Becoming NCEI
An Over 50-Year History of Climate, Oceans, Coastal, and Geophysical Data and Information

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Beginning with President Thomas Jefferson more than 200 years ago, the United States has officially collected observations about the environment. Today, our significant assets include data that span the Stone Age to the Space Age.
**NCEI: Today’s Vision**

**VISION**  
*Be the Nation’s trusted authority for environmental information*

**MISSION**  
*Steward of the Nation’s environmental Information*

NCEI supports U.S. environmental, societal, and economic well-being through stewardship of the Nation’s treasure of weather, climate, coastal, oceanic, and geophysical information.
Formed in 1970, NOAA is considered the Nation’s oldest science organization because the agencies that came together to form NOAA were among the oldest in the Federal government.
The Merger

In early **2015**, the National Centers for Environmental Information was established to merge several unique holdings of NOAA data. NCEI is the **world’s largest archive** of weather, climate, geophysical, oceanographic, and coastal data.
Motivations for Merger

- Consistent data management capabilities for NOAA
- Broader, full spectrum menu of products and services
- Increased efficiency
- One-stop shopping, everything under one organizational umbrella
- Enhanced teamwork, networking, and agility
Four Data Centers, One NCEI

➔ **NCDC**: National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, North Carolina
➔ **NODC**: National Oceanographic Data Center, Silver Spring, Maryland
➔ **NGDC**: National Geophysical Data Center, Boulder, Colorado
➔ **NCDDC**: National Coastal Data Development Center, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi
The Data Centers: **Climate**

**1951: NCDC**

The **National Climatic Data Center** in North Carolina was established in 1951 and was formerly known as the National Weather Records Center and then the National Climatic Center.
The Data Centers: Oceanic and Satellite

1960: NODC

Originally started by the U.S. Navy, the National Oceanographic Data Center evolved from 10 sponsoring agencies with interests in marine environment.
The Data Centers: Ocean, Geophysical, Space

1965: NGDC

The National Geophysical Data Center formed to manage and caretake seismogram, geodetic, and solar data.
The Data Centers: Coastal

2000: NCDDC

The National Coastal Data Development Center was established at Stennis Space Center on the Mississippi Gulf Coast to make diverse coastal data more readily accessible.
NCEI’s Data Holdings = Climate, Geophysical, Oceanographic, and Coastal

28.6 PB = Storage of smart phones stacked 17 Eiffel Towers high (1,063 feet)

Due to increases in satellite and model data
Together, the centers represent the most comprehensive environmental knowledge base in the world, bar none.
Jefferson – Forefather of Mac-n-Cheese