

Publication and Dissemination

Learning objectives

- Define “publishing your project”
- Define “disseminating your project”
- Learn steps involved in publication and dissemination of a project
 1. Plan the dissemination of the project
 - Questions to consider
 - Possible dissemination outlets
 2. Final quality control checks
 3. Finalize publication documents
 - Essential information
 - Research protocol
 - Data file
 - Codebook
 - One-page report
 4. Publish and disseminate

Define “publishing your project”

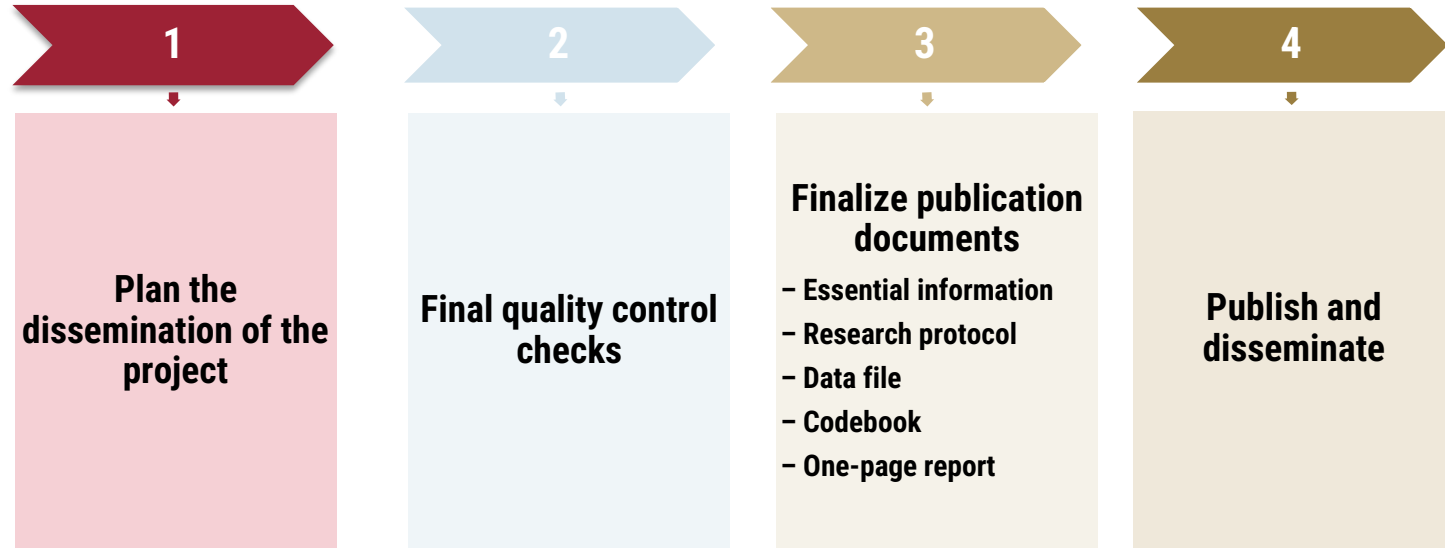
“Publishing your project” consists of releasing your coded questions and responses (legal data) to your intended audience

Define “disseminating your project”

“Disseminating your project” consists of making users and groups aware that your project has been published, and providing access to your published project



Steps in publishing and disseminating





1. Plan the dissemination of the project

Questions to consider

- What are my goals for this data?
- How do I want it to be used?
- Who needs this information?
- How might they use it?
- What is the best format for the information for each audience?



1. Plan the dissemination of the project

Possible dissemination outlets:

- Online publication to a website
- Social media and blogging
- Press release and distribution to a media list
- Press release and distribution to organizations, advocacy groups, or policy-makers
- Direct outreach through phone calls, emails within your network, or meetings
- Publishing on [LawAtlas.org](https://www.lawatlas.org)

2. Final quality control checks

Supervisor will review all the questions, responses, and citations prior to publishing the project to identify any outstanding issues, including:

- Unanswered questions
- Responses which are outliers when compared with the same question in other jurisdictions
- Responses which do not have a citation listed
- Caution notes addressing the same issue with inconsistent language



3. Finalize publication documents

Publishing on LawAtlas.org

- When using the MonQcle to publish on LawAtlas, it is mandatory that the following documents be published in addition to your data:
 - Essential information
 - Data file
 - Codebook
- It is optional to publish a one-page report when publishing on LawAtlas
- When publishing your data through another site, you may use any publication documents



Essential information

The **essential information** is a description of the project's topic and scope

- Include the purpose of the project
- Should be succinct and objective

DISTRACTED DRIVING ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

With the spread of smart phones, GPS devices and other wireless technologies, there has been a steady increase in the number of injuries and deaths related to distracted drivers in recent years. In response to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates, the federal government has pushed for stricter distracted driving laws across the country. Currently, every state except Montana has passed laws addressing distracted driving. The existing state laws vary, but most laws have focused on prohibiting texting while driving, and cellphone use by young or inexperienced drivers. This report summarizes key queries from the LawAtlas Distracted Driving Law Map. You can see additional maps and tables by visiting <http://www.lawatlas.org>.

Research protocol

The **research protocol** outlines the entire methodology and process of the project, including:

- The scope of the project, including dates of the project, team involved, jurisdictions, purpose of the project, and variable measured
- Data collection methods, including search strategy and databases used
- Coding methods, including coding scheme and definitions of terms of art
- Description of quality control measures

- I. **Dates of Protocol:** July 2014; January 2015
- II. **Scope:** Collect and code state laws which prohibit the use of cell phones while operating motor vehicles
- III. **Primary Data Collection**
 - a. **Project dates:** October 21, 2013 - February 28, 2014
 - b. **Dates covered in the dataset:** January 1, 1996 – January 31, 2015, (first law enacted on February 16, 1996)
 - c. **Data collection methods:** Four legal associates collected the law for five states each (twenty states total) after first broadly researching distracted driving laws, then researching state-by-state in greater detail. After the associates collected state laws relevant to the dataset, the laws were checked by two supervisors.
 - d. **Databases used:** WestLaw, WestLawNext, Lexis Nexis, and HeinOnline. The laws were collected from state-specific legislature websites.
 - e. **Search terms:** "cell phone" cell phone & driving, cellular & driving, cellular & vehicle, cellular phone, "cellular telephone," communication device "distracted driving," distracted driving, electronic communication device, electronic message, "electronic wireless communication device," fine, handheld, handheld ban, handheld electronic device, hands free texting & bus driving, infraction, minors, "mobile communication device" and driving, mobile phone" & driving, motor vehicle & wireless, motor vehicle & wireless communication, penalty, penalty & telephone, "personal communication" & driving, phone & driving, "portable electronic device," prohibit texting, "school bus," school bus, school bus drivers, "school bus" & "wireless

Data file

- The **data file** is a spreadsheet that contains the statistical data from a project
- The data file is automatically generated by the MonQcle software
- Data files facilitate further research
 - Overlay with outcome data
 - Academic research
 - Provides access to legal data
 - The data file is compatible with both CSV and Excel

Data file example

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Jurisdictions	Effective Date	Valid Through Date	allow	allow	allow	remove barriers	remove barriers	remove barriers	ssp_residue	_citation due	_caution due	ssp_does authorize	_ssp_doe authorize	_ssp_doe authorize
Alabama	1/30/2016	8/1/2019	0										0	
Alaska	7/12/2016	8/1/2019	1	No Explicit Prohibition	State has r	No Explicit Prohibition			0				0	
Arizona	1/1/2009	8/1/2019	0										0	
Arkansas	7/24/2019	8/1/2019	1	illegal drug parapherr	State law	illegal drug parapherr			0				1	
California	6/27/2018	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Aut	Syringe ex	Syringe Exchange Aut			0				1	Syringe Exchange Aut
Colorado	5/23/2019	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Aut	Syringe ex	Syringe Exchange Aut			1	Residue - Colo. Rev. S			1	Syringe Exchange Aut
Connecticut	5/9/2019	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Aut	Syringe ex	Drug Paraphernalia -			0				1	Syringe Exchange Aut
Delaware	9/4/2018	8/1/2019	1	syringe exchange pro	Syringe ex	syringe exchange pro			0				1	syringe exchange pro
District of Columbia	4/11/2019	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Pro	Syringe ex	Syringe Exchange Pro			0				1	Syringe Exchange Pro
Florida	7/3/2019	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Aut	Syringe ex	Syringe Exchange Aut			0				1	Syringe Exchange Aut
Georgia	7/1/2019	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Services Prog	Syringe ex	Syringe Services Prog			0				1	Syringe Services Prog
Hawaii	7/11/2017	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Pro	Syringe ex	Syringe Exchange Pro			0				1	Syringe Exchange Pro
Idaho	7/1/2019	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Pro	Syringe ex	Syringe Exchange Pro			0				1	Syringe Exchange Pro
Illinois	1/1/2018	8/1/2019	1	Syringe Exchange Aut	Syringe ex	Syringe Exchange Aut			0				1	Syringe Exchange Aut
Indiana	3/21/2018	8/1/2019	1	program means - Ind.	Syringe ex	paraphern authorizat			0				1	program means - Ind.
Iowa	7/1/2019	8/1/2019	0										0	
Kansas	7/1/2019	8/1/2019	0										0	
Kentucky	3/25/2015	8/1/2019	1	exchange - Ky. Rev. St	Syringe ex	exchange - Ky. Rev. St			1	exception	The except		1	exchange - Ky. Rev. St
Louisiana	8/1/2019	8/1/2019	1	needle exchange prog	Syringe ex	needle exchange prog			0				1	needle exchange prog
Maine	3/27/2019	8/1/2019	1	full application - 10-1	Syringe ex	full application - 10-1			1	residual amount - Me			1	certify hypodermic ap

Codebook

- A **codebook** is a document that defines the variables and values included in the project – it is used in conjunction with the data page to perform analysis or to aid in understanding the research and coding
- The codebook is automatically generated by the MonQcle software



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Questions	
Question 1:	Does state law specifically address youth sports TBIs?
Question Type:	Categorical - mutually exclusive
Variable Name:	SCAnyLaw
Variable Values:	1, 2
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Value Label:	2 = No
Question 2:	Does the law require a student athlete with a suspected TBI to be removed from play?
Question Type:	Categorical - mutually exclusive
Variable Name:	SCRemoval
Variable Values:	1, 2
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Value Label:	2 = No
Question 3:	Must the parent or guardian be notified of the suspected or diagnosed TBI?
Question Type:	Categorical - mutually exclusive
Variable Name:	SCParNotf
Variable Values:	1, 2
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Value Label:	2 = No



4. Publish and disseminate

There are several options for where to publish your data, including:

- LawAtlas.org
 - When publishing on LawAtlas.org, heightened quality control measures are required
- You (or your institution's) website
- Publish your data internally within your organization

Follow your dissemination plan to make your intended audience aware that the project has been published

4. Publish and disseminate

Once a project is completed, the data and maps that are produced can be used for additional research on the project's topic. Publication could be accompanied by any of the following:

- A **one-page report** that highlights interesting data points from the project
- **Comparative analysis** of the jurisdictions evaluated
- **Law review articles**
- **Comparative study** of legal data and outcome data
 - For example, comparing distracted driving laws to crash statistics

Summary

- “Publishing your project” consists of releasing your coded questions and responses (legal data) to your intended audience
- “Disseminating your project” consists of making users and groups aware that your project has been published, and providing access to your published project
- The steps involved in publishing and disseminating a project are as follows:
 1. Plan the dissemination of the project
 - Questions to consider
 - Possible dissemination outlets
 2. Final quality control checks
 3. Finalize publication documents, when publishing to LawAtlas.org include:
 - Essential information
 - Research protocol
 - Data file
 - Codebook
 4. Publish and disseminate

