

INFORMATION SHEET FOR RESEARCH INFORMED CONSENT

Cornell University—Consent to Take Part in a Research Study
Realities of Academic Data Sharing—Fall 2022 Survey

You are invited to be in a research study about the costs of the activities, services, and infrastructure used to make research data publicly available from funded research across six academic institutions. You were selected as a possible participant because you work in a unit at Cornell University that may potentially support researchers in work that results in public access to research data. We ask that you read this page and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

This study, the [Realities of Academic Data Sharing \(RADS\) Initiative](#), is being conducted by: The Association of Research Libraries (ARL), in collaboration with investigators from Cornell University, Duke University, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, Washington University in St. Louis, and Virginia Tech. The PI contact at Cornell University is Wendy Kozlowski, Library Lead for Research Data Services, Cornell University Library.

Procedures:

If you agree to be in this study, we will ask you to answer questions about the costs, activities, services, and infrastructure you use and support to make research data publicly accessible. The survey should take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Confidentiality:

Survey data that directly identifies you will be kept private and will only be shared with the research team. Research data collected in this study will be stripped of direct identifiers, such as names and email addresses, before being shared broadly with other researchers and the public. However, budget and cost information about your department may still be identifiable based on publicly available information about the university's expenditures. Data may be reused by others without your additional informed consent.

Security of Information:

The survey is hosted on the Alchemer platform, which encrypts data and can only be accessed through secure HTTPS. Alchemer utilizes TLS (Transport Layer Security) to secure the communication protocol and stay current at the most recent patch level.

Please note that the survey is being conducted on the Alchemer platform, a company not affiliated with Cornell and with [its own privacy and security policies](#). We anticipate that your participation in this survey presents no greater risk than everyday use of the Internet.

Voluntary Nature of the Study:

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with Cornell University, ARL, or any of the associated institutions in this study. If you decide to participate, you are free to not answer any question or withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships.

To withdraw from the study, close the online survey; no data is stored until the survey is submitted.

Risks and Discomforts:

There are no known risks associated with participating in this study.

Benefits:

Participants may experience benefits in the form of increased insight and awareness into campus costs, infrastructure, services and activities that support public access to research data.

Compensation for Participation:

Compensation is not provided for this study for any participant across the six academic institutions.

Follow Up Studies:

We may contact you again to request your participation in a follow up interview. As always, your participation will be voluntary and we will ask for your explicit consent to participate in any of the follow up studies. The last question on the following survey allows you to express interest or not in the follow up interview.

Contacts and Questions:

The researcher conducting this study at Cornell University is Wendy Kozlowski, Library Lead for Research Data Services. If you have questions now or at a later date, you are encouraged to contact her at wak57@cornell.edu.

The principal investigator of this study is Cynthia Hudson Vitale at ARL. You can contact her via email at: cvitale@arl.org.

This research has been reviewed by Cornell's IRB, which deemed the study ineligible to meet the definition of "human subjects research", as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services Code of Federal Regulations 45 CFR 46, for the following reasons:

- Research is focused on institutional factors, policies and decisions around sharing of data, not on the participants who will be providing data for this study.

Cornell's IRB has deemed this project not subject to review and oversight by Cornell's Human Research Protection Program, where IRB approval is not required for the project activities to commence.

Nevertheless, if you wish to share feedback privately with the Cornell's Institutional Review Board for Human Participants, Office of Research Integrity and Assurance, about your research experience email irbhp@cornell.edu. You are encouraged to contact Cornell's IRB office if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research participant.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

You may request a copy of this information to keep for your records.