Data.gov: Answering the Demand for Open Government Data

ABSTRACT

Abstract Not Available

BIOGRAPHY

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATA.GOV

Answering the Demand for Open Government Data

"Build to Share"

15 July 2010

U.S. Federal Data Architecture Subcommittee (DAS)

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Agenda

DATA.GOV

- The Open and Transparent Government Directive
- Features of Data.gov
- What Others are Doing
- What the Public is saying
- What's Next
- Summary

the WHITE HOUSE PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

the BRIEFING ROOM the AGENDA the ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Transparency and Open Government

Government should be transparent. Transparency promotes accountability and provides information for citizens about what their Government is doing. Information maintained by the Federal Government is a national asset. My Administration will take appropriate action, consistent with law and policy, to disclose information rapidly in forms that the public can readily find and use. Executive departments and agencies should harness new technologies to put information about their operations and decisions online and readily available to the public. Executive departments and agencies should also solicit public feedback to identify information of greatest use to the public.

"Information maintained by the Federal Government is a national asset."
President Obama January 21, 2009

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President Obama's Open Government Initiative

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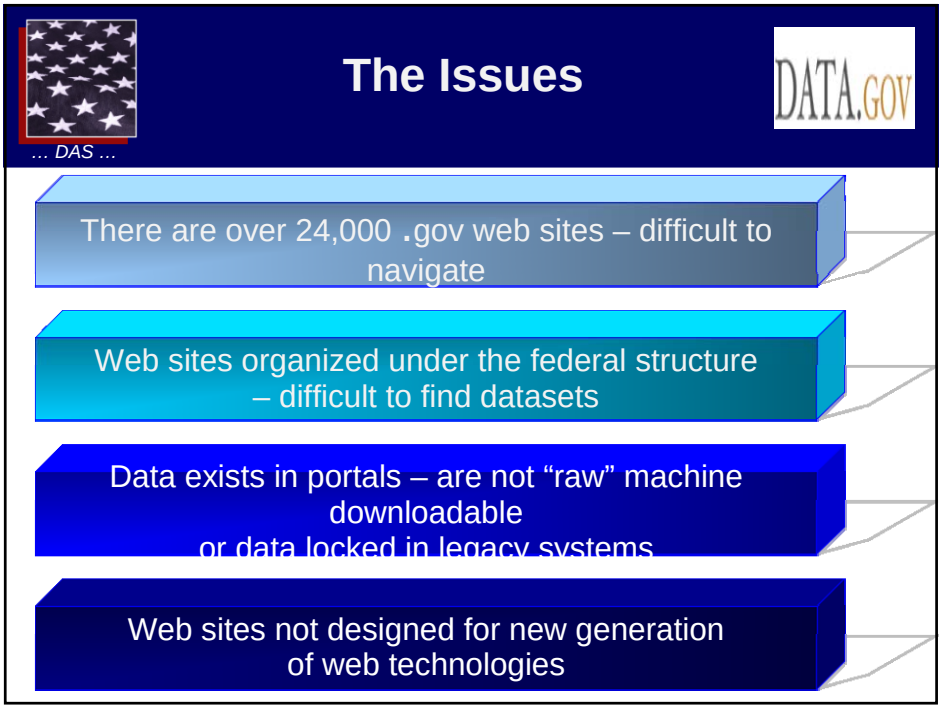
A government that is:

- **Transparent**
  - Promote accountability
  - Provide information for citizens on what their government is doing
- **Participatory**
  - Agencies encouraged to provide citizens opportunities to participate in policy making
  - Agencies encouraged to solicit ideas from citizens how to improve those opportunities
- **Collaborative**
  - Use innovative tools to enable collaboration across and at all levels of government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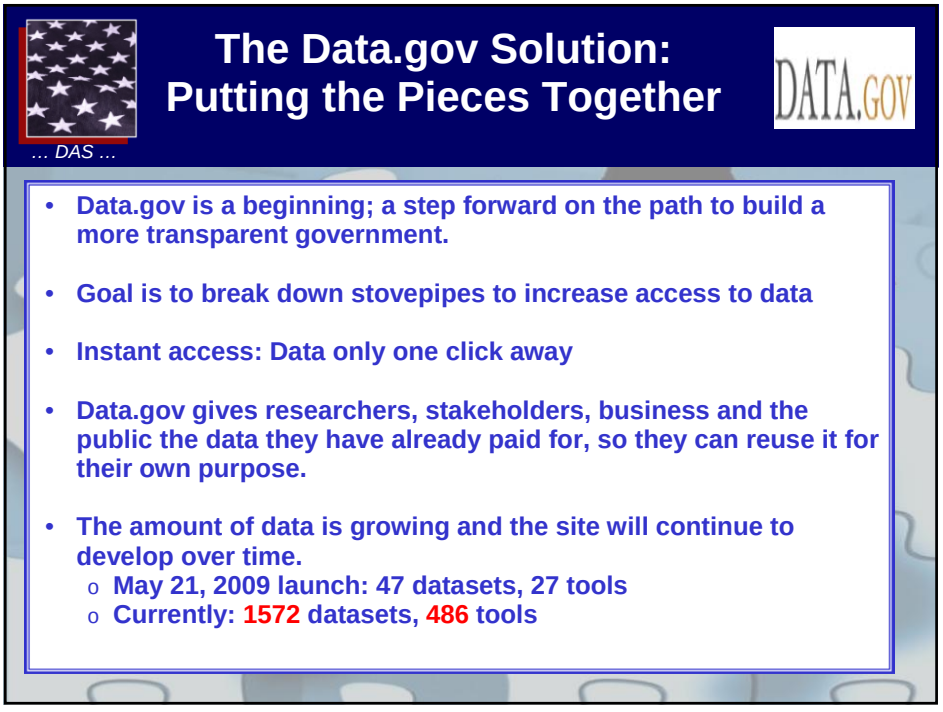
The Issues
DATA.GOV
There are over 24,000 .gov web sites – difficult to navigate
Web sites organized under the federal structure – difficult to find datasets
Data exists in portals – are not "raw" machine downloadable or data locked in legacy systems
Web sites not designed for new generation of web technologies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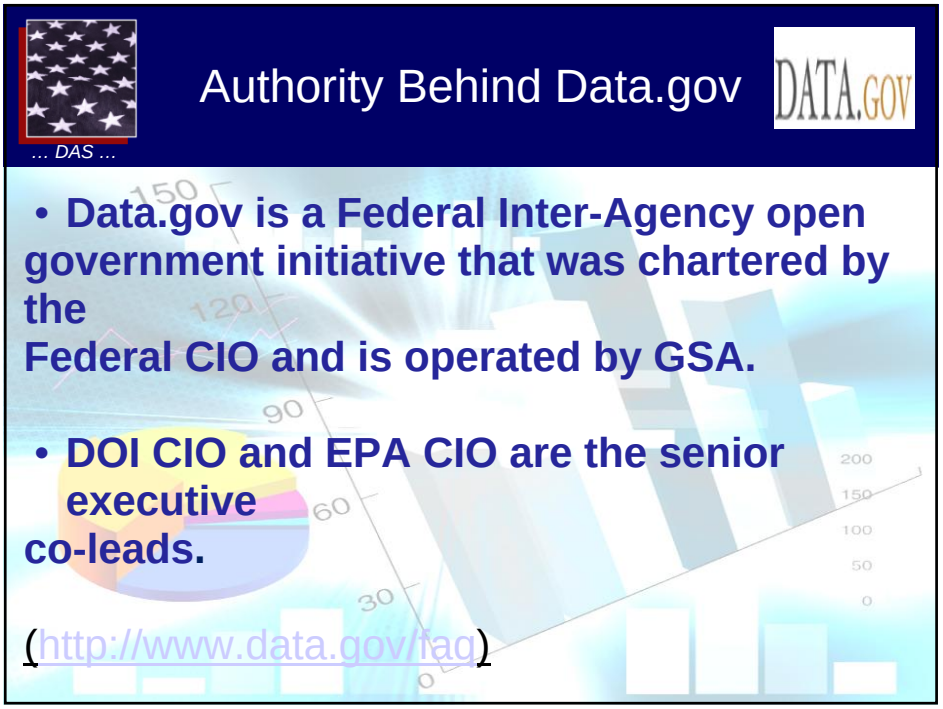
The Data.gov Solution: Putting the Pieces Together
DATA.GOV
• Data.gov is a beginning; a step forward on the path to build a more transparent government.
• Goal is to break down stovepipes to increase access to data
• Instant access: Data only one click away
• Data.gov gives researchers, stakeholders, business and the public the data they have already paid for, so they can reuse it for their own purpose.
• The amount of data is growing and the site will continue to develop over time.
o May 21, 2009 launch: 47 datasets, 27 tools
o Currently: 1572 datasets, 486 tools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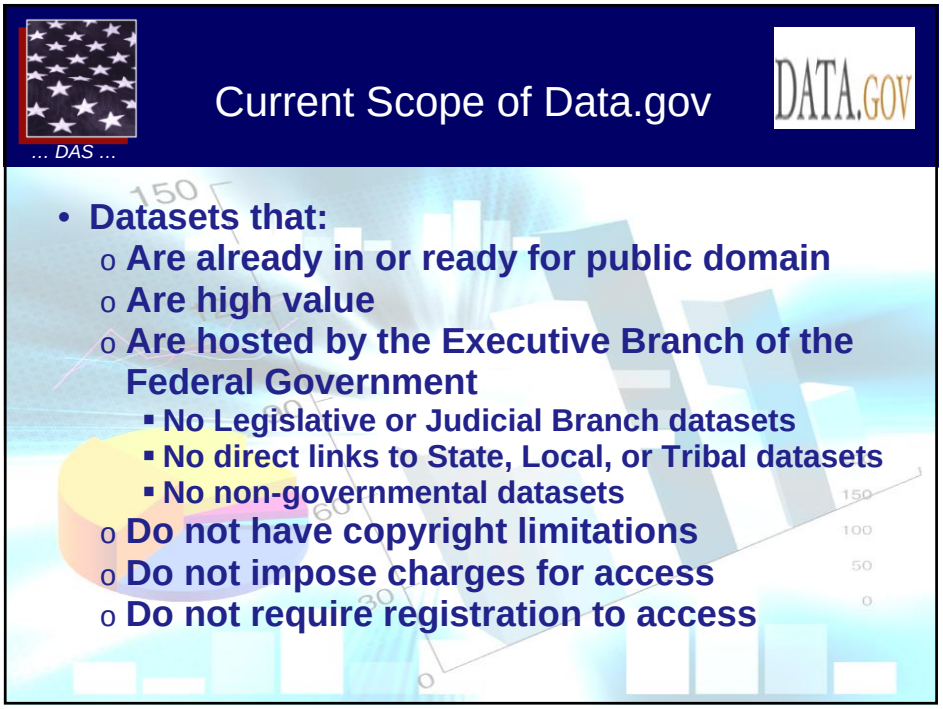
Authority Behind Data.gov
DATA.GOV
• Data.gov is a Federal Inter-Agency open government initiative that was chartered by the
Federal CIO and is operated by GSA.
• DOI CIO and EPA CIO are the senior executive
co-leads.
(http://www.data.gov/faq)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Current Scope of Data.gov
DATA.GOV
• Datasets that:
o Are already in or ready for public domain
o Are high value
o Are hosted by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government
▪ No Legislative or Judicial Branch datasets
▪ No direct links to State, Local, or Tribal datasets
▪ No non-governmental datasets
o Do not have copyright limitations
o Do not impose charges for access
o Do not require registration to access

What is meant by 'raw' data

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- **Machine readable**
- **Preference for structured datasets**
- **Preference for platform independent formats (see next slide)**
- **Data that can be used for secondary purposes**
- **Datasets that can be mashed-up with others (brought into context using lightweight web programming techniques and technologies)**
- **As 'raw' as possible (lowest level of aggregation, before analysis)**

What is Meant by High Value Datasets

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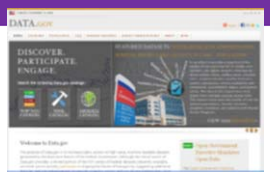
Datasets that can be used to:

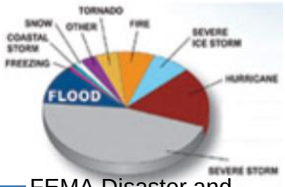
- increase agency accountability and responsiveness;
- improve public knowledge of the agency and its operations;
- further the core mission of the agency;
- create economic opportunity; or
- respond to need and demand as identified through public consultation

Veterans Affairs Hospital Report Card

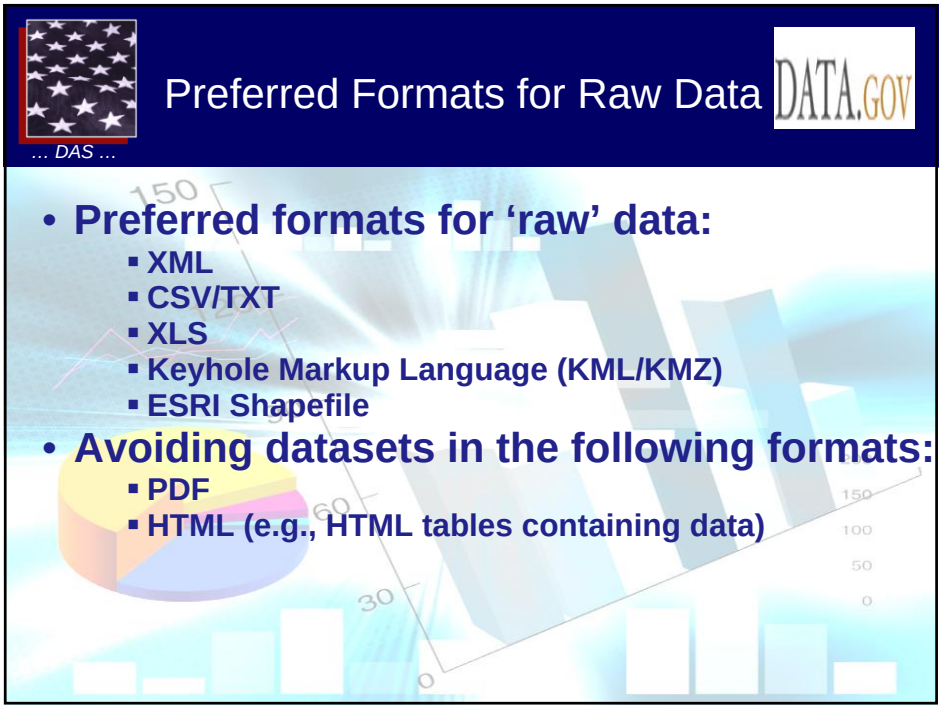


MyFood-A-pedia

MyPyramid Food Data



FEMA Disaster and Emergency Declarations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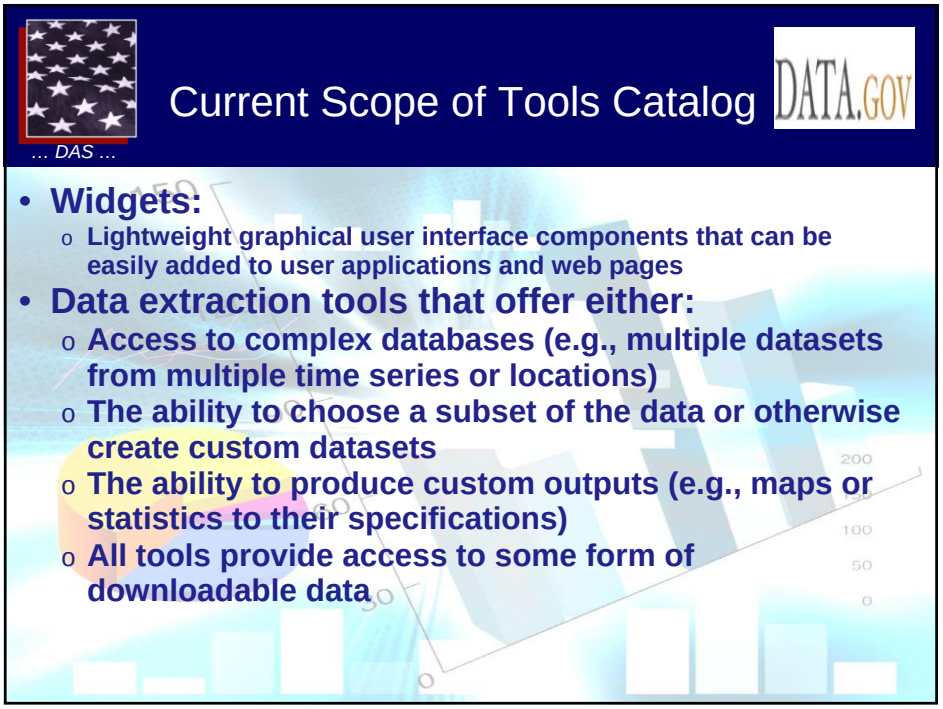
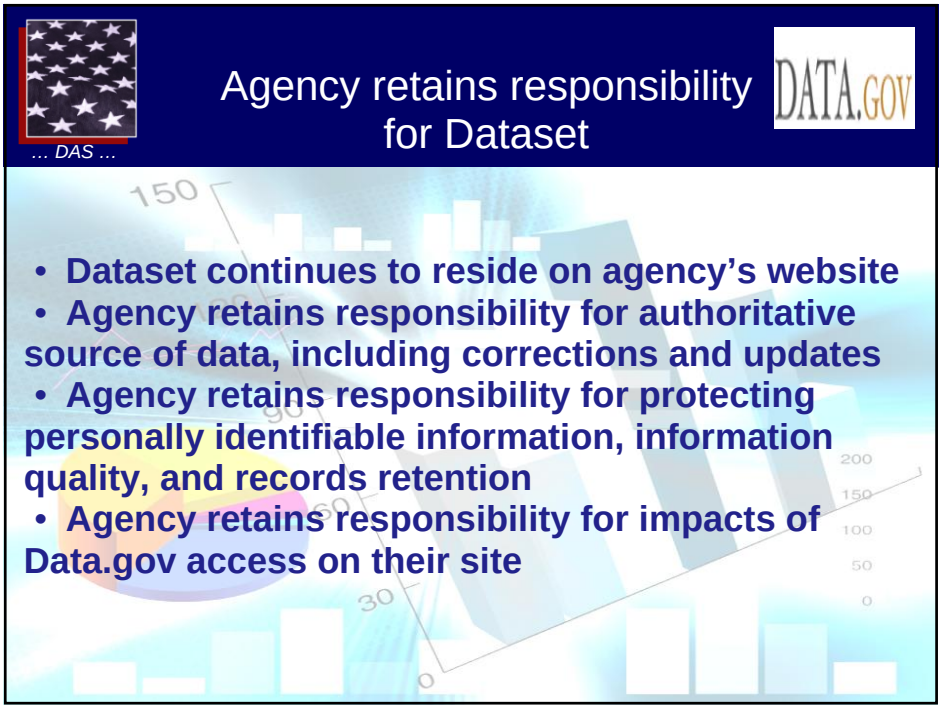
Preferred Formats for Raw Data
DATA.GOV
• Preferred formats for 'raw' data:
▪ XML
▪ CSV/TXT
▪ XLS
▪ Keyhole Markup Language (KML/KMZ)
▪ ESRI Shapefile
• Avoiding datasets in the following formats:
▪ PDF
▪ HTML (e.g., HTML tables containing data)


… DAS …
Current Scope of Tools Catalog
DATA.GOV
• Widgets:
o Lightweight graphical user interface components that can be easily added to user applications and web pages
• Data extraction tools that offer either:
o Access to complex databases (e.g., multiple datasets from multiple time series or locations)
o The ability to choose a subset of the data or otherwise create custom datasets
o The ability to produce custom outputs (e.g., maps or statistics to their specifications)
o All tools provide access to some form of downloadable data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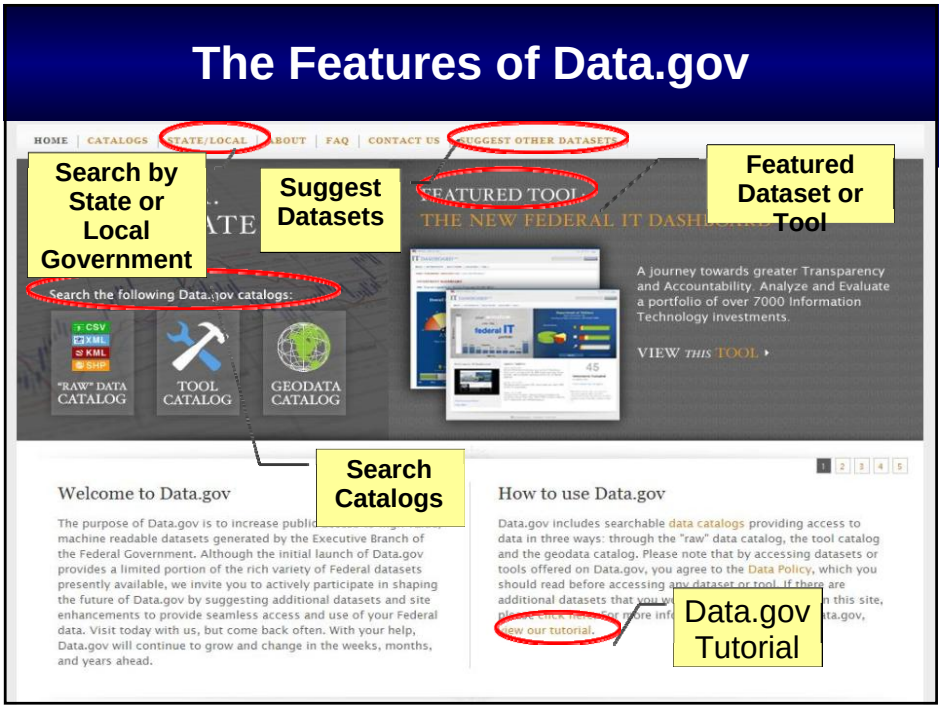
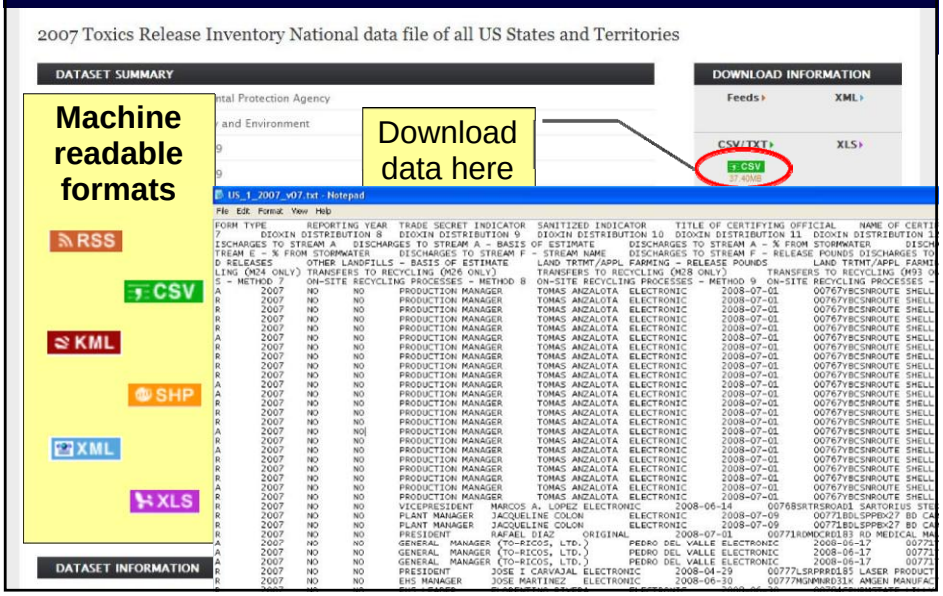
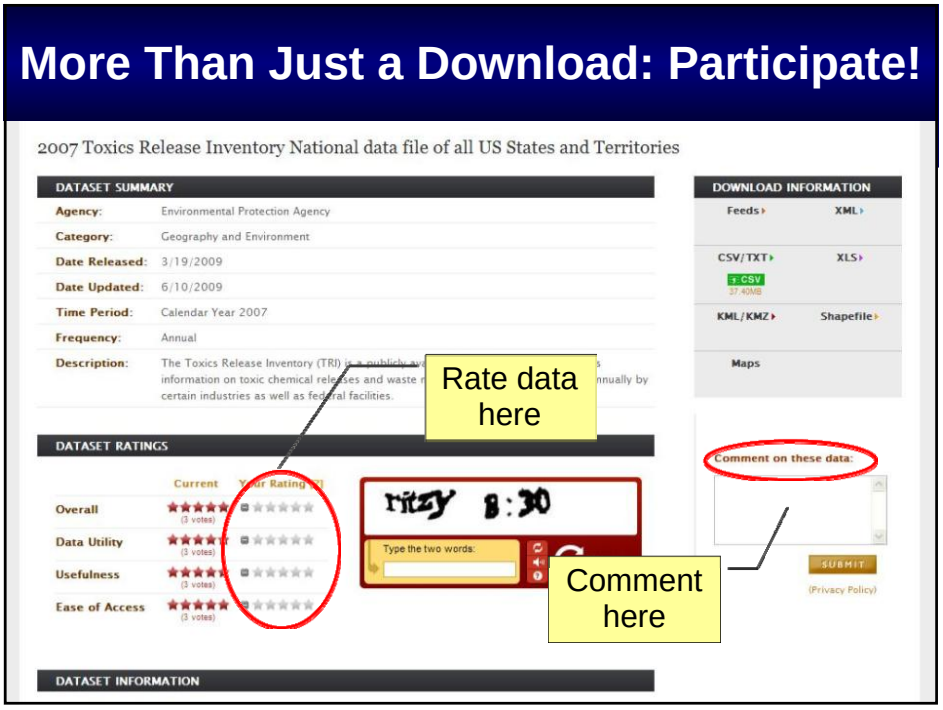
Agency retains responsibility for Dataset
DATA.GOV
• Dataset continues to reside on agency's website
• Agency retains responsibility for authoritative source of data, including corrections and updates
• Agency retains responsibility for protecting personally identifiable information, information quality, and records retention
• Agency retains responsibility for impacts of Data.gov access on their site


The Features of Data.gov
HOME | CATALOGS | STATE/LOCAL | ABOUT | FAQ | CONTACT US | SUGGEST OTHER DATASETS
Search by State or Local Government
Suggest Datasets
Featured Dataset or Tool
FEATURED TOOL
THE NEW FEDERAL IT DASHBOARD
A journey towards greater Transparency and Accountability. Analyze and Evaluate a portfolio of over 7000 Information Technology investments.
VIEW THIS TOOL
Search the following Data.gov catalogs:
"RAW" DATA CATALOG
TOOL CATALOG
GEODATA CATALOG
Search Catalogs
Welcome to Data.gov
The purpose of Data.gov is to increase public
machine readable datasets generated by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government. Although the initial launch of Data.gov provides a limited portion of the rich variety of Federal datasets presently available, we invite you to actively participate in shaping the future of Data.gov by suggesting additional datasets and site enhancements to provide seamless access and use of your Federal data. Visit today with us, but come back often. With your help, Data.gov will continue to grow and change in the weeks, months, and years ahead.
How to use Data.gov
Data.gov includes searchable data catalogs providing access to data in three ways: through the "raw" data catalog, the tool catalog and the geodata catalog. Please note that by accessing datasets or tools offered on Data.gov, you agree to the Data Policy, which you should read before accessing any dataset or tool. If there are additional datasets that you
Data.gov Tutorial

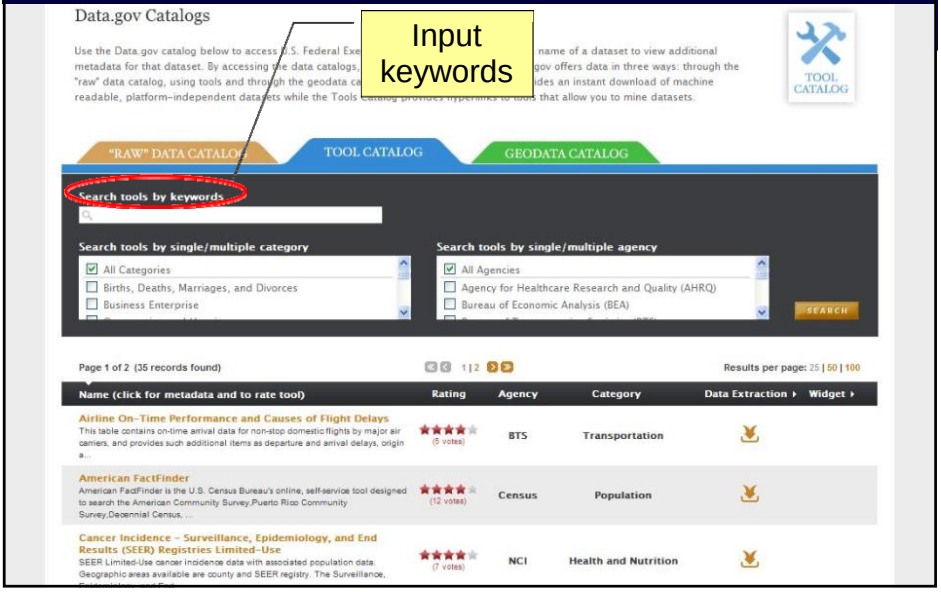
Easily Downloadable Data: A Click Away



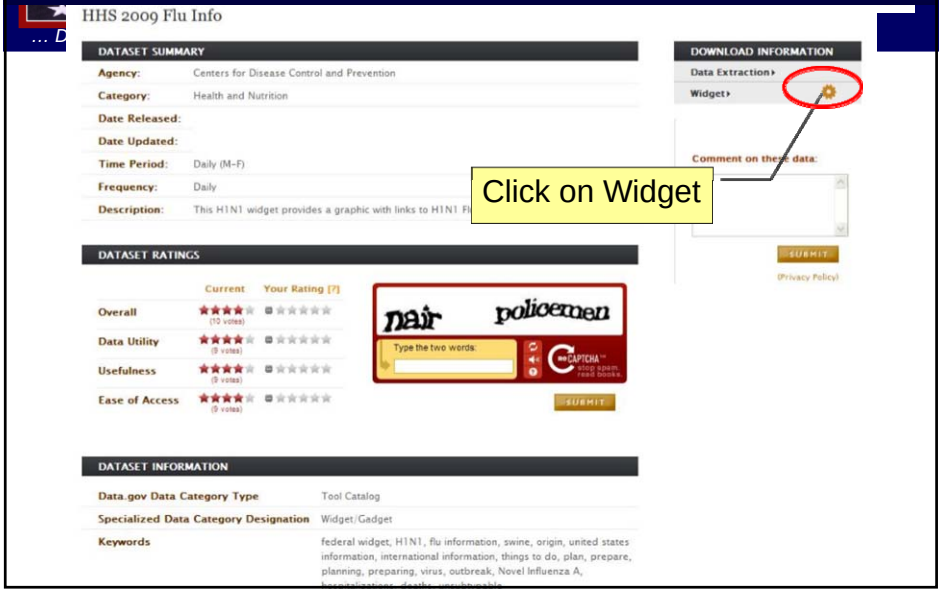
More Than Just a Download: Participate!



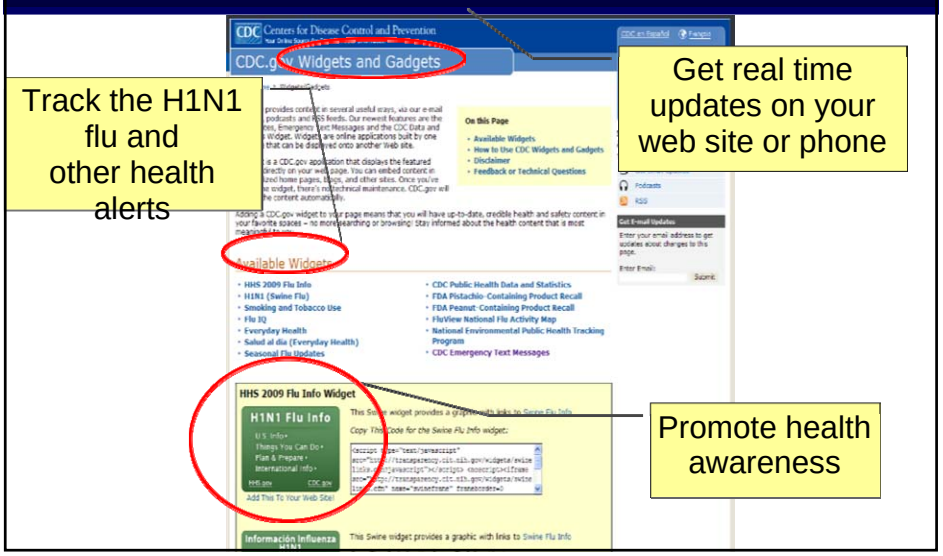
Tool Catalog



H1N1 Widget



H1N1 Widget on CDC.gov



Access State and Local Specific Data

Access State and Local Specific Data

Utah - Statewide

Occupational Wages

Hourly Wage Information by Occupational Title

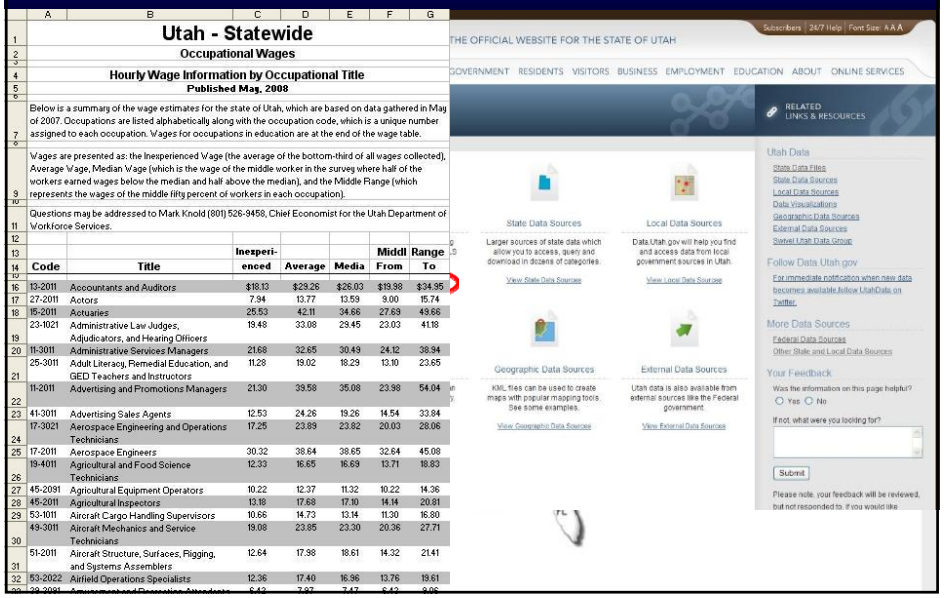
Published May, 2008

Below is a summary of the wage estimates for the state of Utah, which are based on data gathered in May of 2007. Occupations are listed alphabetically along with the occupation code, which is a unique number assigned to each occupation. Wages for occupations in education are at the end of the wage table.

Wages are presented as: the Inexperienced Wage (the average of the bottom-third of all wages collected), Average Wage, Median Wage (which is the wage of the middle worker in the survey where half of the workers earned wages below the median and half above the median), and the Middle Range (which represents the wages of the middle fifty percent of workers in each occupation).

Questions may be addressed to Mark Knold (801) 526-9458, Chief Economist for the Utah Department of Workforce Services.

Code	Title	Inexperienced	Average	Median	Middl From	Range To
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	$18.13	$29.26	$26.03	$19.98	$34.95
27-2011	Actors	7.94	13.77	13.59	9.00	15.74
15-2011	Actuaries	25.53	42.11	34.66	27.69	49.66
23-1021	Administrative Law Judges, Adjudicators, and Hearing Officers	19.48	33.08	29.45	23.03	41.18
11-3011	Administrative Services Managers	21.68	32.65	30.49	24.12	38.94
25-3011	Adult Literacy, Remedial Education, and GED Teachers and Instructors	11.28	19.02	18.29	13.10	23.65
11-2011	Advertising and Promotions Managers	21.30	39.58	35.08	23.98	54.04
41-3011	Advertising Sales Agents	12.53	24.26	19.26	14.54	33.84
17-3021	Aerospace Engineering and Operations Technicians	17.25	23.89	23.82	20.03	28.06
17-2011	Aerospace Engineers	30.32	38.64	38.65	32.64	45.08
19-4011	Agricultural and Food Science Technicians	12.33	16.65	16.69	13.71	18.83
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	10.22	12.37	11.32	10.22	14.36
45-2011	Agricultural Inspectors	13.19	17.68	17.10	14.14	20.81
53-1011	Aircraft Cargo Handling Supervisors	10.66	14.73	13.14	11.30	16.80
49-3011	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	19.08	23.85	23.30	20.36	27.71
51-2011	Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, and Systems Assemblers	12.64	17.98	18.61	14.32	21.41
53-2022	Airfield Operations Specialists	12.36	17.40	16.96	13.76	19.61



Data.gov at U K

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The Power of Setting Data Free

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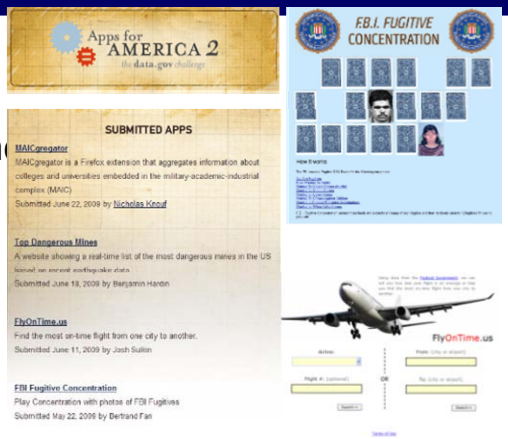
Finding the Innovative Path

In just a few hours after launch of Data.gov the public created an FBI most wanted app

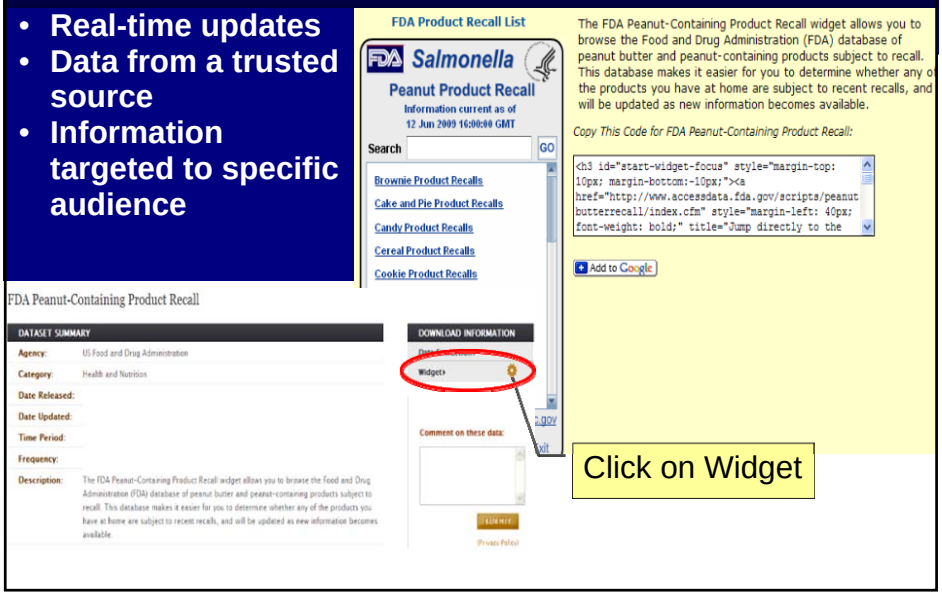
In just a few weeks the public created several more



Public innovation translates to development $'s saved

Prevent Spreading of Illnesses

- Real-time updates
- Data from a trusted source
- Information targeted to specific audience



Transparency: Track your Tax Dollars

Contracts from Dept. of Defense (FY 2009)

What Others Are Doing with Open Government Data

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See more third party developed applications:
http://www.sunlightlabs.com/

What Others Are Doing with Open Government Data

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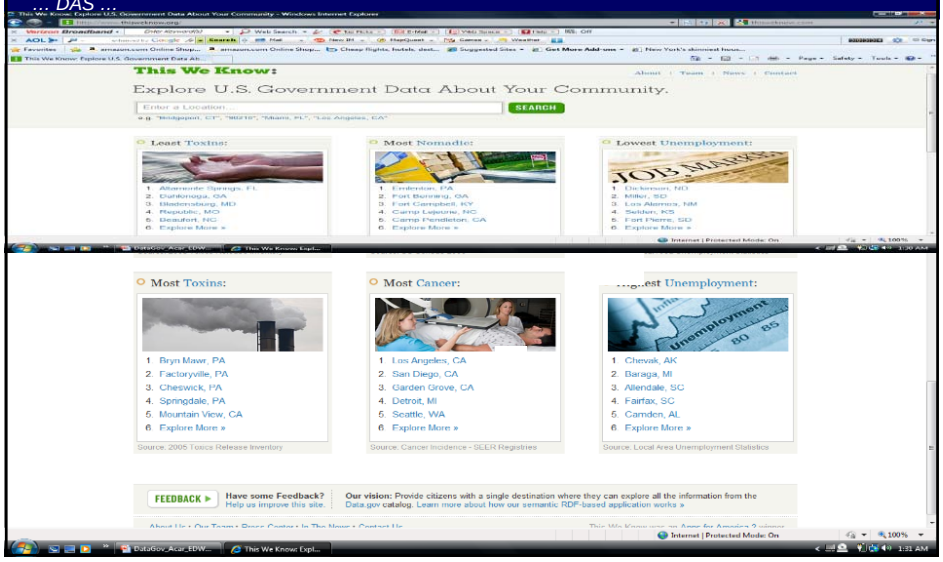

What Others Are Doing with Open Government Data

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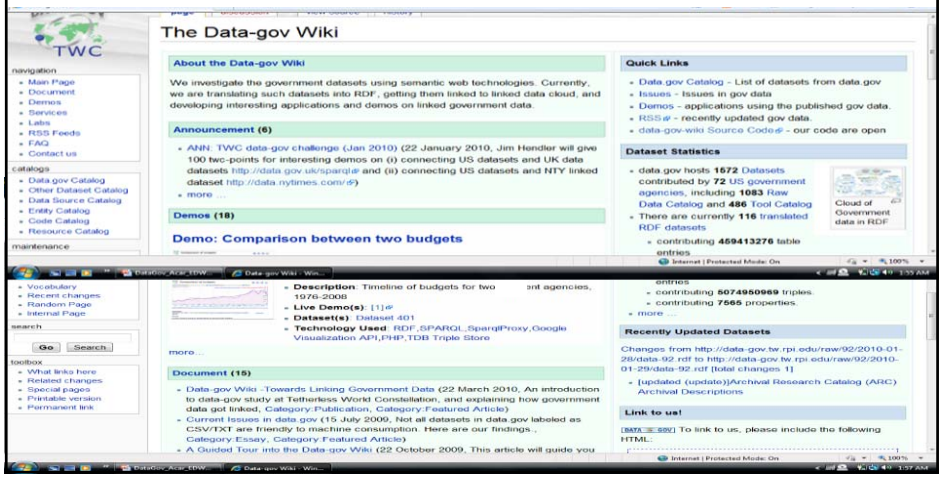
See more third party developed applications:
http://data-gov.tw.rpi.edu/wiki/The_Data-gov_Wiki



What Others are Saying: Initial Feedback

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- **Positive feedback on Design and Approach**
  - 1000+ "tweets" within 5 hours of launch and 300+suggestions
    - ***"Yes, we can have open data!"***
    - ***Data.gov is now live! It's got more of a Web 2.0 feel than a government bureaucracy.***
    - ***Nice! data.gov just launched, accumulating government data for everyone to explore***
    - ***US Government data out the wazoo! http://www.data.gov/ launches with a snazzy design (for once). Looks like a good tool to me"***
- **However, Users Want…..**
  - Additional machine readable formats,
  - Web services/API to directly access a
  - MANY more datasets!

Data.gov is widely embraced by the open government community

What Others Are Saying

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Agencies Make Data More Widely Available Through Data.gov (1/27/10)

On Jan. 22, executive agencies posted hundreds of datasets onto Data.gov as required under the Open Government Directive (OGD). Many transparency advocates have lauded the administration's efforts while at the same time raising questions about how well this first initiative under the OGD actually worked.

http://www.ombwatch

Heather West of the Center for Democracy and Technology:

"There are some data sets that are clearly high value to the public. Hopefully, this is the start of a process to release all the data sets that are valuable, no matter how valuable or to whom."

MyData: A paradigm shift? (1/24/10)

A paradigm shift? I think so due to two things we haven't seen … in industry and or government. **The first change** …these efforts are making an attempt at being open and honest here and showing data in "raw" format. …**The second change** is that these efforts are not making the reports for you, they are giving you the data for you to build your dashboards or canned reports.

http://richmurnane.blogspot.com/2010/01/mydata-paradigm-shift.html

Evolving Data.gov

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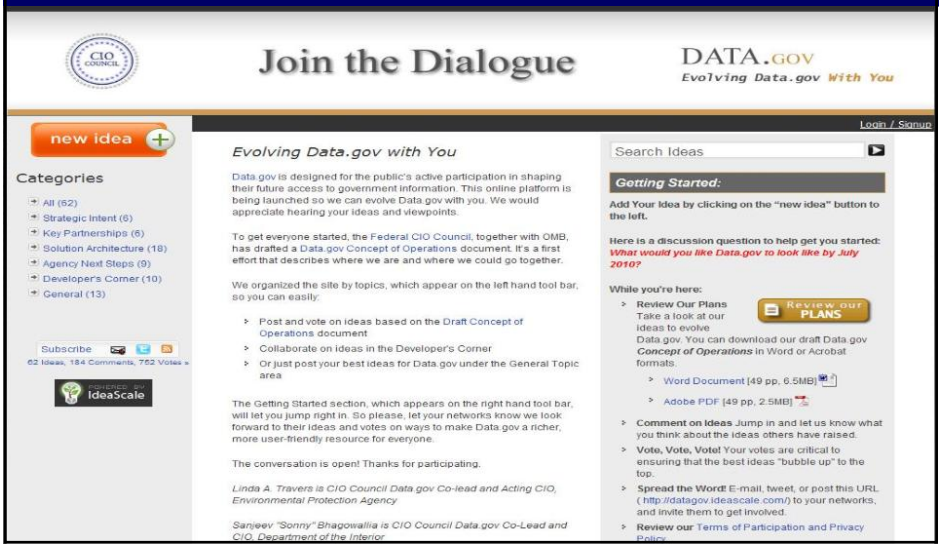

What's Next for Data.gov….

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- **Continue to Tap into the ingenuity of the American People**
- **More collaboration and participation with the Public (e.g., blogs)**
- **Social interaction and discussion**
- **Implementation of new technologies (e.g., web services and RSS feeds)**
- **Additional datasets, including those not already publicly available**
- **More Data visualizations, Mash-ups and applications from the data on Data.gov**
- **Linked Open Data…Semantic Web capabilities**

Summary

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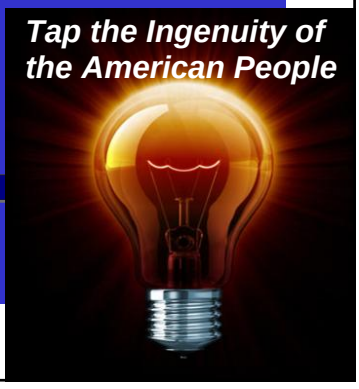
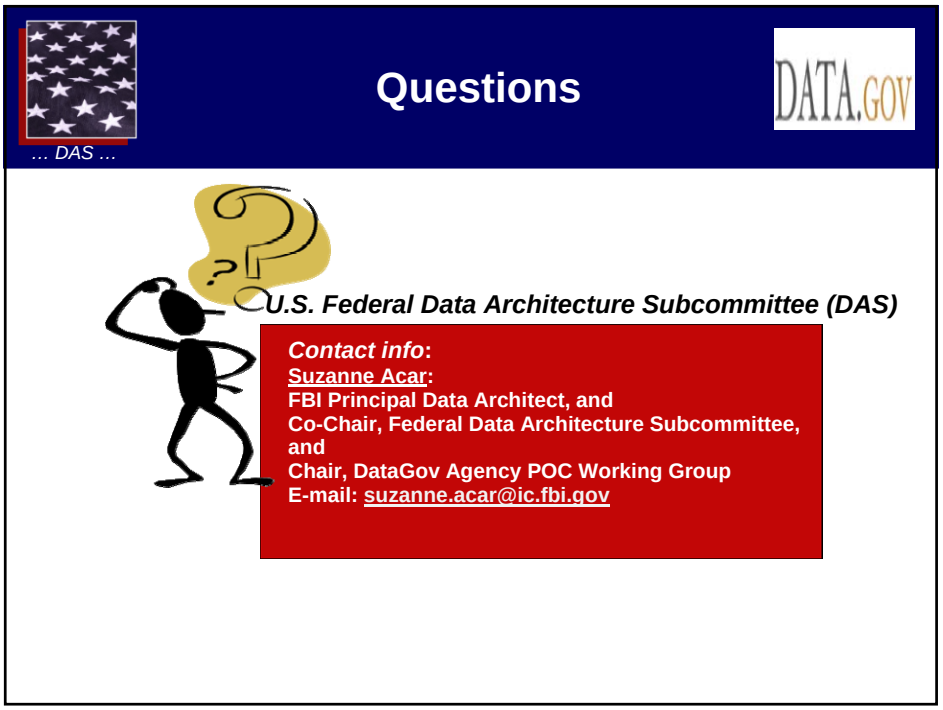
Challenge : Making Data Available

Solution: Democratize Data using DATA.GOV

Creating: Transparent Open Government

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Questions
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U.S. Federal Data Architecture Subcommittee (DAS)
Contact info:
Suzanne Acar:
FBI Principal Data Architect, and
Co-Chair, Federal Data Architecture Subcommittee, and
Chair, DataGov Agency POC Working Group
E-mail: suzanne.acar@ic.fbi.gov