

## DDI Timeline

This timeline lists key developments and events in the history of the DDI, beginning with foundational developments that set the stage for DDI and facilitated its creation.

1946

Roper Center established.

1960

Zentralarchiv established.

1962

Inter-university Consortium for Political [and Social] Research (ICPSR) established.

1964

Steinmetz Archive established.

1965-1968

MARC (Machine Readable Cataloging) standards developed at Library of Congress.

1967

United Kingdom Data Archive (UKDA) established.

1967

OSIRIS (Organized Set of Integrated Routines for Investigations with Statistics) statistical software package developed at University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research.

1968

First version of SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) released.

1971

Norwegian Social Science Data Service (NSD) established.

1974

International Association for Social Science Information Services and Technology (IASSIST) holds first meeting in Toronto.

1974

Report issued on "Standardization of Study Description Schemes and Classification of Indicators," a product of a meeting held in Copenhagen at the Danish Data Archives with nine archives in attendance.

1976

Council of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA) established.

1978

*Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition (AACR2)* published with a new chapter for machine-readable data files.

1979

Sue Dodd publishes "[Bibliographic References for Numeric Social Science Data Files: Suggested Guidelines.](#)" *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, Volume 30, Issue 2, pp. 77–82, March 1979.

1980

*A Style Manual for Machine-readable Data Files and Their Documentation* published by R.C. Roistacher with contributions from Sue Dodd, B.B. Noble, and Alice Robbin.

1982

Sue Dodd publishes "Cataloging Machine-Readable Data Files. An Interpretive Manual." American Library Association, Chicago.

1985

Sue Dodd and Ann M. Sandberg-Fox publish "Cataloging Microcomputer Files: A Manual of Interpretation for AACR 2."

1985

Fienberg et al. publish [Sharing Research Data](#). Committee on National Statistics. Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. National Research Council. Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 1985.

1985

NSFNet, the precursor to the Internet, created.

1986

SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language), descended from IBM's Generalized Markup Language (GML) developed in the 1960s, becomes an ISO standard.

1989

World Wide Web invented.

1993

IASSIST forms Action Group for "Codebook Documentation of Social Science Data."

1993

CESSDA holds seminar on "Variable Level Documentation" in Gothenburg.

1994

Dublin Core Metadata Initiative established.

1995

**First SGML Codebook Committee, constituted by ICPSR Director Richard Rockwell, meets in Quebec City**

Members develop a draft list of codebook elements. Members of SGML Codebook Committee:

- Merrill Shanks, UC-Berkeley, Chair
- Richard Rockwell, ICPSR
- Atle Alvheim, NSD
- Martin Appel, Census
- David Barber, Michigan
- Grant Blank, University of Chicago
- Bill Bradley, Health Canada
- Pat Doyle, AHCP
- Terry Finnegan, National Center for Supercomputing Applications, University of Illinois
- Peter Granda, ICPSR
- Ann Green, Yale
- Stephan Greene, Maryland
- Lynn Jacobsen, Columbia
- John Price-Wilkin, Michigan

- Karsten Rasmussen, DDA
- Rolf Uher, Zentralarchiv, Koeln
- Mary Vardigan, ICPSR

1996

**First DTD prepared at University of Michigan Library**

An SGML [DTD](#) was produced by David Barber and John Brandt (University of Michigan), Ann Green (Yale University), and the DDI Committee.

1996

First Working Draft of XML (eXtensible Markup Language) published.

1997

**NSF funding received to enhance DDI and betatest it**

This award (SBR-9617813) funded DDI development and ICPSR codebook digitization. [Final Report](#) (pdf)

1997

**SGML DDI specification translated to XML**

This work was done by Jan Nielsen, Danish Data Archive.

1998

**Committee meets in New Haven, CT**

Prepares for betatesting.

1999

**Betatest of DDI DTD takes place with testers' reports submitted**

List of Betatesters:

Centre for Comparative European Survey Data (CCESD)  
London, England  
Contact: Richard Topf

Danish Data Archive  
Odense, Denmark  
Contact: Nanna Floor Clausen

The Data Archive  
University of Essex  
Essex, England  
Contact: Ken Miller

Harvard-MIT Data Center  
Cambridge, MA  
Contact: Michael McDonald, Micah Altman

NIWI-Steinmetz Archive  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Contact: Repke de Vries

Norwegian Social Science Data Services (NSD)  
Bergen, Norway  
Contact: Jostein Ryssevik

University of California, Berkeley  
Survey Research Center  
Berkeley, CA  
Contacts: Juteh Theresa Cheng, Jeff Royal

University of Giessen  
Giessen, Germany  
Contact: Karsten D. Wolf

University of Ljubljana  
Social Science Data Archive  
Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Contact: Janez Stebe

University of Michigan  
Harlan Hatcher Library  
Contacts: Bonnie Dede, JoAnn Dionne, Lynn Marko, Patricia Dragon

University of Minnesota  
Machine Readable Data Center  
Minneapolis, MN  
Contact: Wendy Treadwell

University of Warsaw  
Institute for Social Studies  
Warsaw, Poland  
Contacts: Pawel Morawski and Jacek Szamrej

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Data and Program Library Service  
Madison, WI  
Contact: Cindy Severt

2000

**DDI Version 1 (DTD-based) published**  
[View Version 1 and successive iterations](#)

2001

**Formal DDI evaluation takes place, funded by NSF**  
Evaluators praise the effort  
[Evaluation Report](#)

2001

**Funding received from Health Canada during 2001-2002**  
Covers costs of meetings until Alliance established

2001

**Working group on aggregate data meets in Voorburg**  
Group develops a proposal for DDI coverage of aggregate/tabular data

2001

**First DDI Training held at IASSIST in Amsterdam**

Bill Block and Wendy Thomas lead the workshop on "[Creating DDI Compliant Codebooks](#)" (ppt)

2002

**Bjorn Henrichsen, NSD, becomes Chair of the DDI Committee**

2002

**Committee meets in Storrs, CT, to draft DDI Alliance charter**

[View the Charter](#)

2003

**Final meeting of original Committee held in Washington, DC**

[Minutes](#)

Members of original Committee:

- Bjorn Henrichsen, Chair, Norwegian Social Science Data Services
- Micah Altman, Harvard University
- Atle Alvheim, Norwegian Social Science Data Services
- Grant Blank, American University
- Ernie Boyko, Statistics Canada
- Bill Bradley, Health Canada
- Cavan Capps, Bureau of the Census
- Bill Connett, University of Michigan
- Cathryn Diplo, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Pat Doyle, Bureau of the Census
- Dan Gillman, Bureau of the Census
- Peter Granda, ICPSR
- Ann Green, Yale University
- Peter Joftis, ICPSR
- Ken Miller, ESRC Data Archive
- Tom Piazza, University of California, Berkeley
- Karsten Boye Rasmussen, University of Southern Denmark
- Richard Rockwell, The Roper Center
- Jostein Ryssevik, Norwegian Social Science Data Services
- Merrill Shanks, University of California, Berkeley
- Peter Solenberger, University of Michigan
- Rolf Uher, Zentralarchiv für Empirische Sozialforschung
- Mary Vardigan, ICPSR

2003

**DDI Alliance established with Tom Piazza, UC-Berkeley, Chair**

[View "About the Specification" from original Alliance Web site, March 2007](#)

2003

**DDI Alliance Steering Committee meets for the first time**

[Minutes](#)

2003

**DDI 2 published**

DDI now covers aggregate data and geography

[View Version 2 and successive iterations](#)

[DTD Version History](#)

2003

**Expert Committee meets for first time in Ann Arbor**

Committee discusses transition from DTD to Schemas; New working groups on Structural Reform and Substantive Issues formed

[Minutes](#)

2004

**Expert Committee meets in Madison, WI**

Committee discusses requirements for Version 3

[Minutes](#)

[Lifecycle Model](#)

2005

**Hans Jorgen Marker, DDA, becomes Chair; Ron Nakao, Stanford, Vice Chair**

2005

**Expert Committee meets in Edinburgh**

Committee ratifies life cycle model and DDI 3 begins to take shape

[Minutes](#)

2006

**Expert Committee meets in Ann Arbor**

Committee approves the scope and timeline for Version 3

[Minutes](#)

2007

**Public Review of DDI 3 takes place**

2007

**Expert Committee meets in Montreal**

Committee approves Candidate Draft of DDI 3

[Minutes](#)

**First DDI Training Workshop takes place at Schloss Dagstuhl**

[Course description](#)

2008

**DDI 3 published as XML Schemas**

[Version 3.0](#)

2008

**Expert Committee meets at IASSIST in Palo Alto, CA**

Plans for tools development discussed

[Minutes](#)

2008

**DDI develops Best Practices for DDI 3**

[Best Practices](#)

2009

**DDI Lifecycle 3.1 published**

[Link to Specification](#)

2009

**First European Users Conference (EDDI) held in Bonn, Germany**

[Program \(PDF\)](#)

2009

**Expert Committee meets in Tampere**

Committee discusses tools and outreach to NSIs

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2009

**Steering Committee meets in Tampere**

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2010

**Chuck Humphrey, University of Alberta, becomes Chair; Mari Kleemola, FSD, Vice Chair**

2010

**Second EDDI Conference held in Utrecht, Netherlands**

[Program](#) (pdf)

2010

**DDI Developers Group meets for first time in Utrecht, Netherlands**

[View Minutes and Reports](#)

2010

**Expert Committee meets in Ithaca, NY**

Rebranding DDI 2 and 3 as DDI Codebook and Lifecycle approved

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2010

**Steering Committee meets in Ithaca, NY**

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2011

**External review of DDI takes place**

[Review report](#)

2011

**DDI Alliance publishes first set of controlled vocabularies**

[View vocabularies](#)

2011

**Expert Committee meets in Vancouver, Canada**

Results of external review discussed

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2011

**Steering Committee meets in Vancouver, Canada**

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2011

**Third EDDI Conference held in Gothenburg, Sweden**

[Program](#) (pdf)

2011

**DDI Alliance releases Tools Catalog**

[View catalog](#)

2011

**DDI Alliance establishes agency registry**

[View registry](#)

2012

**DDI Expert Committee Meets in Washington, DC**

Plans for a model-based specification discussed

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2012

**DDI Steering Committee Meets in Washington, DC**

[Minutes](#) (pdf)

2012

**DDI Codebook 2.5 published as XML schemas**

[Specification](#)

2012

**First Dagstuhl Workshop on DDI model held**

[Description](#)

[Paper](#)

2012

**Fourth EDDI Conference held in Bergen, Norway**

[Program](#)

2013

**DDI RDF Discovery and XKOS vocabularies published**

[Description](#)

2013

**First NADDI Conference Held in Lawrence, KS**

[Program](#)

2013

**DDI Membership/Scientific Board Meets in Cologne, Germany**

Transition to new governance structure discussed

[Minutes](#)

2013

**First DDI Executive Board (successor to Steering Committee) meets with Gillian Nicoll, Australian Bureau of Statistics, as Chair**

View [members](#) and [minutes](#)

2013

**DDI "Sprints" launched to work on model-based DDI**

[More information](#)

2013

**Fifth EDDI Conference held in Paris, France**

[Program](#)

2014

**Second NADDI Conference held in Vancouver, BC**

[Program](#)

2014

**DDI Membership/Scientific Board Meets in Toronto, ON**

[Membership Minutes](#)

[SB Minutes](#)

2014

**Sixth EDDI Conference held in London, England**

[Program](#)

2015

**Third NADDI Conference held in Madison, WI**

[Program](#)

2015

**First DDI Lifecycle (Model-Driven) products released**

Content

2015

**Redesigned DDI Alliance website launched**

[Site](#)