**Open Records Worksheet**

Open records are a great place to find big data. So, it’s important to know what laws our state follows in regards to which types of records are public and which are private. Alone or with a partner, answer the following questions.

**Open Records**

1. Use the Reporters Committee Open Record Guide for our state to answer the following questions:
2. Who can request records from our state?
3. Whose records are subject to the Open Records Act?
4. As a requester of records, can you choose a format for receiving the records?
5. How are email, text messages and instant messages treated?
6. How are fees for electronic records assessed?
7. Under Section IV, pick three record categories that most interest you, and explain whether they are considered “open or closed” and what that means for you.
8. What are your options if you request records but are denied access?

**Brainstorm**

Based on the information you gathered above, make a list of what kinds of open records might contain “big” data. In other words, which types of records (or records about what topics/issues) might have raw numbers or data associated with them?