An Organizational Context for Scientific Data Practices

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**Research Question**

How are government-housed and government-funded scientists constrained in data sharing?

**DataONE**

- NSF-funded project
- Enables science
- Universal access to data about life on Earth and the environment that sustains it

**Preliminary Findings**

If some or all of your data are available to others, these data are available on my organization’s website.

- **Academia 52.5%**
- **Government 75.9%**

My organization or project has a formal established process for storing data beyond the life of the project (long-term).

- **Academia 39.3%**
- **Government 57.3%**

Tell us how much you agree with the statement, “my organization or project provides training on best practices for data management”.

- **Academia 20.6%**
- **Government 24.5%**

I would be more likely to make my data available if I could place conditions on access.

- **Academia 67.1%**
- **Government 61.8%**

If your data are not available electronically to others, why not (check all that apply)?

- **Insufficient Time**
  - **Academia 57.8%**
  - **Government 58.3%**

- **Lack of Funding**
  - **Academia 37.7%**
  - **Government 50.0%**

- **Do not Have Rights to Make Data Public**
  - **Academia 20.6%**
  - **Government 27.8%**

- **No place to Put Data**
  - **Academia 21.1%**
  - **Government 20.8%**

**Analysis**

- More data available on government websites
- Storage is more of an issue in academia.
- Training on best practices for data management is an issue for both sectors.
- Both would make data available conditionally.
- Time and funding are issues for both sectors.

**What Have We Learned?**

Government-housed and government-funded scientists differ only in information available on their websites and processes for data storage.

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