

Emerging Legal Issues for Transportation Researchers Using Passively Collected Data Sets: Researcher Interview Responses (TTI-03-01) Dataset

Dataset available at: <https://doi.org/10.15787/VTTI/SIFR8G>

(This dataset supports report **Emerging Legal Issues for Transportation Researchers Using Passively Collected Data Sets**, <http://hdl.handle.net/10919/95175>)

This U.S. Department of Transportation-funded dataset is preserved by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) in their data repository (<https://dataverse.vtti.vt.edu/>), and is available at <https://doi.org/10.15787/VTTI/SIFR8G>

The related final report **Emerging Legal Issues for Transportation Researchers Using Passively Collected Data Sets**, is available from the National Transportation Library's Digital Repository at <https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/view/dot/61490>

Metadata from the VTTI Repository record:

Dataset Persistent ID: doi:10.15787/VTTI/SIFR8G

Publication Date: 2019-07-09

Title: Emerging Legal Issues for Transportation Researchers Using Passively Collected Data Sets: Researcher Interview Responses (TTI-03-01)

Author:

- Stoeltje, Gretchen (TTI) - ORCID: 0000-0002-9355-9174
- Moran, Maarit - ORCID: 0000-0002-7069-308X
- Zmud, Johanna - ORCID: 0000-0002-4972-6449
- Ramsey, Nijm - ORCID: 0000-0002-3938-7711

Description:

- Project Description:
 - The data for this project was collected from May 2018-September 2018. Using a structured discussion guide, project team members in Texas conducted phone and in-person interviews transportation researchers in different parts of the US and Canada. The research question was: what are the legal implications for transportation researchers using secondary, passively collected data sources. The purpose for the semi-structured discussions was to identify the current state of knowledge and practice around data protection, as well as emerging questions from the actual or anticipated experience of working with existing, passively collected data sets. With the advent of new technologies used to gather and process data, large data sets are being collected which are of interest to transportation researchers. However, legal and ethical questions around data ownership and protection in the context of emerging technologies, especially with regard to emerging automated and connected vehicle technologies, are still being formulated and addressed but not settled. This research compares the uses of primary and secondary, passively collected data sources to identify legal considerations affecting access to these data for transportation researchers. With

privately sourced data becoming more prevalent, researchers are faced with additional duties and changing practices. This exploratory research aims to provide guidance to transportation researchers on the legal and ethical requirements for data protection.

Data Scope:

- Using an interview guide, the project team spoke with 10 public university transportation researchers, one research project manager who worked for an automaker, and one government official. Researchers were chosen based on their experience working with human subjects or commercially collected data. Though some had extensive experience working with existing data, most were more familiar with the processes of collecting primary data with Institutional Review Board oversight. These discussions also suggested the need to develop use cases to demonstrate the various data acquisition models that researchers are now engaged in. The discussion identified the changes that researchers have noted in their practice related to data acquisition and protection, and what they may need to know going forward. Some of the topics covered in the interview guide included:
 - Types of transportation data used and the collection methods, with a focus on human subjects data
 - Policies and procedures for data and privacy protection
 - Engagement with legal requirements for data collection and use
 - Current and emerging challenges in using transportation data, however owned, collected or acquired

Data Specification:

- The data set is a summary compilation of interviews conducted with 12 researchers including: 10 public university transportation researchers, one research project manager who worked for an automaker, and one government official. The interviews were conducted using a discussion guide designed to capture answers from several perspectives, depending on the researcher's experience. For this reason researchers may not have answered every question, or might have answered more than one question in a single response. Therefore responses were grouped in categories of topic, rather than by direct responses to single questions.

Subject: Engineering; Other

Keyword: Passive data collection, secondary data, data reidentification, research, researcher, human subjects, privacy, data protection, data sharing, data warehouse, consent, terms and conditions, terms of use, liability, duty, breach

Deposit Date: 2019-07-09

Recommended citation:

Stoeltje, Gretchen; Moran, Maarit; Zmud, Johanna; Ramsey, Nijm, 2019, "Emerging Legal Issues for Transportation Researchers Using Passively Collected Data Sets: Researcher Interview Responses (TTI-03-01)", <https://doi.org/10.15787/VTTI/SIFR8G>, VTTI, V1

Dataset description:

This dataset contains 1 .pdf file, described below.

Safe-D_TTI-03-01_Data Set.pdf

The .pdf file format is an Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) file and can be opened with the Adobe Acrobat software.

National Transportation Library (NTL) Curation Note:

As this dataset is preserved in a repository outside U.S. DOT control, as allowed by the U.S. DOT's Public Access Plan (<https://doi.org/10.21949/1503647>) Section 7.4.2 Data, the NTL staff has performed *NO* additional curation actions on this dataset. NTL staff last accessed this dataset at <https://doi.org/10.15787/VTT1/SIFR8G> on 2022-04-28. If, in the future, you have trouble accessing this dataset at the host repository, please email NTLDataCurator@dot.gov describing your problem. NTL staff will do its best to assist you at that time.