For over 40 years Esri has been a leader in helping organizations harness the power of data. In this infographic, we show the power of crafting an open data program and GIS. And to start things off, we provide a timeline of open data.

**THE OPEN DATA TIMELINE**

**DECEMBER 2007**
A group of open data activists met in Sebastopol, Calif., to discuss the promise of open data for government.

**JANUARY 2009**
President Obama signs the “Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government.”

**DECEMBER 2009**
The Open Government Directive is released, which included a 45-day deadline to make data open by default.

**MAY 2009**
Data.gov launches, becoming the federal government’s open data hub for numerous datasets, application development tools, mobile technology resources and more.

**MAY 2013**

**MAY 2013**
The White House’s Project Open Data grew out of these memos. It’s a collection of code, tools and case studies to help agencies adopt open data programs and share resources and information on open data.

**APRIL 2014**
Congress passed the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act—which also called the DATA Act—expand transparency requirements to include data for all federal funds spent or granted by any federal agency.

**OPEN DATA IN PRACTICE**

**Data Driven Detroit**
Powered by Esri’s ArcGIS Online for Open Data, Data Driven Detroit (D3) is an open data initiative designed to make information easier for the public to consume. The initiative started in 2013, when city officials created Motor City Mapping, a program of the Detroit Blight Removal Task Force, to surveys buildings and vacant lots citywide. Some key data numbers:

- **200** The number of citizens who helped update data
- **380k** The number of parcels of land updated for condition, occupancy and usage
- **60** The number of projects occurring from Data Driven Detroit

**District of Columbia**
The District of Columbia is quickly becoming one of the leaders in open government. They are leveraging Esri tools to improve public access to information they receive from their agency partners. By making data available and easy to access, they are hoping that citizens can make better decisions about their community.

- **1.3K+** District of Columbia specific data sets
- **550+** Number of data sets available
- **237** Number of new data sets launched in 2014

**ArcGIS Online for Open Data:**
- Provides a cloud-based geospatial content management system for your data.
- Offers a convenient way for people to find, share, and use data.
- Includes built-in analysis and mapping tools to instantly create a range of information products from your data.
- Unlocks your data to the public in just a few clicks. With ArcGIS Online for Open Data, you can create an interactive catalog of your data that lets visitors access your information through tables, maps, or geospatial formats.

**How Esri Can Help**
With ArcGIS Online for Open Data, 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 you’re developing focused apps to highlight publically available resources, you’ll find a suite of tools to help you get the job done.

**6 DRIVERS FOR OPEN DATA**
Data is critical to understanding our world. With Open Data and GIS, agencies can transform information and create a data platform for innovation in ways that traditional charts, graphs and data infrastructures simply cannot. But what’s driving the trends toward open data? We highlight 6:

- **TRANSPARENCY**
- **ACCOUNTABILITY**
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
- **INNOVATION**
- **COLLABORATION**
- **NEW GOVERNMENT SERVICES**