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# **Minnesota Government Data Practices Act**

## **An Overview**

The Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13, creates a presumption that state and local government records are accessible to the public, unless a statute or rule provides otherwise. This information brief outlines the most significant procedural features, rights, and remedies in the act, as amended through the 2010 first special session.

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The Government Data Practices Act contains many of the statutory provisions that classify government data as other than public, and thus restricts access to the data in some way. The act also contains the following major features:

- Procedures for government agencies to follow in collecting and keeping records
- Procedures for individuals to follow in inspecting and copying government records
- Special protections for individuals who are being asked to supply information about themselves, seeking to obtain records government holds on them, or wishing to correct erroneous government data about themselves
- Procedures for getting advisory opinions on access to government data
- Civil and administrative remedies and criminal penalties for violating the act

## Data and Entities Covered by the Act

The act applies to information in any form held by certain government agencies.

**Data Covered** All information in any form (written, computerized, on recording tape, microfilm, etc.) collected, created, received, maintained, or disseminated by government ([Minn. Stat. § 13.02](#), subd. 7)

**Entities Covered** State agencies  
  
The University of Minnesota and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
  
Political subdivisions  
  
Statewide systems (record-keeping systems used in common by multiple state agencies and/or political subdivisions)  
  
Corporations and nonprofit social service agencies under contract with a government entity ([Minn. Stat. §§ 13.02](#), subd. 7; [13.05](#), subd. 6)

**Entities Excluded** Judicial branch data classifications and access are governed by the rules of public access to records of the judicial branch, adopted by the Minnesota Supreme Court ([Minn. Stat. § 13.90](#))  
  
For purposes of this act, townships located outside of the seven-county metro area are not included in the definition of “political subdivision” ([Minn. Stat. § 13.02](#), subd. 11)  
  
The legislature as a whole is not subject to the act, but individual legislators are subject to certain provisions governing elected officials and candidates for elected office

## Data Classifications

The act establishes a presumption that unless otherwise provided by law, all government data are public. The act then specifies (1) by what authority public access can be limited, and (2) possible data classifications other than public.

### Presumption

All government data are public (can be inspected and copied by anyone) ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 1), but access may be limited by:

- federal statute
- state statute
- temporary classification issued by the Commissioner of Administration

([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 1)

### Kinds of Classifications

Data governed by state law that are classified as something other than public are classified in one of the following ways:

- **private:** data identifying an individual that are only available to the individual or with the individual's consent ([Minn. Stat. § 13.02](#), subd. 12)
- **confidential:** data identifying an individual that are not available to anyone outside the entity holding the data, including the individual ([Minn. Stat. § 13.02](#), subd. 3)
- **nonpublic:** data on a business or other entity that are only available to the subject of the data or with the subject's consent ([Minn. Stat. § 13.02](#), subd. 9)
- **protected nonpublic:** data on a business or other entity that are not available to the subject of the data or anyone else outside the entity holding the data ([Minn. Stat. § 13.02](#), subd. 13)

<b>Classifications of Data Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act</b>			
<b>Type of Data</b>	<b>Subject of Data (individual or entity)</b>	<b>Access (to whom data are available now)</b>	<b>When Data Become Available to Public</b>
<b>General Rule</b>	Individual, business, or other entity	Public	Upon creation or receipt of the data
<b>Private Data</b>	Individual	Individual who is the subject of the data	(1) Immediately with consent of data subject, or (2) The later of 30 years after creation or ten years after death of the subject
<b>Confidential Data</b>	Individual Government entity	only	The later of 30 years after creation or ten years after death of the subject
<b>Nonpublic</b>	Business or other entity	Business or entity that is the subject of the data	(1) Immediately with consent of data subject, or (2) Ten years after creation or receipt (unless agency determines not in public interest)
<b>Protected Nonpublic</b>	Business or other entity	Government entity only	Ten years after creation or receipt (unless agency determines not in public interest)

## Data Classification Changes

In general, data retains the classification provided in statute even if it is transferred from one entity to another. The act contains provisions on when the original classification of various types of data changes.

**Statutes and Rules on Particular Data**      A particular data classification changes (1) if a specific statute so provides, or (2) if change is required by judicial or administrative rules of procedure. Access to data is controlled by the law at the time of the request, regardless of the law when the data were collected or created. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subs. 4 and 9)

**Data on Entities**      All nonpublic and protected nonpublic data, except for security information,<sup>1</sup> become public either:

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<sup>1</sup> “Security information” means government data whose disclosure would jeopardize the security of information, possession, individuals, or property against theft, improper use, temporary, attempted escape, illegal disclosure, trespass, or physical injury. [Minn. Stat. § 13.37](#), subd. 1, para (a).

- ten years after the government agency created it, or
- ten years after the government agency received it, unless the agency decides that reclassification would do more harm than benefit to the public or data subject. Anyone who objects to this decision may bring a district court action for release of the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 8)

### **Data on Decedents**

When an individual who was the subject of government data dies, data on the individual changes classification as follows:

- Data that were private or confidential during the individual's lifetime become public ten years after the actual or presumed death and 30 years after creation of the data. An individual is presumed dead 90 years after the individual's birth or the creation of the data, whichever is earlier. The presumption does not apply if evidence shows the individual is still living. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.10](#), subd. 2)
- The representative of the decedent's estate or a trustee appointed in a wrongful death action may exercise the data subject rights conferred on the decedent by the act. Nonpublic data concerning a decedent created or collected after death are accessible to this representative. Any person may bring an action in district court to obtain release of private or confidential data on a decedent. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.10](#))

### **Data in Archives**

When government data are transferred to the state archives, whether the data relate to individuals or entities, they are no longer classified as anything other than public. Transfer of data, and its subsequent access and use are determined by the statute governing the state archives, [Minnesota Statutes, section 138.17](#). ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 7)

## **Commissioner of Administration's Duties**

The Commissioner of Administration has three major responsibilities under the act as it applies to all government entities: (1) issue rules to implement and enforce the act; (2) issue temporary data classifications as appropriate; and (3) issue advisory opinions as requested.

### **Rulemaking**

Rules must be adopted under the Administrative Procedures Act. Rules may not alter the statutory provisions on the rights of data subjects. The rules are codified at Minnesota Rules, chapter 1205. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.07](#))

## **Temporary Classifications**

The act allows a state agency, statewide system, or political subdivision to apply to the Commissioner of Administration for a temporary data classification, which remains in effect until the legislature has had the opportunity to act on a proposed statute that would codify the classification permanently into law. The application for the classification is public. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.06](#), subd. 1)

The application must establish that no existing statute classifies the data in question and either:

- (1) similar data has been classified as not public in the hands of other government entities; or
- (2) public access to the data would make a program unworkable.

The applicant must also establish that there is a compelling need for immediate classification so as not to adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of the public, or the well-being or reputation of the data subject. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.06](#), subd. 3)

If the commissioner determines that a particular classification request by one government agency should reasonably apply to similar data held by all similar agencies, the commissioner has the power to grant the classification to all appropriate agencies. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.06](#), subd. 4)

An application may be withdrawn by the requesting government entity prior to the commissioner granting or disapproving the application. A withdrawal request must be made in writing and state the reason the temporary classification is no longer necessary. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.06](#), subd 4a)

Once an application has been received by the commissioner, the data have the requested classification for 45 days or until the commissioner acts on the application, whichever is first. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.06](#), subd. 1)

If the commissioner denies an application, he or she must explain why. A rejected application may be amended and resubmitted once for any single file or system. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.06](#), subd. 5)

If approved, a temporary classification is effective immediately and must be submitted to the legislature in bill form the next year. It also must be submitted to the attorney general for review for form and legality. A temporary classification expires August 1 of the year after it is submitted to the legislature, unless otherwise enacted into law by that time. During the period a temporary classification is in effect, the responsible authority of a government entity may request approval from the commissioner for a new or different use or dissemination of the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.06](#), subds. 6a and 7)

**Commissioner's  
Data Practices  
Opinions**

The act authorizes the Commissioner of Administration to give a written opinion on a question about access to government data, rights of data subjects, or data classifications under any provision of Minnesota Statutes. It allows the commissioner, on request of a person who disagrees with a data practices determination by a state agency, state system, or political subdivision, to give a written opinion about the person's access rights or rights as a subject of data. The commissioner must release opinions under this section to the public. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subs. 1 and 2)

If the commissioner decides not to issue an opinion, he or she must so notify the requester. When an opinion is to be issued, the entity holding the data must be allowed to explain its decision regarding access. The commissioner or other entity may choose to notify the data subject of the dispute about the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subd. 1)

An entity or person that conforms to a written commissioner's opinion is not liable for civil damages or criminal penalties under the act. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subd. 2)

A commissioner's opinion under this section does not bind the entity whose data are the subject of the opinion, but must be given deference by a court in a proceeding involving the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subd. 2)

A formally issued written attorney general's opinion takes precedence over an opinion issued by the Commissioner of Administration. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subd. 1, para. (f))

This section does not preclude a person from bringing another action under chapter 13 or other law in addition to, or instead of, getting an opinion under the act. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subd. 2)

The section does not apply to a question about specified determinations made by the Commissioner of Health. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subd. 1, para. (e))

**Public Information  
Policy Training  
Program**

The commissioner is authorized to establish a program to train state and local government officials and employees on government data practices laws and records management statutes. Currently, these programs are administered through the Information Policy Analysis Division of the Department of Administration. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.073](#))

## Responsible Authority Duties

Besides the statewide responsibilities imposed on the Commissioner of Administration, the act requires each covered government entity to designate an individual to perform various duties regarding the agency's records. This individual is the "responsible authority" for the government entity.

<b>Responsible Authority</b>	The responsible authority is the individual in a state agency or statewide system who is made responsible for the entity's data by law or by the Commissioner of Administration. In a political subdivision, the responsible authority is the individual designated to be responsible for data by the local governing body. ( <a href="#">Minn. Stat. § 13.02</a> , subd. 16)
<b>Data Description; Procedures</b>	Each responsible authority must prepare (1) a public document that describes every kind of private or confidential data the agency has, and (2) a document on the rights of data subjects and the procedures for data access by the subject of the data. The authority must develop procedures to assure that data on individuals are accurate, complete, current, and secure. ( <a href="#">Minn. Stat. § 13.05</a> , subds. 1, 5, and 8)
<b>Permitted Data</b>	Data on individuals must be collected and stored only as needed to administer programs authorized by law. ( <a href="#">Minn. Stat. § 13.05</a> , subd. 3)
<b>Permitted Data Purposes</b>	Data on an individual must be used only for the purpose stated to the individual when the data was collected, unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a law enacted or a rule issued after collection of the data authorizes a different use;</li><li>• the commissioner specifically approves a different use necessary to carry out a function provided by law; or</li><li>• the data subject gives informed consent as determined by the commissioner's rules. (<a href="#">Minn. Stat. § 13.05</a>, subd. 4)</li></ul>

## Data Practices Compliance Official

**Duties** Each government entity must appoint a data practices compliance official. The responsible authority may fill this role. The public may direct to this individual questions and concerns about data access or other data problems. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.05](#), subd. 13)



## Access to Government Data

The act guarantees anyone the right to see and copy data classified as public. It requires an explanation if access is denied on grounds that data are not public. Further, it regulates data sharing by government agencies.

**No Identification or Justification Required** Unless authorized by statute, a government entity may not require an individual to identify herself or himself or to explain why public data are being requested (except for the sole purpose of facilitating data access). ([Minn. Stat. § 13.05](#), subd. 12)

**Convenient Use** Records containing government data must be kept in an arrangement and condition that makes them conveniently accessible. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 1)

**Inspection; Fee** Upon request, a person may inspect public government data at a reasonable time and place for no charge. Inspection includes being able to view and download or print government data stored in electronic form and made available to the public on a remote access basis (such as an agency's web site). An entity is not required to print a copy of public data for no charge, unless printing is the only way to provide for inspection of the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 3)

A government entity may charge for remote access to data if: (1) it has specific statutory authority, or (2) it enhances the data or the access at the request of the person seeking the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 3)

**Copying; Fees** A person who requests a copy of public data or electronic transmittal of data may be required to pay the actual costs respectively of (1) searching for, retrieving, copying, and certifying the copies, or (2) electronically transmitting the data. An additional charge for development costs may be imposed if the requested material has commercial value (such as a database).<sup>2</sup> An agency may not charge for separating public from not public data.

If 100 or fewer pages of black and white paper copies are requested, the agency may charge no more than 25 cents for each page copied. Copies must be provided as soon as reasonably possible, if the entity is not able to provide them at the time of the request. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 3)

Data maintained on computer must be provided in electronic form if

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<sup>2</sup> Further, a person who requests private data about an individual, with the individual's consent, may be required to pay actual costs of making, certifying, and compiling the copies.

that can be reasonably done. Information does not have to be provided in an electronic format or program different from that in which the government entity maintains the data. ([Minn. Stat. §§ 13.03](#), subd. 3; [13.05](#), subd. 4, para. (d))

### **Summary Data**

Unless a specific law provides otherwise, upon request, a responsible authority must prepare a statistical record or report which is available to the public and is known as summary data. Summary data are prepared by eliminating all identifying features from confidential or private data. The requesting person must pay the cost of making the summary. A person outside the agency may be allowed to prepare the summary, if that would not compromise the security of the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.05](#), subd. 7)

### **Denial of Access**

If a responsible authority determines that requested data are not public, it must notify the individual requesting the data and cite the applicable law or temporary classification that prevents the data from being made public. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 3, para. (f))

### **Intergovernmental Data Access**

Government entities may share data that are not public with each other only if provided by law. The requesting entity may be required to pay the sending entity's actual cost of supplying the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.05](#), subd. 9)

Data that is shared between entities maintains the same classification in the hands of the receiving entity as it had in the hands of the entity providing the data. ([Minn. Stat § 13.03](#), subd. 4)

### **Discoverability of Not Public Data**

In a lawsuit, arbitration, or administrative action, parties may seek discovery of government data or have a court order for release of data. The responsible authority will refuse to comply if the data are classified as not public. The party seeking release may then bring an action to compel discovery. The presiding officer will decide (1) whether the data are discoverable under applicable rules of evidence or procedure, and (2) if so, whether the benefit of access outweighs the harm to confidentiality interests of the agency holding the data, the person providing the data, or the privacy of an individual identified in the data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.03](#), subd. 6)

## Data Subjects' Rights

Individuals about whom the government has data have the following rights:

- to know why requested data is being collected
- to know whether the government has data about them
- to contest the accuracy and completeness of data about them

### Data Subject Warning

An individual asked to supply private or confidential data about himself or herself (other than to law enforcement officers in an investigation) must be told the intended use of the data, whether the individual is legally required to provide the data, any known consequences of giving or withholding the data, and which other agencies or persons are authorized by law to receive the data. This notice is commonly known as the "Tennessee Warning." ([Minn. Stat. § 13.04](#), subd. 2)

### Subject's Access to Data

Upon request, an individual must be told whether an agency has data about the individual and how the data are classified. The individual has a right to see (without charge) and copy (for a fee) public or private data about herself or himself immediately if possible or otherwise within ten business days. The right to access may be exercised every six months, or more often if more data are added or the individual is in a dispute with the agency. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.04](#), subd. 3)

### Data Corrections

An individual may contest the accuracy or completeness of public or private data on the individual. The individual must describe in writing the nature of his or her objections. Within 30 days the responsible authority must (1) correct or complete the data and notify past recipients of any error in the data, or (2) notify the subject that the authority believes the data are correct.

The subject may appeal the responsible authority's decision regarding the contested data in a "contested case hearing" following procedures established in the Administrative Procedures Act. ([Minn. Stat. ch. 14](#))

Data successfully challenged must be completed, corrected, or destroyed. The authority may keep a copy of any order issued in the dispute or a summary of the dispute that does not contain any details of the challenged data. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.04](#), subd. 4)

## Computer Access Data

### Notice and Use

A government entity that tracks users' access to government computers for purposes of obtaining or transferring information or to use government services must inform users if it collects or keeps such information or installs permanent "cookies" on users' computers. The notice must be provided before a person is asked to give identifying data to the government entity. The government entity must notify persons who access its computers how the data about their access will be used. In particular, users must be notified that the data will be used to evaluate electronic government services, to prevent unlawful intrusion into government electronic systems, or for any other purpose provided by law.

A person who refuses to accept a cookie must still be allowed to access or transfer information or obtain government services by the government entity's computer. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.15](#))

## Notice of Breach of Security of State Agency Data

### Notice Provisions

A state agency that discovers a breach in the security of private or confidential data it holds must notify affected individuals by first-class mail or e-mail as provided by the statute. If a breach requires notice to more than 1,000 individuals, the agency must also notify all consumer credit reporting agencies. If a breach would require notice to more than 500,000 individuals or would cost more than \$25,000, the agency may provide the notice by doing all of the following:

- sending an e-mail notice to all affected individuals, to the extent the agency has e-mail addresses for those individuals;
- providing a conspicuous notice on the state agency's web site; and
- notifying major media outlets.

Notice must be provided promptly unless a law enforcement agency determines it would impede a criminal investigation. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.055](#))

## Remedies and Penalties for Violation

There are civil and administrative remedies, as well as criminal penalties in some cases, for violations of the act, including the failure of a government entity to comply with the act's provisions.

### Civil Action

An individual or the representative of a decedent damaged by a government agency's violation of the act may recover damages, costs, and attorney fees as part of a civil action in action in district court. For a willful violation, exemplary damages of \$1,000 to \$15,000 per violation may be imposed. The district court may also issue an injunction ordering a government agency not to violate the act. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.08](#), subs. 1 and 2)

The act also allows a special district court action in which an aggrieved person seeking access to data or enforcement of other rights under the act may seek an order to compel a noncompliant government entity to follow the requirements of the law. If such an order is issued, and the court determines that the offending entity has not substantially complied with the requirements of the act, the court may impose a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 against that entity, payable to the state general fund. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.08](#), subd. 4)

### Administrative Remedy

For actions commenced on or after July 1, 2010, the act provides for an administrative process, as an expedited alternative to a more formal civil court action to compel a government entity to comply with the act. Only actions to enforce compliance with the act may use this process. Actions in which a person seeks recovery of damages for a violation of the act must use the district court process described above.

A complaint of a violation under this process is reviewed by an administrative law judge and, if appropriate, a hearing on the matter is conducted. The administrative law judge may find that a violation of the act has occurred, impose a civil penalty against a government entity of up to \$300, order the entity to comply with the act's provisions (including setting a date for production of public data, if necessary), and refer the matter to an appropriate authority for consideration of criminal charges, if necessary. A successful complainant may be entitled to an award of attorney's fees and a refund of all but \$50 of the fee for filing a complaint using this process. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.085](#), subd. 5)

### Criminal Penalty

A person who willfully violates the act or its associated rules is guilty of a misdemeanor. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.09](#))

**Public Employee  
Sanctions**

Willful violation of the act by a public employee is just cause for suspension without pay or dismissal from employment. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.09](#))

**Failure to Comply  
with  
Commissioner's  
Opinion**

A government entity that fails to act in conformity with an opinion issued to that entity by the Commissioner of Administration must be ordered to pay a complainant's reasonable attorney's fees, if the contents of the opinion are directly related to the matter under dispute. In actions involving the administrative process described above, the attorney fee award is capped at \$5,000. ([Minn. Stat. §§ 13.08](#), subd. 4; [13.085](#), subd. 6)

**Immunities**

A government entity or other person is immune from civil and criminal liability for releasing data that are not public, if the data is released pursuant to a court order, including an order issued by an administrative law judge. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.08](#), subd. 5)

A government entity or other person that acts in conformity with an order issued by an administrative law judge is not liable for compensatory or exemplary damages, or awards of attorney fees in a civil action, and is not subject to a criminal penalty for acting in conformity with the order. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.085](#), subd. 5, para. (f))

A government entity or other person that conforms to a written opinion of the Commissioner of Administration is not liable for compensatory or exemplary damages, or awards of attorney fees in a civil action, and is not subject to a criminal penalty for acting in conformity with the opinion. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.072](#), subd. 2)

**Frivolous Claims**

If a court finds that a claim brought in district court to compel compliance with the act is frivolous, the court is permitted to award costs and attorney fees to the affected government entity. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.08](#), subd. 4)

If an administrative law judge determines that a complaint filed is frivolous or brought for purposes of harassment, the judge must order that the complainant pay the government entity's reasonable attorney's fees, up to \$5,000. ([Minn. Stat. § 13.085](#), subd. 6)

## Specific Data Classifications

The act contains specific classifications for numerous types of data, held by a variety of government entities. The sections of the act are largely organized by subject matter; in some cases, data is explicitly classified within a section of the act itself, and unique requirements for access to the data are provided along with the classification. In other cases, the act provides cross-references to sections of statute that are contained outside of chapter 13, but that provide classifications of data and requirements for its access as part of a more general statutory framework on that particular issue.

The following table provides the relevant sections of the act based on the subject matter of the data.

<b>Data Category</b>	<b>Statutory References</b>	<b>Types of data covered</b>
Computer data	<a href="#">§ 13.15</a>	Data related to a person’s accessing of a government entity’s computer
Political subdivision data	<a href="#">§§ 13.201-13.203</a>	Miscellaneous data related to local units of government
Educational data	<a href="#">§§ 13.319-13.322</a>	Data related to public educational institutions, covering pre-kindergarten programs through postsecondary institutions, including the University of Minnesota
General data	<a href="#">§§ 13.34-13.37</a>	Miscellaneous data classifications, including data affected by a federal contract, the use of Social Security numbers, and security and trade secret information
Health and medical	<a href="#">§§ 13.3805-13.386</a>	Public health issues, health regulatory data, health occupations investigative data, certain medical data, and genetic information
Attorney, audit, and investigative data	<a href="#">§§ 13.39-13.393</a>	Civil investigations, internal audits, and access to data by government attorneys
Library data	<a href="#">§§ 13.40-13.401</a>	Library patron records and data held by historical records repositories and the state archives
Licensing	<a href="#">§§ 13.41-13.411</a>	Data related to various government-licensed occupations
Personnel; salary benefits	<a href="#">§§ 13.43-13.435</a>	Data related to employees of a government entity and applicants for employment
Property data	<a href="#">§§ 13.44-13.441</a>	Data related to the use of real property, code violations, and appraisals of real or personal property

<b>Data Category</b>	<b>Statutory References</b>	<b>Types of data covered</b>
Family, welfare, and benefit data	§§ 13.46-13.468	Human services, human services-related benefits, family and domestic relations, and foster care
Employment and training data	§ 13.47	Data related to employment and training programs funded using federal, state, or local resources
Business organization and trade regulation	§§ 13.48-13.487	Data related to business operations and consumer issues
Taxation and assessments	§§ 13.495-13.52	Various classifications of data related to taxes and property assessments
Facility, event, and recreational data	§§ 13.548-13.55	Local social or recreational programs and major event facilities
Human rights	§ 13.552	Data related to the Minnesota Human Rights Act
Housing, development, and business data	§§ 13.585-13.598	Public housing agencies, redevelopment authorities, and employment and economic development
Grants	§ 13.599	Grant applicants and grant proposal responses
Elected and appointed officials; legislative data	§§ 13.601-13.606	Data related to elected officials, the legislative process, and certain legislative entities
Ethics and elections	§ 13.607	Voting, elections, campaign finance, and conflicts of interest
Retirement	§§ 13.63-13.632	Data related to various retirement funds and programs
State agencies	§§ 13.635	Data related to miscellaneous state agencies and boards
Administration and finance	§§ 13.64-13.6401	Miscellaneous data related to the Department of Administration and the Department of Management and Budget
Agriculture §	§ 13.643-13.6435	Data held by the Department of Agriculture or related to agricultural issues
Attorney general	§ 13.65	Data related to the attorney general, including investigative data and consumer complaint issues
Employee relations	§§ 13.67-13.6705	Employee data held by the Department of Management and Budget and use of data held by employees of the executive branch
Energy and utilities	§§ 13.679-13.685	Data related to energy and public utilities



<b>Data Category</b>	<b>Statutory References</b>	<b>Types of data covered</b>
Public safety	§§ 13.69-13.6905	Data held by the Department of Public Safety or related to public safety issues
Commerce, banking, and insurance	§§ 13.711-13.7191	Miscellaneous data related to commerce, banking, and insurance
Transportation data	§§ 13.72-13.721	Data held by the Department of Transportation or related to transportation issues
Environmental protection	§§ 13.741-13.7411	Data related to pollution control and environmental quality
Racing; gaming data	§§ 13.745-13.746	Horse-racing data, gambling, and the state lottery
Veterans	§ 13.785	Data held by the Department of Veterans Affairs or related to veterans issues
Labor and industry	§§ 13.79-13.791	Data related to the Department of Labor and Industry, the Bureau of Mediation Services, and rehabilitation services
Biotechnology	§ 13.7911	Data related to bioprocess piping and equipment
Private donor gifts	§ 13.792	Data related to private donors to various government entities (such as the Minnesota Zoological Garden, the University of Minnesota, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and State Services for the Blind)
Natural resources	§§ 13.793-13.7932	Data held by the Department of Natural Resources or related to natural resources issues, including data on state mineral leases and exploration, and logger safety and educational programs
Law enforcement; Judicial; Corrections; Criminal justice	§§ 13.80-13.90	Various provisions related to law enforcement and criminal judicial processes, corrections, crime victims, court services, and juvenile justice

*For more information about government data, visit the privacy area of our web site, [www.house.mn/hrd/hrd.htm](http://www.house.mn/hrd/hrd.htm).*