

# Technology for Democracy: Open Data for Public Good

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# The Center for Open Data Enterprise (CODE)

[www.odenterprise.org](http://www.odenterprise.org)

CODE's mission is to harness the power of open and shared data for the public good. We focus on **Equity, Climate, Health, and Democratizing Data**



# Open Data for Equity

CODE's Open Data for Equity (OD4E) Program promotes **data-driven approaches to advance equitable outcomes** in underserved communities.

CODE's methodology **is centered around developing actionable insights from community-based stakeholder engagement.**

The OD4E Program has worked to advance equity in fair housing, workforce opportunity, health, policing, and environmental justice.  
[bit.ly/racialequity-storymap](https://bit.ly/racialequity-storymap)

**CODE**

Collection

## Mapping Racial Equity: From Data to Communities

Join CODE on our journey to understand how data can support racial equity across a variety of sectors.

[Get started](#)

CODE's work on open data for racial equity is just beginning. We hope it will have a significant impact over time and are always looking for new partners to push it forward. We welcome your feedback on this collection and invite you to connect with us at [contact@odenterprise.org](mailto:contact@odenterprise.org).

For more background on CODE'S Open Data for Racial Equity program, you can review our [Impact page](#).

**Healthcare**

**Housing**

**Policing and Criminal Justice**

**Workforce Opportunity**

**Climate and Environment**

**Give Us Your Feedback**

# CODE's Equity Partners to Date



# Open Data for Climate Action

- **Main focus:** Data for local communities for climate adaptation and resilience
- **NOAA:** Risk Assessment in Vulnerable Communities
- **Bezos Earth Fund:** Scoping a national data collaborative
- **FEMA:** Improving flood mapping and information
- **Internationally:** Developing the Climate DART

# Open Data for Health and Healthcare

- **Main focus:** Data on the social determinants of health (SDOH)
- **HHS:** Use of SDOH data in COVID, cross-disciplinary work
- **HHS:** Social factors in the opioid epidemic, sickle cell disease, vector-borne disease
- **IBM Center:** Improving racial equity in healthcare
- **ZeOmega:** Data-driven approaches to applying SDOH data and Federal funding

# Democratizing Data

- **Main focus:** Making Federal and other local data more accessible and usable
- **Last decade:** Projects with the White House and agencies including Agriculture, Labor, Transportation, Treasury, and the VA
- **Current focus (Dept. of Commerce):** Use of GenAI and emerging tech to democratize data use



# Common themes

- Need for local as well as Federal data - and difficulty of finding good local data
- Need to work with trusted community organizations for outreach and feedback
- Intersectional nature of critical issues
- Data sovereignty and “nothing about us without us”
- Importance of the Federal context

# The Biden years: Advances in data for public good

- **Equity:** Racial equity as a core priority; Equitable Data Working Group
- **Climate:** Funding through IRA; Justice40 and the CEJST
- **Health:** Integration of SDOH in HHS policy and Medicare, Medicaid funding options
- **Democratizing data:** Continuation of open data policies, CDO Council

# The Trump years ahead: Still an unknown

- **Safeguards:**
  - The Evidence Act
  - Bipartisan support for open data
  - Federally mandated data publication
- **Risks:**
  - Policies established by executive order or individual agencies
  - Politicized nature of climate and other data

# Trump's First Term: Open Data for Business

## Open data for economic growth: A priority for the Trump administration

The Center for Open Data Enterprise's Joel Gurin recaps the Roundtable on Open Data for Economic Growth with OMB.

BY JOEL GURIN • AUGUST 14, 2017



# Tools to Put Data to Use: CODE

## CLIMATE DATA ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE TYPOLOGY (DART)



### ABOUT CLIMATE DART

The **Climate Data for Adaptation and Resilience Typology (DART)** identifies and prioritizes the focus areas, key indicators and features

### Resources include:

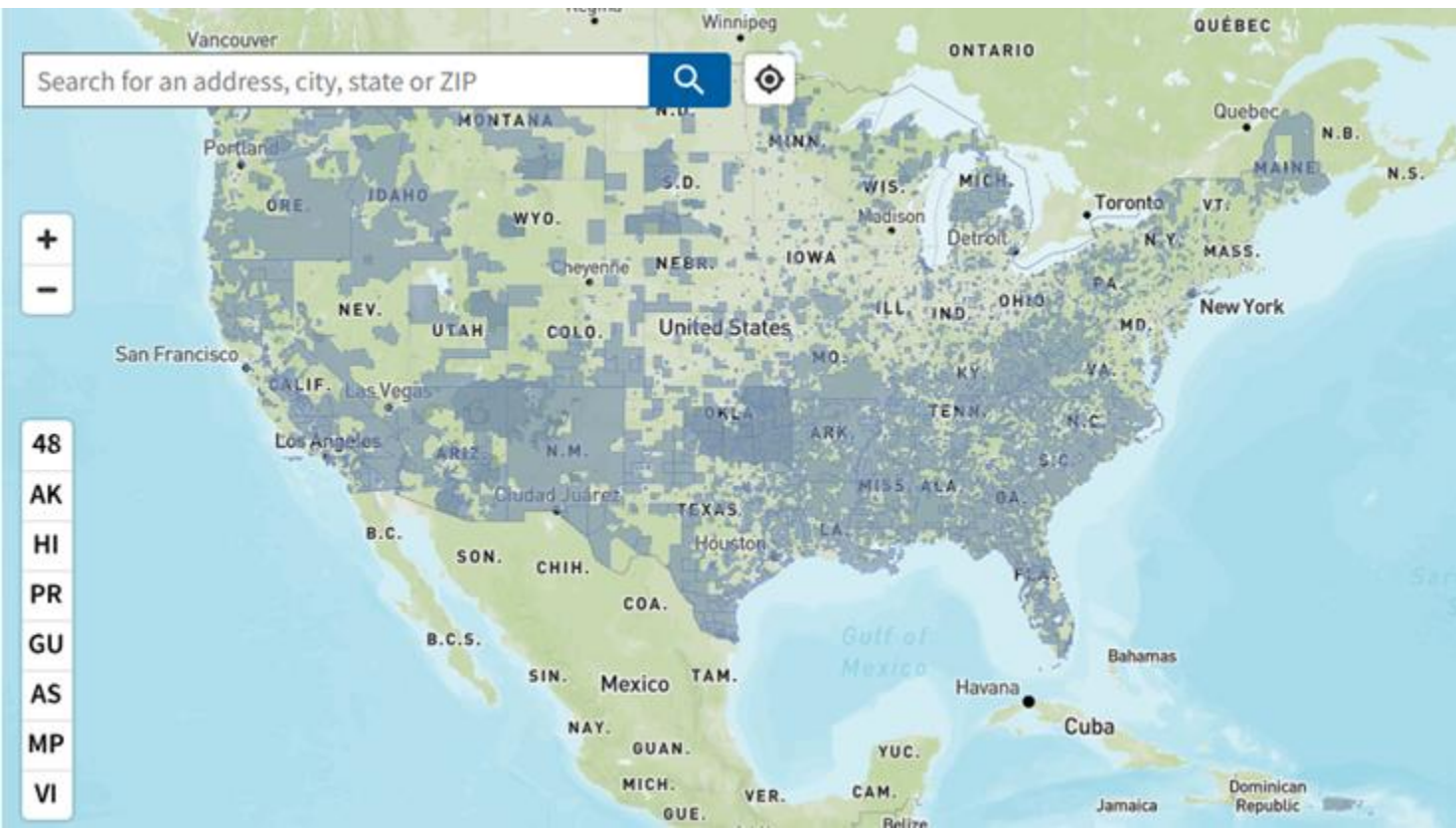
- United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) Global Set
- United Nations Framework Convention



# Tools for Data: Justice



Climate and Economic Justice  
Screening Tool



## How to use the map:

Zoom in + , search 🔍 , or locate yourself 📍 and select to see information about any census tract.



## Things to know:

The tool uses census tracts 🗺️. Census tracts are a small unit of geography. They generally have populations 🧑 of between 1,200 - 8,000 people.

Communities that are disadvantaged live in tracts that experience... These tracts are

Help improve t

# Tools for Data: Transparency

 An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#) 



[Search Award Data](#)

[Explore the Data](#) 

[Download the Data](#) 

[Find Resources](#) 

## Explore government spending by agency

[Start Searching Awards](#)

[Learn About USAspending.gov](#)

USAspending is the official open data source of federal spending information, including information about federal awards such as contracts, grants, and loans.

 [Pause text animation](#)

 [Feedback](#)

# Strategies for the future

- Ensure continuation of mandated data programs
- Consider preserving politically sensitive data
- Focus on state, city, local data opportunities
- Integrate data communication and use into community-based programs
- Collaboration of all kinds
- Find bipartisan opportunities for common ground - like the Federal Funding and Impact Tracker