# FDLP and Beyond: Tracking and Responding to Changes in Federal Government Information Access

Sanga Sung, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Jenny McBurney, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities Ben Amata, California State University, Sacramento



01

Overview



# Conference speakers



## Sanga Sung

Government Information Librarian

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign



## Jenny McBurney

Government Publications Librarian & Regional Depository Coordinator

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities



## **Ben Amata**

Humanities/Social Sciences & Government Information Librarian

California State University, Sacramento

# **Presentation Objectives**

1	Describe the chifting lander	and of fodoral governmen	t information access
<u> </u>	Describe the shifting landsca	ape or rederal governmen	it il il oli il attori access.

- 2 Share case studies of removed or altered resources and their impacts.
- 3 Introduce the Tracking Government Information project.
- <u>4</u> Discuss how FDLP libraries can respond and collaborate.

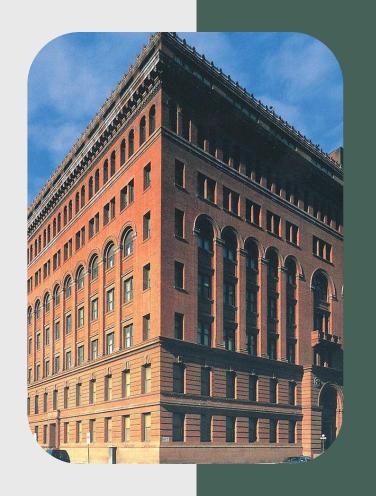


# Question

Who here has had a patron who asked for a federal government source that disappeared online?

02

# Context



## FDLP's Role

Long-term preservation of federal information

Equitable public access through depository libraries

Partnership between GPO & libraries

# Non-Depository Federal Information

#### What does this include?

- Websites
- Online toolkits
- Videos
- Some datasets
- Etc.

#### How do librarians use it?

- Answering reference questions
- Suggest links and docs to GPO for cataloging

03

The Changing Landscape



## **Historical Context**

"The nine most terrifying words in the English language are 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help." Ronald Reagan, Press conference on August 12th, 1986.

The quote conveys his overall hostility towards government, even though he served two terms as California governor and president. His administration viewed government publication economics as more important than the public's right to know and conveying government's activities/research to the public.

OMB Bulletin 81-16. (contained in a series bulletins. 81-16 begins on page 74). The OMB used it to eliminate collection and publication of government information. It resulted in a moratorium on new publications.

**Reform 88**. The administration created a task force to improve management and administrative systems, but for publications it was to reduce spending. The task force's publications are only available at the Reagan library.

# What's happening in 2025



# Technical & Infrastructure Changes

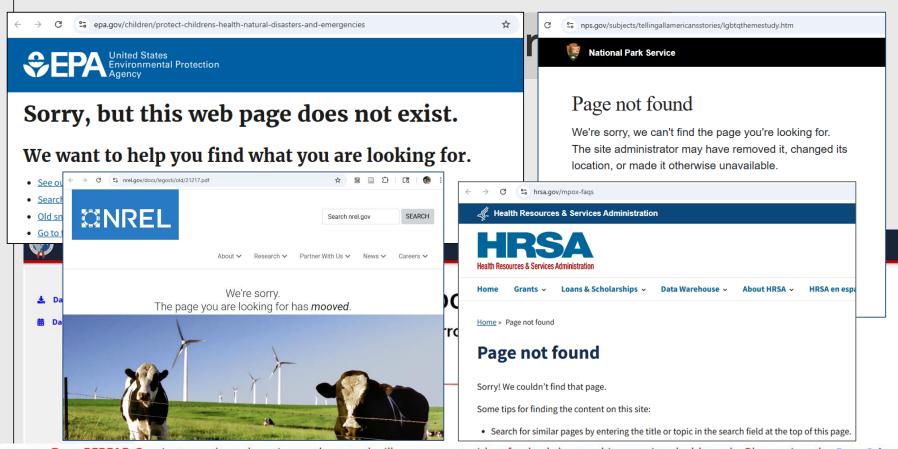


- Website redesigns & domain changes
- Broken links, decommissioned systems
- Migration without preservation

President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Panorama Spotlight



Please note **Data.PEPFAR.Gov** is currently undergoing updates and will return soon with refreshed data and interactive dashboards. Please view the **Data Calendar** for planned releases, and the **Datasets page** for access to PEPFAR data up to FY 2024 (September 30, 2024) and FY 2025 targets and budgets as approved through congressional notification procedures for FY25.



Please note **Data.PEPFAR.Gov** is currently undergoing updates and will return soon with refreshed data and interactive dashboards. Please view the **Data Calendar** for planned releases, and the **Datasets page** for access to PEPFAR data up to FY 2024 (September 30, 2024) and FY 2025 targets and budgets as approved through congressional notification procedures for FY25.

# Information Control & Messaging



- Terminology restrictions
- Selective removal of populations/topics
- Reframing through mandated language

Office of Personnel Management guidance to agencies on "sex" vs "gender"



#### UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT Washington, DC 20415

#### MEMORANDUM

TO: Heads and Acting Heads of Departments and Agencies

FROM: Charles Ezell, Acting Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management

DATE: January 29, 2025

RE: Initial Guidance Regarding President Trump's Executive Order Defending

Women.

Pursuant to its authority under 5 U.S.C. § 1103(a)(1) and (a)(5), the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is providing the following initial guidance to agencies regarding the President's Executive Order entitled Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government (Defending Women).

Steps to End Federal Funding of Gender Ideology: In light of *Defending Women*, each agency should take prompt actions to end all agency programs that use taxpayer money to promote or reflect gender ideology as defined in Section 2(f) of *Defending Women*. Specifically, agency heads should take the following steps:

#### 1. No later than 5:00 p.m. EST on Friday, January 31, 2025

- Send an email to all agency employees announcing that the agency will be complying with Defending Women and this guidance.
- Review all agency programs, contracts, and grants, and terminate any that promote or inculcate gender ideology.

## Frequently Asked Questions Sexual Orientation and

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) enforces regulations that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, under Executive Order 11246, as amended.

### Overview of the Regulations

#### Equal Opportunity Contract Clause Incorporation

- 1. Do federal contracting agencies have to alter the Equal Opposition of the changes to E 11246?
- 2. May contractors incorporate the equal opportunity clause in and subcontract and subcontract

#### Job Advertisement Tag Line

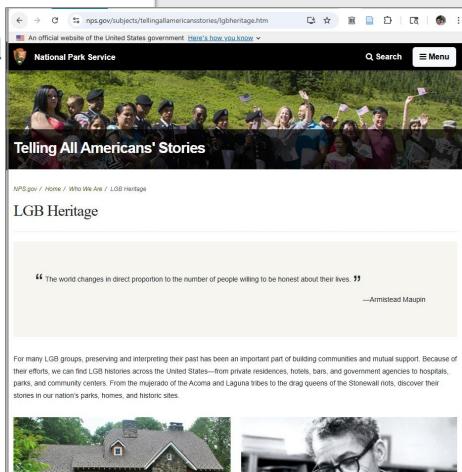
- How should "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" be included in conemployees?

  Aments for employees?
- 2. If I include all of the bases instead of the phrase "equal opportunity employer," can I abbreviate "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" in job solicitations and advertisements?

#### AAP and Policy Statement

1. Must a federal contractor indicate that it does not discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity in its Affirmative Action Program (AAP) or any of its policy statements or handbooks?

#### Outreach and Recruitment



promote or inculcate gender ideology.

# Policy & Legal Pressures



- Court cases & lawsuits
- Budget rescissions & funding decisions
- Agency guidance or directives

Office of Personnel Management's Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) cancellation

#### After months of postponing, OPM opts to fully cancel 2025 FEVS

The cancellation comes after OPM indefinitely delayed FEVS earlier this year, due to the Trump administration's "urgent" changes for federal employees.



Drew Friedman | @dfriedmanWFED August 15, 2025 4:26 pm ③ 3 min read



Editor's Note: This story has been updated with additional comments.

The Office of Personnel Management has officially canceled this year's version of the signature survey that assesses governmentwide satisfaction and engagement levels of federal employees.

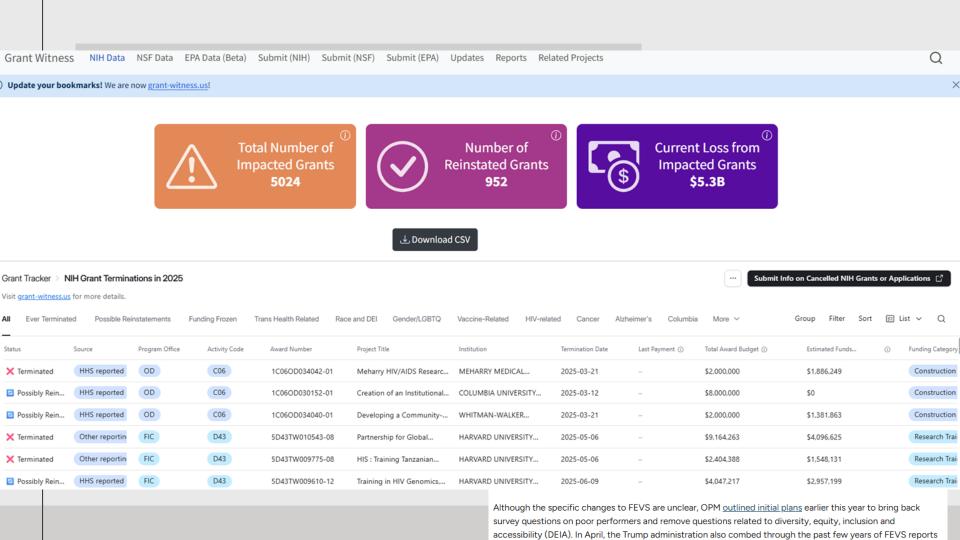
In a memo distributed to agency chief human capital officers on Friday afternoon, obtained by Federal News Network, OPM said after initially only delaying the survey, it has now fully scrapped plans to conduct the 2025 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey.

"In view of President Trump's realignment of the federal workforce, and in order to thoughtfully recalibrate the FEVS to align with administration objectives, OPM has decided not to administer the FEVS this year," OPM wrote in the email to agency CHCOs. "Instead, OPM will update the questions and resume administering the FEVS on its regular schedule. To ensure efficient resource allocation, OPM requests that agencies consult with it before undertaking any preparations to administer the FEVS or a similar survey at an agency or component level."

OPM's announcement on Friday comes after the agency <u>indefinitely delayed</u> the timeline for FEVS to give agencies more bandwidth to focus on the Trump administration's "urgent" efforts to restructure the federal workforce.

Canceling the 2025 FEVS means OPM will not be collecting or publishing governmentwide data on federal employees' views this year of their jobs, colleagues, agency leaders or overall workplaces. Once the FEVS returns in 2026, OPM said it will be updating some of the survey questions as well.

Although the specific changes to FEVS are unclear, OPM <u>outlined initial plans</u> earlier this year to bring back survey questions on poor performers and remove questions related to diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility (DEIA). In April, the Trump administration also combed through the past few years of FEVS reports



## Political & Administrative Shifts



- Administration priorities & executive orders
- Leadership changes at agencies
- Program and advisory group closures

Department of Education reduction & programs and office closures

#### PRESS RELEASE

#### U.S. Department of Education Initiates Reduction in Force

MARCH 11, 2025

As part of the Department of Education's final mission, the Department today initiated a reduction in force (RIF) impacting nearly 50% of the Department's workforce. Impacted Department staff will be placed on administrative leave beginning Friday, March 21st.

"Today's reduction in force reflects the Department of Education's commitment to efficiency, accountability, and ensuring that resources are directed where they matter most: to students, parents, and teachers," said **Secretary of Education Linda McMahon.** "I appreciate the work of the dedicated public servants and their contributions to the Department. This is a significant step toward restoring the greatness of the United States education system."

The Department of Education will continue to deliver on all statutory programs that fall under the agency's purview, including formula funding, student loans, Pell Grants, funding for special needs students, and competitive grantmaking.

All divisions within the Department are impacted by the reduction, with some divisions requiring significant reorganization to better serve students, parents, educators, and taxpayers.

#### Background

When President Trump was inaugurated, the Department's workforce stood at 4,133 workers. After today's actions, the Department's workforce will total roughly 2,183 workers. Included in the reduction in force are nearly 600 employees who accepted voluntary resignation opportunities and retirement over the last seven weeks, including:

- 259 employees accepted the Deferred Resignation Program
- . 313 employees accepted the Voluntary Separation Incentive Payment

Remaining employees impacted by the reduction in force will be placed on administrative leave beginning next Friday, March 21.

Pursuant to regulatory requirements and the Department's collective bargaining agreement, all impacted employees will receive full pay and benefits until June 9th, as well as substantial severance pay or retirement benefits based upon their length of service.

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#### Name of School Type name of school here States (use map for more than 1 state) No Preference Use Map Alabama Alaska ZIP Code Miles from Programs/Majors Browse for 0 Items Selected **Programs** Level of Award ? Certificate Associate's ☐ Bachelor's Advanced Institution Type ? ☐ Public 4-year Private non-profit 2-year Private for-profit < 2-year</p> MORE SEARCH OPTIONS **Show Results** Guide Me | Clear Search

#### About our data



College Navigator consists primarily of the latest data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), the core postsecondary education data collection program for NCES - the National Center for Education Statistics.

Visit the IPEDS website for more information about IPEDS and for access to IPEDS data tools. publications, and more. Follow IPEDS on Twitter for updates and current communications.

Sections	Current Source	Released Show full history
General Information <sup>1</sup> , Estimated Student Expenses, Programs/Majors	IPEDS 2023-2024, Fall Collection	February 2024
Enrollment, Retention Rates, Instructional Staff <sup>2</sup>	IPEDS 2023-24, Spring Collection	December 2024
Financial Aid/Net Price <sup>3</sup> , Graduation Rates <sup>4</sup> , Admissions <sup>5</sup> , Servicemembers and Veterans Benefits, Outcome Measures	IPEDS 2023-2024, Winter Collection	May 2024
Varsity Athletic Teams	OPE 2019-2020	updated annually, around January/February
Accreditation	OPE (ongoing collection)	updated monthly
Campus Security	OPE 2018,2019,2020	updated annually, around January/February
Cohort Default Rates	FSA - Fiscal Year 2020	updated annually, around October

<sup>1</sup> Items such as school addresses, phone numbers, website URLs and mission statements may be updated on an ad-hoc basis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Shown in the General Information section. Part of the Winter Collection prior to 2012-2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Financial Aid and Net price were part of the Spring Collection prior to IPEDS 2011-2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Graduation Rates were part of the Spring Collection prior to IPEDS 2013-2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Admissions were part of the Fall Collection prior to IPEDS 2014-2015.

## How does this affect non-depository material?

#### **FDLP Material**

- Stable preservation mandate
- Cataloged & discoverable through multiple channels
- Protected by legal deposit

### Non-Depository

- No mandated preservation
- Often web-only, vulnerable to redesigns or removals

## **Community efforts**



End of Term Web Archive









**America's Essential Data** 

# Impact on Library Services

Reference questions about affected information

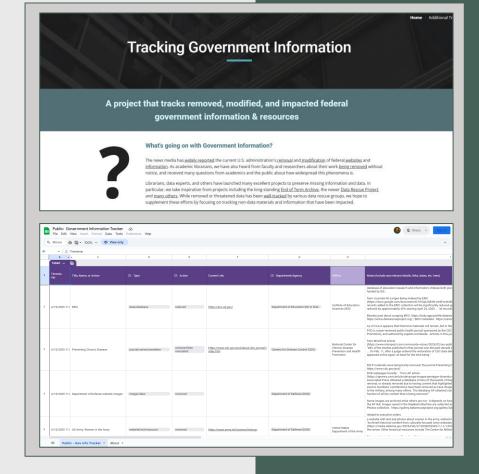


Gaps in research & teaching support



Need for new workflows (tracking, archiving, outreach)

# 04 **Tracking** Government Information **Project**





Sanga Sung

Government Information Librarian, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign



**Ben Amata** 

Humanities/Social Sciences & Government Information Librarian, California State University, Sacramento



Jenny McBurney

Government Publications Librarian & Regional Depository Coordinator, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities



**Molly Blake** 

Social Sciences Librarian, University of Minnesota -Twin Cities



Kate Sheridan

Publishing Librarian, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

# Our team

Short link to project website:

# **Project origin**

- Questions from researchers & community
  - "Where can I find an archived copy of this missing doc?"
  - "How widespread is this?"
- Many websites and documents preserved in WayBack Machine, but no way to keep track of them
- Inspired by efforts we were seeing in the gov data realm, in particular DRP



## **MINNPOST**

Nonprofit, independ

News - Arts & Culture - Health - Opinion -

Topics State Government Metro Public Safety Greater Minnesota National Environment Mental Health & Addiction Sports

**Opinion Community Voices** 

### Our published work in a government journal curiously disappeared

Several studies for a CDC journal were purged without explanation before a judge's order restored them. That's unacceptable - and un-American.

by Melissa Laska and Rachel Widome 02/14/2025









# **Project goals**

- Track changes to and impacts on government information
- Help researchers &
   general public see the
   scope of what the Trump
   administration has
   removed from government
   websites
- Point to archived copies, when available (such as in Wayback Machine)



## Workflow



Missing document/website is identified and entered into the submission form



The form feeds into the backend spreadsheet



Team members add metadata and lightly edit entries if needed



Entries are transferred to public spreadsheet



Public spreadsheet is viewable and downloadable by anyone



Public spreadsheet also feeds into the public search interface



## Government Information Tracker submission form

This form can be used to submit entries to the Government Information Tracker spreadsheet. More information is available at https://z.umn.edu/trackgovinfosite.

Please fill out the fields below to the best of your ability. You can skip any fields that you're not sure about! We will make an effort to edit entries to make them more clear and complete. Thank you for your contribution - we are relying on our community to collect these documents and information together.

This form can be accessed at: https://z.umn.edu/missinggovinfo

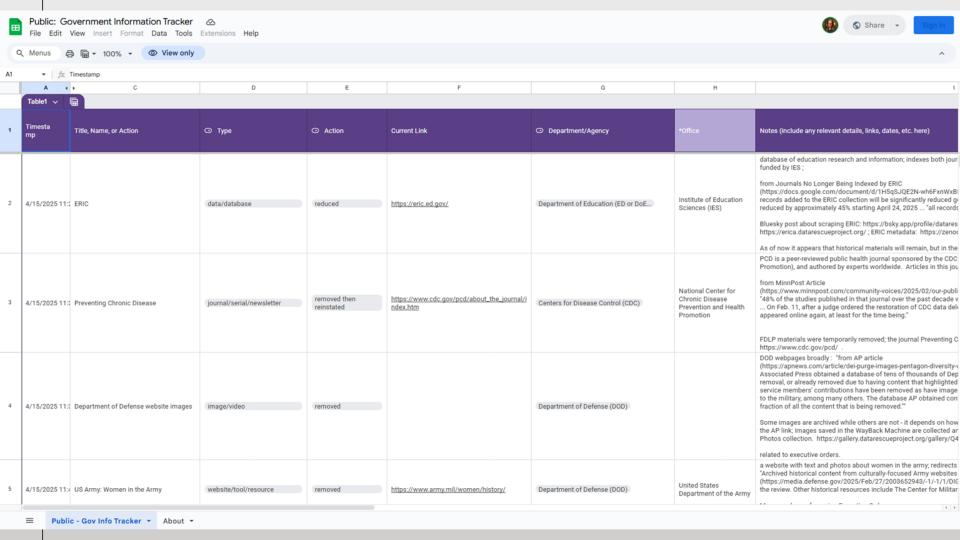
There is a place on the submission form where you can include your name or initials if you choose, or you can leave it blank. We are not collecting emails, and we will not post names or initials on the public version of the spreadsheet. This form and spreadsheet are created within the University of Minnesota Google Workspace for Education suite of tools. We will not publish identifying information but cannot guarantee anonymity due to technical and/or legal factors outside of our control.

jmc	burne@umn.edu Switch account	⊗
C <sub>0</sub>	Not shared	

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0	document/article/publication/report
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Action taken
removed
O modified
○ frequency changed
renamed
censored
restricted
O terminated
O reduced
replaced
Other:
Current Link
Your answer
Link to where it is preserved, if applicable (optional)
Your answer
Your answer
Your answer  Department/Agency

Notes (include any relevant details links dates atc here)



#### How to use this search tool

For more information about each entry, click on the arrow next to the Title, Name or Action. To access the preserved version of the website, click on the link in the Preservation Status column.

Please close this tab if you are not actively using the database to ensure it remains available for other users!

select an agency:								Search
		Title, Name, or Action	Туре	URL	Department/Agency	Office	Action	Preservation Sta
Action:	<b>→</b>	ERIC	data/database	https://eric.ed.gov/	Department of	Institute of Education	reduced	Preservation in
All					Education (ED or	Sciences (IES)		progress
reduced					DoEd)			
removed then reinstated	•	Preventing Chronic	journal/serial/newsle	https://www.cdc.gov/	Centers for Disease	National Center for	removed then	NA
removed		Disease	tter	pcd/about the journ al/index.htm	Control (CDC)	Chronic Disease	reinstated	
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document/article/publication/report						Army		
policy/guidance	<b>&gt;</b>	Open Science &	website/tool/resourc	https://science.gov/O	Inter-agency group	CENDI (Commerce,	removed	Preserved in
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agency/office/program		investigations and						
agency/office/program  Lagrange Download filtered data		Investigations and Settlements of Sexual		abilityone-oig				

# Example entry

National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants

Home

Data Collection

FAQs

AAA/SUA Login



# National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP)



\* The 2025 National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP) has been cancelled.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) of oversees Administration on Aging (AoA) of programs and conducts the National Survey of Older Americans Act (OAA) Participants. This is a national sample survey of programs on aging funded by Title III of the Older Americans Act. The purpose of this survey is to provide ACL/AoA with an effective method for collecting data on Title III programs. The results of this study help ACL/AoA measure and achieve its accountability requirements and goals as reported to Congress.

# Example entry

1	Timesta mp	Title, Name, or Action	⊙ Type ∨		Current Link V	○ Department/Agency ∨	*Office
170	6/16/2025 11:5	Morelle's Statement on Abrupt Firing of Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress	staff ▼	terminated •	ss-releases/morelles-statement-abrupt-firing- dr-carla-hayden-librarian-congress	Other (enter in Notes field)	
171	6/20/2025 13::	2025 National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP) has been cancelled	survey/data collection 🔻	terminated •	https://aoasurvey.org/	Department of Health & Human Serv •	
		Proposed shutdown of the US Chemical			https://www.chemistryworld.com/news/us-pl		

	I	J	К	L
	Notes (include any relevant details, links, dates, etc. here)	*[if document/website/etc] Was the document removed,  modified, reinstated, etc?	○ *Preservation Status ∨	Link to where it is preserved, if  applicable (optional)
7	Congressional Committee on House Administration speaks on firing of Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress.	•	•	
<i>,</i>	The Administration on Aging (AOA) is the principal agency of the U.S Department of Health and Human Services designated to carry out the provisions of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA), as amended (42 U.S.C.A. § 3001 et seq.). The Administration for Community Living (ACL) oversees Administration on Aging (AoA) programs and conducts the National Survey of Older Americans Act (OAA) Participants. This is a national sample survey of programs on aging funded by Title III of the Older Americans Act. The purpose of this survey is to provide ACL/AoA with an effective method for collecting data on Title III programs. The results of this study help ACL/AoA measure and achieve its accountability requirements and goals as reported to Congress. Westat is the research firm that conducts this annual survey for ACL. The 2025 survey was cancelled. A flag appeared at the top of the website stating this cancellation sometime between May 22 and June 27, 2025.	•	Preserved in Wayback	https://web.archiv e.org/web/202506 27002445/https:// aoasurvey.org/
	US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) is an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial			

## How do we learn about content to add?

### Shoutout to Kelly Smith!

- Maintains the <u>Weekly</u>
   Roundup guide, a longstanding resource
- New section called "Web Content Changes/Preservation"
- She updates a running google docs for us to pull entries from more easily



## How do we learn about content to add?

- Anyone can submit entries
- Listservs and social media
- News reports journalists are a major resource
- Reference questions from our users about missing documents or data
- Lists and suggestions from other librarians thank you!

# 05

How Libraries and Librarians Can Participate



# Looking for volunteers!

- We are looking for volunteers to help monitor the news and add content to the spreadsheet.
- Volunteers can self-select what agency or office you want to monitor for news.
- Many hands make light work goal is that this volunteer role only takes about 25 minutes of your time per week.
- Even with volunteers to everyone else, please continue to enter content in the spreadsheet! Deduplication can happen on the back end.
- Link to interest form: <u>z.umn.edu/TGlvolunteer</u>

# Monitor and stay up to date

## Listservs & Mailing Lists









## **Communities & Social Media**





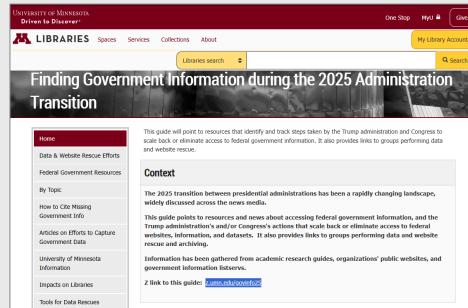






# Libguides





uc\$d.libquides.com/FederalGovInfoPostTransition

z.umn.edu/govinfo25

## **More Trackers**

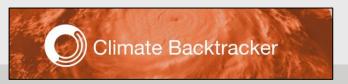
UCSD: <u>ucsd.libguides.com/usgov/trumptrackers</u>

Tracking Gov Info page: z.umn.edu/trackgovinfosite



**Litigation Tracker** 







The independent source for health policy research, polling, and news.

TRENDING

Home // Other // Overview of President Trump's Executive Actions Impacting LGBTQ+ Health

Overview of President Trump's Executive Actions Impacting LGBTQ+ Health

## Take Action

- Integrate awareness of at-risk information and preservation efforts in relevant reference and instruction.
- Teach users about web archiving efforts and how to find missing materials.
- "See something, save something" save webpages you think are important to the Wayback Machine or other web archiving tools.
- Collaborate locally with faculty/staff to spot risks.
- Report broken depository PURLs to GPO they can link to archived versions.
- Submit missing non-depository materials to the Gov Info Tracker submission form.

# Thank you! Q&A



# Link to project website: z.umn.edu/trackgovinfosite

**CREDITS:** This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, and includes icons by **Flaticon**, and infographics & images by **Freepik**