Our Approach

Audience

Purpose

Content

Audience

ADC training videos orient current and potential members by providing context for solution development

- [Two Years of Progress from the NSDS Demonstration Project](#)
- [Preparing for FY25 Opportunities](#)
- What America's Datahub Consortium Project Bidders Need to Know About Innovations in the U.S. Federal Statistical System (this presentation)

These videos may be helpful to other stakeholders, too!

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Purpose

As an ADC potential or current awardee, your project may involve using U.S. federal statistical data.

- These data are collected through a coordinated system across several agencies.

- Accessing, linking, and using U.S. federal statistical data can require certain procedures.

- The U.S. Federal statistical system continues to innovate.

This video will help (re-)orient you to working in this field.

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Content

This video

- Introduces the U.S. Federal statistical system (FSS)

- Notes key laws coordinating the system

- Describes how the National Secure Data Service (NSDS) augments the system

- Describes how ADC supports this innovation

Along the way, we've noted

- Links for more information

- Material that may be relevant for ADC bidders

- How your work contributes to a vibrant system

Let's get started!

1. The U.S. Federal statistical system
2. Key laws coordinating the system
3. Augmenting the system with NSDS
4. How the ADC supports innovation

1. What is the U.S. Federal statistical system?

"A decentralized set of Federal statistical agencies, units, officials, and programs that collect and transform data into high quality statistical information, making it readily available to inform all types of decision-making, while protecting the responses of individual data providers."

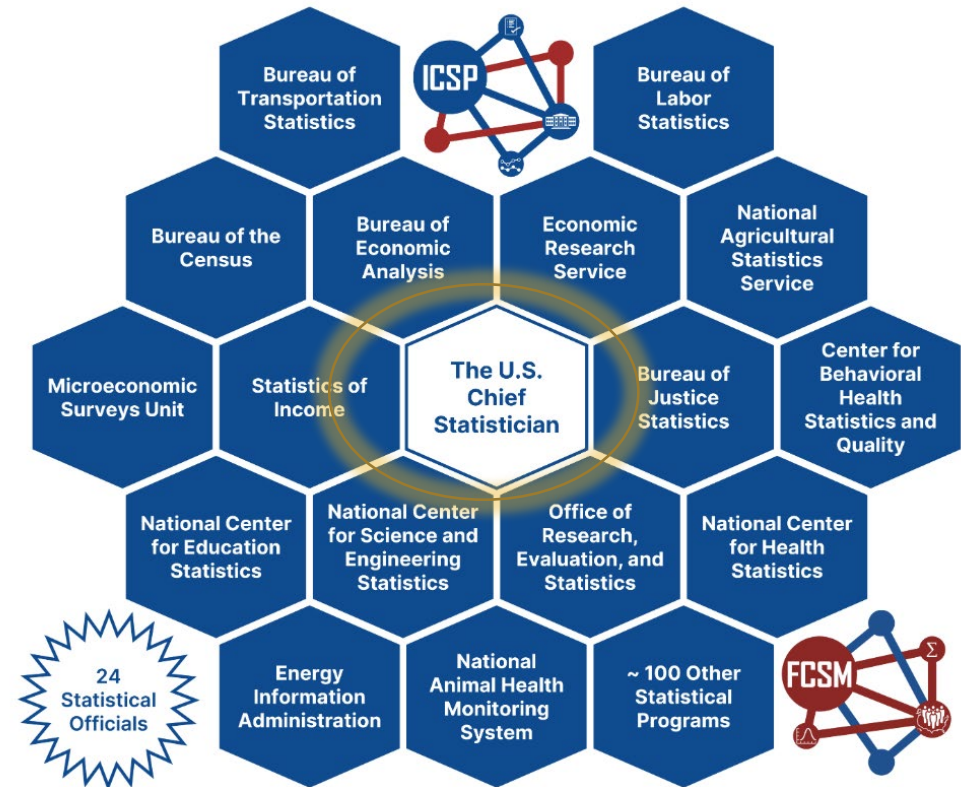https://www.statspolicy.gov/about/#fss

The U.S. Federal statistical system

- Led and coordinated by the U.S. Chief Statistician

- Includes:
  - 16 Recognized Statistical Agencies and Units
  - Approximately 100 other Statistical Programs
  - 24 Statistical Officials
  - Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP)
  - Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM)

- Visit StatsPolicy.gov
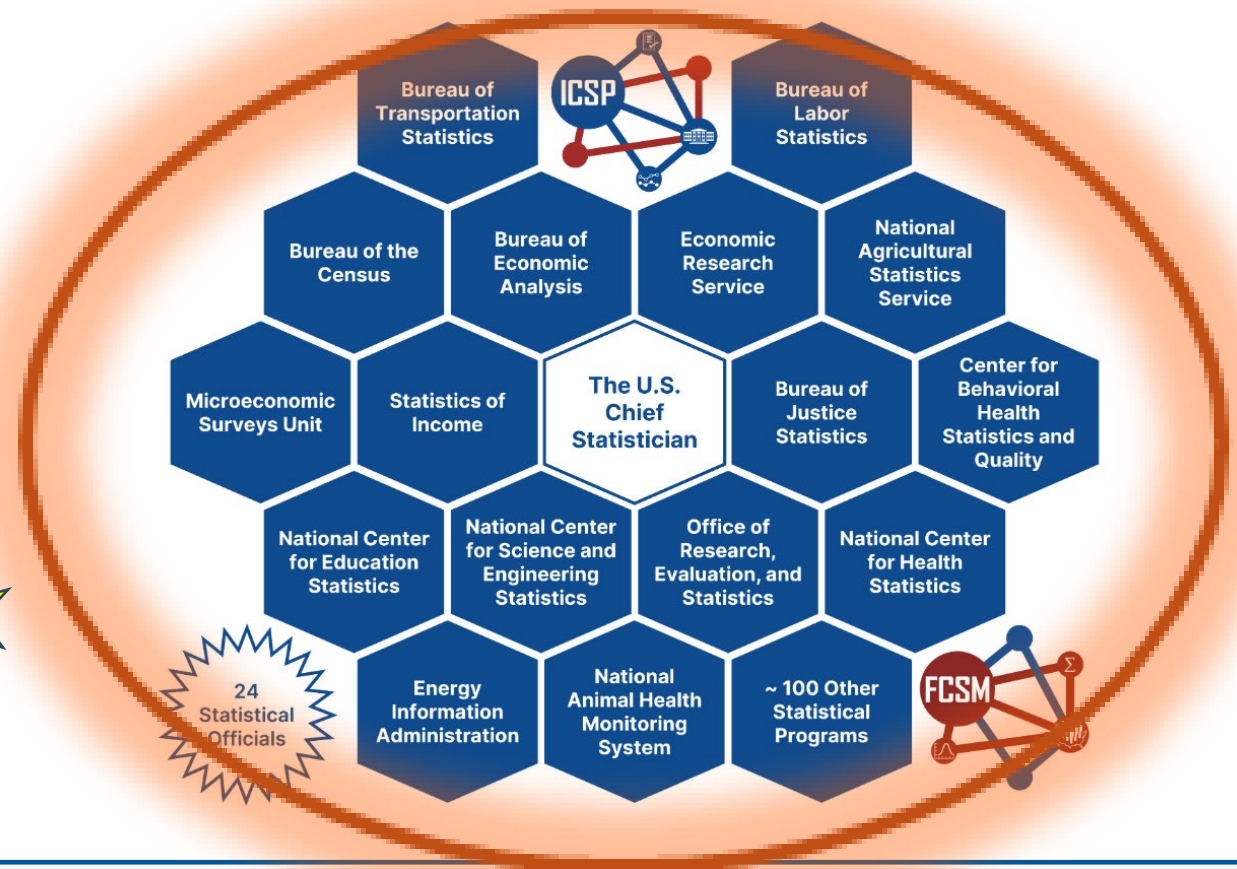
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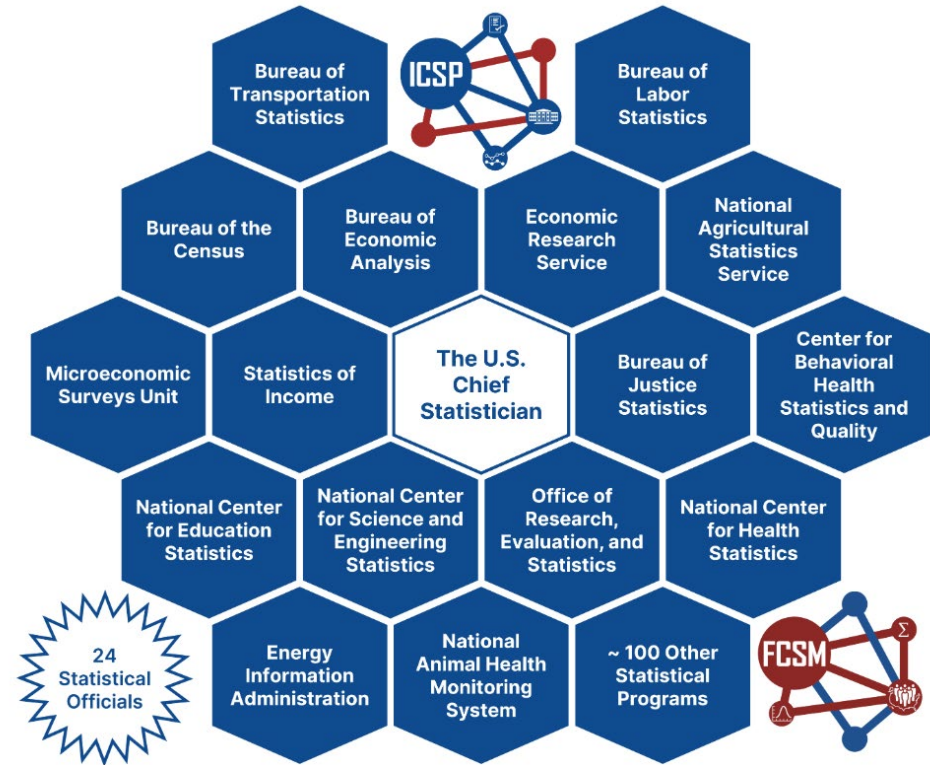
Why is there a U.S. Chief Statistician?

- Facilitates more efficient and effective outcomes

- Coordinates the system

- Ensures budget proposals are consistent with system-wide priorities

- Develops and implements government-wide regulations and policies

- Among other responsibilities

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What is the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy?

- Advises and assists the U.S. Chief Statistician

- Includes 30 leaders from the FSS:
  - U.S. Chief Statistician (Chair)
  - Heads of 16 Recognized Statistical Agencies and Units (RSAUs)
  - 24 Statistical Officials (11 of which are also heads of RSAUs)
  - Various subcommittees, including one on the **National Secure Data Service**

- See ICSP charter

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Next Up: Key Laws to Know

1. The U.S. Federal statistical system
2. Key laws coordinating the system
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2. What are the key laws for the system?

The Paperwork Reduction Act , the OPEN Government Data Act and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act are three key laws governing the system.

https://www.statspolicy.gov/policies/

Many statistical agencies also have agency-specific laws.

The Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act establishes the roles and responsibilities of

- The U.S. Chief Statistician

- Federal agencies in creating, collecting, maintaining, using, sharing, disclosing, and disseminating information

- The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) to review and approve the collection of information from the public by Federal agencies or sponsored by Federal agencies, known as an **information collection request (ICR)**

When is OIRA approval required for a Collection of Information?

The PRA is intended to ensure balance of public benefit given burden and a coordinated approach to information policy, including statistical policy.

- Applies to any data collection from 10 or more respondents, including persons, businesses, or institutions
- Includes collections funded by federal contract (and some federal grants)
- Includes collections using qualitative or quantitative methods
- A few limited exemptions (such as clinical research)

Approval is <u>not</u> needed for repurposing/linking of previously collected data

➢ *But other laws may apply, such as CIPSEA and agency-specific confidentiality requirements*

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What is Required in an Information Collection Request?

If your project is subject to information collection review:

- Requires protocol review to assess
  - policy need
  - expected data quality
  - burden and cost estimation
  - among other requirements

- Requires two public comment periods (60 plus 30 for a total of 90 days) and clearance by the Office of Management and Budget

➢ Check early with your ADC contact to determine if you think ICR review may be needed for your project

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The OPEN Government Data Act

Title II of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018, also known as the OPEN Government Data Act, requires all federal data assets to be

- listed in the agency's comprehensive data inventory with metadata and included in the federal data catalog (data.gov)

- open by default

- machine-readable

- reviewed to improve access

➢ These resources may help your project find and link federal data!

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How do I find federal data assets?

- See www.data.gov
- Lists continue to be updated to comply with guidance implementing the OPEN Government Data Act, OMB Memo 25-05
- For example, OMB Memo M-25-05 requires federal metadata to be compliant with DCAT-US 3.0— improving interoperability (See resources.data.gov)
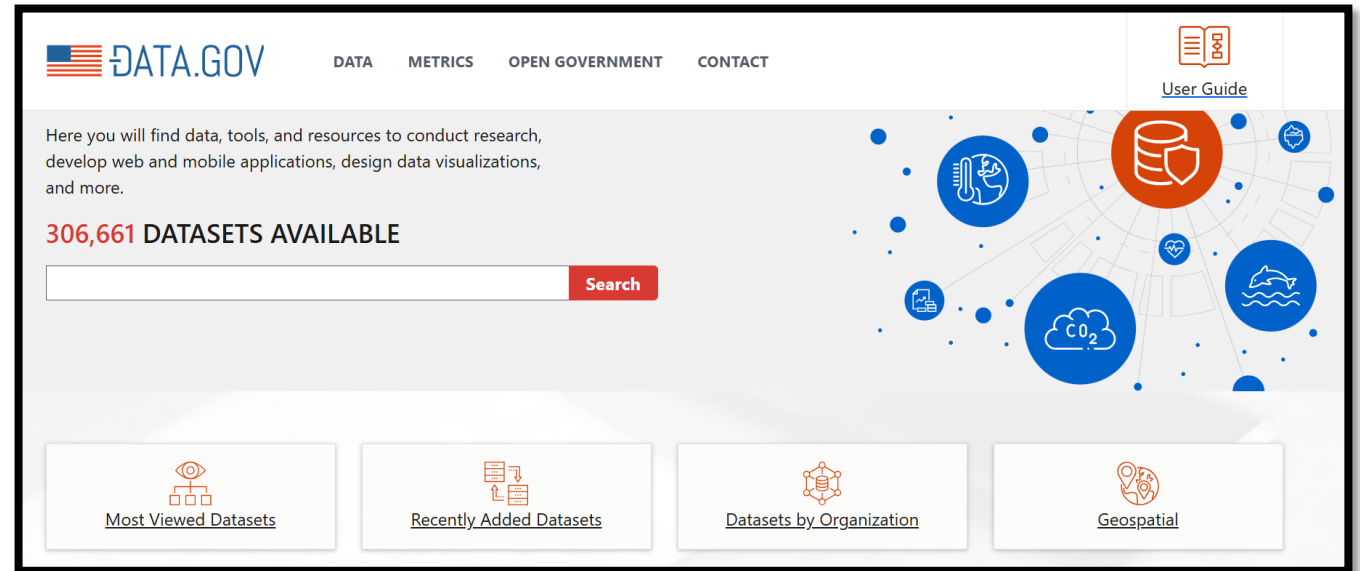
The Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act

The Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act gives OMB-recognized statistical agencies and units responsibilities to improve secure access to confidential statistical data to support more effective evidence building.

- As a recognized statistical agency, NCSES is bound by CIPSEA. That is, NCSES must ensure that data collected or acquired under a pledge of confidentiality and exclusive statistical use must be only used for statistical purposes. These restricted use data may not be released in individually-identifiable form.

How will I know if CIPSEA applies to my project?

- CIPSEA applies to any federal data acquired under a pledge of confidentiality and for exclusively statistical purposes.

- Any datasets resulting from linkages with CIPSEA-restricted use data, and any CIPSEA-restricted use datasets linked with public data, are also restricted and bound by CIPSEA.

- Not all federal datasets are protected by CIPSEA or other laws that make the data restricted use. You may not need these data for your project and may want to consider other data options.

- ➢ If you do need to use restricted-use data, **you <u>must</u> follow certain requirements** to ensure the data are only used for statistical purposes. Check with ADC early!

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How do I request restricted-use data?

- Sec. 3583 of CIPSEA requires a Standard Application Process (SAP) for all OMB-recognized statistical agencies

- More information about the SAP is at researchdatagov.org and "SAP: How it Works and What to Expect"

- Additionally, **projects** may be undertaken through a **memorandum of understanding**, an **interagency agreement**, or a **joint statistical agreement.**

- This applies to most ADC projects. **Check with your ADC contact!**

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Where can I analyze restricted-use data?

There are many different data enclaves and access modes available for approved users of restricted-use data. Availability can differ by agency and data asset.

- [Federal Statistical Research Data Centers](#)
  - provide secure environments for qualified researchers to access restricted-use data
  - through partnerships with the U.S. FSS agencies and over 50 research institutions at 34 locations
- There are several other data enclaves. One option that may be available for your ADC project is the Secure Compute Environment (SCE) through the NSDS.
- **Ask your ADC contact regarding access modes!**

Federal Statistical Research Data Centers

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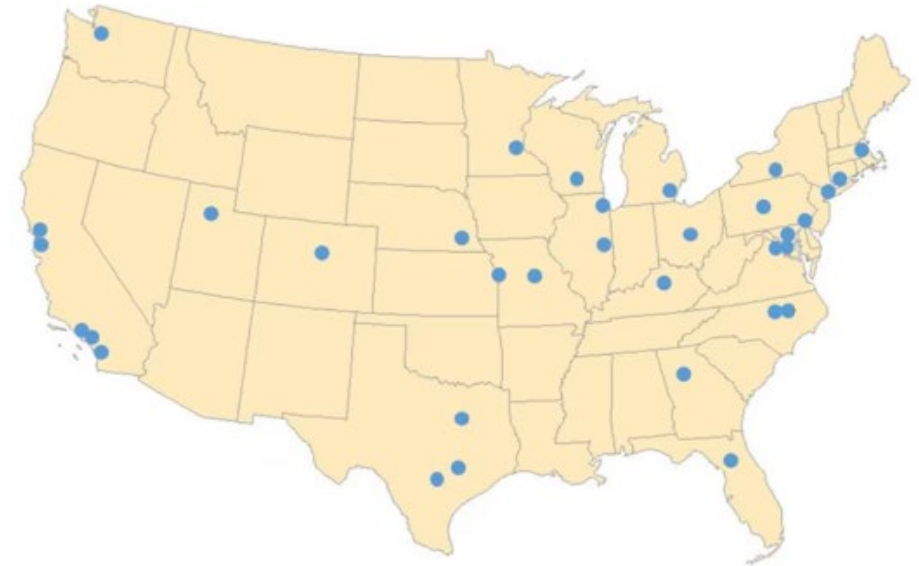
On the horizon

Implementation of other parts of CIPSEA to improve access to confidential data for statistical purposes are still under development.

- **Presumption of Accessibility**: makes all federal data assets available to any recognized statistical agency or unit for purposes of developing evidence, unless otherwise prohibited by law (44 U.S.C. 3581)

- **Expanding Secure Access**: requires recognized statistical agencies and units to use a common standard to expand secure data access to the public for the purposes of developing evidence, with limitations (44 U.S.C. 3582)

➢ ADC projects may inform this work! ⭐

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Next Step: NSDS—An Innovative Shared Service for the FSS

1. The U.S. Federal statistical system
2. Key laws coordinating the system
3. Augmenting the system with NSDS
4. How ADC supports innovation

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NSF

NCSES

3. How does the planned NSDS augment the FSS?

The U.S. Federal statistical system continues to innovate to improve how data users find, access, and link data for evidence building.

One important innovation is the development of the future National Secure Data Service.

What is the National Secure Data Service?

The CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, among other things, established the National Secure Data Service (NSDS) Demonstration project.

The NSDS will be a "front door" service enabling accessible, secure, and seamless data solutions to transform evidence-based decision-making for the public.
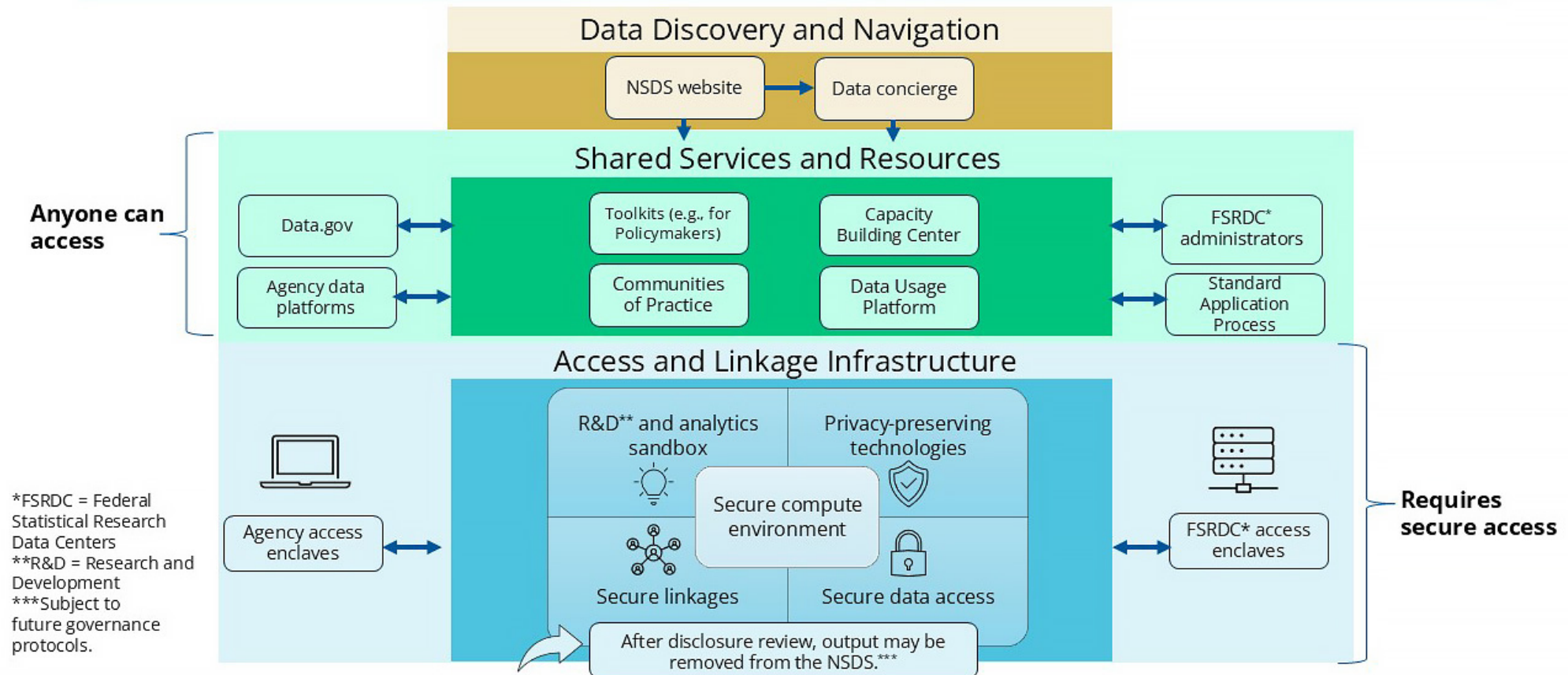
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How will the NSDS augment the system?

As a "front door" service to federal statistical data and tools, the NSDS will

- **improve government efficiency** by streamlining cross government data sharing & reducing silos

- **drive innovation with AI and other emerging technologies by** making federal data AI-ready

- **securely liberate data** by promoting a tiered-access framework using a user-friendly platform

- **revolutionize national, state and local** data capabilities by empowering states with more data linkage abilities, high quality customer service, and introducing AI tools to automate data cleaning

and deliver this by leveraging **private-sector expertise.**

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What could a future NSDS look like?

See https://www.americasdatahub.org/what-could-an-nsds-look-like/.

Last Step: ADC supports innovation

1. The U.S. Federal Statistical System
2. Key laws coordinating the system
3. Innovating the system with NSDS
4. How ADC supports innovation

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NSF

NCSES

4. What is America's Datahub Consortium?

The ADC is a public-private partnership where eligible people and secure data come together for collaborative research and decision-making that will benefit the American public as an enduring national asset.

ADC directly contributes to the research needed to build the NSDS 1.0.

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NSF | NCSES

ADC goals directly inform the NSDS

- Develop new ways of acquiring and linking data to yield valuable insights into critical issues

- Support cutting-edge data infrastructure

- Build data security capabilities to further increase privacy protections and public trust

- Share lessons learned for similar activities across the Federal government

See https://www.americasdatahub.org.

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ADC projects inform the NSDS

- Many ADC projects benefit the NSDS demonstration project
  - over 30 projects awarded to date
  - span the breadth of the NSDS 1.0
  - multiple awards to build evidence base
  - opportunities to collaborate

Discovery & Navigation	Shared Services & Resources	Data Access & Linkage Infrastructure		
Customer Experience	**Capacity Building**	**Data Sharing/Access**	**Privacy-Preserving Technologies**	**Data Integration**
AI-RD-24	AI-DQSI-24	SCE-23	ABSSyn-23	STEM-24-N7
DAA-24	ADEB-24	SCET-24	SEDSyn-23	STEM-24-N8
DCS-23	DPT-23	ABSSyn-23	SDRN-23	FBSE 22-02
EPS-24	FSRDC-23	SEDSyn-23	PPT-23	FBSE 22-05
FSRDC-23	IEBC-24		DG-RWD-24	FBSE 22-08
	DUP-23-N02		PPRL1-23	FBSE 22-09
	DUP-23-N04		PPRL2-23	FBSE 22-14
				NVSS-23

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Learn more about ADC award progress

- The award webpage
  - displays active, complete, and open projects
  - flags connections between ADC projects and a future NSDS
- Find project opportunities and collaborators
- Check on project progress, lessons learned, and how each contributes to a future NSDS 1.0

See https://www.americasdatahub.org/awards.

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