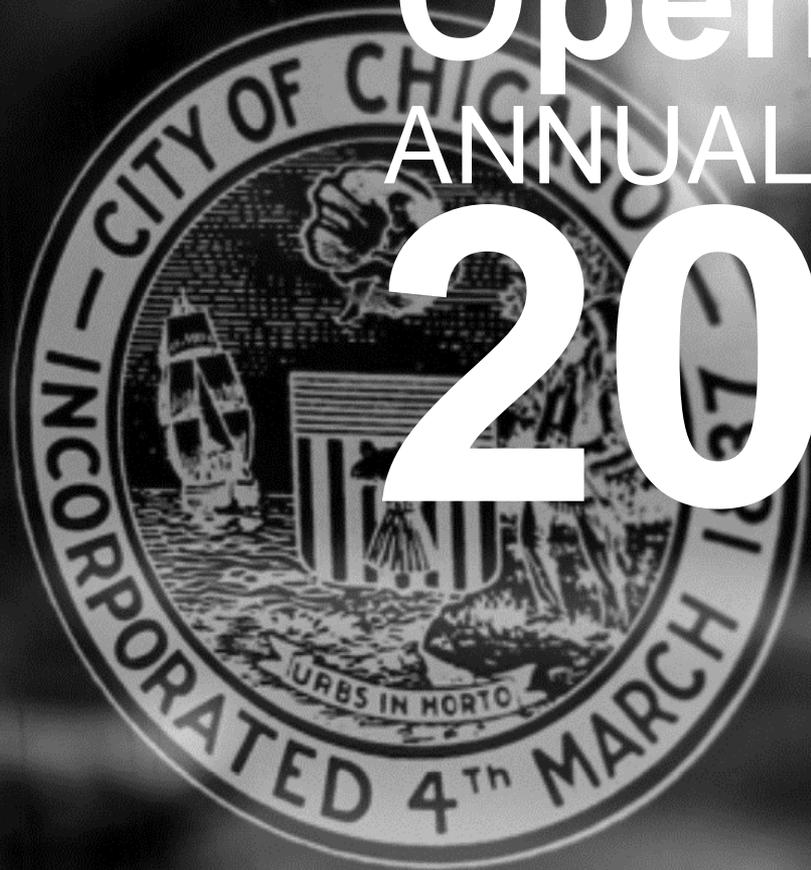


Open Data ANNUAL REPORT 2013



A black and white photograph of a Chicago elevated train (the 'L') on a city street. The train is moving from left to right across the frame. The background is filled with tall, multi-story buildings, some with ornate architectural details. The sky is bright and clear. The overall scene is a dense urban environment.

A report on the status
of open data in Chicago
and actions for 2014.

2014 Summary

On December 10, 2012, Mayor Rahm Emanuel issued [Executive Order 2012-2](#) to codify his commitment to open data. The order requires each city agency to make reasonable efforts to publish all appropriate datasets and associated metadata under such agency's control to the data portal.

The executive order establishes an Open Data Advisory Group comprised of Open Data Coordinators from each city department. The Open Data Advisory Group assists the Chief Data Officer and Department of Innovation and Technology in creating the Open Data Annual Report.

The City of Chicago's inaugural technology plan outlines several key objectives. First, continue to release more data to the public as part of creating a more efficient government. Second, expand the use of social and digital media to communicate with the public. Finally, consolidate local IT services to improve efficiency and quality of delivery.

2014

Summary

Using the aforementioned objectives, the City of Chicago will increase the presence of open data through the following key initiatives:

The City will continue to publish 311 call types to provide a deeper perspective on service requests made by Chicago's residents.

The City will target the publication of at least 25 more datasets in the upcoming year, which are enumerated in this report.

When contracting for goods or services that will generate data, the City will identify publishable datasets and metadata at the outset.

The City will use advanced analytical techniques to identify frequently-requested data to target for release on the open data portal.

The portal will contain a new, public method to solicit suggestions for new datasets.

The city will create and maintain a new Open Data Status Blog to provide detailed feedback to portal users.

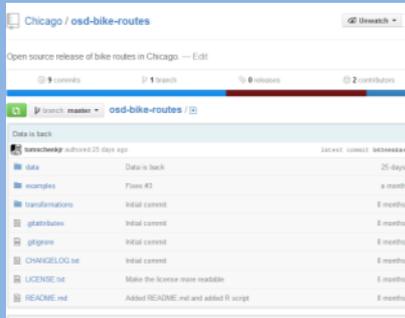
A group of people are gathered in a meeting or workshop. In the foreground, a woman with long dark hair and glasses, wearing a black jacket, is smiling and gesturing with her right hand. She is seated at a table with several laptops. To her left, a man in a black and white plaid shirt is looking at a laptop. In the background, a woman with short grey hair and glasses is speaking and gesturing with her hands. To her right, a man with grey hair and glasses is looking towards her. Further right, another man with grey hair and glasses is looking towards the center. The background is filled with a large, colorful mural featuring a woman's face and various abstract shapes in red, yellow, green, and blue. The text "Chicago's open data has expanded beyond the portal to multiple areas of service." is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

Chicago's open data has expanded beyond the portal to multiple areas of service.

2014 OPEN DATA

OPEN DATA PORTAL

Chicago's [open data portal](#) provides user-friendly access to over 500 datasets. The public can browse data in a spreadsheet-like format and create maps, and graphs. The data portal is also used by Chicago's vibrant civic-developer community, to create helpful applications to connect the public to data.



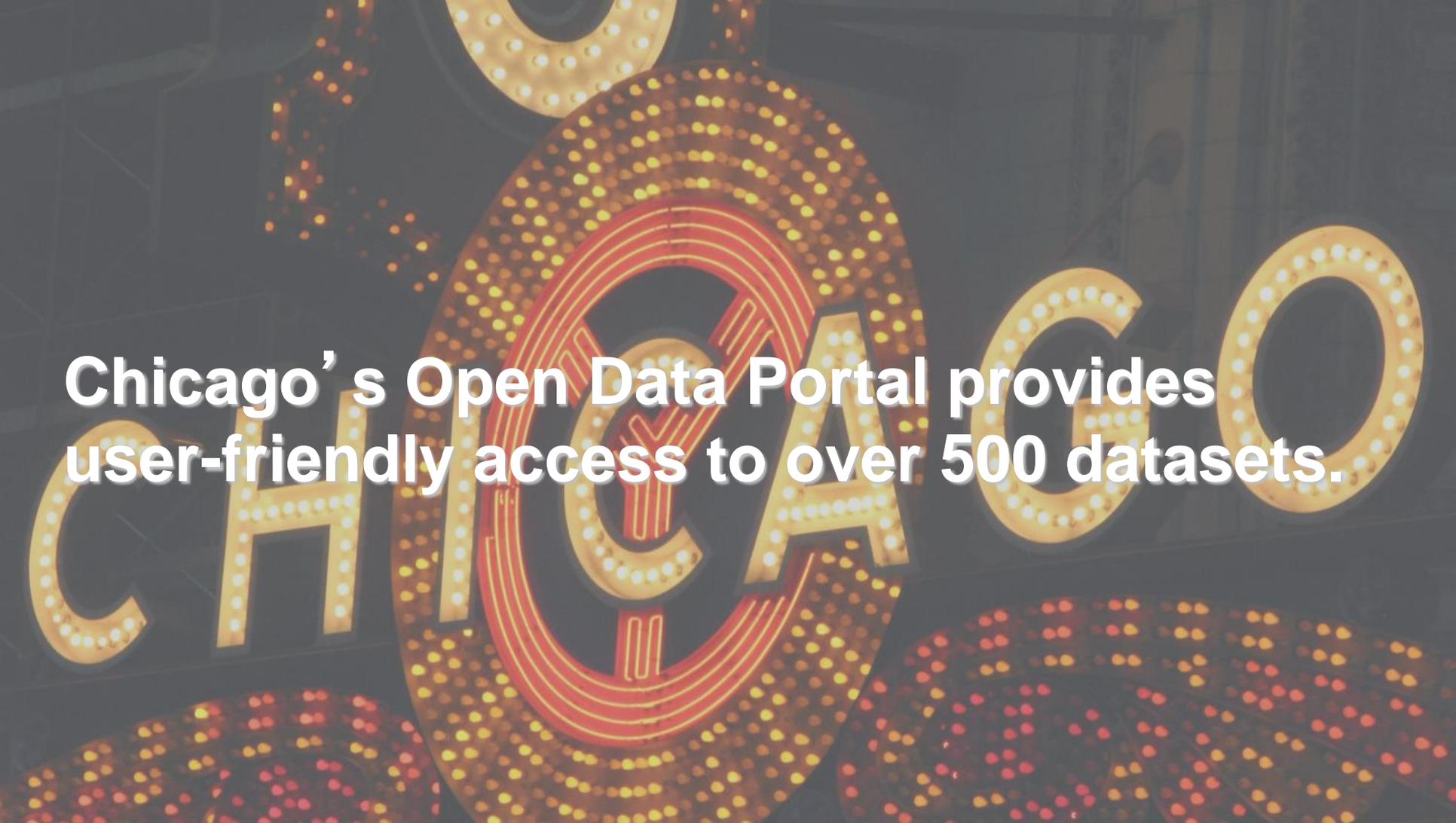
GITHUB

Chicago has begun releasing select datasets on the [City's GitHub account](#). These data are provided in a business-friendly MIT license and provide the civic-developer community a chance to propose edits and detect errors

DATA DICTIONARY

Chicago's [data dictionary](#) will display all metadata—data about data—on each dataset. While the data portal displays actual data, the data dictionary will provide a map for every database in the city, including data not published on the portal. The data dictionary is a key step to provide full transparency to the city's data.



The background of the image is a dark, slightly blurred photograph of the iconic Chicago 'Marathon' sign. The sign features the word 'CHICAGO' in large, illuminated letters. The 'C' and 'A' are outlined in red neon, while the other letters are filled with a grid of small, glowing yellow and orange lights. The overall scene is set at night, with the lights of the sign providing the primary illumination.

Chicago's Open Data Portal provides user-friendly access to over 500 datasets.

2014 OPEN DATA PORTAL

DATA.CITYOFCHICAGO.ORG

Launched in May 2010, the portal has quickly grown in less than four years. The open data portal contains over 500 datasets on activities and information that shape the city and our lives. Visitors to the portal can get information ranging from [salaries for city employees](#) to [business licenses](#) to [energy consumption](#) in each neighborhood and where Chicagoans can [recycle their Christmas trees](#). The data portal has helped spur a vibrant software development and data science community in Chicago.

DATASETS

514

PAGE VIEWS

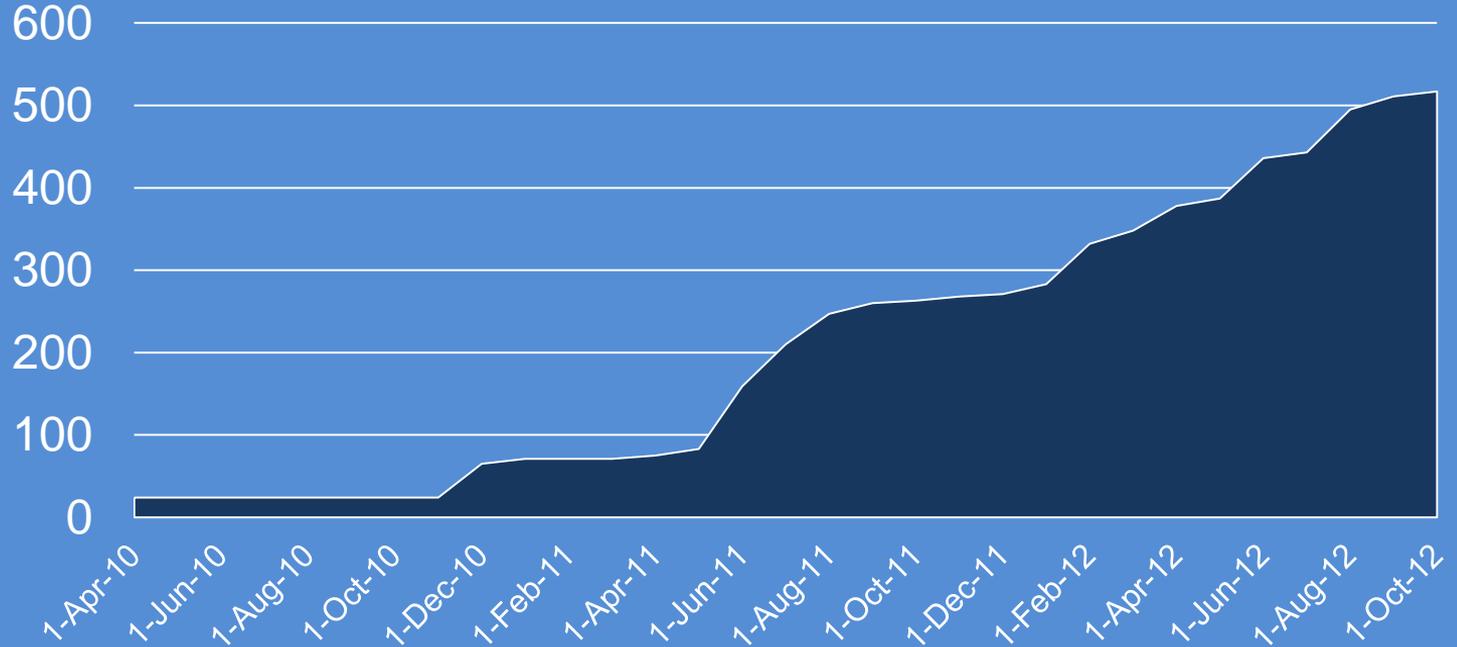
15.6 million

The City of Chicago has minimized expenses by using automation to maintain data on the portal. Most datasets are refreshed each night without human involvement. In addition, open data has permitted developers to create a wealth of applications to inform Chicago's residents and improve the day-to-day life. Open data also helps reduce business cost or allow new ventures. Earlier this year, Chicago published a list of authorized [public chauffeurs](#)—a list of licensed drivers for taxis, limousines, and other vehicles. Cab companies and other public chauffeurs can freely access up-to-date information on their cab drivers. Open data has permitted developers to create a wealth of applications for Chicago's residents. These applications range from browsing 311 requests, to reminding residents of street cleanings, to informing residents on the location and nuances of zoning laws. The data portal has enabled developers to meet weekly at civic hack nights and help Chicago host over a dozen hackathons this past summer.

2014 OPEN DATA PORTAL

DATASETS HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED

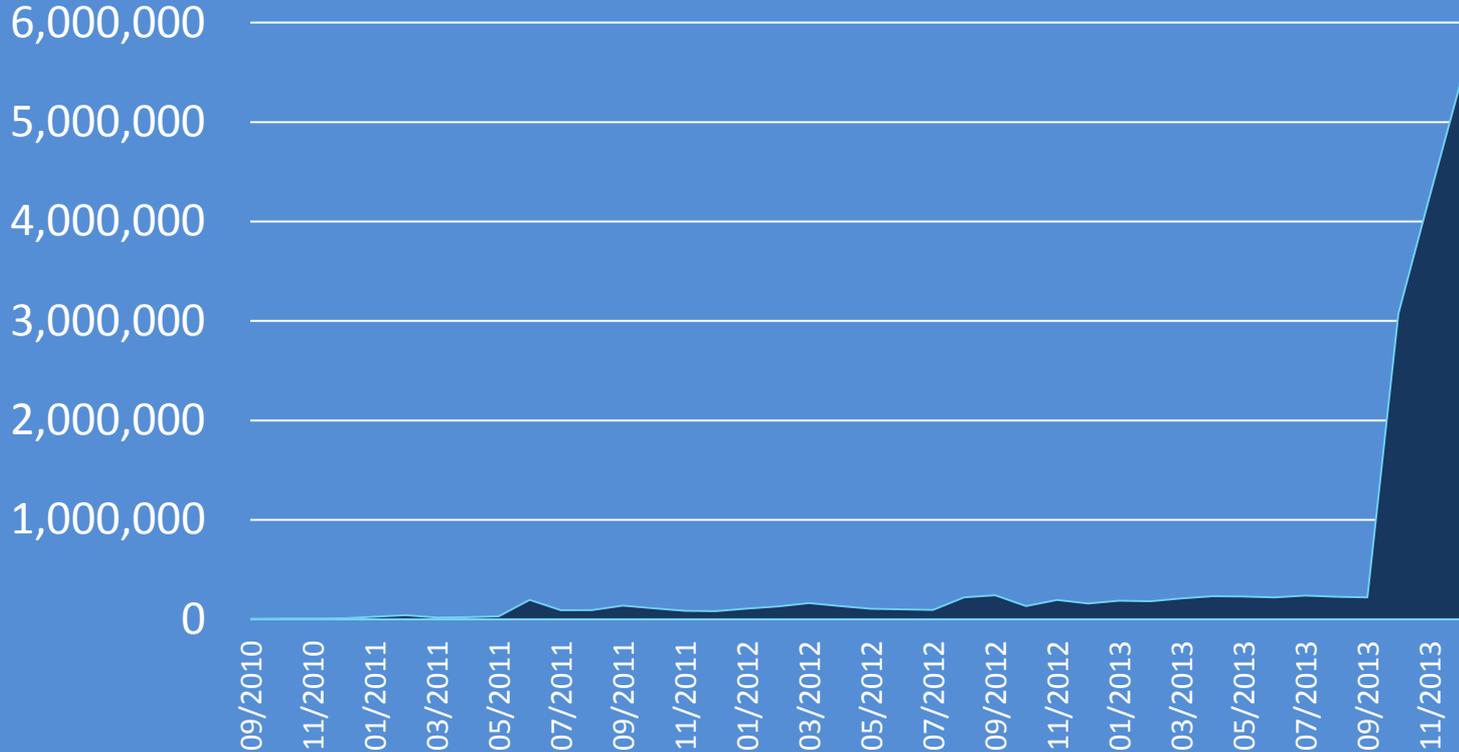
As of December 20, 2013, the portal contains 514 datasets. Just two years prior, the portal only contained 193 datasets. [View data](#)



2014 OPEN DATA PORTAL

DATA PORTAL VISITORS ARE GROWING

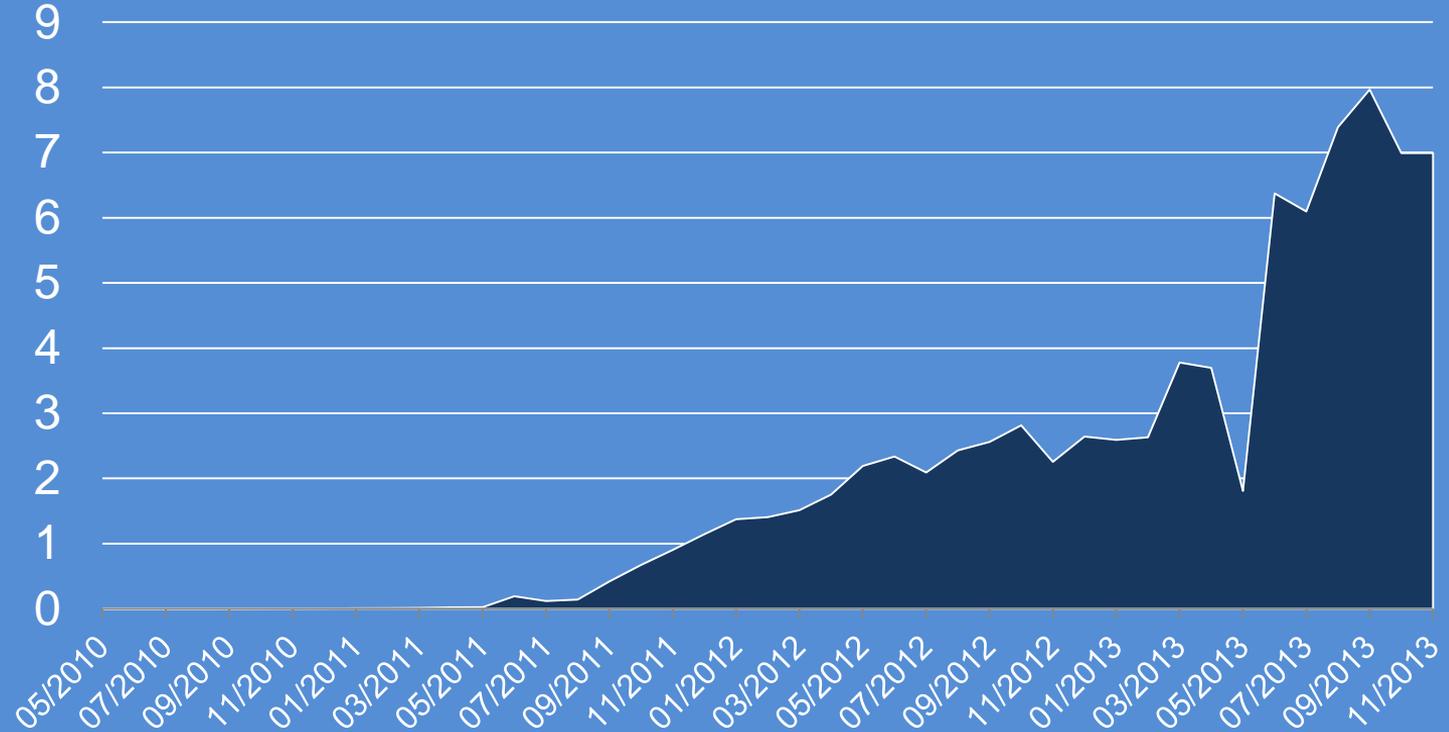
Views have steadily increased to 102,867 in August 2013. Notable peaks occurred in past months, including June 2011 when views rocketed to 190,880 through the month. That month, City of Chicago released all crimes dating to 2011, which is still one of the most-viewed datasets on the portal.



2014 OPEN DATA PORTAL

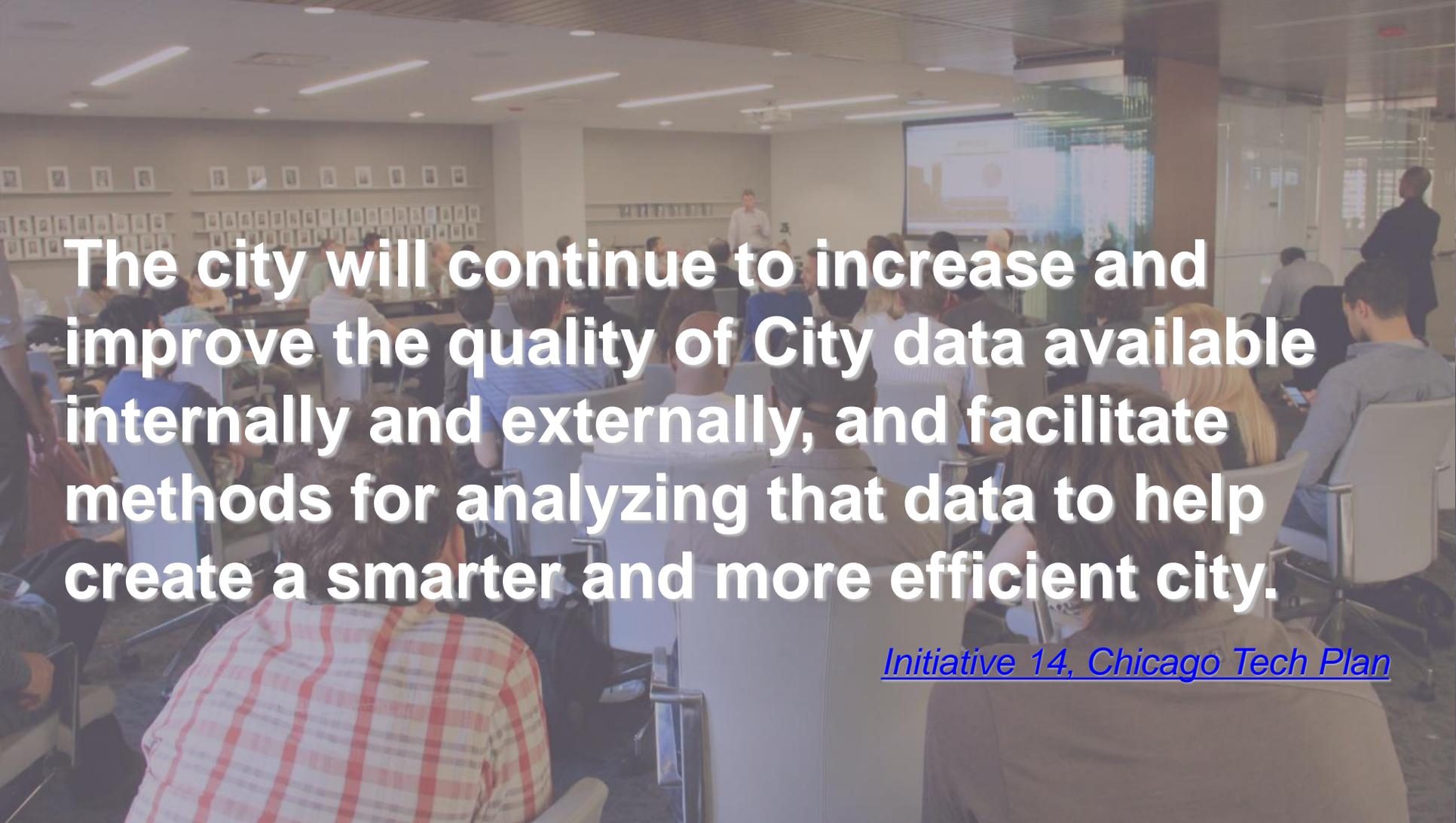
DOWNLOADS MORE THAN DOUBLED

As datasets increased, the total amount of data downloaded and viewed on the portal has significantly increased. In November 2013, 6.4 terrabytes of data were accessed on the portal. One year ago, only 2.0 terrabytes were accessed. In one year, the amount of data accessed grew over 200%.



A photograph of the Chicago City Hall building, a grand neoclassical structure with a prominent portico of columns and a series of arched windows on the lower level. The building is decorated with red bows on the windows, suggesting a holiday season. The text "CHICAGO - FOUNDED A.D. - MDCCCLXXI - BUILDING COMPLETED A.D. - MDCCC" is visible on the upper part of the facade. In the foreground, there are streetlights and traffic signals. A red sign with the number "50" is visible on the left side of the building.

Chicago's inaugural tech plan outlines clear objectives for the future of open data in the city.



The city will continue to increase and improve the quality of City data available internally and externally, and facilitate methods for analyzing that data to help create a smarter and more efficient city.

[Initiative 14, Chicago Tech Plan](#)

The city will expand and update its mobile, social media, and online technology to increase and improve communication and interaction with residents.

Initiative 15, Chicago Tech Plan



Consolidate local government data centers.

Initiative 16, Chicago Tech Plan

A group of approximately 15-20 people are seated around a large, light-colored conference table in a meeting room. They are dressed in business casual attire. In the background, a large screen displays a data visualization or presentation. The room has large windows on the left side, showing an outdoor view. The overall atmosphere is professional and collaborative.

To achieve these goals, the city will embark on an aggressive set of key initiatives.

2014

KEY INITIATIVES

Open Data and City Procurements

The City will work to develop contract provisions that promote open data in procurements that contain data systems, such as the City's Divvy bike share system. These provisions will promote the City's open data policies, and, where appropriate, require that data be posted on data.cityofchicago.org.

Publishing Frequent FOIA Requests

Chicago will use text mining techniques to analyze Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to identify frequently-requested datasets and post them to the data portal. In addition to making popular data available the public, this approach may also reduce FOIA requests. As an example of the success of this approach, in the 9 months after releasing environmental records, the Department of Public Health (CDPH) experienced a 65% drop in the number of FOIA requests for environmental records.

2014

KEY INITIATIVES

Improve City-County Coordination

The City and County will work together to streamline the public's access to City and County data and identify opportunities to coordinate more closely in the release of related datasets.

Dataset Requests

The City will create a new portal to allow residents to make requests for datasets to be made public. Residents will be able to continue requesting datasets by e-mailing dataportal@cityofchicago.org or tweeting to @ChicagoCDO.

Data Portal Status Blog

The City will launch a new blog to provide updates on the data portal. In addition to the @ChicagoCDO account, the portal will record and archive changes to datasets, explanations of outages, and responses to frequent questions.

2014

UPCOMING DATASETS

The Open Data Coordinators worked with their respective departments to identify new data to release in 2014. An exciting array of datasets has been identified as targets for the upcoming year, including the release of data on additional 311 calls, city-owned vehicles, and business violations.

311 Calls

Chicago currently discloses 311 data for the twelve most common service requests, which collectively account for nearly half of all calls to the 311 system. These sets include calls to fix potholes and clean graffiti. In the upcoming year, Chicago will release more 311 calls on the data portal, including rodent sightings, illegal business complaints, aircraft noise complaints, and complaints about improper heating or cooling in apartment buildings.

Business Violations

The City issues citations to businesses for violations of City law, including operating without a proper license, restaurant health violations, selling deceptively marketed and outdated merchandise, and selling tobacco products to minors. This set will include all business violations filed with the City's Department of Administrative Hearings dating back to 2001.

2014 UPCOMING DATASETS

Building, Property, And Construction Violations

The City issues citations to building owners, property owners, and construction sites for a variety of safety, maintenance, and cleanliness violations. For example, this includes: failure to maintain safety standards and secure vacant properties, failure to install or maintain proper building safety and sanitation measures, repair or replace defective doors, floors, or ceilings, and failure to maintain construction site cleanliness. This set will include all building, property, and construction violations filed with the City's Department of Administrative Hearings dating back to 2001.

Public Safety And Hazard Violations

The City issues citations for violations of city law that pose a hazard to public safety, including driving while using a mobile telephone. This set will include safety and hazard violations filed with the City's Department of Administrative Hearings dating back to 2001.

City-owned Assets

The City-owned asset dataset will contain a list of assets, including a list of all vehicles along with information on the type of vehicle and several other key characteristics.

2014 UPCOMING DATASETS

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities Human Resources

Home accessibility modifications completed by ward
Number of accessibility permits reviews conducted
Number of accessibility requests fulfilled

Transportation

Red-light camera locations
Speed camera locations
Automobile Accidents
DIVVY Bike Usage

Fleet and Facility Management

City-owned assets

Administrative Hearings

Building violations
Business violations
Property violations
Construction violations
Public safety violations
Hazard violations

Housing & Economic Development

Vacant Storefront Data
Micro-Market Recovery Program

Family & Support Services

Congregate Dining Sites

Health

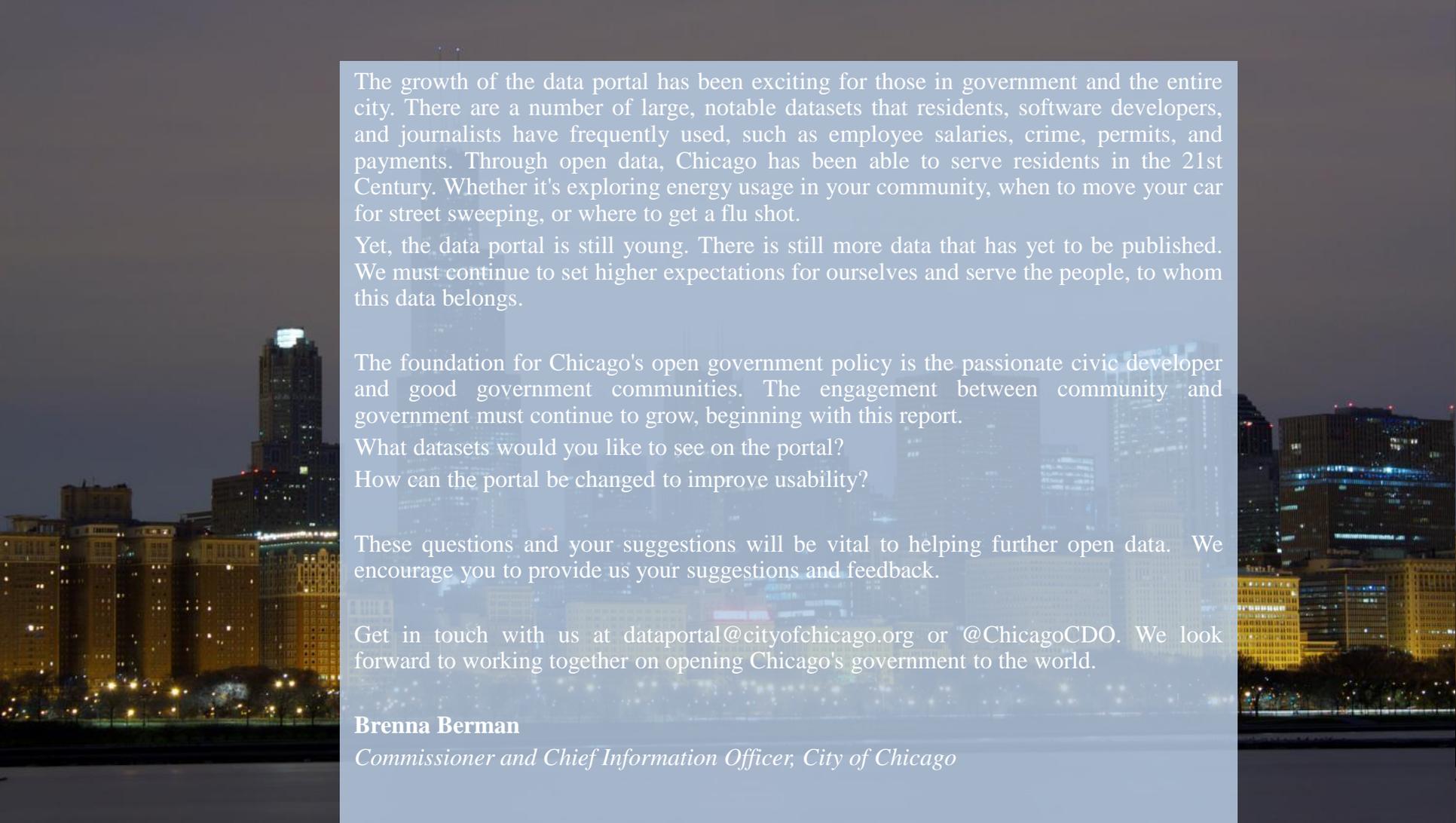
West Nile Spray Locations
CHAMPS Data

Cultural Affairs & Special Events

Cultural Grant Awards

Business Affairs & Consumer Protection

Sidewalk Café Permits
Public Vehicle Licenses
Business License Enforcement

A nighttime photograph of the Chicago skyline, featuring several illuminated skyscrapers and buildings. A semi-transparent white text box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text about Chicago's data portal. The background shows a mix of modern glass skyscrapers and older brick buildings, all lit up against the dark night sky.

The growth of the data portal has been exciting for those in government and the entire city. There are a number of large, notable datasets that residents, software developers, and journalists have frequently used, such as employee salaries, crime, permits, and payments. Through open data, Chicago has been able to serve residents in the 21st Century. Whether it's exploring energy usage in your community, when to move your car for street sweeping, or where to get a flu shot.

Yet, the data portal is still young. There is still more data that has yet to be published. We must continue to set higher expectations for ourselves and serve the people, to whom this data belongs.

The foundation for Chicago's open government policy is the passionate civic developer and good government communities. The engagement between community and government must continue to grow, beginning with this report.

What datasets would you like to see on the portal?

How can the portal be changed to improve usability?

These questions and your suggestions will be vital to helping further open data. We encourage you to provide us your suggestions and feedback.

Get in touch with us at dataportal@cityofchicago.org or [@ChicagoCDO](https://twitter.com/ChicagoCDO). We look forward to working together on opening Chicago's government to the world.

Brenna Berman

Commissioner and Chief Information Officer, City of Chicago

2014 OPEN DATA ADVISORY GROUP

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Fleet and Facility Management

Aimee Heinzl

Family and Social Services

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John Dunn

Christopher Reiser

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