

HOW ARE RESEARCHERS USING OPEN DATA TODAY?

Over 8,400 researchers took part in the 2019 State of Open Data survey.

Attitudes to sharing data



2019
65%
of researchers reported that they curated their data for sharing either privately or publicly.

This was lower than previous years.

2018 → 74%
2017 → 74%
2016 → 67%

The majority of researchers are **aware of open data and willing to re-use it**, but this number is lower than previous years.

75% of researchers are aware of open data available to re-use (80% in 2018)

74% of researchers are willing to re-use open data in their research (79% in 2018)

Top 3 motivations for sharing data

1 Increased impact and visibility of my research



2 Public benefit



3 Getting proper credit for sharing data



Credit is an increasingly important motivator– now ranked 3rd vs 4th in 2018. But only 11% of respondents felt they received sufficient credit for sharing data.

What would encourage more researchers to share their data? Respondents ranked these mechanisms highly:

61% Full citation

45% Consideration in job reviews and funding applications

42% Co-authorship on papers

38% Financial reward

Researcher concerns about sharing data

Top 3 concerns about sharing datasets

More than 2,000 respondents had concerns about misuse of data.



36%

1 Concerns about misuse of data

32%

2 Unsure about copyright and licensing

32%

3 Not receiving appropriate credit or acknowledgement

Funders and policy



79%

of respondents were supportive of a national mandate for making primary research openly available



An increase of 18% from 2018



67% think that funders should withhold funding from, or penalise in other ways, researchers who do not share their data if the funder has mandated that they do so



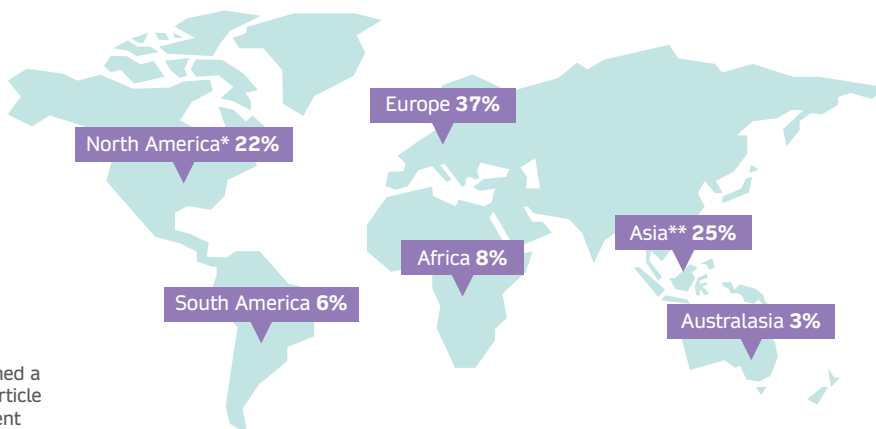
69% of respondents think that funders should make the sharing of research data part of their requirements for awarding grants

Survey respondents 8,400 participants in 190 countries

38% professors

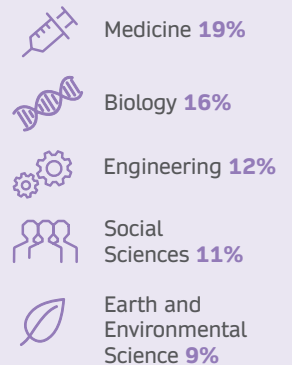
41% tenured (with a further 7% on tenure-track)

36% had first published a peer reviewed article during the current decade (2010's)



*inc. Central America & the Caribbean **inc. Middle East

Top 5 disciplines



Learn more

Springer Nature partnered with Digital Science and figshare on the State of Open Data report 2019, the fourth annual report examining attitudes and experiences of researchers working with open data. Read the report on figshare: tinyurl.com/stateopendata19

For information about research data at Springer Nature visit: go.nature.com/researchdata

