Open Data Highlights

The Open Data Executive Order signed today by President Obama—and the accompanying Open Data Policy released by the Office of Management and Budget and Office of Science and Technology Policy that implements the Order—require that, going forward, newly generated government data shall be made freely available in open, machine-readable formats, while appropriately safeguarding privacy, confidentiality, and security. This requirement will help the Federal government achieve the goal of making troves of previously inaccessible or unmanageable data easily available to entrepreneurs, innovators, researchers, and others who can use those data to generate new products and services, build businesses, and create jobs.

Today's actions are the latest manifestation of the Obama Administration's longstanding commitment to releasing and leveraging data in support of enhanced transparency and accountability, improved government services, and a stronger economy. They build on actions such as the Open Government Directive, the Digital Government Strategy, and, most recently, the Open Data Initiatives project, which is bringing the benefits of open data to a wide range of domains including health, energy, education, public safety, finance, and global development. Examples of data that are already being released in machine-readable form across government include:

Health

- Medicare published new data that for the first time gives consumers information on what hospitals charge for common inpatient procedures - a major step forward for hospital price transparency and accountability.
- Medicare also provides comprehensive data at the hospital, nursing home, and health-plan levels that help consumers make informed health decisions. These data include a wide array of quality and patient satisfaction metrics.
- The National Institutes of Health maintains clinicaltrials.gov, a comprehensive registry of clinical trials around the world. These data bring an unprecedented level of transparency to the clinical research community and can help patients find clinical trials for which they may be eligible.
- The Department of Health and Human Services tracks health and health system performance at the national, state and community level. The Health Indicators Warehouse and Health System Measurement Project provide launch pads for exploring these data.

Energy

- The Energy Information Administration has released an Application Programming Interface (API) that enables technology companies to quickly extract energy statistics including historical time series of energy production, consumption, prices, and expenditures by state.
- Energy Star, a joint program of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy, publishes an API that includes comprehensive product lists, vendors, and energy consumption of appliances and other household goods. The first set

of APIs covers washing machines, dishwashers, and cordless phones to better help American's understand their household energy consumption.

- The National Renewable Energy Laboratory maintains an easy-to-access [database](#) and [API](#) of the location of alternative fuel stations across the United States.

Education

- The Department of Education has released [College Scorecard,](#) a planning tool to help students and their families make more educated decisions about choosing a college. The tool highlights the cost, graduation rate, loan default rate, and average amount borrowed. The raw data that powers this tool will be made available in machine-readable format in the coming weeks.
- The Department of Education maintains the [Learning Registry](#), an open-source database of information about online learning resources organized by topic and grade level. The database has an API for developers to use to make it easier to create new products and help better connect citizens to resources.

Safety

- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has launched an [API that provides access to the 5-Star Safety Ratings System,](#) which includes crash test results, rollover ratings, and safety features for vehicles sold in the United States. The API also provides access to consumer complaints, vehicle recalls, and child-safety-seat inspection station locations.
- The U.S. Department of Labor [releases data](#) on workplace safety, illnesses, injuries, fatalities and catastrophes; and mine operations, inspections, violations, and accidents
- The Food and Drug Administration works with industry and state partners to [publish a feed](#) of press releases and other public notices about food, drug, cosmetics, and medical device recalls that may present a significant or serious risk to consumers. The Consumer Product Safety Commission makes available a [similar dataset and API](#) for consumer products such as clothing, electronics, furniture, and vehicles.
- The US Geological Survey tracks earthquakes in real-time and [produces feeds and maps](#) of incidents around the world.
- The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has [launched an API](#) that contains information from the 10-Year Accident/Incident Report, one of the most requested reports on the FRA website. The API provides historical statistics on rail-related train accidents, injuries and fatalities, highway-rail crossing collisions and operational information.

Finance

- The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has expanded its [Consumer Complaint Database](#) from 19,000 to more than 90,000 complaints about credit card companies, mortgage lenders, consumer loans, and private student loan companies.
- The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation [produces a publicly accessible dataset](#) of comprehensive information relating to the Nation's 7,015 FDIC-insured institutions,

including these institutions' most recent quarterly financial statements, with performance and condition ratios.

- Each year, the Department of Labor [releases information](#) about the operations, funding, and investments of 819,000 employer-sponsored benefits plans including 519,000 401(k) plans, as well as other employer-sponsored retirement, health and welfare benefit plans across the United States.

Global Development

- The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has [added an API for the "Green Book,"](#) a database of U.S. foreign assistance, including military assistance, to every country in the world since 1946. The data include program-level information by country enabling government transparency and accountability for foreign aid.
- The Development Credit Authority at USAID has [published the datasets and APIs for ten years of bank loan guarantees](#) to 100,000 entrepreneurs in new markets across 67 countries, allowing people to see the effectiveness of government loans to small businesses.
- USAID's [MEASURE Demographic Health Survey](#) database has more than 260 nationally representative health surveys for population, health, and nutrition indicator data conducted in more than 90 countries over the past 30 years.
- The Millennium Challenge Corporation [publishes financial and performance data](#) of global development activity as a result of U.S. foreign aid.