



AI Through Civics: Leveraging State Legislative Work with AI Tools

Mandy Snodgrass, Civics Outreach Manager, Google

In partnership with: 

The logo for the National Legislative Salt Lake City Conference, June 2-5, 2026, is located in the bottom right corner. It features a blue and orange color scheme with a stylized cityscape background. The text "NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SALT LAKE CITY CONFERENCE" is at the top, "JUNE 2-5, 2026" is in the middle, and "WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT" is at the bottom.

Goals

1

Learn about
Google's approach to AI
and how it's being deployed

2

Understand **AI for Civics** and
leave with tangible ways
AI can support your work

AI is solving problems **big and small**, across a variety of fields



Accelerating growth & transformation for millions of businesses



Detecting eye disease & breast cancer earlier

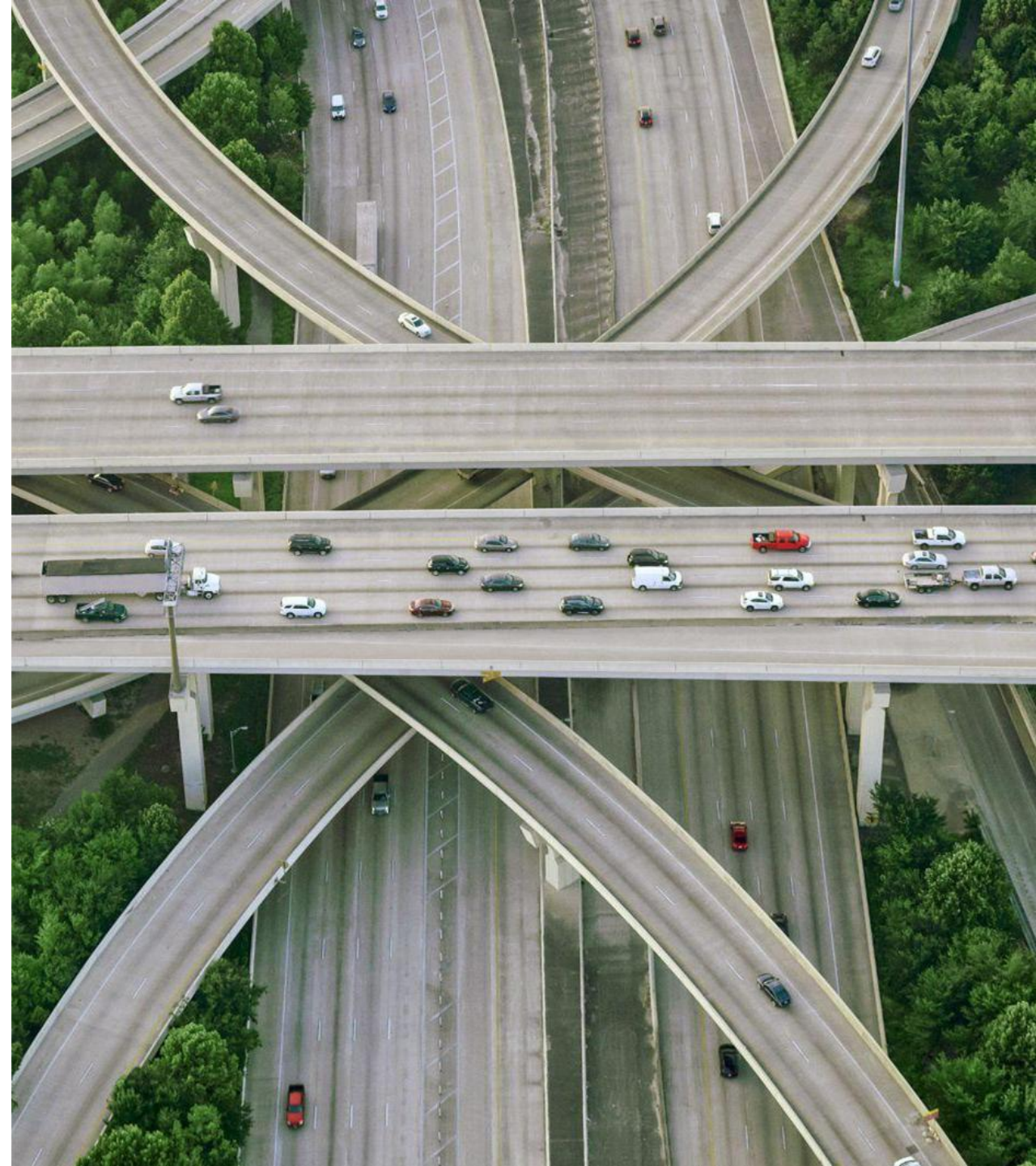


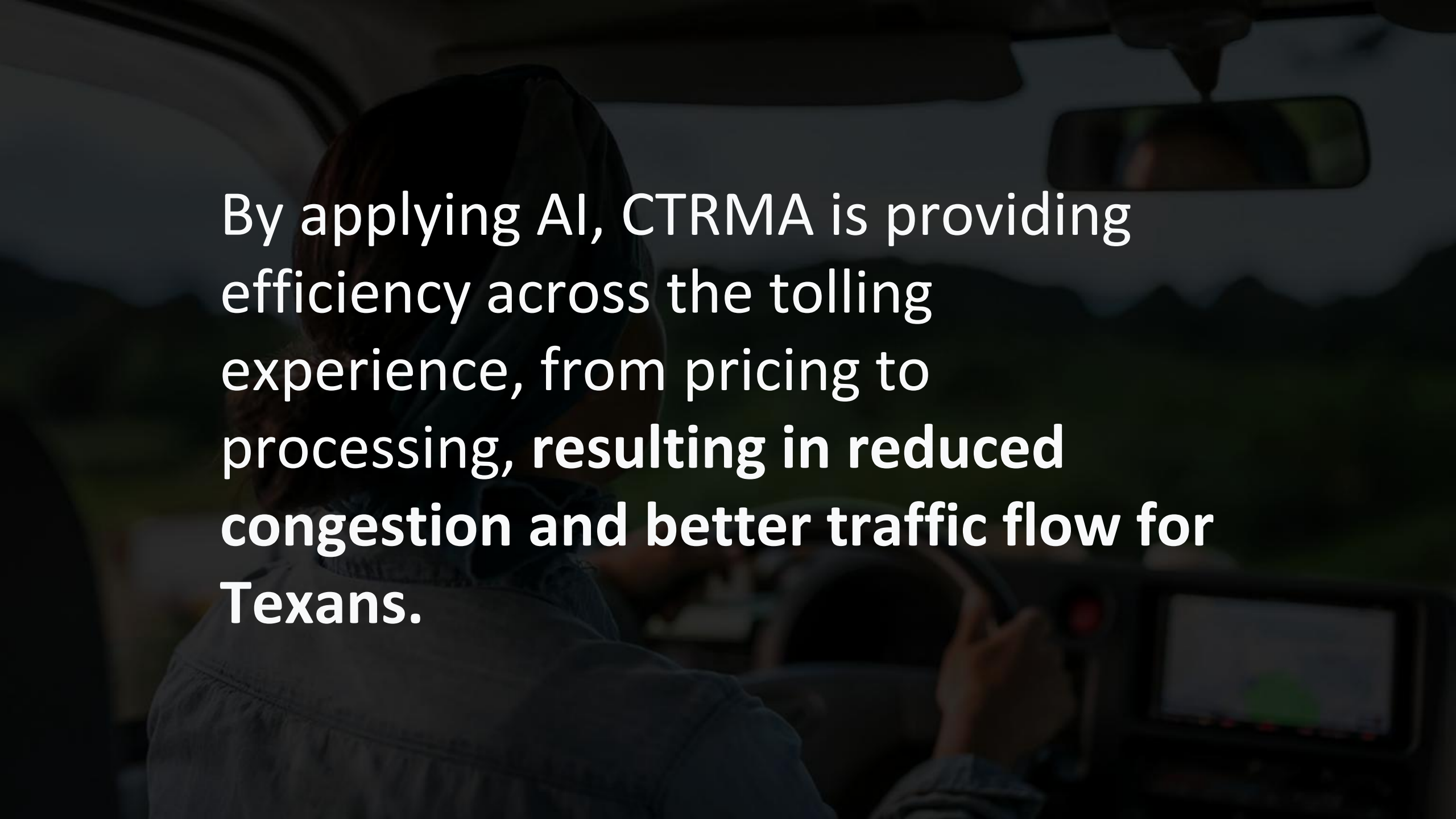
Forecasting floods & wildfires

Central Texas is reducing
congestion with Google AI

Central Texas ranks among one of the fastest-growing regions in the country. This rapid expansion presents unique transportation challenges.

To keep pace, the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA) is partnering with [Google Cloud](#) to develop smarter tolling systems.



A person is driving a car, seen from the back seat. The driver is wearing a dark jacket and has their hands on the steering wheel. A navigation screen is visible on the dashboard. The background shows a road and some greenery. The text is overlaid on the image in white, bold font.

By applying AI, CTRMA is providing efficiency across the tolling experience, from pricing to processing, **resulting in reduced congestion and better traffic flow for Texans.**

Government Adoption

AI is **improving constituent experiences** in government.



Utah

Modernizing operations by deploying Google Workspace and Gemini to government employees



Wisconsin

Partnered with Google Cloud to streamline unemployment benefits distribution



Missouri

Applying Google AI to help automate benefits applications

Boosting Creativity and Productivity with Google AI

What is Generative AI?

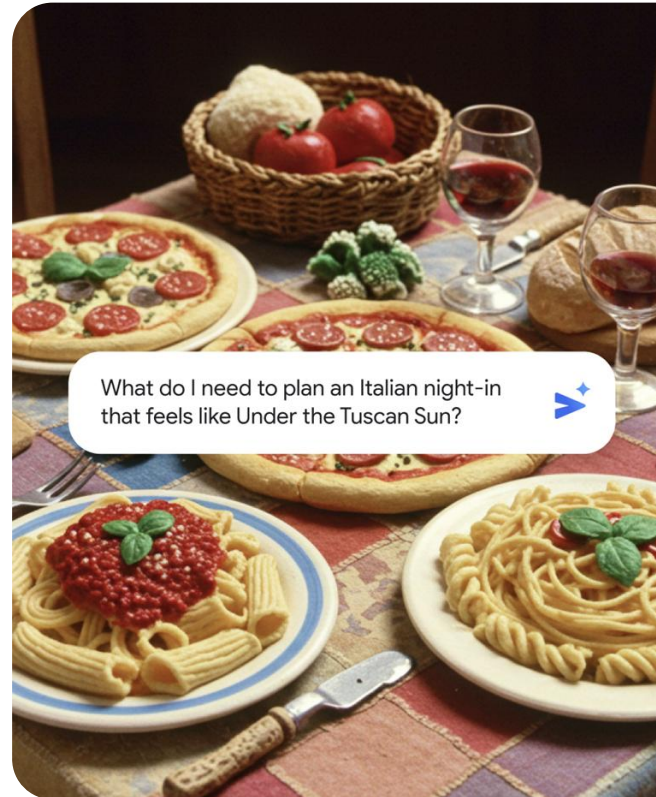
Generative AI is a type of Artificial Intelligence that creates new content based on what it has learned from existing content.


The process of learning from existing content is called training and results in the creation of a statistical model.

When given a prompt, generative AI uses this statistical model to predict what an expected response might be — **and this generates new content.**

Gemini 101

Chat with Gemini to supercharge your ideas — like writing, planning, learning and more.




< A Guide to La Dolce Vita at Home 

What do I need to plan an Italian dinner party tonight? And I want it to feel like Under the Tuscan Sun.

◆

No need to fly to Italy for a little dolce vita. Where would you like to start? I can help with planning a menu, curating playlists, and help you organize guests.

+ Ask Gemini 

Prompt Engineering 101

The anatomy of a great prompt:

[Give a role]

[Define the goal]

[Specify audience]

[Set Restrictions/Style]

[Format the result]



From good to great prompts

Instead of this

What is prompt engineering?

Try this

Explain prompt engineering like I'm a 5th grader.
Answer in bullet points that are 1 to 3 sentences.
Use cookie monster as the illustrative example.

Prep for media engagements using Gemini

You are a state-level elected official in Lansing, Michigan. Provide a list of tough questions that you would anticipate from the Lansing State Journal in an interview on the state of the state in bullet points.

◆ As a state-level elected official in Lansing, Michigan, you can anticipate tough questions from the **Lansing State Journal** that focus on your accountability, the political climate, and the tangible impact of state policy on residents.

Here is a list of difficult questions, organized by key policy areas, that you should be prepared to address:

💰 Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development

- **State Budget Decoupling:** The new budget includes **decoupling Michigan's tax code** from key federal tax reforms, which the Michigan Chamber claims is a permanent tax hike on businesses. **How do you defend this move** as pro-growth when it is projected to raise taxes and increase administrative burdens on job providers?
- **Infrastructure Funding:** While the state has secured new road funding, a significant portion comes from a new **wholesale marijuana tax**. Given the marijuana industry's concern that this will boost the black market, **what is your long-term plan** to ensure road funding remains sustainable and is not dependent on a potentially volatile tax source?
- **Economic Competitiveness:** The budget includes cuts to programs like the **Going PRO Talent Fund** and the **Pure Michigan campaign**. How can the state credibly claim to be competitive when you are cutting programs designed to attract businesses and skilled talent?

🏠 Education and Workforce

- **Education Outcomes:** Despite recent increases in **per-pupil funding**, Michigan's public schools continue to struggle with student outcomes compared to other states. **What specific, measurable results** can you point to in the Lansing area that justify the current level of state investment?
 - **Workforce Shortages:** The state is grappling with significant workforce challenges. Beyond high-level funding for talent development, **what new legislative action** are you championing to actively bridge the skills gap and retain young professionals in mid-Michigan?
-

Draft social media copy using Gemini

Draft tweets for a government official to promote their upcoming appearance on WXYZ Channel 7 to discuss Michigan's climate goals.

◆ Here are a few options for drafting tweets to promote your appearance on WXYZ Channel 7, covering different tones and focus points:

Option 1: Formal & Informative (Focus on Policy)

Tune in to @wxyzdetroit this Friday at 6 PM! I'll be joining the team to discuss Michigan's ambitious **100% clean energy goals by 2040**. We'll cover what this means for jobs, consumer costs, and securing a healthier future for all Michiganders. #MICleanEnergy #WXYZ #ClimateAction

Option 2: Engaging & Direct (Focus on Impact)

Got questions about how Michigan's new climate laws will affect your home energy bills or your community? I'll be answering them on @wxyzdetroit this Friday evening. Let's talk about the *real impact* of our shift to clean energy. See you there! 🇺🇸 #MichiganPolitics #ClimateGoals

Option 3: Urgent & Action-Oriented (Focus on the Future)

The race to a resilient future is on. This Friday, I'm heading to @wxyzdetroit to talk about the critical steps Michigan is taking to lead on climate change. Our goals are aggressive, but necessary. Tune in to learn more about our 2040 commitment. #MIForward #CleanEnergy

Pro Tip for all options:

Consider adding a high-quality, professional photo of yourself or a relevant graphic (like a clean energy symbol) to increase engagement!

👍 🔄 🌐 ↩️ 🗑️ ⋮

Compile in-depth reports using Gemini

You are a Florida State Representative. Analyze and compare economic policy trends and socio-economic indicators in the US, specifically the Southeast, over the past 5 years. Identify key differences, similarities, and potential comparative insights. Use publicly available sources only.

Here's a research plan for that topic. If you need to update it, let me know!

Southeast Economic Policy Analysis

Research Websites

- (1) Retrieve key national and Southeast regional macroeconomic data from 2021 to 2026, focusing on GDP growth, employment figures, inflation rates, and demographic migration trends.
- (2) Research state-level economic policies enacted in Southeast states, specifically Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee, regarding corporate and individual taxation, workforce development, and business incentives.
- (3) Analyze socio-economic indicators across these Southeast states, including median household income, cost of living, housing affordability, and poverty rates.
- (4) Identify major similarities in the economic trajectories and policy approaches of Southeast states over the past five years.
- (5) Identify key differences in how individual Southeast states have navigated post-pandemic economic recovery, inflation, and infrastructure funding.
- (6) Synthesize comparative insights to determine how Florida's economic competitiveness and socio-economic health compare to its regional peers.

Analyze Results

Create Report

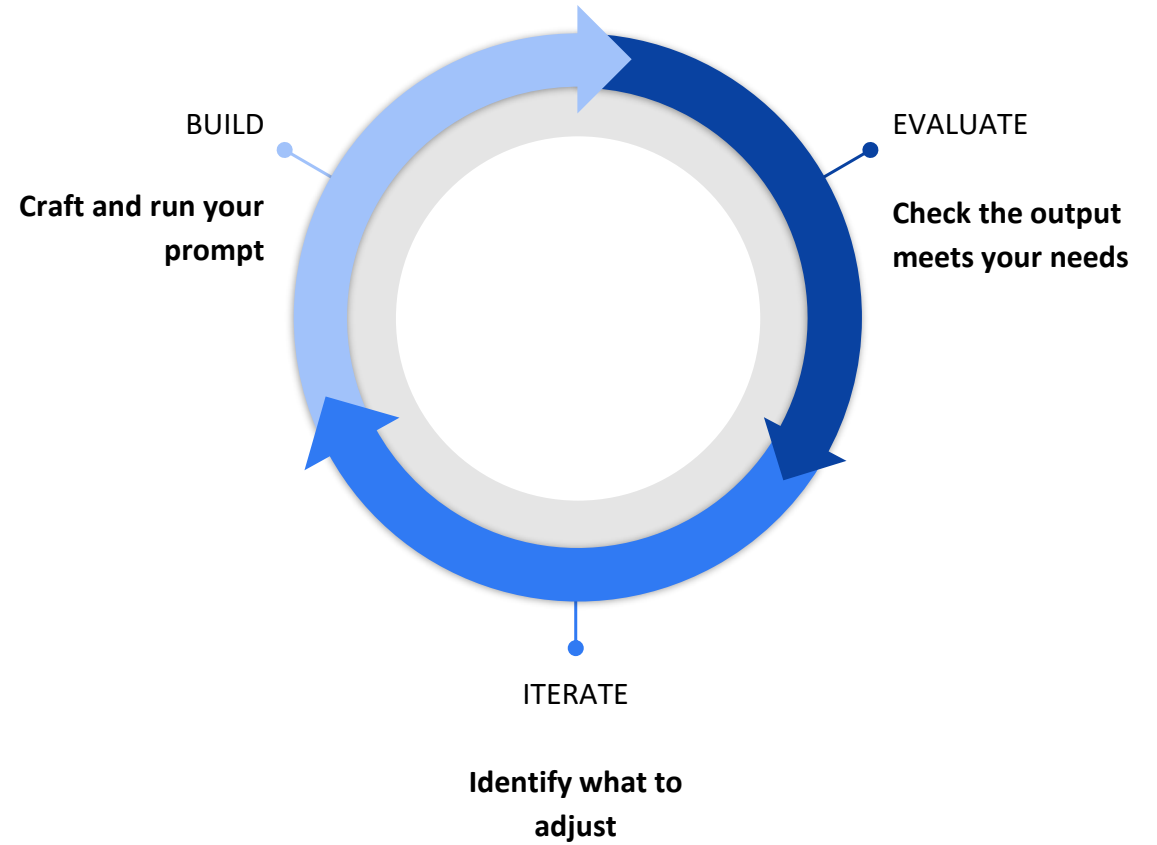
Ready in a few mins

[Edit plan](#)

[Start research](#)

Building on your prompt

Prompting often requires multiple iterations before you get the desired response.





Talk naturally with [Gemini Live](#)

Gemini Live is available in 145+ languages.



Image Generation in Gemini



From good to great prompts

Instead of this

Image of a new bridge



Try this

Generate a photorealistic rendering of a proposed new pedestrian bridge over the Potomac river, integrating it seamlessly with the existing park landscape.



Video Generation in Gemini 3.1 Pro

Generate high-quality videos from text and image based prompts.

Veo can create audio for your video, including [dialogue](#), [sound effects](#), and [ambient noise](#).



Evaluating Information

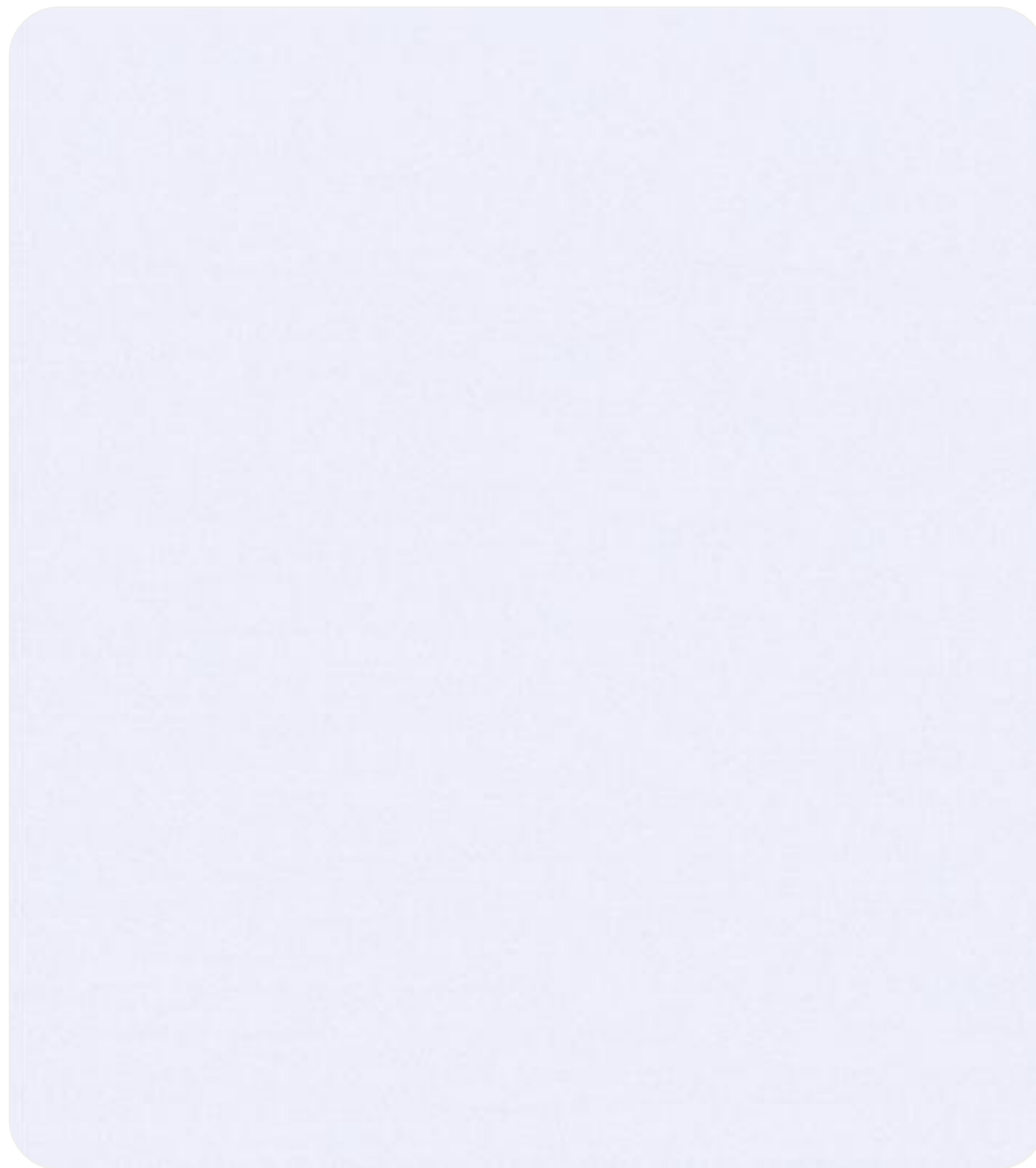
SynthID: Understanding the origins of content in the age of AI



Utilize AI to help you
understand anything.

NotebookLM

Your AI-powered research and thinking partner.





Grounded in
information you trust



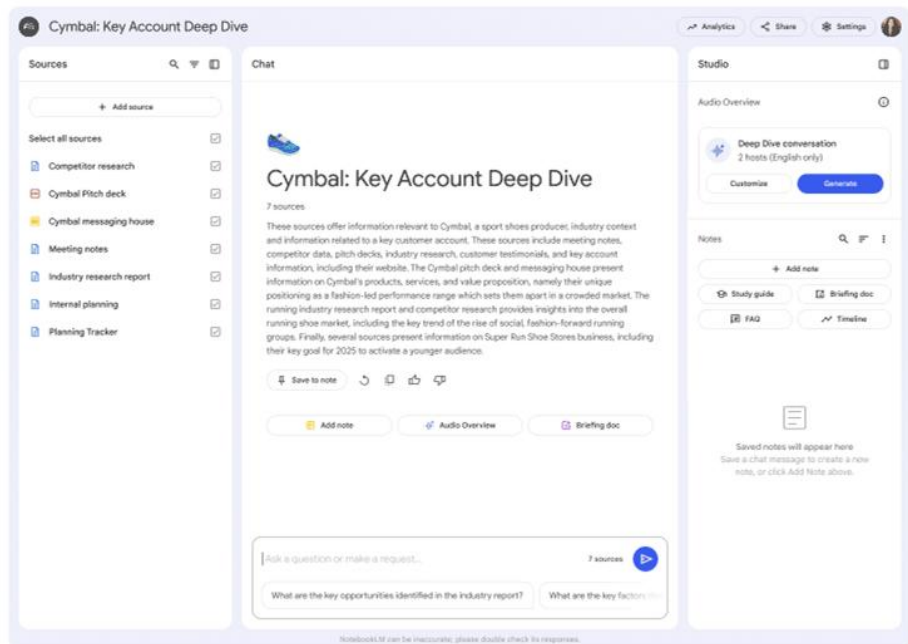
From information to
insights in a snap



A learning
companion



Multilingual and
multimodal



NotebookLM

Get up to speed on dense or complex reading material quickly

NotebookLM

Get started with briefing memos or communications docs

Google & YouTube: Podcasting for Civics Engagement & AI Enhancement

Source guide

Google & YouTube: Podcasting for Civics Engagement & AI Enhancement

Detailed Briefing: Google and YouTube for Civics Engagement

Executive Summary

This briefing document synthesizes key themes and essential information from the "Google Civics Training Center" excerpts and the "Power of Podcasting Master Class" presented by Google and YouTube. The overarching message is that Google and YouTube offer powerful tools and platforms for individuals and organizations in the civics space to **establish their online presence, communicate their message effectively, and maximize their impact**. A significant focus is placed on the burgeoning role of **podcasting on YouTube, especially video podcasts, as a critical medium for audience engagement, authenticity, and reaching new demographics like Gen Z**. The documents also highlight the strategic use of **AI tools (Gemini and NotebookLM) to enhance content creation, outreach, and research workflows**.

Main Themes and Key Insights

1. YouTube as the Dominant Platform for Podcasts

- **Number One Platform:** YouTube has rapidly become the **"most frequently used service for listening to podcasts"** in the US since Q1 2024, holding the number one spot. This is a significant shift in the media landscape.
- **Massive Audience Reach:** As of recently, there are **"more than one billion monthly active viewers of podcast content on YouTube."** This underscores the immense potential for reach and audience growth.
- **Video is the Future:** YouTube's investment in podcasting three years ago was based on the conviction that **"video was really the future of podcasting"**, a conviction that has "really paid off." This is evident in major


Sources

+ Add Discover

Select all sources

- Age of surrealism
- René Magritte - Google Arts & Culture
- Salvador Dalí - Google Arts & Culture
- Surrealism
- Surrealism -- Google Arts & Culture

Chat



Art History 107

5 sources

The provided texts primarily focus on Surrealism, an early 20th-century international intellectual movement centered in Paris that explored the realm of thought and expression. The excerpts specifically highlight the work and biographies of two prominent Surrealist artists, René Magritte, a Belgian painter known for his witty and perception-challenging depictions of ordinary objects in unusual contexts, and Salvador Dalí, a Spanish artist celebrated for his technical skill and bizarre imagery.

Save to note

Briefing doc Study Guide END

Ask a question or make a request

How did Surrealist artists, like Magritte and Dalí, challenge traditional artistic conventions and perceptions of reality?

When did the Surrealist movement primarily take place?

Studio

Audio Overview Video Overview

Mind Map Reports

Surrealism: Definition, Development, and Key Figures

Click to open the Mind Map

Add note



Sources



+ Add sources

Try Deep Research for an in-depth report and new sources!

Search the web for new sources

Web Fast Research

Select all sources

- House Fraud Prevention and State Agency O... ✓
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Chat



What legislative and resource changes are needed to enhance the accountability and investigative power of oversight agencies?

Based on the testimony and discussion in the sources, several legislative and resource changes are identified as necessary to enhance the accountability and investigative power of oversight agencies, particularly the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU).

I. Legislative and Policy Changes

The sources indicate a need for new statutory language and policy mandates to strengthen oversight, enforcement, and fraud prevention 1 ... :

Enhancing Enforcement Authority

- **Strengthen Payment Withhold Authority:** The state needs to strengthen the authority of DHS to withhold payments to providers 3 5 . Inspector General (IG) Clark stated he is "leaning into" using this tool immediately upon seeing signs of fraud but implied strengthening this authority is needed 3 6 .
- **Suspend Payments Upon License Revocation:** Legislation is needed to allow DHS to suspend payments to businesses that have their licenses revoked or suspended, as IG Clark found it illogical to continue paying a provider who is being kicked out of the program for noncompliance 3 7 .
- **Centralized Debarment/Suspension List:** Create a centralized debarment or suspension list that cross-references individuals and entities against all state agency contracts (not just Medicaid) and includes administrative suspensions (like executed search warrants) 8 This would prevent individuals who exploited one program from receiving funds from another agency 8 11 .

Start typing...

4 sources

What is the OIG's core function?

Who was DHS's Inspector General?

When did continuous coverage end?

Studio



Audio Overview

Video Overview

Mind Map

Reports

Flashcards

Quiz

Studio output will be saved here.

After adding sources, click to add Audio Overview, Study Guide, Mind Map, and more!

Add note



Sources



+ Add sources

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Search the web for new sources

Web Fast Research

Select all sources

House Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Policy ...

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Chat



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Start typing...

4 sources

How can interagency coordination and data analysis be strengthened to proactively prevent and detect program fraud?

What systemic design flaws in Medicaid can be addressed to enable pervasive private provider oversight?

Studio

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- House Fraud Prevention and State Agency O... ✓

Chat



Come up with a list of questions that I can ask a witness testifying on this topic.

Based on the comprehensive testimony, documentation, and concerns raised throughout the hearings regarding Medicaid fraud, state oversight, and systemic weaknesses, here is a list of tough, detailed questions that could be asked of witnesses (such as a DHS Commissioner, Inspector General, or policy expert):

I. Questions on Authority, Enforcement, and Accountability

1. **Prepayment Review Authority:** The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has reportedly indicated that the Department of Human Services (DHS) already possesses the authority to implement widespread prepayment review 1. Given that Inspector General Clark listed this as a needed internal control 2, why has DHS historically refrained from exercising this authority for high-risk programs, and what specific legal or operational barriers—not requiring new legislation—are currently preventing its immediate and comprehensive deployment across all unlicensed services?

2. **Tracking Search Warrant Actions:** The Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) stated that it consistently sends executed search warrants to DHS to enable potential payment stoppages 3 4. What quantifiable metric does DHS use to track the percentage of such criminal referrals that result in the immediate invocation of the "credible allegation of fraud" standard 5 and a verifiable payment suspension 4 6 ?

3. **Applying Statutory Definition of Fraud:** The statutory definition of a "credible allegation of fraud" requires the state agency to review and verify all allegations, facts, and evidence 5 ... Ms. Lien provided detailed information, including insurance claims showing over \$16,000 in billing for services she never received 9. Why did specific evidence provided directly by a victim, such as Ms. Lien, not immediately constitute a credible allegation sufficient to trigger high-level administrative action or payment suspension without external media involvement 10 11 ?

Start typing...

4 sources

When did Gandhi become commissioner?

What are Clark's three core functions?

What bill included subpoena authority?

Studio



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Chat



Summarize the work of the oversight committee in 2025.

The House Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Policy Committee conducted extensive work throughout 2025 focusing primarily on identifying and proposing solutions to systemic fraud, waste, and abuse within state public programs, particularly Medicaid 1 2 .

The committee's work, which included both informational hearings and the development of proposed legislation, can be summarized in the following areas:

1. Focus Areas and Key Hearings

The committee held multiple hearings during the regular legislative session and the interim period of 2025 1 ...

- **Medicaid Eligibility and Provider Oversight (July/September 2025):** The committee investigated the interplay between the Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner, specifically questioning Medicaid eligibility rules, verification for enrollees and providers, and payment issues 4 5 . A subsequent hearing focused specifically on the **Housing Stabilization Services (HSS)** program and the **Integrated Community Supports (ICS)** program, both Medicaid services where high fraud risk had been identified 6 ...

- **Systemic Fraud Overview (March 2025):** The committee received a presentation on an overview of fraud problems in Minnesota, including the fraud, waste, and abuse tracker, which estimated losses at over **\$611 million** across 27 incidents since 2019 11 ... This presentation highlighted problems in various programs, including **Feeding Our Future** (food fraud), **Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)**, addiction recovery services, and Autism clinics, noting the common "business model of fraud" that preys on vulnerable citizens 14 ...

Start typing...

4 sources



- What is the OIG's core function?
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+ Add sources

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Select all sources

- Budget Negotiations Between the NC House...
Budget and Revenue Summary 2025-27 - NC...
https://webservices.ncleg.gov/ViewNewsFile/...
https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/H...

Chat



Pull out the key differences in the budget between the 2023, 2025, and 2027 sessions

The sources provide several key differences and contrasts regarding budget proposals, appropriations, and forecasts among the 2023, 2025, and 2027 fiscal periods, particularly concerning tax policies and major investment areas.

1. Tax Policy and Revenue Forecasts

The most significant differences relate to the trajectory of the state's individual and corporate income tax rates, which largely drive the projected revenues and available funds in future years

Table with 4 columns: Feature, 2023 Context (Current Law Basis), 2025 Proposals (Governor Stein's Recommended Budget for FY 2025-27), and 2027 Forecasts (FY 2027-28). Row 1: Individual Income Tax (IIT) Rate.

Start typing...

4 sources

How are general fund appropriations and reserves allocated across various North Carolina state agencies and programs?

What statutory amendments govern ed and workforce training across K-12 an

Studio



Audio Overview

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Mind Map

Reports

Flashcards

Quiz

Fiscal Policy and Budget Divergence... 1m ago

Add note



Sources



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Select all sources

- Budget Negotiations Between the NC House...
- Budget and Revenue Summary 2025-27 - NC...
- https://webservices.ncleg.gov/ViewNewsFile/...
- https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/H...

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Write up some talking points for a State lawmaker to sum up the 2025 budget to their constituents

The following talking points summarize the key elements and points of contention surrounding the proposed 2025 budget (FY 2025-2027 fiscal biennium) for constituents:

Current Fiscal Picture and Budget Status

We are addressing a tightening budget environment. The trend of large annual revenue windfalls is slowing considerably. While recent years saw overcollections exceeding 1 billion, anticipated overcollections for fiscal year 2024 - 2025 are now forecast at *\$364 million**

The total proposed General Fund operating budget is approximately 33.6 billion * for the first year (FY 2025 - 2026) and *\$34.3 billion for the second year (FY 2026-2027)

The legislative chambers are currently in negotiations over the 2025 Appropriations Act (S 257). The Senate recently voted not to concur with the House's changes to the bill due to fundamental disagreements over spending and tax provisions

Key Debate: Income Tax Policy

The largest conflict revolves around the direction of state income tax rates, which provide about 54% of our annual revenue

Governor's Recommended Approach (Prioritizing Investment): The Governor's plan recommends maintaining the Individual Income Tax (IIT) rate at 4.25% and the lowest Corporate Income Tax (CIT) rate at 2.25%

This measure is crucial because maintaining the current rates (instead of letting existing law trigger

Start typing...

4 sources

- What is the current income tax rate?
- What is the proposed salary for the Governor?
- When does the State Health Plan Board expand?

Studio



- Audio Overview
- Video Overview
- Mind Map
- Reports
- Flashcards
- Quiz

Fiscal Policy and Budget Divergence... 1m ago

Add note

Visit notebooklm.google or download
NotebookLM app on Android or iOS
to get started.



Generates responses based on publicly available information

Answers common knowledge questions and builds general understanding

Used for creative formats, such as poetry or social media posts



NotebookLM is grounded in sources you upload

Can generate responses regarding specific policies based on your sources

Used for topics within the scope of sources uploaded

Data Commons

Organize all the world's public data and make it universally accessible and useful.

When were the houses in NYC built?

Education, housing and commute

What is the age distribution in the USA?

Demographics

Show me the breakdown of businesses by industry type in the US.

Economics

Every Year, Billions Spent Collecting and Sharing

1

A Myriad of Data Sources



Every Year, Billions Spent Collecting and Sharing

1

A Myriad of Data Sources



eurostat



UDISE



2

This Data is Essential for



Science



Journalism



Policy



Law



Academia



Users

Every Year, Billions Spent Collecting and Sharing

1

A Myriad of Data Sources



2

This Data is Essential for



Science



Journalism



Policy



Law



Academia



Users

3

Using this Data is Extremely Painful

Forage for data

Track down assumptions

Clean

Normalize

Join

Costly data wrangling (repetitious)

Data Commons is now harnessing the power of AI, specifically large language models (LLMs), to create a natural language interface that **allows users to ask questions like:**

Data related to your research question

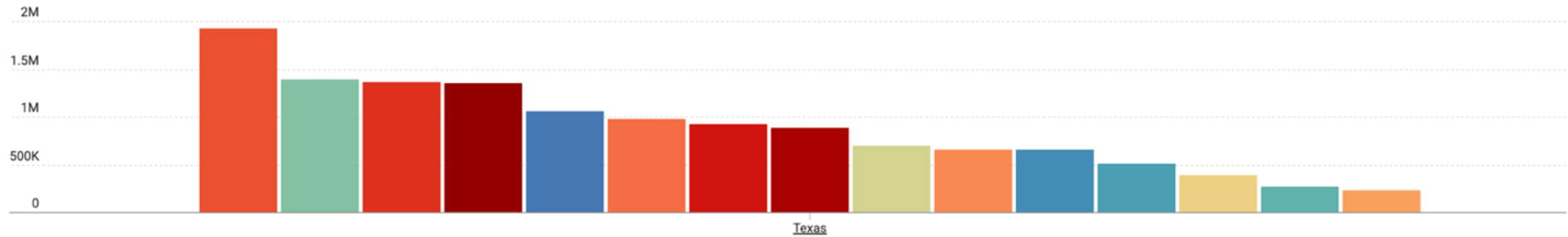
What are the most common jobs in Texas?

Categories of Jobs

[Explore other facets \(2\)](#) See per capita

Categories of Jobs in Texas (Mar, 2025)

Source: [bls.gov](https://www.bls.gov) • [About this data](#)



- Health Care and Social Assistance Industry Workers
- Retail Trade Workers
- Educational Services Industry Workers
- Accommodation/Food Industry Workers
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Workers
- Manufacturing Workers
- Population Working in the Construction Industry
- Admin / Waste Management Service Industry Workers
- Transportation And Warehousing Workers
- Finance and Insurance Industry Workers
- Wholesale Trade Workers
- Public Administration Workers
- Other Services (except Public Admin) Workers
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing Workers
- Information Industry Workers

[Download](#) [API code](#)

Try it yourself at [DataCommons.org](https://datacommons.org)

Thank You!

Questions? civics-outreach@google.com