

# State Government Digital Preservation Profiles

## Massachusetts L

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## Introduction

The state government digital preservation profiles available on this Web page are based on information collected from those state and territorial library, archives, and records management units that completed CTG's State Government Digital Information Preservation Survey. CTG administered the survey to all state and several territorial librarians, archivists, and records managers in early 2006. See baseline report for details.

The profiles are organized by state or territory and the library (**L**), archives (**A**), and records management (**RM**) units that were represented in the survey response. (For example, "**Alabama ARM**," which is the first responding unit in the drop down menu below, refers to the **archives and records management** units from Alabama in one survey response.) For some states, respondents also included agencies other than library, archives, and records management. These profiles are marked with an asterisk (\*) and the other units that contributed to the survey response are specified in the profiles.

To select a different profile, click on the Introduction/Select Profile link located on the top left of the screen.

You can also view consolidated tables showing how all the state/territory responding units replied to selected questions in the survey. (This is also found in Appendix E of Preserving State Government Digital Information: A Baseline Report.)

### **STATE PROFILES CONTACT**

G. Brian Burke, Project Manager  
Center for Technology in Government  
University at Albany, SUNY

## Section 1. Responding Unit(s)

**Name of state or territory.**

Massachusetts

**Name and affiliation of individual(s) who responded on behalf of the state or territory.**

Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners

**This profile includes information provided by the following units for this state:**

- Library

## Section 2.1a. Setting Standards for EXECUTIVE Agencies

The following units have authority for setting standards, specified below, for digital information created or maintained by EXECUTIVE agencies. Multiple boxes are checked to reflect authority that is shared or delegated.

	Authority not assigned	Library has authority	Archives has authority	Records Management has authority	Others (See below)
Setting data management standards and or guidelines for information creation (e.g., metadata, file formats).					X
Setting information technology standards and or guidelines for information creation (e.g., state approved software applications).					X
Setting standards for information retention and disposal (e.g., retention periods and methods of disposal) for various series/types of digital records and publications.					X

**Other standards and the units with authority over setting them.**

Supervisor of Public Records, Information Technology Division, Supervisor of Public Records, Records Conservation Board

**Additional information.**

No information provided

## Section 2.1b. Services Provided to EXECUTIVE Agencies

The following units provide the services, specified below, to EXECUTIVE agencies. If services are provided by multiple units, the appropriate boxes are checked.

	Services not provided	Library provides services	Archives provides services	Records Management provides services	Others (See below)
Storage for digital information.					X
Consultation and training services on digital information creation.					X
Consultation and training services on digital information management.					X
Consultation and training services on digital information preservation.					X
Consultation and training services on digital information preservation.					X
Preservation (e.g., migration, reformatting).	X				
Access (e.g., search engine).	X				
Certification (e.g., trustworthiness of system, backups sufficient).	X				

**Other services provided and the units that provide them.**

Information Technology Division (1 & 2) Supervisor of Public Records (3)

**Additional information.**

No information provided

## Section 2.2a. Setting Standards for LEGISLATIVE Agencies

The following units have authority for setting standards, specified below, for digital information created or maintained by LEGISLATIVE agencies. Multiple boxes are checked to reflect authority that is shared or delegated.

	Authority not assigned	Library has authority	Archives has authority	Records Management has authority	Others (See below)
Setting data management standards and or guidelines for information creation (e.g., metadata, file formats).	X				
Setting information technology standards and or guidelines for information creation (e.g., state approved software applications).	X				
Setting standards for information retention and disposal (e.g., retention periods and methods of disposal) for various series/types of digital records and publications.	X				

**Other standards and the units with authority over setting them.**

No information provided

**Additional information.**

No information provided

## Section 2.2b. Providing Service to LEGISLATIVE Agencies

The following units provide the services, specified below, to LEGISLATIVE agencies. If services are provided by multiple units, the appropriate boxes are checked.

	Services not provided	Library provides services	Archives provides services	Records Management provides services	Others (See below)
Storage for digital information.		X			
Consultation and training services on digital information creation.	X				
Consultation and training services on digital information management.	X				
Consultation and training services on digital information preservation.	X				
Consultation and training services on digital information preservation.	X				
Preservation (e.g., migration, reformatting).		X			
Access (e.g., search engine).		X			
Certification (e.g., trustworthiness of system, backups sufficient).	X				

**Other services provided and the units that provide them.**

No information provided

**Additional information.**

No information provided



## Section 2.3a. Setting Standards for JUDICIAL Agencies

The following units have authority for setting standards, specified below, for digital information created or maintained by JUDICIAL agencies. Multiple boxes are checked to reflect authority that is shared or delegated.

	Authority not assigned	Library has authority	Archives has authority	Records Management has authority	Others (See below)
Setting data management standards and or guidelines for information creation (e.g., metadata, file formats).	X				
Setting information technology standards and or guidelines for information creation (e.g., state approved software applications).	X				
Setting standards for information retention and disposal (e.g., retention periods and methods of disposal) for various series/types of digital records and publications.	X				

**Other standards and the units with authority over setting them.**

Information unknown.

**Additional information.**

No information provided

## Section 2.3b. Providing Service to JUDICIAL Agencies

The following units provide the services, specified below, to LEGISLATIVE agencies. If services are provided by multiple units, the appropriate boxes are checked.

	Services not provided	Library provides services	Archives provides services	Records Management provides services	Others (See below)
Storage for digital information.	X				
Consultation and training services on digital information creation.	X				
Consultation and training services on digital information management.	X				
Consultation and training services on digital information preservation.	X				
Consultation and training services on digital information preservation.	X				
Preservation (e.g., migration, reformatting).	X				
Access (e.g., search engine).	X				
Certification (e.g., trustworthiness of system, backups sufficient).	X				

**Other services provided and the units that provide them.**

No information provided

**Additional information.**

No information provided

## Section 3. State Government Digital Information Preservation Activities

This section includes descriptions of past or current digital preservation activities in the state.

**TITLE OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT DIGITAL INFORMATION PRESERVATION ACTIVITY:**

No information provided

**SHORT DESCRIPTION:**

The State Archives is in the process of developing a digital archives program and hiring a electronic records specialist/digital archivist.

**LINKS TO RELATED WEB SITES OR PROJECT DOCUMENTS:**

No information provided

**CONTACT FOR THIS ACTIVITY:**

Dr. John Warner, Archivist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Section 4. Training Needs for Digital Preservation Related Activities

Level of training needed for the digital preservation capabilities, specified below.

	Training already provided	Basic training needed	Advanced training needed
Identify the type and amount of digital information throughout the state.		X	
Select and appraise state government information in digital form.		X	
Identify key stakeholders related to specific digital information (other local/state agencies, other states, private sector, etc.).		X	
Negotiate and make agreements with key stakeholders to preserve digital information.		X	
Acquire state government information in digital form for holdings.		X	
Manage state government information in digital form (metadata, reformatting, etc.).		X	
Manage the ingest of digital information into a repository.		X	
Manage the long-term storage of digital information in a repository.		X	
Develop mechanisms to monitor the long-term usability of state government information in digital form.		X	
Make state government information in digital form accessible to users.		X	
Produce a disaster and recovery planning for state government information in digital form.		X	
Manage copyright, security, and other legal issues of relevance to state government digital information.		X	
Other (See below).			

**Other training needed for digital preservation capability.**

All of the above.

**Additional information on existing training programs.**

The program is in an embryonic state.

## Section 5. State Government Digital Information Currently At-Risk #1

This section includes examples of state government digital information that is at-risk of deteriorating or being altered or lost through format or technological obsolescence, policy or procedural gaps, or financial constraints.

**DESCRIPTION OF AT-RISK STATE GOVERNMENT DIGITAL INFORMATION:**

Digital assets are being created, but there is little information about what exists and which are at risk.

**CONDITIONS CAUSING INFORMATION TO BE AT-RISK:**

No comprehensive knowledge of the conditions under which they are being stored or on which search engines they exist.

**STRATEGIES CONSIDERED TO PRESERVE AT-RISK STATE GOVERNMENT DIGITAL INFORMATION:**

Under discussion.

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**Examples of government digital information that was not preserved and is no longer accessible.**

None known.

## Section 6. Enterprise Architecture

The following section describes the state's and corresponding units' awareness of and involvement in their state's Enterprise Architecture efforts.

**Aware of state's Enterprise Architecture efforts.**

No

**Involved in state's Enterprise Architecture efforts.**

No

**Nature of involvement in the state's Enterprise Architecture efforts, if appropriate.**

No information provided

**Links to relevant documentation that describes the unit's involvement in the state's Enterprise Architecture efforts.**

No information provided

## Section 7. Additional Thoughts or Comments

We need a comprehensive survey of assets, a strategic approach to the management of these assets, and a broad-based program to implement that system of management. This will require awareness of the issues, investment of resources and funds, and coordination between divisions and departments.