NYC Open Data - 2023 Progress Report

An aerial view of New York City, showing parts of all five boroughs

New York City runs on the data generated by its agencies. Nearly every interaction New Yorkers have with these agencies produces data – from achieving a milestone like opening a business or becoming a homeowner, to everyday activities like hailing a taxi or having a picnic. Every public service that the City provides for New Yorkers generates data, as well - every tree planted, restaurant inspected, and street paved is a new row in a dataset.

City agencies use this data to understand how to better serve New York City. In turn, New Yorkers can use it to understand how their government works for them. This cycle of information exchange is fueled by the belief that access to data promotes transparency and grants new opportunities to all who use it. That belief is backed by New York City's Open Data Law first passed in 2012, and later amended to further bolster the strength of this commitment.

This report shines a light on all the efforts that keep Open Data running, brings awareness to all about the latest information available form the city, and provides a glimpse into the upcoming

changes and additions to our platform.

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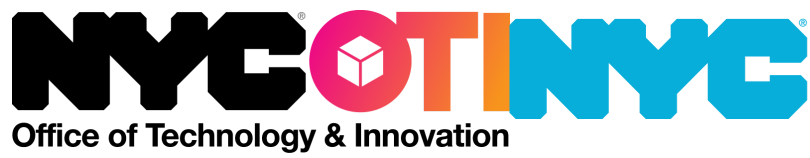
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Introduction

Dear New Yorkers,

The mission of NYC Open Data is to make the information used to operate NYC government available and accessible to all. Over the past year, this mission has continued to animate our work.

The foundation of making data available is a single repository, NYC Open Data, to which every City agency contributes with governance provided by the City's Open Data Team. Each agency has an Open Data Coordinator, who works with individual divisions to identify, structure, document, and share public data. This means New Yorkers don't need to analyze an organizational chart or scour agency websites to find the information they're looking for. In fact, examining how and where agencies share data is part of the Open Data Team's annual reporting process. Beyond the City's organizational chart, and individual agency's websites, this reporting also identifies where data is shared via Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests and, if possible, when the same data will be shared on NYC Open Data. Ultimately, when an agency takes on a new area of operation, a new dataset is created. And existing data is regularly updated to reflect the latest information that NYC is producing or collecting.

Making data available is necessary, but it is not sufficient – it must also be accessible. The Open Data Team approaches accessibility by looking at the supply of data – "Is the information shared actually usable?" and the demand for data – "Is the information shared actually being used?" To help make data more usable, since 2015, each new dataset has been required to be accompanied by a plain-language data dictionary that communicates the context behind the data. In 2022, this documentation moved to a simplified template and was bolstered by a comprehensive quality assurance process – looking at both the data and its documentation. Empowering more people to use public data has been a core focus of the Open Data Program. From the annual Open Data Week festival to the Open Data Ambassadors education initiative, connecting communities of New Yorkers to this valuable resource and to each other are pillars of data accessibility.

You can read more about all of this work around improving the availability and accessibility of public data in this year's report, but we also encourage you to contact us – nyc.gov/askopendata – with your questions or suggestions. Open Data is fundamentally a shared, participatory endeavor

and we rely on New Yorkers like yourselves to make it a reality.

Thank you,

The NYC Open Data Team

Strategic Plan Update

In 2019, NYC Open Data brought together City employees, civic hackers, open data evangelists, and good government advocates in a two-day workshop to reflect on the successes and challenges of the first ten years of open data in New York City. During the workshop, participants co-created a vision for the next decade of NYC Open Data, which the Open Data Team used in tandem with a public survey to write the strategic plan for the next ten years of NYC's Open Data. This strategic plan encompasses 27 initiatives across three main areas: improving user experience, strengthening the City's capacity, and building communities.

As NYC Open Data continues to work on the initiatives identified in this plan, some of them have become principles that are central to how we work, moving beyond the specific projects they encompassed when they were originally envisioned. In recognition of this centrality, we've updated the table below with the new timeline entry of "Ongoing" and status of "Core Principle."

As with previous years' reports, each initiative has an updated status, and many have "Status Notes" to share more detail on the work that is underway or planned.

Status	Status Definition
COMPLETE	The original goal set out when this initiative was developed is now complete. This status does not mean that we won't continue to work on projects related to this initiative and provide additional updates.
CORE PRINCIPLE	This is a core principle that will continue to inform our work. Future work will continue to be reflected in the "Status Notes" column in future versions of this report.
IN PROGRESS	Meaningful work has begun on this initiative. In some cases, portions of the initiative are complete while others remain underway. In those cases, additional detail is available in the "Status Notes" column.
PLANNING	The Open Data Team has begun to work on the planning and preparatory work necessary for this initiative.
FUTURE	The Open Data Team has not yet started working on this initiative or work is temporarily on hold as other initiatives are moved forward.

Improve User Experience

Making it easier for all New Yorkers to request, find, understand, and use data.

New Yorkers planting on Earth Day in Alley Pond Park

Provide a User-friendly, Dynamic Platform

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
1. Explore an open source platform that allows for continuous design, development, piloting, and implementation of new features—while ensuring equitable access to the	In 2020, we started an initial exploration into building more open source tools around NYC Open Data, collaborating with Two Sigma Data Clinic to launch the scout data discovery tool. Since then, we've continued to both look at the capabilities of open source open data platforms and how our current platform	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
underlying code for this public service.	might be extended to offer more collaborative opportunities.		
2. Embed platform users as stakeholders when gathering requirements for future development to ensure that a diversity of user needs are represented.	This ethos continues to inform our work, from the 2020 workshop with City staff on data sharing platforms, to the 2021 discussions with Open Data Coordinators about their own dataset review processes, to our School of Data 2022 workshop on the new data dictionary template.	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE
3. In collaboration with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD), work to make the platform more accessible for people of all abilities.	Open Data continues to collaborate with both the Mayor's Office of People with Disabilities and our vendor on continued accessibility improvements. This has included a guide to navigating the platform with a screen reader, improvements in screen reader and keyboard navigation, and increased compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE
4. Streamline communications around NYC Open Data by improving the transparency and responsiveness of our help desk for all users	In 2021, we gathered requirements for a new help desk platform, conducted an assessment of available platforms, and ran user testing with Open Data Coordinators who are responsible for answering inquiries. In 2022, we finished this research and moved into further testing and scoping. This year, we revamped how we manage public inquiries. With a new semi-automated system, inquiries from the helpdesk are delegated to their assigned agencies and saved in our database simultaneously. Thanks to this efficiency,	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
	we can provide helpdesk users with speedier replies and more easily keep the inquiry-driven Questions and Errors and Dataset Requests datasets up-to-date.		
5. Collect user feedback around data and metadata standards, and update to ensure standards reflect current needs	In 2021, we collaborated with Open Data Coordinators on ideas for improvements to our existing templates and held a public feedback session at School of Data 2022. In July 2022, we released a new simplified data dictionary template that reflected our conversations and research.	Complete	COMPLETE
6. Connect Open Data to existing citywide performance reporting, allowing equitable access to the data underpinning some of NYC's reports, dashboards, and tools.	In 2020, the Open Data compliance report looked at data on agency websites as part of the groundwork for making more formal connections between website tools used for performance reporting and the underlying open data.

In 2021, this website data inventory was turned into a dynamic dataset that will be updated each year.

In 2023, reporting on website data was refocused, grouping related data that are presented separately on agency websites to better reflect the consolidated datasets that are published on Open Data. Future efforts will further consolidate this reporting to continue to clarify what data is and is not published on NYC Open Data. | Long-term | IN PROGRESS |

Create a Repository for Data About New York City

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
7. Revamp dataset request process so the most popular requests can be prioritized to be released first.	As of 2022, a new tracker makes the dataset request process more transparent by sharing information on what agency each request is assigned to, when requests are due, and when they're supposed to be completed.	Medium-term	IN PROGRESS
8. Formalize publishing process for non-City publishers such as public libraries, district attorneys, and citizen-science initiatives.	In 2022, we released a simplified data dictionary template and a new quality assurance standards and review process lay the groundwork for opening up our publishing process.	Long-term	FUTURE

Strengthen City Capacity

Supporting City agencies and other publishers to NYC Open Data with better tools, more resources, clearer standards, and stronger connections with existing Open Data operations.

311 employees working together to assist a caller

Improve Open Data Coordinator (ODC) Support

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
9. Guide Open Data Coordinators through regular training sessions for those new to the role and "office hours" for veterans.	Since 2020, the Open Data Team has conducted training sessions, held virtual Q&As, and offered online office hours. These will continue to be a central feature of our work to empower Open Data Coordinators. In the coming years, the process for onboarding new Open Data Coordinators	Complete	COMPLETE

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
	will continue to be formalized, with more tracking of the training each Coordinator has received and the public release of our onboarding documents.		
10. Build internal understanding of and support for open data use across Agency leadership and key internal teams (including legal, communications, and information technology) through education and training.		Medium-term	FUTURE
11. Create case studies and presentations to share how Open Data can improve service delivery, promote equity, and increase efficiency.	In 2023, the Open Data Team updated the process for agencies to log when they've completed an Open Data civic engagement -- sharing more guidance on how to do this work effectively and simplifying the logging process. These improvements should result in more accurate reporting and higher-quality engagements.	Long-term	IN PROGRESS

Streamline Dataset Publishing

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
12. Improve dataset automation process and technology support, making it easier for agencies	In 2020, we piloted new technology to streamline the dataset automation process. This has continued to be used to make dataset automations easier to create and maintain.	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
to keep their datasets up to date.	In 2022, a move to a cloud-based automation tool has continued to improve the ease and speed at which datasets are automatically updated. In 2023, we released a draft policy for agencies interested in publishing their own data, and began a pilot including the Buildings, Parks, Planning, Transportation Departments to allow agencies to maintain their datasets independently. In the coming year, we'll be refining this pilot and evaluating where and how it can next expand.		
13. Redesign how we identify new data for publication so that more public datasets are being shared.	The Open Data team continues to provide additional guidance to agency Open Data Coordinators (ODCs) to identify new information that should be posted on NYC Open Data. This information is conveyed during onboarding sessions with ODCs and reinforced in office hours or reporting discussions with our team. ODCs are guided to actively seek out new sources of public data – reviewing the datasets already published on their agency's website, evaluating underlying data for their Mayor's Management Report indicators and other public-facing reporting requirements, and actively engaging with their agencies' data owners and program managers.	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE

Develop NYC Open Data Policies and Measures

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
14. In collaboration with the City's Chief Privacy Officer and	Vetting of datasets by Agency Privacy Officers is included in our new data quality standards, and guidance from the citywide	Complete	COMPLETE

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
Mayor's Office of Information Privacy, develop and implement clear privacy policies and guidelines on the responsible release of open data.	Office of Information Privacy (formerly the Mayor's Office of Information Privacy) is incorporated in the updated Technical Standards Manual.		
15. Share best practices for open data interoperability and access that can be incorporated when new technology systems are procured.		Medium-term	PLANNING
16. Update open data policy guidance in the Technical Standards Manual to better address internal data coordination, data quality standards, and self-publishing processes.	The format of the Technical Standards Manual now mirrors the dataset lifecycle, and continues to be updated to reflect the latest guidance to agencies.	Complete	COMPLETE
17. Create a new quality assurance system to check how published datasets comply with updated standards.	Since the start of this effort, all new datasets have been vetted by both the agency that owns them and the Open Data team against the Data Quality Standards and Review Process. Over the past year, this review has been similarly applied to existing datasets as they are being updated or where someone writes into the Open Data Help Desk. Working in tandem, our team and agency	Complete	COMPLETE

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
	Open Data Coordinators have consolidated fragmented datasets, replaced aggregate reports with underlying granular data, archived datasets with outdated or inaccurate information, migrated data dictionaries to the current template, and improved the quality of dataset documentation. In the future, our team will be working on a more comprehensive review of every existing dataset to prioritize similar improvements across the entire NYC Open Data inventory.		
18. Collaborate with NYC's Records Access Officers and the OpenRecords team to align NYC Open Data with FOIL practices and resources across the City.	In March 2022, the Department of Records and Information Services updated the process for determining whether Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) responses contained data. As a result of this work, every FOIL request where data is shared is tagged with the data source as part of the FOIL process, making the discovery of potential Open Data datasets more efficient.	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE
19. Introduce and track Open Data Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to show the health of the program at a glance	In 2021, we published an Open Data dashboard which enables anyone to look at NYC Open Data at a citywide, agency or dataset level. This tool has proven to be particularly useful for Open Data Coordinators who want to ensure that their agency's published data stays up-to-date. In the coming years, this dashboard will continue to be updated, including interface improvements and more granular information about out-of-date datasets.	Complete	COMPLETE

Build Communities

Supporting New Yorkers with tools and information to help them solve local problems, and amplifying the voices of people who find solutions using NYC Open Data.

Staff from the Departments of City Planning and Housing Preservation & Development sharing background on the development of the Equitable Development Data Explorer tool at School of Data 2023.

Share Stories of Impact and Success

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
20. Create "Powered by NYC Open Data" brand to identify initiatives that have used NYC Open Data and create	We are continuing to use "Powered by NYC Open Data" to advertise Open Data Week.	Medium-term	PLANNING

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
guidelines for usage and citation.			
21. Demonstrate impact of open data usage through focused case studies, communications and storytelling.		Medium-term	FUTURE
22. Facilitate regular peer exchange among Open Data Coordinators to help capture and share lessons and best practices.	The Open Data Team has continually engaged veteran Open Data Coordinators to improve the processes we use. In recent years, this has included updates to our trainings, help desk platform, compliance process, data-quality standards, and documentation template. In 2022 and 2023, the team has focused on improving how new Open Data Coordinators come to understand the program and their role. The Health, Parks, and Transportation Departments have shared materials they use to communicate Open Data requirements and deadlines, and onboard new staff. In the future, similar resources will be shared in a public library of tools and processes so agencies can better learn from each other's practices.	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE
23. Continue engaging existing citywide programs in integrating open data into their process, service, or curriculum in order to improve reach and equitable	In May 2020, more experienced Open Data Coordinators helped to create training videos and joined a virtual panel during our online training seminar. Throughout the past year, the NYC Open Data Ambassadors program partnered with Borough President and City Council member offices, Community Boards, and NYC's Civic	Long-term	IN PROGRESS

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
access to Open Data—similar to past efforts with Computer Science for All and Participatory Budgeting NYC.	Engagement Commission to host introductory trainings on NYC Open Data. These classes continue to be offered year-round, with the latest schedule available at nyc.gov/discoveropendata.		

Fulfill the Promise of "Open Data for All"

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
24. Foster connections between people whose questions can be answered with open data and tech-savvy communities who are interested in helping them find solutions, promoting equity of access to insights generated using open data.	Community building and education have only grown in importance for NYC Open Data since this initiative was first identified. The Open Data Ambassadors Program teaches data-savvy Ambassadors from a variety of professional backgrounds to share their knowledge with data-curious New Yorkers. The annual Open Data Week festival brings together students, data professionals, civic hackers, artists, government wonks, community activists, and more to learn from each other about how they're using or might use free public data about New York City. Over the coming year, our team will continue its work on revamping the Open Data Project Gallery to both improve the connections between these projects and their underlying datasets, and to highlight more projects created by City agencies.	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE
25. Assess "Data Counts" pilot, connecting library visitors to NYC Open	The Open Data Ambassadors Program continues to expand. Over the past year we have collaborated with BetaNYC to introduce nearly a thousand New Yorkers to	Complete	COMPLETE

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
Data, for potential to scale.	Open Data and hosted classes in partnership with NYC's Civic Engagement Commission, Borough Presidents, City Council members, and Community Boards. The program is powered by volunteer Ambassadors who are trained to teach New Yorkers about the value of public data. In the summer of 2023, we trained a new cohort of more than 30 additional volunteer Ambassadors who will soon be ready to help spread awareness of Open Data throughout the NYC's diverse communities.		
26. Continue to grow the annual Open Data Week celebration.	With more than 3,000 attendees, Open Data Week 2023 kept the momentum from the 2022 re-introduction to in-person events. Among the in-person highlights were a water quality sampling event at Randall's Island, an event to map North Brooklyn parks, and hybrid sessions hosted by Adelphi, Columbia, Meta, NYU's GovLab and Two Sigma's Data Clinic. The Data Through Design data-informed art exhibition was on display throughout the week at the Prime Produce community center in Manhattan, and the week concluded with BetaNYC's School of Data conference bringing more than 300 people from across the city, and around the country and world, back to CUNY's School of Law in Long Island City. We're also continuing to work with BetaNYC to post recordings of past Open Data Week sessions on archive.open-data.nyc so they can be easily rewatched.	Ongoing	CORE PRINCIPLE
27. Launch issues-focused community	As part of Open Data Week 2022 festival, the Open Data Team worked with agencies	Medium-term	IN PROGRESS

Strategic Initiative	Notes	Timeline	2023 Status
sessions building on the "Learn About NYC" event series.	to tell the stories of their specific operations through the datasets they publish during agency "Office Hours" sessions.

Building on this, Open Data Week 2023 featured a record 20 government agencies holding Office Hours sessions or sharing their work in public events. | | |

Dataset Highlights

NYC Open Data would not exist without the work of Open Data Coordinators: City staff at each agency who are responsible for identifying, structuring, documenting, publishing, maintaining, and sharing their agency's public datasets. As New York City evolves, so does the data that is used in its operations. And these changes often mean publishing a new dataset to share more about the work the agency is doing. This year, we've published more than 200 new datasets, all of which are available to view in our asset inventory, and some of which are highlighted below:

Seating Locations

Agency: Department of Transportation (DOT)
Dataset: Seating Locations

Someone sitting down on a CityBench on Manhattan's Second Avenue

The NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) manages and maintains more than 2,100 seating locations throughout the five boroughs, consisting of:

- CityBenches - backed or backless benches for people to sit on, most often located near bus stops or in commercial areas

- LeaningBars - angled bars for people to lean on, along Select Bus Service routes. These can be particularly useful for people who find it more strenuous to sit.

With more installations scheduled for 2023, seating locations provide public seating at bus stops and street curbs to make NYC's streets more comfortable for pedestrians and transit riders. The benches are for public use - not restricted to bus passengers, any building's tenants, or a business's patrons.

DOT considers the location of key business corridors and transportation hubs when deciding where seating should be placed. Anyone can also suggest a seating location using DOT's online form. DOT staff assesses submissions to confirm suitability, considering factors such as sidewalk width, number of bus passengers who wait at the stop, and the local senior population. DOT ensures that the sidewalk is wide enough to accommodate potential sitters, people with accessibility needs, and pedestrians walking around any new seating. From there, the data gets processed by DOT and is ultimately added to their agency-wide geospatial data repository. After some review, this data is passed on to DOT's Open Data team for publication.

This dataset can be used in conjunction with Bus Stop Shelters, NYC DOT Pedestrian Plazas (Map), Open Streets Locations, and the Temporary Art Program datasets to understand the relationship between seating and gathering places like bus stops, plazas, public art installations, and more. Users can even source areas listed in any of these other datasets to suggest where new seating could be installed. For example, DOT often looks to place seating near bus stops where there is not enough room to accommodate a bus stop shelter.

For more information about seating on NYC's streets, visit DOT's CityBench program page. You can also contribute to your community by nominating a seating location!

Zoning Application Portal Project Data

Agency: Department of City Planning (DCP)
Dataset: Zoning Application Portal (ZAP) - Project Data

Any time someone wants to make changes to their property that are not allowed by its current zoning, they must submit a land-use application following the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP). The Department of City Planning (DCP) processes these applications and stores information about them in its Zoning Application Portal. ZAP Project Data brings this information to NYC Open Data and includes approximately 30,000 projects from ones just being filed to ones that have been completed – with some dating back to the late 1970s!

DCP gathers this data when forms are submitted via the applicant portal or when DCP employees enter data directly into the ZAP database. The information available for each project will change over the course of a project's life cycle as different milestones in the review process are met.

Since ZAP was developed in 2018, most application data from years prior was migrated to ZAP from the former Land Use and City Environmental Quality Review Application Tracking System or LUCATS. To get ZAP onto Open Data, DCP's data engineering team created scripts that pull raw data and process it to create public datasets. For more information on that process, please refer to the ZAP-opendata Github repository.

This dataset can be used with Zoning Application Portal (ZAP) - BBL, a dataset that contains tax lot information, also known as Borough/Block/Lot or BBL, related to each project listed in ZAP Project Data. These records can be used to map the data by joining the BBL field to either the Digital Tax Map (DTM) or MapPLUTO. Users may also be interested in other DCP datasets related to approved projects. For example, if an application for a zoning map change gets approved, that would impact either the Zoning Districts, Commercial Overlays, or Special District datasets – all of which are part of the NYC GIS Zoning Features data.

ZAP Project Data can be further explored by using the Zoning Application Portal search tool. In the future, DCP plans to release a geospatial version of ZAP Project Data and additional ZAP

datasets related to individual applications & project milestones.

To report data errors or ask questions about ZAP, please send an email to zap_feedback_dl@planning.nyc.gov. To learn more about the application process, please visit the general Applications tab or the Application Process Overview section on DCP's website.

Powered by Open Data

Once data is public it can be used by anyone, for any purpose. Here are some recent highlights of work that uses NYC Open Data from a City agency, a NYC-based company, and an advocacy organization. For more inspiration on how this data can be used, or to share your own work, visit the NYC Open Data Project Gallery.

Spatial Equity NYC

Organizations: Transportation Alternatives, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Datasets Used: Motor Vehicle Collisions - Crashes • DEP Green Infrastructure • City Bench Locations • Bicycle Parking • Bus Lanes - Local Streets

Comparing air quality using the Spatial Equity NYC tool

Spatial Equity NYC empowers New Yorkers to visualize inequalities in public space, public health, mobility, and the environment across Community Board and City Council districts. Designed by Transportation Alternatives, a public space and transportation advocacy organization, in collaboration with researchers at MIT, Spatial Equity NYC visually demonstrates the interconnectedness of health outcomes, economic circumstances , and environmental conditions. Spatial Equity NYC combines NYC spatial data on health, mobility, and the environment with

socioeconomic and commuter data from the U.S. Census' American Community Survey. Users can view this data by community on maps and in rankings of each district's standing on various indicators. The project was spurred into existence by a conversation the team at Transportation Alternatives had with a City Council member whose estimate of the number of households in their district that were car-free was far less than the actual number. From that conversation, the team realized they could help advance spatial equity in NYC by making community-level metrics more accessible and interpretable.

New Yorkers can use this tool to learn how their neighborhood compares to others across a host of metrics, including protected bike lanes, asthma rates, pavement temperatures, noise pollution, park access, and tree canopy, just to name a few. The project's rankings of Community Boards and Council Districts aims to tap into citizens' and representatives' competitive spirit and to arm citizens with information they can use to advocate for their communities. Using the Spatial Equity NYC tool, users can look at side-by-side maps of particular spatial equity and U.S. Census measures, learn how their neighborhood ranks beside a set of policy recommendations, and even learn more about each metric included in the platform. Once empowered with the knowledge of how their neighborhood compares to others, New Yorkers can use the Spatial Equity NYC tool to learn about policy solutions and contact their City Council member.

To learn more about spatial equity in NYC and get involved in this work, read Transportation Alternatives' spatial equity report card, keep an eye out for even more data layers and detail being added to Spatial Equity NYC soon, and check out Transportation Alternatives' talk from Open Data Week 2023!

Revel: Business Strategy and Safety Measures

Organization: Revel
Datasets Used: Open Space • Parks Properties • NYC Street Centerline • TLC Trip Record Data

Revel, an electric mobility company, uses NYC Open Data for its day-to-day operations and strategic decision-making. Operationally, two of Revel's uses for NYC Open Data are to automatically detect when users of its electric moped sharing service drive where mopeds aren't allowed or drive the wrong direction down one-way streets. Strategically, Revel uses NYC Open Data to model taxi and rideshare usage under different conditions. Constructing these models with NYC Open Data allows them to be as accurate as possible in terms where rides are starting, ending, and the time of day they're occurring. This information about taxi and limousine demand is important because it informs how many drivers Revel should staff, their service areas, and the size of their electric vehicle fleet.

Revel uses NYC Open Data to minimize safety issues involving their mopeds. Using the NYC Open Space and Parks Properties data in tandem with other data on green spaces, Revel defined geographic areas where their electric mopeds aren't allowed to travel. These "no ride zones," include NYC parks, cemeteries, playgrounds, and the Queensboro and Manhattan bridges. After each moped ride, Revel automatically checks the route of the moped against the regions within which mopeds aren't allowed to drive to see whether the moped drove anywhere prohibited. Revel uses this information to issue warnings to riders who drive in prohibited areas. If a rider repeatedly drives a scooter into a "no ride zone," then that customer may have their scooter access revoked. This effort educates Revel moped riders about where they're allowed to drive and disincentivizes driving through parks or across bridges.

Similarly, Revel also built an automated detection system to determine when their riders travel the wrong direction down one-way streets. Revel used the NYC Street Centerline dataset to identify and map more than 4,500 one-way streets, and relies on this data layer to check the direction of travel of each moped rider down one-way streets. Similar to riding in "no ride zones," traveling the wrong way down a street will result in Revel issuing warnings and potentially revoking access to Revel mopeds. Revel found that implementing this system resulted in a __% decrease in mopeds driving the wrong direction down one-way streets.

Strategically, data from the NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) is critical to Revel's mission. This data provided Revel with critical inputs to the models they created prior to launching their rideshare business in NYC and continues to be used in models for expansions within NYC and to other cities. With these models, Revel can make business decisions, including

ones about the size of their fleet of electric vehicles, the size of their service area, and how many drivers they should hire, and uses this data to inform their models.

For more information on Revel's work using NYC Open Data, check out their Open Data Week 2023 presentation!

NYC Tree Map

Organization: NYC Department of Parks and Recreation
Datasets Used: Forestry Management System • 2015 Street Tree Census

The NYC Tree Map showcasing a Northern Red Oak located in Brooklyn's Fort Greene Park.

Walking through Fort Greene Park one summer morning, a New Yorker comes across a branch blocking their path on the sidewalk. Opening up the NYC Tree Map on their phone, they zoom into where they're standing on the sidewalk, select the tree on the map, and submit a "fallen limb" service request. They then learn the tree is a Northern red oak, its diameter is 57 inches, and are able to compare a leaf on the tree to the one pictured in NYC Tree Map. Scrolling a little bit further down in the NYC Tree Map sidebar, they also find out this tree intercepts 8,892 gallons of stormwater each year, removes 7 pounds of air pollutants per year, and conserves 2,766 kWh of energy each year! Back home later that day, they can see via an update to the NYC Tree Map that a Parks Department forester has already inspected the tree. This tree is one of over 860,000 trees the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation has cataloged in its interactive, digital NYC Tree Map.

While the NYC Tree Map can be used to look up a single tree, it can also be used to view neighborhood and city-level statistics. For example, the Northern red oak our New Yorker looked up in their local park is one of 15,915 in NYC, 112 of which were favorited by NYC Tree Map users, and which collectively have ecological benefits to the city estimated at $3,223,614.73 per year! NYC Tree Map users can also look at tree counts by neighborhood, and even sort trees by species and tree trunk diameter. Users can also save their favorite trees and nominate trees as a "Great Tree" as a part of Parks' Great Tree Search 2023, the second search of its kind.

The first version of the NYC Tree Map was launched in 2016 and began as a large participatory science project that involved volunteers and Parks staff across the city documenting the precise location of trees on NYC streets. Parks worked behind the scenes to connect their internal forest management database with NYC's 311 system, and then to determine which information within their internal systems would be most interesting and engaging to the public. This past year, they updated NYC Tree Map so that New Yorkers can go to one place to see both trees on streets and within City parks. In addition to being used as a tool for learning and a means for New Yorkers to help care for their city's trees, the NYC Tree Map can be used by the City to craft policy and make tree management decisions, and by advocacy groups to decide where to increase efforts.

For more information on the NYC Tree Map, check out Parks' Open Data Week 2023 talk!

Open Data by the Numbers

Throughout this report, we have communicated that Open Data plays an important role in understanding our city. In this section, we showcase the some of the data about Open Data to help us understand the impact of this service impacts those who use it.

All numbers are from fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023), unless otherwise stated.

Community Engagement

Engaging the public around NYC Open Data is a collaborative effort among City employees, civic technologists, and volunteers who all come together to make NYC Open Data more understandable and accessible within their communities.

Open Data Coordinators (ODCs)

Open Data Coordinators (ODCs) are City employees - one from each City agency - who work with their colleagues to identify, structure, document, and publish new datasets and to keep current datasets updated. ODCs also help publicize their agency's datasets on Open Data through events, social media posts, and trainings.

Open Data Ambassabors (ODA) Program

The Open Data Ambassador program is a partnership between NYC Open Data and BetaNYC that trains people to help make NYC Open Data even more accessible. Open Data Ambassadors (ODAs) are members of the public who volunteer their time to teach others how to utilize NYC Open Data. Attendees at an ODA-led workshop learn about New York's history of open data, how to navigate and analyze assets on the NYC Open Data, the limitations of open data, and how to incorporate Open Data in real-world scenarios. The Open Data Ambassador Program currently works with 12 Open Data Ambassadors, and has more than 30 new Open Data Ambassadors-in-Training.

Open Data Week Festival

Open Data Week is an annual festival hosted by NYC Open Data, BetaNYC, and Data Through Design to empower and inspire New Yorkers to use NYC Open Data. Open Data Week events have included workshops, art exhibitions, data jams, and academic presentations. Recordings from the last three Open Data Week festivals can be found here.

Open Data Helpdesk

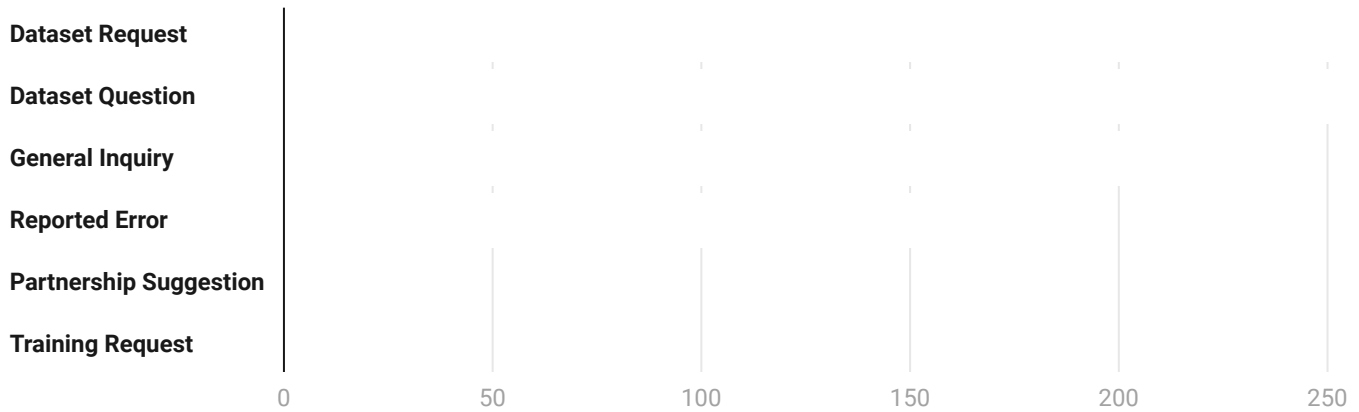**10,000** total inquiries received, since the launch of the helpdesk in 2017

1,033 inquiries from the public, in FY 2023

151 datasets inquired about by the public, in FY 2023

35 agencies inquired about by the public, in FY 2023

Anyone and everyone can submit a question or share feedback about an exiting dataset or request a new dataset via the Open Data Helpdesk. An Open Data Team member reads every inquiry submission, assigns it to the appropriate agency, and then collaborates with that agency to return a timely and thorough response to the inquirer.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES SUBMITTED VIA THE HELPDESK, BY CATEGORY

Dataset Request

Dataset Question

General Inquiry

Reported Error

Partnership Suggestion

Training Request

0   50   100   150   200   250

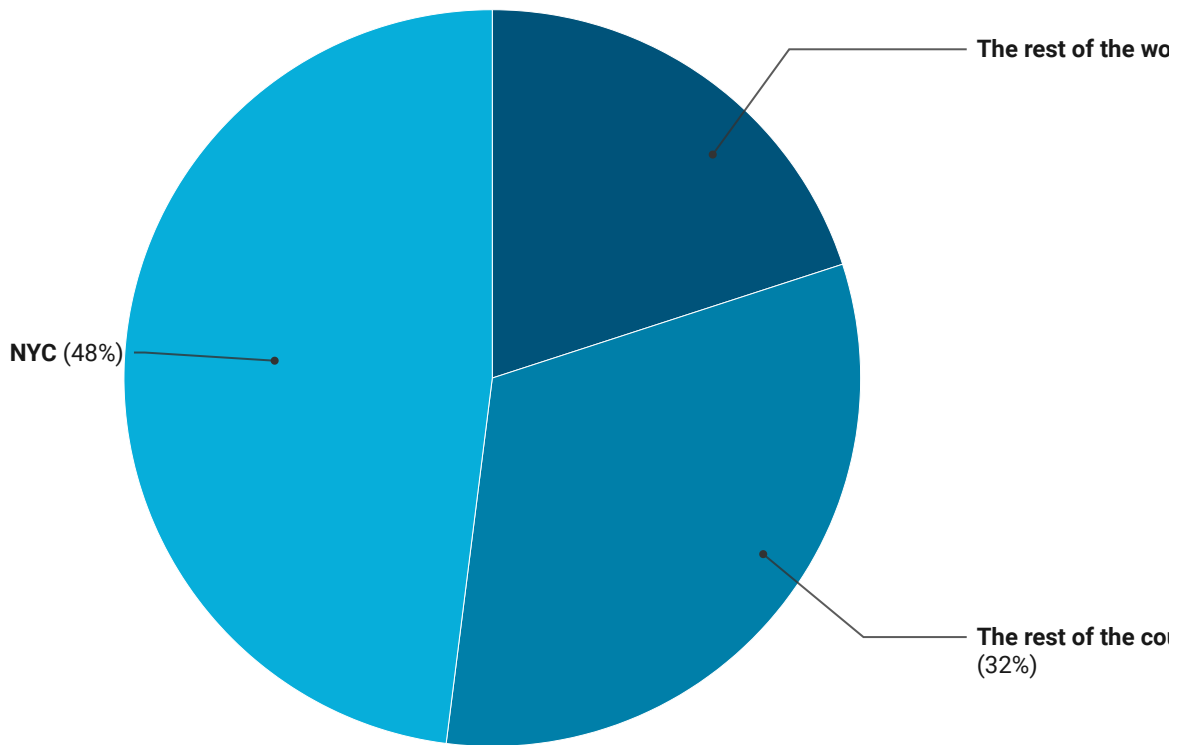*TOP 5 DATASETS INQUIRED ABOUT*

Dataset	Agency
DOB NOW: Build - Job Application Filings	Department of Buildings (DOB)
311 Service Requests from 2010 to Present	Office of Technology and Innovation (OTI)
OATH Hearings Division Case Status	Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH)
DOB NOW: Build - Approved Permits	Department of Buildings (DOB)
DOB Complaints Received	Department of Buildings (DOB)

Audience

Geographic Location

NYC Open Data users are concentrated in NYC but located all over the globe! In FY23, **48%** of users were located in NYC, **32%** were located in the United States and outside of NYC, and **20%** were located outside of the US.

PERCENTAGE OF NYC OPEN DATA USERS, GLOBALLY

The rest of the wo

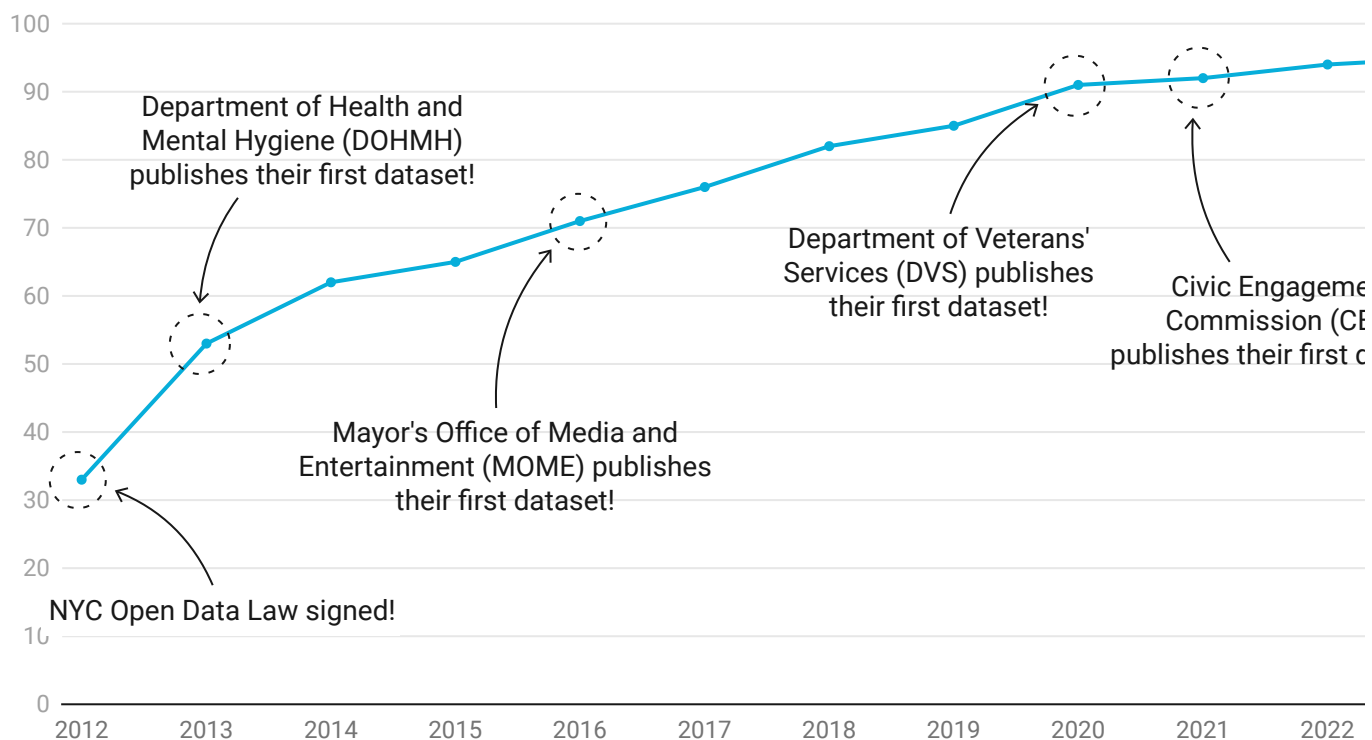NYC (48%)

The rest of the co
(32%)

Did you know: The NYC Open Data users farthest from NYC are **11,613 miles away** in Perth, Australia!

Inventory

City Agencies Represented on Open Data

The number of agencies contributing data to NYC Open Data has continued to expand over time. With just 33 agencies participating in 2012, the portal now contains data from **95** City agencies:

NUMBER OF CITY AGENCIES WITH ASSETS ON NYC OPEN DATA OVER TIME

Department of Health and
Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)
publishes their first dataset!

Department of Veterans'
Services (DVS) publishes
their first dataset!

Civic Engageme[nt]
Commission (CE[]
publishes their first d[]

Mayor's Office of Media and
Entertainment (MOME) publishes
their first dataset!

NYC Open Data Law signed!

Created with Datawrapper

Community-made Assets

Community-made assets are personalized versions of Open Data datasets made by our users. This year, Open Data users collectively made **2,558 assets**! Below are the five datasets with the most community-made assets.

MOST POPULAR DATASETS BY COMMUNITY-MADE ASSETS

Dataset	Number of Community-Made Assets
Motor Vehicle Collisions - Crashes	390
311 Service Requests from 2010 to Present	318
For Hire Vehicles (FHV) - Active	128
OATH Hearings Division Case Status	70
Citywide Payroll Data (Fiscal Year)	64