirements for Research Data

#### **Essential Requirements**

- Data used to draw research conclusions
- Data stored in an open format, or explanation of chosen format
- Include a Package of Data Documentation
- 4. Store data in conformant repository
- 5. Create descriptive metadata to support search and retrieval

#### **Best Practice: Data Package**

A "Data Package" is the dataset, the data management plan (DMP), and all other documentation needed to contextualize the dataset for any and all users and re-users.

#### **Data Package Elements:**

- 1. Research Output(s): Dataset, Software, Code, Model, etc...
- 2. README.txt which includes a data dictionary
- 3. Metadata file
- 4. Data Management Plan (DMP)
- 5. Other supporting codes, scripts, or tables

For more info: <a href="https://doi.org/10.21949/1500456">https://doi.org/10.21949/1500456</a>

# Going Beyond: Research Data Management and Access

#### **Going Beyond**

- Expanding the scope and coverage of research data
- 2. Include data preservation services
- Choose metadata standards and provide metadata services
- 4. Building an institutional repository

#### Reminder: Include Costs in Project Proposal

U.S. DOT Public Access Plan Section 4.2 (<a href="https://doi.org/10.21949/1503647">https://doi.org/10.21949/1503647</a>): DOT will allow the inclusion of appropriate costs for data management and access in **proposals** for federal funding for Scientific Research.

**How Much?:** UK Data Service has a nice costing tool: <a href="https://ukdataservice.ac.uk//app/uploads/costingtool.pdf">https://ukdataservice.ac.uk//app/uploads/costingtool.pdf</a>

#### **Best Practice:**

Use existing repositories, such as academic library or generalist third party repository. https://doi.org/10.21949/1520566

## Understanding Data Preservation

#### **Chapter 7**

- Data Storage is NOT the same at Data Preservation
- Data Storage is a passive activity.

# Data Preservation and Curation is Active over Data Lifecycle

- 1. 3-2-1 Backup strategy
- 2. Robust documentation
- 3. Bit fixity checking
- 4. Format migration as needed
- Data Disposition Decision-making

#### **Best Practice:**

Use a repository that actively preserves and curates data.

# Deciding What to Preserve: Data Scope and Coverage

#### **Chapter 7**

- Not all data can or should be preserved
- Essential: preserve all data needed to replicate research findings.

#### **Significance Factors**

- Substantive value and influence on scientific knowledge;
- 2. Likely value to science, society, funder, and/or stakeholders over time;
- 3. Uniqueness
- 4. Impact on transportation policy and safety

#### **Best Practice:**

Discuss scope of data for preservation with funder prior to research.

May require additional funding.

## Deciding Which Formats to Preserve

#### **Chapter 7**

- Quantitative tabular data most frequent: Should be preserved as .CSV
- 2. Open, non-proprietary formats best for long-term preservation.

#### **Considerations**

- Data can be saved in more than 1 format:
   Sensor output format AND .CSV for example
- 2. When contracting for software and sensors, require output file formats that are open and nonproprietary. This may by tricky for simulation and VR outputs.

#### **Best Practices:**

Default to ubiquitous, open formats, or the format most commonly used, from the beginning of the project. Avoid proprietary or bespoke formats if you can. Document choices in DMP.

## Managing Quality of Research Data

#### **Chapter 7**

Data Curation enhances collections so they are complete and self-explanatory for future users, "...without the assistance of the information producer."

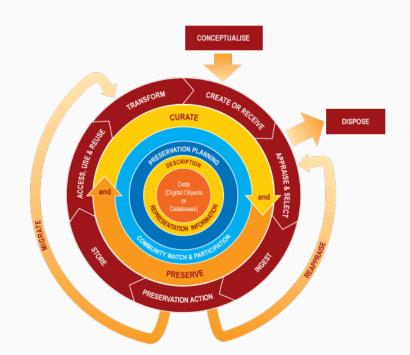
**Definition:** Data Curation enables data discovery and retrieval, maintains data quality, adds value, and provides for re-use over time.

#### **Best Practice:**

Use a repository that actively curates data.

# Data Curation Centre: Data Curation Lifecycle Model

https://www.dcc.ac.uk/guidance/curation-lifecycle-model



# Understanding Metadata Standards and Metadata for Transportation Data

#### **Chapter 7**

- 1. Essential: Include metadata file based on Project Open Data Metadata Schema (now DCAT-US Schema v1.1 at <a href="https://resources.data.gov/resources/dcat-us/">https://resources.data.gov/resources/dcat-us/</a>
- Also include other metadata files appropriate to data type, discipline, instrument, sensor, and/or software

#### **Example**

For GIS files, Esri ArcMap exports metadata in ISO 19139 Geographic information —
 Metadata — XML schema implementation or Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)
 Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM) XML format

#### **Best Practices:**

Include as much metadata as possible. Look for ways to automate metadata creation or metadata export by tools or software.

## Deciding Where to Preserve Data

#### **Chapter 7**

- General Research Data Repository:
  - Benefits: Breadth and Low Cost
- Institutional Data Repository: Benefits:
  - Breadth, Local, Institutional cost sharing
- 3. Domain-Specific Data Repository: Benefits:
  - **Depth and Curation**

#### **Shortcomings**

- General Research Data Repository: May be hard to find a dataset among the many; little to no curation; outside institutional control
- Institutional Data Repository: Curation may be limited by budget and staff skills
- 3. **Domain-Specific Data Repository:** Extra cost of curation services; outside institutional control

#### **Best Practices:**

Any repository is better than none. Check with your home institution first. Then look to research partners. Your best option may be to contract for repository services.

# Understanding How Long to Preserve Data

#### **Chapter 7**

- How long? "As long as data is of value to the community of users."
- 2. How much re-use over time?
- 3. Who depends upon having access to the data?
- 4. Are the data connected to other outputs?

#### **Public Access**

- DOT Public Access Plan Section 7.4.2:
   "...long-term access..."
- 2. When offering guidance since 2016, we have been saying at least 5 years.
- 3. Plan and budget for preservation in proposal.

#### **Best Practices:**

Clarify with funder. Plan for decades-long preservation, depending on the research and its utility.

# Data Management Plans (DMPs)



#### **Chapter 8**

- 1. Data Management Plans are tool for your team. DMPs Help Research Team as collective memory of data management roles, access limitation, ethical guidelines, etc.. This is not just a government required check-off.
- 2. Focuses data discussion between researchers and funders.
- 3. Living Document: Updated as needed, and present updates to funder at each check-in.

# Sharing Research Data

#### Tools

- 1. Transportation Research International Documentation database (TRID)
- 2. Repository & Open Science Access Portal (ROSA P)

#### TRID

### ROSA P

# Repository & Open Science Access Portal (ROSA P)

ROSA P is the National Transportation Library's *Repository* and Open Science Access Portal. The name ROSA P was chosen to honor the role public transportation played in the civil rights movement, along with one of the important figures, Rosa Parks.

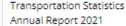
Visit ROSA P at: https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/welcome











Public Access



Pocket Guide to Transportation 2022



National Transportation Statistics



Transportation Climate Change Clearinghouse

Quick Links
Stay Connected
Transportation Librarians Roundtable (TLR) @
Digital Submissions
Ask-A-Librarian @
NTL Twitter feed @
Transportation Resources
Freight Data Dictionary
NTL Guides Ø

#### Trending This Week

Quick Links	Trending Time Week
itay Connected	Update to Special Reports on Traffic Safety During the COVID-19 Public Healt
Transportation Librarians Roundtable (TLR) 🕜	0,0000
Digital Submissions	Transportation Statistics Annual Report 2020
Ask-A-Librarian Ø	Transportation-Markings Database: Railway Signals, Signs, Marks, Markers. P
NTL Twitter feed 🕜	
ransportation Resources	Use of Poisson Distribution in Highway Traffic. The Probability Theory Applie
Freight Data Dictionary	Large School Bus Design Vehicle Dimensions
NTL Guides 🕜	View More



# ROSA P Collections

Collections in *ROSA P* organize related materials together for easy search and retrieval.

<u>Visit ROSA P Collections at:</u> https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/browse/collections

#### **University Transportation Centers**



Research results from USDOT's University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program

#### **UTC Collection**

#### Public Access Resources



Policies, presentations, posters, and training modules related to USDOT's Public Access Policy

#### **PAR Collection**

#### US DOT Public Access Data Management Plans



Example DMPs for Public Access research

**DMP Collection** 

# Submitting Datasets to ROSA P

#### **Submitting Datasets**

- 1. Dataset (or link to dataset in its home repository)
- 2. Other Data Package Elements (slide 10)
  - 1. README.txt which includes a data dictionary
  - 2. Metadata file
  - Data Management Plan (DMP)
  - 4. Codes, and Scripts
  - 5. Other supporting tables
- 3. Submission should include names of other related research outputs (reports, software, etc..), if not all included at same time.

#### Note:

The DOT Public Access Plan does not require DOT to have a copy of all datasets, unlike reports.

Some datasets are too large, and DOT does not have ability to store or share these yet.

However, DOT must have the metadata so we can create a metadata entry in ROSA P that links through to the home repository. 28

#### Questions

# Thank you!

#### Supplemental Slides

The following Supplemental Slides are shared in the interest of knowledge sharing. If you would like to discuss any of these, please email leighton.christiansen@dot.gov

#### 160 Years of Sharing U.S. Research Data

#### U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO)

https://www.gpo.gov/

- Opens March 4, 1861, as Government Printing Office
- Printing and binding for the Senate and House of Representatives, the Executive Branch, and the federal Judiciary.
- Embraces digital future, and rebranded Government
   Publishing Office in 2014

#### National Technical Information Service (NTIS)

https://www.ntis.gov/

- Established by law on September 9, 1950, as
   "Publication Board," a Clearinghouse for scientific, technical, and engineering information (STEI)
- Federal agencies send a copy of STEI products to NTIS

#### National Academy of Sciences (NAS)

https://www.nationalacademies.org/

- Incorporated March 3, 1963, under the signature of President Lincoln
- "... the Academy shall, whenever called upon by any department of the Government, investigate, examine, experiment, and report upon any subject of science or art."
- Added the National Research Council in 1916, the National Academy of Engineering in 1964, and the Institute of Medicine (later the National Academy of Medicine) in 1970.
- TRB, first known as the "National Advisory Board on Highway Research" began in 1920
- NAS has produced thousands of research outputs

# Science Imprisoned in PDFs

#### Low Rez Text Scan

#### PROJECT LOCATION

The Los Angeles Area Freeway Surveillance and Control Project (LAAFSCP) provided the basis for this data collection study. The California Department of Transportation had already installed loop detectors in the freeway lanes at about 1 mile spacing on 42 miles of urban freeway. These detectors were connected, over phone lines, to a central computer which polls each loop 15 times a second in order to build summaries of vehicle counts and occupancy to be used in ramp metering control and incident detection.

Figure 1 shows the freeways that are under LAAFSCP's control. The Harbor Freeway is an eight lane north-south route that runs from the San Pedro Harbor area to the Los Angeles Central Business District where it becomes the Pasadena Freeway. Average daily traffic on this freeway runs from 110,000 in the south to 210,000 in the north end. Interchanges on the Harbor Freeway are generally either diamond or

#### No GIS Map Coordinates



# Data NOT Machine-Readable

```
TAPE No. 76120651
                      TRAFFIC LODE - 7
                                           FROM 5:30: 0
                                                 6:30: 0
       INCIDENT LOCATION: ST IN TO STION
              AFFECTED SEGMENTS: 2
SEGMENT(1) ST IN TO STION
                               SEGMENT(2) SUBIS TO SU298
               INCIDENT TYPE:
               VEHICLES INVOLVED: 0
LIGHT DUTY VEHICLES . O LIGHT TRUCKS . O HEAVY TRUCKS . O
                WEATHER AND ROAD CODES
HEATHER .C
                   VISIBILITY -U
                                             PAVEMENT -D
              DETECTION AND VEHILICATION
DETECTED AT O: O: O BY CODE
VERIFIED AT O: O: O BY CODE
                                 CALL BOX .
            SIGN .
   LOUP STATION .
                                 POST MILE .
              INCIDENT FREEWAY GEOMETRY
         M 1 2 3 + 5 6 S R S C C S
BMETRY 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0
```

# Code, Comments, & Data Dictionary NOT Machine-Readable

#### 3.0 PROGRAM MAIN 3.0.1 PURPOSE This routine controls the calling of the subprograms to be executed. This is the main control program and executes calls to the 8 major functional parts of the program: (1) Initialize the installation dependent variables. (2) Input and decode documentation information and control information from the input data tape. (3) Input and output of user changeable key parameters. (4) Output of documentation information and control infor-(5) Positioning of the input data tape to the proper posi-(6) Computation and output of the statistical data. (7) Speed trap data. (8) Data tape rewinding. 3.0.2 SUBROUTINES CALLED The following subroutines may be called by this routine:

# How Public Access Came to Be: Open Science

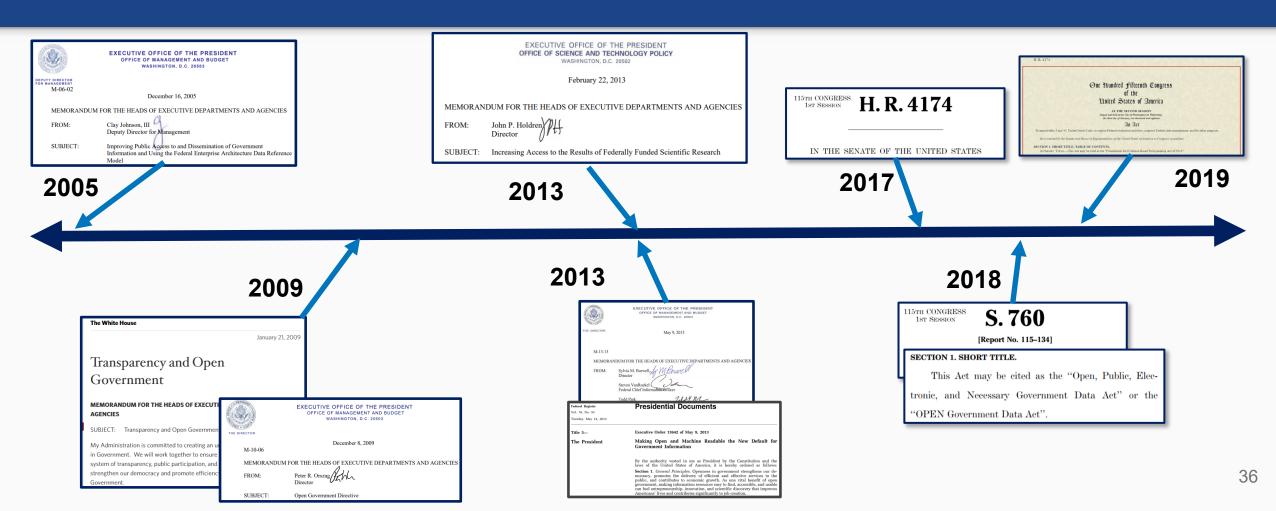


U.S. federal public access plans have their roots in the global Open Science movement.

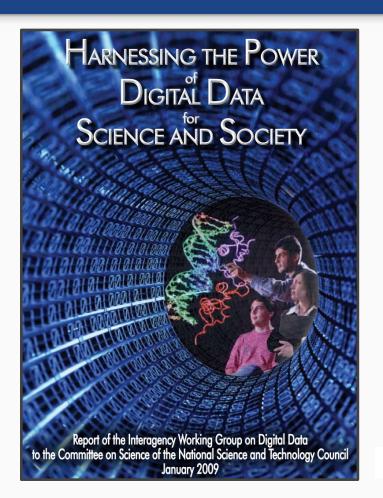
### Opening U.S. Government-Funded Science

- Polices
- Practices
- Technology
- Resources

# Opening U.S. Government-Funded Science: Polices 2005 to 2019



## Opening U.S. Government-Funded Science: Practices



#### **Guiding Principles**

- Science is global and thrives in the digital dimensions;
- Digital scientific data are national and global assets;
- Not all digital scientific data need to be preserved and not all preserved data need to be preserved indefinitely;
- Communities of practice are an essential feature of the digital landscape;
- Preservation of digital scientific data is both a government and private sector responsibility and benefits society as a whole;
- Long-term preservation, access, and interoperability require management of the full data life cycle; and
- Dynamic strategies are required

# OSTP Subcommittee on Open Science



### **SOS Strategic Objectives**

- 1. Increase the impact and benefit from federally funded scientific research products by making them more accessible to the public, machine-readable, and aligned with FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable) principles.
- 2. Assess opportunities to increase access to scientific research products while managing associated risks.
- 3. Collaborate with academia, research communities, and industry to achieve open science objectives in ways that are efficient, effective, and advance national science and engineering priorities. Engage international partners to strengthen open science objectives.

### **SOS Working Groups for 2020**

- Data Management & Repositories
- Data Dictionaries
- Persistent Identifiers
- Publications
- Access Risks
- Collaboration

https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/

# Public Access Implementation Working Group (PAIWG)

Plan to Increase Public Access to the Results of Federally-Funded Scientific Research Results Version 1.1



December 16, 2015

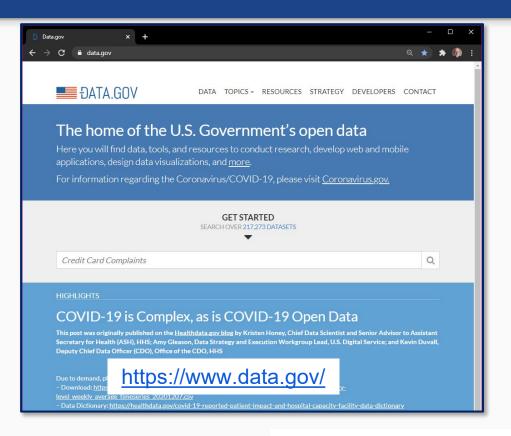
**U.S. Department of Transportation** 

 Mission: Enable cross-modal collaboration to ensure the best possible public access to USDOT scientific research through implementation of the DOT Public Access Plan, common best practices, and shared resources.

#### Scope:

- USDOT Public Access Plan development, implementation, and compliance monitoring
- Charters time-limited implementation task forces with modal and OST experts;
- Reports Public Access Plan progress and obstacles to the RD&T Planning Team, including compliance monitoring; and
- Coordinates U.S. DOT participation in U.S.
   Federal, domestic and international Public Access,
   Open Science, and Data Strategy efforts and
   activities.

## Opening U.S. Government-Funded Science: Technology: Data.gov



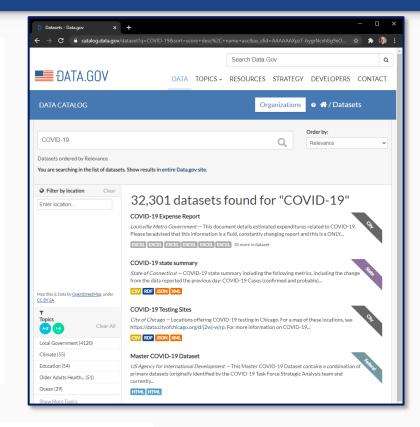
Data.gov Quick Stats

**217,000+** datasets

32,000+

COVID-19-related datasets

U.S. DOT COVID-19related datasets

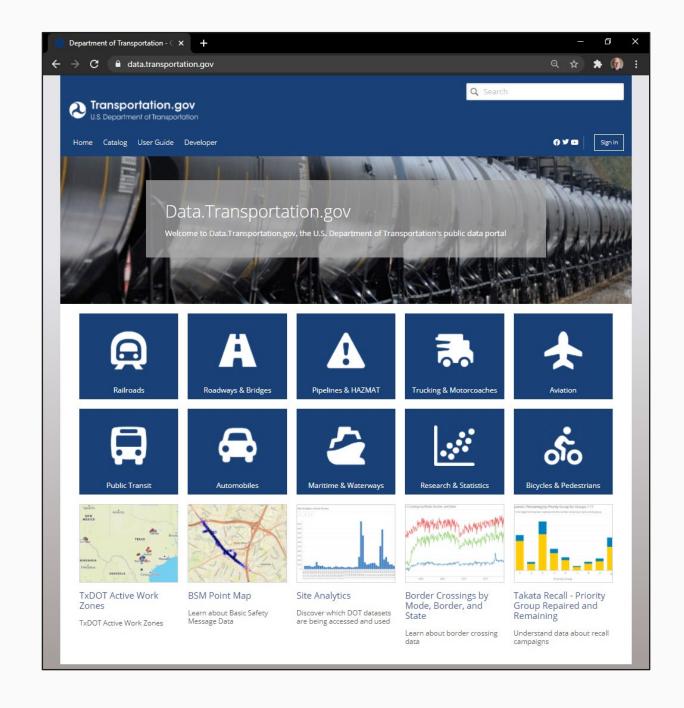


# U.S. DOT's Open Data

Data.transportation.gov

#### Highlights:

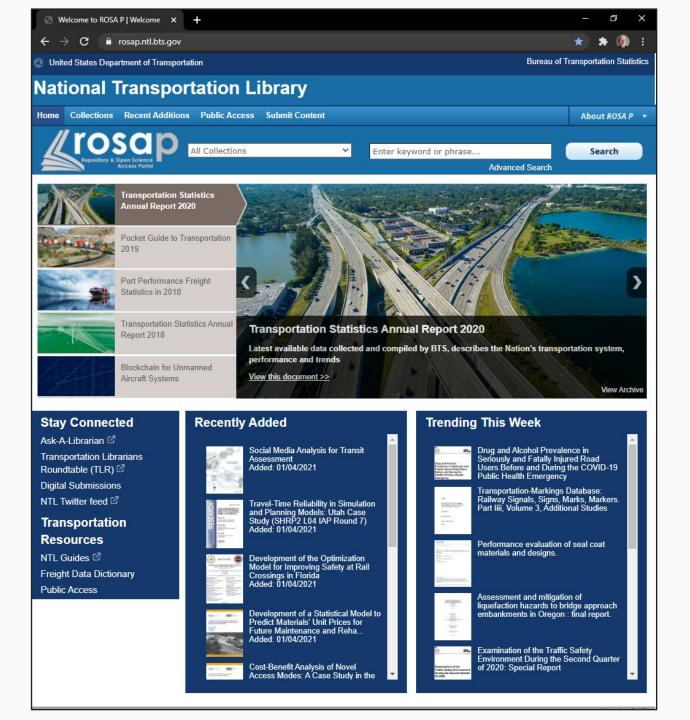
- 4000+ datasets
- All transport modes
- Visualization tools
- Data management best practices:
  - Machine-readable datasets and subsets
- Open formats
- API access



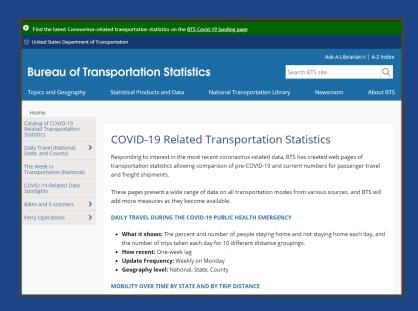
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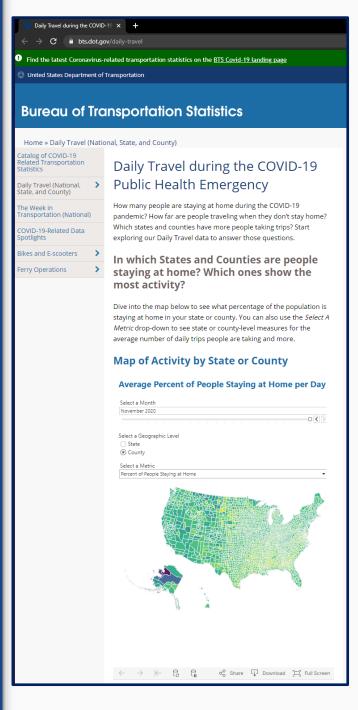
<u>Visit ROSA P at:</u> https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/welcome



# COVID-19 Transportation Statistics from BTS



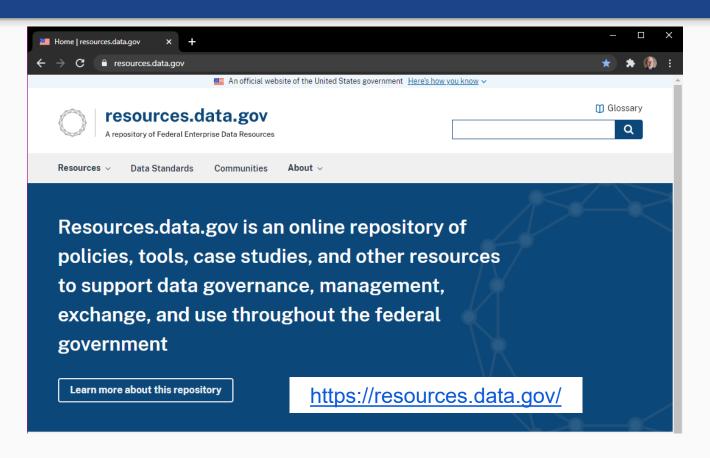
https://www.bts.dot.gov/covid-19



#### **COVID-19 Related Statistics**

- Daily Travel During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
- Mobility Over Time by State and By Trip Distance
- The Week in Transportation: Selected Measures During COVID-19
- Monthly Transportation Statistics
- County Transportation Profiles
- Daily Vehicle Travel
- Effects of COVID-19 On Travel Behavior
- Effects of COVID-19 On Travel Behavior by Income Groups
- Effects of COVID-19 On Bikeshare and E-Scooter Operations
- Docked Bikeshare Ridership: COVID-19 Effects
- Ferry Operators Status
- Ferry Routes for Top Ten Operators

## Opening U.S. Government-Funded Science: Resources.data.gov



#### Some Available Resources:

- DCAT-US Schema v1.1 (Project Open Data Metadata Schema)
- Principles of Open Government Data
- Data Ethics Framework
- Geoportal Server
- JSON Validator
- Digital Analytics Program (DAP)
- Improving Agency Data Skills Playbook
- Case studies & examples

## Opening U.S. Government-Funded Science: Challenges

#### **Policy Challenges**

- Policy writing can take time
- Leadership changes can mean policy changes
- Open Science policy ROI can be hard to measure
- New policy socialization & implementation can be uneven

#### **Practice Challenges**

- Culture change is hard
- Researcher resistance to openness
- Retraining and reskilling existing employees

#### **Technology Challenges**

- Existing infrastructures may not be adaptable
- System integrations can be complex

#### **Resource Challenges**

- Flat research funding
- Resistance to creating new positions
- Creating new resources takes time

#### COVID-19

- Good examples: NLM expands access to coronavirus research in PubMed Central in March 2020
- Learn from COVID-19 experience, and prepare for next time

## Opening U.S. Government-Funded Science: Conclusions

#### U.S. Government & U.S. DOT:

- Have long histories of sharing research results
- Are implementing policies and practices; deploying technologies; and gathering resources to keep in step with current Open Science movement
- Have deployed a number of systems, including Data.gov, to open federally-funded science to the public
- Are working to fund COVID-19-related research projects, and share results with public, as quickly as possible, as best practices and privacy/security concerns allow
- We still face many challenges to sharing research outputs, especially datasets, and software code

## Science.gov

- Interagency federated search
- Focused COVID-19 search
- Results include:
  - Journal articles
  - Technical reports
  - Datasets
  - Conference papers
  - Videos
  - Audio files
  - Images



#### **Science.gov Alliance Members**

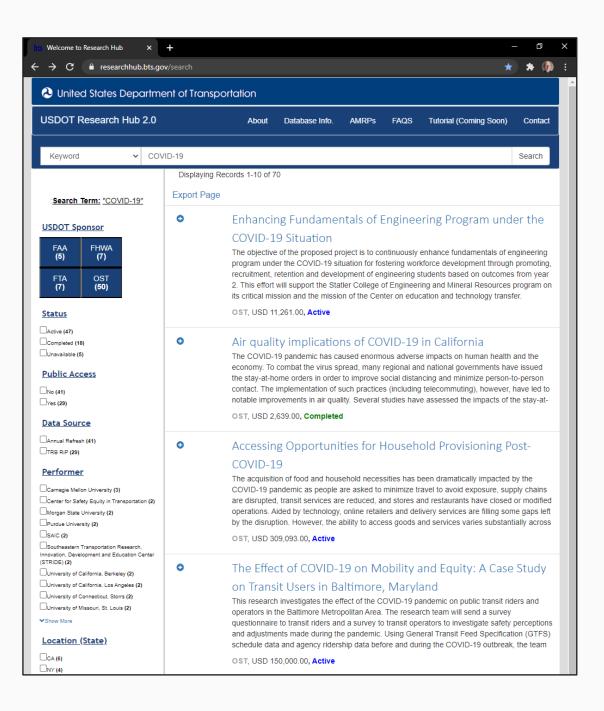
- Department of Agriculture (USDA, Forest Service)
- Department of Commerce (NTIS, NIST)
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health and Human Services (NIH)
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Transportation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- · Government Publishing Office
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- National Science Foundation

Click here for the Science.gov COVID-19 search results.

## U.S. DOT Research Hub

Research Hub is a publicly accessible database of USDOT-sponsored research, development, and technology project records.

https://researchhub.bts.gov/search



## ITS JPO CodeHub

ITS CodeHub promotes a reuse-first mentality and aims to support the discovery of open source code by putting it directly into the hands of developers to customize, transform, expand, and improve, as trends evolve and needs change

https://its.dot.gov/code/



#### **Purpose**

Empower innovation through code reuse, collaboration, and continuous improvement in the open

#### **Capabilities**

- Discover projects and modules
- Evaluate code health for reuse
- Connect to developers and other re-users
- Analyze development trends

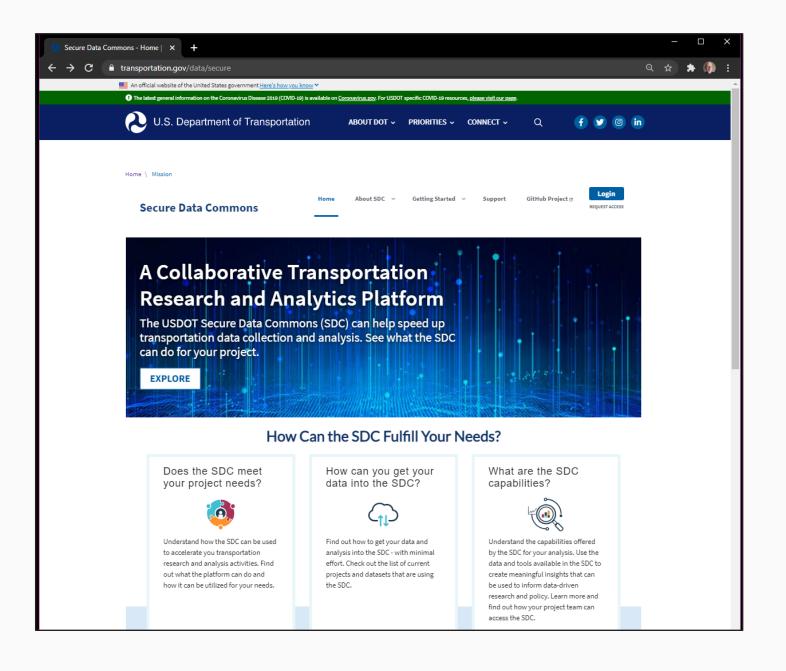
#### Community

Grassroots, collaborative development of open-source ITS software

## U.S. DOT Secure Data Commons

The USDOT Secure Data Commons (SDC) can help speed up transportation data collection and analysis.

https://www.transportation.gov/data/secure



# National Transportation Data Preservation Network (NTDPN)

Building a National Transportation Data
Preservation Network Workshop

Detailed Proceedings

May 2019



Initial Meeting: Building a National Transportation Data Perseveration Network Held at RDA's 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary, Philadelphia, PA, April 2019

### Key Goals:

- To help searchers find transportation-related data in the numerous organizational and institutional repositories and archives where it now resides.
- Help researchers find reliable homes for the digital data if their organization does not have a repository of its own.

## Building a National Transportation Data Preservation Network Workshop Notes <a href="https://doi.org/10.21949/1506118">https://doi.org/10.21949/1506118</a>

 Includes notes and summaries from Workshop 1 (April 2019) and Workshop 2 (January 2020)

Building a National Transportation Data Preservation Network Workshop [poster] <a href="https://doi.org/10.21949/1506103">https://doi.org/10.21949/1506103</a>

## NCHRP Report 936



NATIONAL COOPERATIVE HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM

Guide to Ensuring Access to the Publications and Data of Federally Funded Transportation Research

> TV Notice Authoring ICENOS - INGNESING - MEDICHE (NOTICE)

## NCHRP 936: A Guide to Ensure Access to the Results of Federally Funded Transportation Research

- Report Link:
  - http://www.trb.org/main/blurbs/180230.aspx
    - Project NCHRP 20-110: <a href="https://apps.trb.org/cmsfeed/TRBNetProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=4062">https://apps.trb.org/cmsfeed/TRBNetProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=4062</a>
    - Designed to help DOT-funded researchers improve data management and data sharing
    - Already a little out of date because of things like Federal Data Strategy that came about while report in publication limbo
    - National Transportation Library planning series of video trainings

### Links to resources

United States. Government Publishing Office (GPO). (2021). Washington, D.C. https://www.gpo.gov/

United States. Government Publishing Office (GPO). (2021). *GPO Style Manual*. Washington, D.C.

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# Submitting and Finding Datasets in TRID

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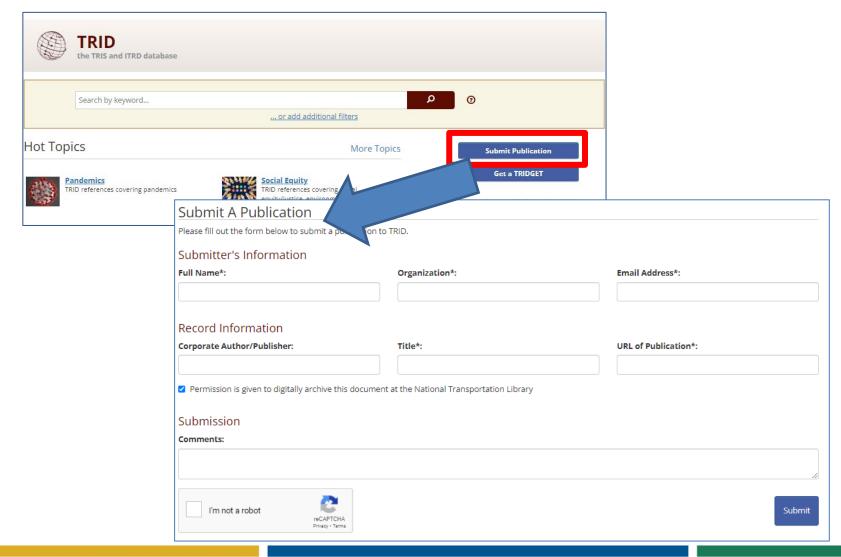
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## Submitting Datasets



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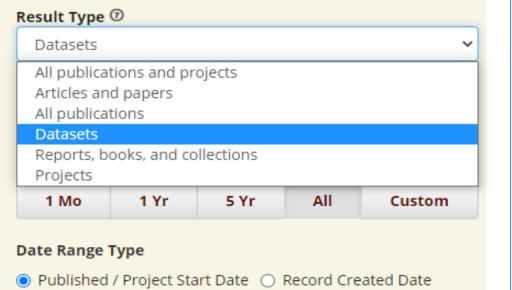
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