

Quick Start Guide for Tableau

Tableau is a powerful and easy to use data visualization tool that allows you to link properly formatted tabular data like Excel files and manipulate and aggregate across dimensions like record numbers, time and classification types in order to analyze trends. It can be a very effective reporting or presentation tool, and with just a couple of steps, you can begin creating professional-level dashboards that might otherwise take much longer if you were just using Excel. If you are familiar with pivot tables, Tableau works in a very similar fashion. This quick start guide will walk you through downloading, signing up, and connecting your data to Tableau Public.

Sign Up and Download

Tableau Public is a free version of the software, which has all of the needed functionality to begin exploring the datasets on WPRDC. You can download it by going to <https://public.tableau.com/s/download> and entering an email address.

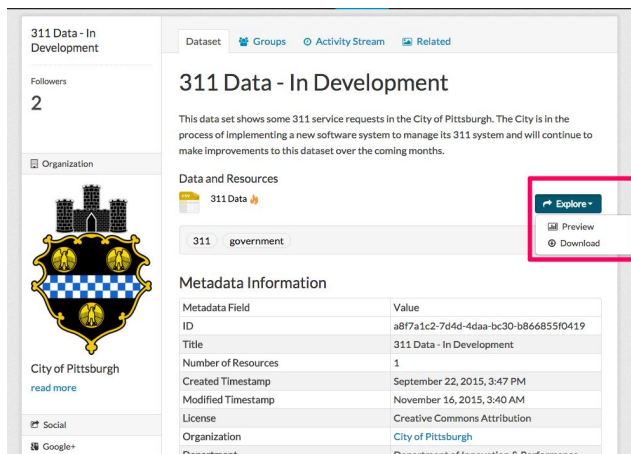
Finding Data and Filetypes

Tableau requires the data to be clean before input, or else you'll run into issues loading your data. The basic requirements are that each column contain the same type of data, while each row aside from the header row represents a single unique record. All record-based datasets on the WPRDC should adhere to this standard.

Connect Your Data

Tableau has the ability to connect directly to dynamically updating data sources and continue to receive those updates without the user having to re-upload or reconnect a data file.

1. To access this functionality, locate the “Explore” button on the main page for the dataset you are working with on WPRDC. Click this and select “Preview”.



The screenshot shows the Tableau Public interface for a dataset titled "311 Data - In Development". The page includes a sidebar with the City of Pittsburgh logo and social media links, a main content area with a description of the dataset, and a metadata table. A red box highlights the "Explore" button, which has a dropdown menu showing "Preview" and "Download" options.

Metadata Field	Value
ID	a8f7a1c2-7d4d-4daa-bc30-b86685f0419
Title	311 Data - In Development
Number of Resources	1
Created Timestamp	September 22, 2015, 3:47 PM
Modified Timestamp	November 16, 2015, 3:40 AM
License	Creative Commons Attribution
Organization	City of Pittsburgh

2. On the Preview page, select the green “Data API” button in the upper left corner. Scroll down in the embedded popup until you locate the Odata link. Copy this link.

311 Data Go to resource Data API

URL: <https://data.wprdc.org/datastore/dump/40776043-ad00-40f5-9dc8-1fde865ff571>

From the dataset abstract

This data set shows some 311 service requests in the City of Pittsburgh. The City is in the process of implementing a new software system to manage its 311 system and will continue to...

Source: 311 Data - In Development

Data Explorer

Embed

Add Filter

Grid Graph Map 90700 records 1 - 100 Search data ... Go Filters

_id	REQUE...	CREATE...	REQUE...	REQUE...	DEPAR...	NEIGHB...	COUNCL...	WARD	TRACT	PUBLIC...
1	3762	2015-05...	Potholes	Call Center	DPW - S...	Lincoln...	9	12	4200312...	2
2	3763	2015-05...	Potholes	Call Center	DPW - S...	Carrick	4	32	4200329...	4

CKAN Data API

action API.

Create	https://data.wprdc.org/api/action/datastore_create
Update/Insert	https://data.wprdc.org/api/action/datastore_upsert
Query	https://data.wprdc.org/api/action/datastore_search
Query (via SQL)	https://data.wprdc.org/api/action/datastore_search_sql
OData	https://data.wprdc.org/datastore/odata3.0/40776043-ad00-40f5-9dc8-1fde865ff571

Querying >

Query example (first 5 results)

- In Tableau, locate the Odata link on the “Connect” sidebar on the start page. Paste the server link and click “OK”

Tableau Public - Book1

Connect

- To a file
 - Excel
 - Text File
 - Statistical File
- To a server
 - OData**
 - More Servers...

Open

Server Connection

OData

Server: <https://data.wprdc.org/datastore/odata3.0/40>

Enter information to sign in to the server:

No Authentication

Use an account key for Windows Azure Marketplace:

Account Key:

Use a specific username and password:

Username:

Password:

Cancel OK

Discover

How-to Videos (view all)

- Overview
- Intro to the interface
- Chart Types
- Dashboard

VIZ OF THE DAY

5 Surprising Facts about Childhood Pneumonia

Resources

Additional resources

- Tableau quick start guides: <http://www.tableau.com/support/manuals/quickstart>
 - Tableau training and videos: <https://public.tableau.com/s/resources?edition=public&version=9.1&video=pJQ1ZeJaGv>
- [C](#)