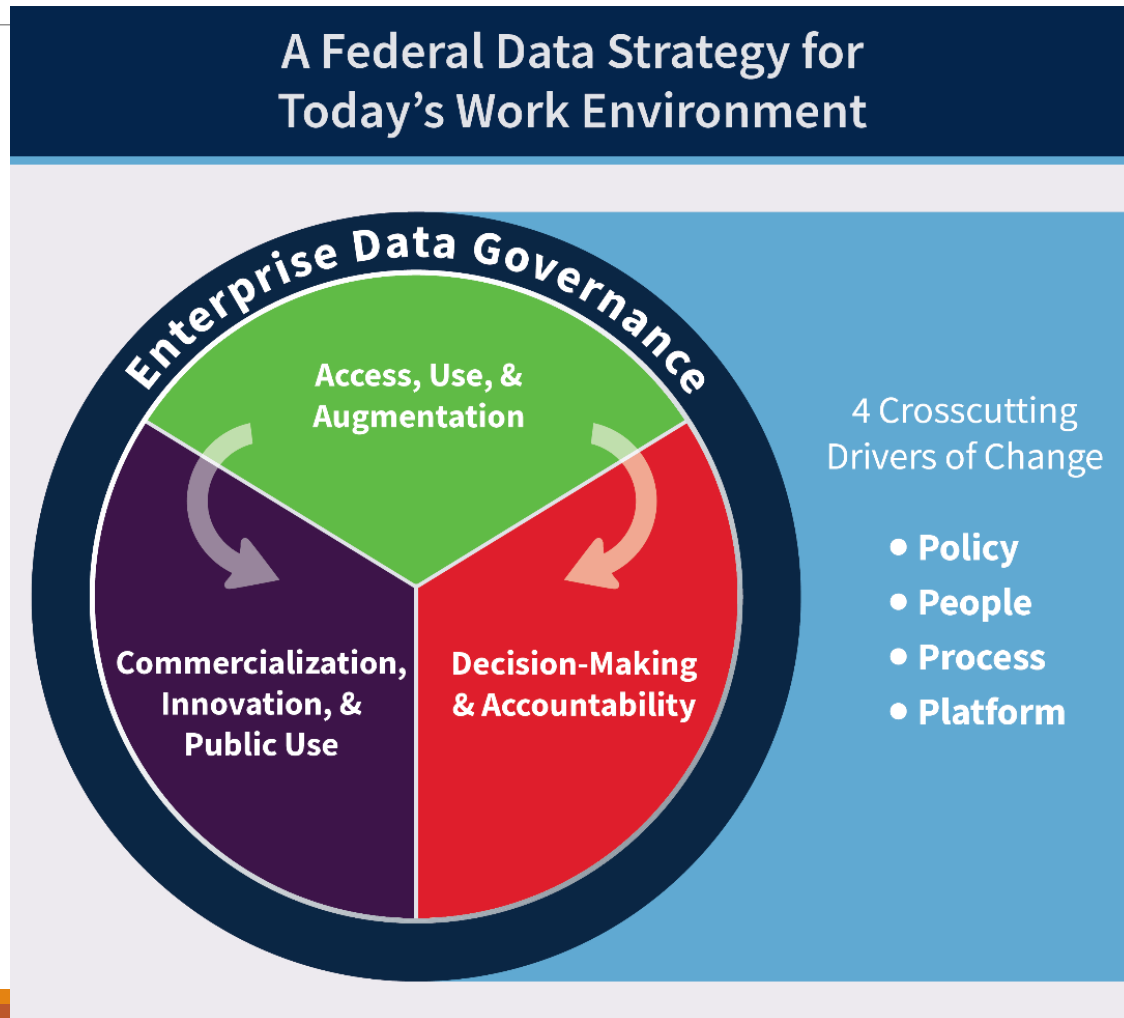# Federal Data Strategy and Evidence Based Policy

16 April 2019

Dr. Nancy Potok

Chief Statistician of the U. S.

Leveraging Data as a Strategic Asset CAP Goal Areas

Achievement of the goal will leverage four high-level areas, supported by four cross-cutting drivers of change.

Federal Data Strategy – Timeline

The *Leveraging Data as a Strategic Asset* CAP Goal will deliver a Comprehensive Federal Data Strategy through two parallel and iterative work streams. These coordinated work streams will work hand in hand to provide a long-term strategic plan for data management across the Federal Government.
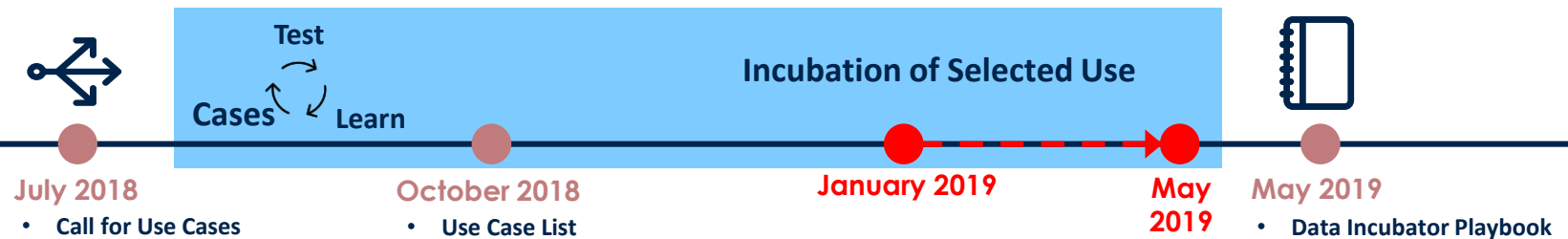
Federal Data Strategy Development: Principles, Practices, and Action Plan
WORK STREAM 1

July 2018
- o *Draft Principles*
- **Call for Best Practices**

October 2018
- **Principles**
- o *Draft Practices*

January 2019
- **Federal Data Strategy** (Principles and Practices)
- o *Draft Year 1 Action Plan*

May 2019

May 2019
- **Year 1 Action Plan**

The Data Incubator Project: Use Cases and Playbook
WORK STREAM 2

Test
Cases   Learn

Incubation of Selected Use

July 2018
- **Call for Use Cases**

October 2018
- **Use Case List**

January 2019

May 2019

May 2019
- **Data Incubator Playbook**

Federal Data Strategy – Pilot Progress

A FRAMEWORK FOR CONSISTENCY

- **The Federal Data Strategy provides a framework for agencies to consistently implement data innovations in support of their unique missions, performance, and customers.**

FUELING INNOVATION

Potential pilots nominated by agencies that would use data to enhance performance

10 / *40* / *185*

Principles — *Practices* — *Use Cases*

Principles for Ethical Governance

Uphold Ethics: Monitor and assess the implications of federal data practices for the public. Design checks and balances to protect and serve the public good.

Exercise Responsibility: Practice effective data stewardship and governance. Employ sound data security practices, protect individual privacy, maintain promised confidentiality, and ensure appropriate access and use.

Promote Transparency: Articulate the purposes and uses of federal data to engender public trust. Comprehensively document processes and products to inform data providers and users.

Principles for Conscious Design

Ensure Relevance: Protect the quality and integrity of the data. Validate that data are appropriate, accurate, objective, accessible, useful, understandable, and timely.

Harness Existing Data: Identify data needs to inform priority research and policy questions; reuse data if possible and acquire additional data if needed.

Anticipate Future Uses: Create data thoughtfully, considering fitness for use by others; plan for reuse and build in interoperability from the start.

Demonstrate Responsiveness: Improve data collection, analysis, and dissemination with ongoing input from users and stakeholders. The feedback process is cyclical; establish a baseline, gain support, collaborate, and refine continuously.
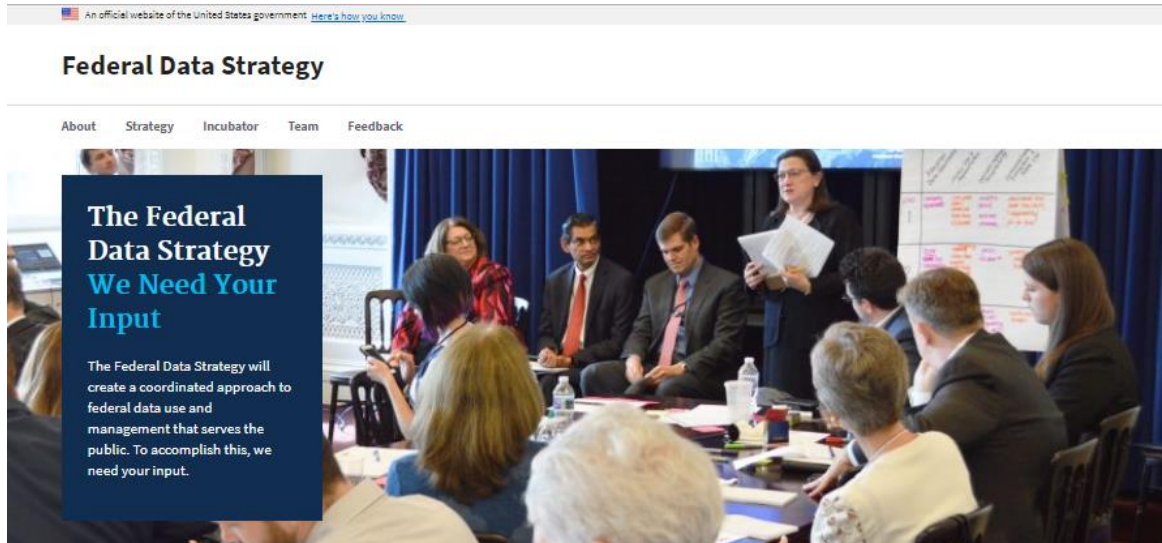
Principles for Learning Culture

Invest in Learning: Promote a culture of continuous and collaborative learning with and about data through ongoing investment in data infrastructure and human resources.

Develop Data Leaders: Cultivate data leadership at all levels of the federal workforce by investing in training and development about the value of data for mission, service, and the public good.

Practice Accountability: Assign responsibility, audit data practices, document and learn from results, and make needed changes.

Strategy.Data.gov is the Digital Home for the Federal Data Strategy

Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018

Evidence Act Background

Begins to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking

Introduced by Speaker Paul Ryan and Senator Patty Murray after the release of the Commission report in September 2017

Addresses 11 of the Commission's 22 recommendations

Signed by the President and enacted into law on January 14, 2019 as P.L. 115-435

Evidence Act Overview

Title 1—Federal Evidence-Building Activities

Title 2—Open Government Data Act

Title 3—Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency (CIPSEA)

Title 1 – Federal Evidence-Building Activities

- Agency Evidence-Building Plans

- Agency Evaluation Plans

- Evaluation Officers

- Program Evaluation Best Practices and Competencies

- Statistical Officials and Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

- Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence-Building

Title 2 – Open Government Data Act

- Guidance to Make Data Open by Default

- Strategic Information Resources and Open Data Pla

- Comprehensive Data Inventory and Federal Data Catalogue

- Chief Data Officer

- Chief Data Officer Council

Title 3 – Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency (CIPSEA)

- CIPSEA Designation Guidance

- Codification of Statistical Policy Directive #1

- Presumption of Accessibility for Statistical Agencies

- Expanding Secure Access to CIPSEA Data Assets

- Application to Access Data Assets for Developing Evidence

OMB Implementation Approach

- Many near-term deadlines

- Act overlaps with ongoing initiatives and needs to involve multiple OMB and agency offices and activities

- Prioritizing an integrated implementation, Agencies should begin to move forward with implementation where they can, consistent with the Act's requirements

- Guidance to come out soon – will be in modules

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy Strategic Priorities

Quality: Developing standards and methods for combined statistical data

Research access: Continuing to grow and improve Federal Statistical Research Data Centers to next generation

Improved Disclosure Avoidance: Modernizing confidentiality and privacy protections