Researchers' Open Practices For Open Data

As research becomes more transparent, so must publishing.

Wiley invited researchers to participate in its 2019 Open Research Survey. Over 2,600 responses have been collected. Here are some early results around open data.

54% of respondents are either encouraged or required to share data by their funder, with the most for life sciences 59% and least for health sciences 47%.

Top 4 reasons why researchers are hesitant to share their data:
1. Intellectual property issues or confidentiality issues
2. Ethical concerns
3. Concerns about misrepresentation or misuse
4. Worried that their research would be scooped

Data sharing in 2019:
- Life science: 59%
- Health science: 47%

In APAC, transparency and reuse is less of a motive than increased visibility and impact to share data, as compared to other regions.

Top 4 researcher motivations for data sharing:
- Public benefit: 64%
- Transparency & re-use: 55%
- Journal requirement: 35%
- Increased visibility of research: 54%

Sharing data:
- As supplementary material in a journal: 59%
- Informal paths or upon request: 36%
- Institutional data repository: 34%
- Personal, institutional or project webpage: 33%
- At a conference: 32%
- Discipline-specific data repository: 26%
- General-purpose data repository: 20%
- Other: 4%

What are the most common formats for sharing data?
- Tabular data is the most common format of data.

When do you share your data?
- 61% prefer to share data post-publication rather than preliminary data.

1 The Wiley Open Research Survey 2019 is now closed. Please note that for some questions, respondents were able to select more than one option and therefore, will not add up to 100%.