# An Open Data Approach That Works

Government



## An Opportunity to Unlock Smarter Government Data

Open data is more than just a fleeting trend in government and technology. Federal, state, regional, and local governments have been tasked to develop and execute open data strategies. And while agencies are eager to meet this new directive, they have their reservations:

- How do I share my data?
- If we unlock data, will people use it?
- How will we update the data we share?
- Will I see a return on my investment?

An open data strategy built around geography just works. Geographic information system (GIS) technology can serve as the open data backbone for your organization, with a standard framework to unlock and manage your existing data such as statistical, environmental, and health information. It provides an easy way to publish this data for interagency collaboration and public consumption. Maps themselves provide an intuitive way to both share and analyze the data you're providing. And they're powerful. Whether you're responding to disasters, collaborating on regional impacts, or looking to stimulate economic development through incubators and start-ups, geography can help you improve your agency's operations and public outreach.

[Federal Government]

#### **Drivers for Open Data**

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Collaboration
- Economic development
- Innovation
- Supplementing government services

## Your New Mandate Is Our Core Competency

For more than 40 years, Esri has been devoted to harnessing the power of data and enabling people to find and use it. From basic data catalogs and clearinghouses to cuttingedge mobile apps and sophisticated open data portals, Esri has always been at the forefront of open data efforts. When it comes to developing your open data strategy, you can rely on our decades of experience and modern approach to efficiently and securely unlock your data.

## A Platform for Your Data

Most government agencies already use the ArcGIS® platform to create and manage authoritative data and administer programs. So why not use the same ArcGIS technology to maintain and share your data with the world? With the ArcGIS platform, you can take advantage of your existing investment to manage, share, and analyze the data you unlock. And with a range of out-of-the-box solutions and templates, you can open your data through online portals, mobile apps, and interactive maps that can be accessed on virtually any device, anywhere.

#### Why Use ArcGIS?

• Make the most of your existing technology and staff expertise

[State Government]

- Open your data in a matter of minutes, not months
- Keep your data in the same format, whether it's a back-end database or your public portal
- Instantly sync your data across your enterprise whenever it's updated by someone in your organization
- Partner with public and private organizations to easily create cutting-edge apps that inspire public confidence and promote transparency

## **Open Data in Action**

These organizations have already found success in using ArcGIS as their open data platform. Will yours be next?



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#### Washington State

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services uses ArcGIS Open Data software to configure the agency's open data health portal. The site includes data about nursing homes, administrative boundaries, and mental health networks that visitors can quickly download or visualize.



#### **District of Columbia**

The District of Columbia makes it easy for the public to search data, explore it within a map, and download in multiple formats. ArcGIS Open Data accesses data from its current location, which improves workflows and maintenance for the district.



#### USDA—Economic Research Service

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Access Research Atlas identifies food deserts across the country in an effort to better understand and combat childhood obesity. The atlas, built on the ArcGIS platform, has been invaluable in helping communities secure funding under the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.



#### **Riverside County**

Riverside County, California, uses ArcGIS Open Data to make county data available to residents, businesses, and developers. It's a proactive way to provide community information and gives developers the information they need to create civic-oriented applications.



### Get Started

With the ArcGIS platform, you can build an open data strategy that best suits your needs. Whether you're looking to catalog your data in an open data portal or developing focused apps to highlight publicly available resources, you'll find a suite of tools to help you get the job done.

#### **Unlocking Your Data**

ArcGIS<sup>™</sup> Online provides a cloud-based geospatial content management system for your data. Hosting your data in ArcGIS Online provides a convenient way for people to find, share, and use your data in a variety of ways. You can also take advantage of built-in analysis and mapping tools to instantly create a range of information products from your data. If you're concerned about security, you can use **Portal** for ArcGIS to bring the same functionality on-premises and behind your firewall.

Included with ArcGIS Online, **ArcGIS Open Data** lets you instantly unlock your data for the public in just a few clicks. Within minutes, you can create an interactive catalog of your data that lets visitors access your information through tables, maps, or geospatial formats. The **Operations Dashboard for ArcGIS** application provides a common view for monitoring, tracking, and reporting events and dayto-day operations across a group within an agency. Other applications within ArcGIS Online focus on disciplinespecific functions such as facilities management.

#### Creating Value from Open Data

Esri® Story Map<sup>™</sup> and ArcGIS Solutions templates let you quickly deploy focused applications that take advantage of open data. These free, configurable templates provide a structure and the basic functionality to map everything from natural resources to spending data.

**ArcGIS for Developers** provides software developer kits (SDK), APIs, code samples, and references that let you build custom applications in your development language of choice. You can extend standard ArcGIS apps or build something from the ground up that helps you make the most of open data.

[Civic Entrepreneur]

## Get started on your open data strategy today.

Learn more at esri.com/government.



Understanding our world.

Esri inspires and enables people to positively impact their future through a deeper, geographic understanding of the changing world around them.

Governments, industry leaders, academics, and nongovernmental organizations trust us to connect them with the analytic knowledge they need to make the critical decisions that shape the planet. For more than 40 years, Esri has cultivated collaborative relationships with partners who share our commitment to solving earth's most pressing challenges with geographic expertise and rational resolve. Today, we believe that geography is at the heart of a more resilient and sustainable future. Creating responsible products and solutions drives our passion for improving quality of life everywhere.



#### **Contact Esri**

380 New York Street Redlands, California 92373-8100 USA

1 800 447 9778 T 909 793 2853 F 909 793 5953 info@esri.com esri.com

Offices worldwide esri.com/locations

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