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An Organizational Context for Scientific Data Practices

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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’ 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%

Demographics – Survey of Data Practices

Primary Funding Source
- Academic 69%
- Government 27%
- Other 4%

Work Sector Funded by Federal/National Government
- N = 508
- N = 336

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.

Significant at the .05 level*, significant at the .010 level**, significant at the .001 level***

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