

Data Sources for EIJ 2017

By Wayne Rash and Pam Baker

Data sources you may need right away (these are examples)

Elections:

Federal Election Commission

To find individual contributors: <http://classic.fec.gov/finance/disclosure/norindsea.shtml>

For contributions by candidate:

http://classic.fec.gov/finance/disclosure/disclosure_data_search.shtml

The FEC Disclosure Data Catalog

<http://classic.fec.gov/data/DataCatalog.do>

Other Election Sources:

<http://www.opensecrets.org/>

<https://www.followthemoney.org/>

Criminals:

National Sex Offender Registry

<https://www.nsopw.gov/en-US/Search>

Agencies:

EPA Enforcement and Compliance: <https://echo.epa.gov/>

Other public data sets. Each of these contains a wealth of data from a variety of sources. You should spend some time becoming familiar with what's here.

Public data sets [on Github](#)

[Public Data for the public good](#) – Enigma

[Google Public Data Explorer](#)

[Public Data Sets](#) on Amazon Web Services

Analytics and Visualization tools. These will help you see what the data means, and to display it for your audience:

[Quick guide](#) on picking BI apps and visualization tools – some free, some for a fee - in PC Magazine reviews by Pam Baker

[Data Gif Maker](#) by Google News Lab

Blockchain for use in Journalism:

- 1) [Using Blockchain to Keep Public Data Public](#) – Harvard Business Review article
- 2) Example of how Blockchain can be used to verify a person’s bio and professional claims: [article in TechTarget](#) by Pam Baker
- 3) Bitcoin [Stats](#) -- info on bitcoin mining, costs, market value, transactions accepted and rejected
- 4) Blockchain in supporting self-sustaining journalism – [posts in Medium](#)
- 5) How Blockchain could save music and fix journalism – [ZDNet video](#)
- 6) Blockchain for journalism: how a big funding idea is starting small (psst, includes new ways to reward readers for being loyal readers) – [article in CoinDesk](#)
- 7) How the blockchain could save journalism’s business model – [article in Technical.ly Brooklyn](#)
- 8) Communities forming around blockchain for government – [article in GCN.com](#)
- 9) [The Ultimate Blockchain Guide](#)
- 10) Blockchain [markets](#)
- 11) An excellent illustration of how blockchain works credit to Standard Chartered Bank <https://goo.gl/images/p52Mpu>
- 12) The distributed ledger side is the blockchain illustration vs the centralized ledger side which in this illustration is current day banking. <https://goo.gl/images/RXEI4Q>

Issues regarding public data and its use by journalists

- 1) [Fears rise of Trump-era 'memory hole' in federal data](#) -- Politico
- 2) [On Trump, transparency and democracy](#) -- Sunlight Foundation
- 3) [Everyday people are furiously saving US federal data before it’s deleted—and you can, too](#) -- Quartz
- 4) [Hackers downloaded US government climate data and stored it on European servers as Trump was being inaugurated](#) -- Quartz
- 5) [So Cal Climate Data Protection Project](#)
- 6) International DataRefuge [effort](#)