


# Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research

# OSTP Memorandum - 22 February 2013

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

February 22, 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: John P. Holdren   
Director

SUBJECT: Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research

## 1. Policy Principles

The Administration is committed to ensuring that, to the greatest extent and with the fewest constraints possible and consistent with law and the objectives set out below, the direct results of federally funded scientific research are made available to and useful for the public, industry, and the scientific community. Such results include peer-reviewed publications and digital data.

Scientific research supported by the Federal Government catalyzes innovative breakthroughs that drive our economy. The results of that research become the grist for new insights and are assets for progress in areas such as health, energy, the environment, agriculture, and national security.

Access to digital data sets resulting from federally funded research allows companies to focus resources and efforts on understanding and exploiting discoveries. For example, open weather

# OSTP Memo: Specified Objectives

## Digital Data

- Maximize free access while
  - Protecting privacy and confidentiality
  - Recognizing intellectual property rights
  - Balancing costs & benefits of long-term preservation
- Require data management plans (DMPs)
- Allow inclusion of costs in applications for funding
- Ensure appropriate evaluation of DMPs
- Monitor compliance by investigators
- Encourage deposit of data in public repositories, where possible
- Cooperate with the private sector
- Develop approaches for data citation & attribution
- Support training, education and workforce development
- Assess long-term needs for preservation and options for repositories

## Scholarly Publications

- Public can read, download, analyze in digital form
- 12-month post-publication embargo as guideline, with stakeholder petitions to change
- Easy public search, analysis of, and access to publications
- Full public access to metadata without charge upon first publication
- Public-private collaboration
- Attribution to authors, journals, and original publishers
- Archival solutions that provide long-term preservation & access without charge
  - Uses widely available, nonproprietary standards/formats
  - Provides access for persons with disabilities (consistent with Section 508 of Rehabilitation Act)
  - Enables integration and interoperability with other Federal archival solutions and other appropriate archives

# U.S. Departments & Agencies with Completed Public Access Plans (as of March 7, 2016)

## Department of Agriculture (Nov 2014)

<http://www.usda.gov/documents/USDA-Public-Access-Implementation-Plan.pdf>

## Department of Defense (Feb 2015)

[http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/pdf/dod\\_public\\_access\\_plan\\_feb2015.pdf](http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/pdf/dod_public_access_plan_feb2015.pdf)

## Department of Energy (Jul 2014)

[http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/08/f18/DOE\\_Public\\_Access%20Plan\\_FINAL.pdf](http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/08/f18/DOE_Public_Access%20Plan_FINAL.pdf)

## Department of Health & Human Services

<http://www.hhs.gov/open/public-access-guiding-principles/index.html>

- **Administration for Community Living [Publications]** (Feb 2016)  
<http://www.acl.gov/Programs/NIDILRR/docs/ACL-PublicAccessPlan-Jan2016.pdf>
- **Agency for Health Research & Quality** (Feb 2015)  
<http://www.ahrq.gov/funding/policies/publicaccess/index.html>
- **Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response** (Feb 2015)  
<http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/science/Pages/AccessPlan.aspx>
- **Centers for Disease Control** (Jan 2015)  
[http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/docs/Final-CDC-Public-Access-Plan-Jan-2015\\_508-Compliant.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/docs/Final-CDC-Public-Access-Plan-Jan-2015_508-Compliant.pdf)
- **Food & Drug Administration** (Feb 2015)  
<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/ScienceResearch/AboutScienceResearchatFDA/UCM435418.pdf>
- **National Institutes of Health** (Feb 2015)  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/NIH-Public-Access-Plan.pdf>

## Department of Transportation (Nov 2015)

<https://www.transportation.gov/open/official-dot-public-access-plan>

## Department of Veterans Affairs (Mar 2015)

[http://www.va.gov/ORO/Docs/Guidance/Plan\\_for\\_Access\\_to\\_Results\\_of\\_VA\\_Funded\\_Rsch\\_02\\_14\\_2014.pdf](http://www.va.gov/ORO/Docs/Guidance/Plan_for_Access_to_Results_of_VA_Funded_Rsch_02_14_2014.pdf)

## National Institute of Standards & Technology (Apr 2015)

<http://www.nist.gov/open/upload/NIST-Plan-for-Public-Access.pdf>

## National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nov 2014)

[http://science.nasa.gov/media/medialibrary/2014/12/05/NASA\\_Plan\\_for\\_increasing\\_access\\_to\\_results\\_of\\_federally\\_funded\\_research.pdf](http://science.nasa.gov/media/medialibrary/2014/12/05/NASA_Plan_for_increasing_access_to_results_of_federally_funded_research.pdf)

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Feb 2015)

[http://docs.lib.noaa.gov/noaa\\_documents/NOAA\\_Research\\_Council/NOAA\\_PAR\\_R\\_Plan\\_v5.04.pdf](http://docs.lib.noaa.gov/noaa_documents/NOAA_Research_Council/NOAA_PAR_R_Plan_v5.04.pdf)

## National Science Foundation (Mar 2015)

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15052/nsf15052.pdf>

## Smithsonian Institution (Aug 2015)

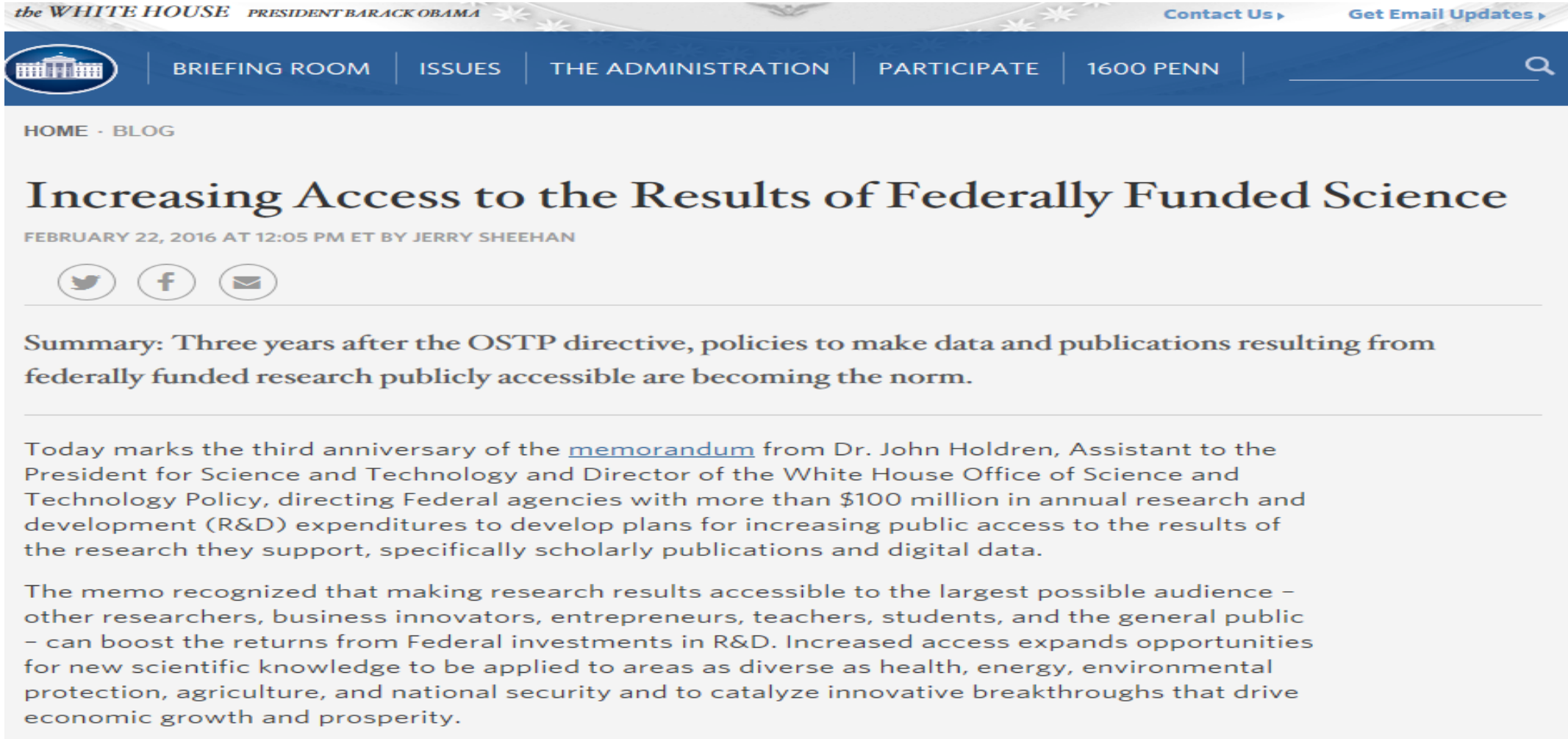
[http://public.media.smithsonianmag.com/file\\_upload\\_plugin/1f143b54-a9f9-4746-bef5-1c76151e3c7a.pdf](http://public.media.smithsonianmag.com/file_upload_plugin/1f143b54-a9f9-4746-bef5-1c76151e3c7a.pdf)

## U.S. Geological Survey (Feb 2016)

[http://www.usgs.gov/quality\\_integrity/open\\_access/default.asp](http://www.usgs.gov/quality_integrity/open_access/default.asp)

# Status report: OSTP Blog

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/02/22/increasing-access-results-federally-funded-science>



The screenshot shows the top of a White House blog post. At the top left, it says "the WHITE HOUSE PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA". On the right, there are links for "Contact Us" and "Get Email Updates". Below this is a dark blue navigation bar with a White House logo on the left and menu items: "BRIEFING ROOM", "ISSUES", "THE ADMINISTRATION", "PARTICIPATE", and "1600 PENN". A search icon is on the right. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb "HOME · BLOG" is visible. The main title of the post is "Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Science" in a large, bold, serif font. Below the title, the date and author are listed: "FEBRUARY 22, 2016 AT 12:05 PM ET BY JERRY SHEEHAN". There are three circular icons for social media: Twitter, Facebook, and Email. A horizontal line separates the social media icons from the summary. The summary text reads: "Summary: Three years after the OSTP directive, policies to make data and publications resulting from federally funded research publicly accessible are becoming the norm." Another horizontal line follows. The main body of the post begins with: "Today marks the third anniversary of the [memorandum](#) from Dr. John Holdren, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, directing Federal agencies with more than \$100 million in annual research and development (R&D) expenditures to develop plans for increasing public access to the results of the research they support, specifically scholarly publications and digital data." The final paragraph states: "The memo recognized that making research results accessible to the largest possible audience – other researchers, business innovators, entrepreneurs, teachers, students, and the general public – can boost the returns from Federal investments in R&D. Increased access expands opportunities for new scientific knowledge to be applied to areas as diverse as health, energy, environmental protection, agriculture, and national security and to catalyze innovative breakthroughs that drive economic growth and prosperity."

# Following Future Developments

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ostp/library/publicaccesspolicy>

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## OSTP Public Access Policy Forum

**UPDATE: January 29, 2016** - On January 29, 2016, OSTP Director John P. Holdren transmitted an update to Congress outlining progress toward the development and implementation of policies to increase public access to the results of federally funded scientific research.

[Read the progress update here.](#)

**UPDATE: October 28, 2015** - On October 28, 2015, OSTP Director John P. Holdren transmitted an update to Congress outlining progress toward the development and implementation of policies to increase public access to the results of federally funded scientific research.

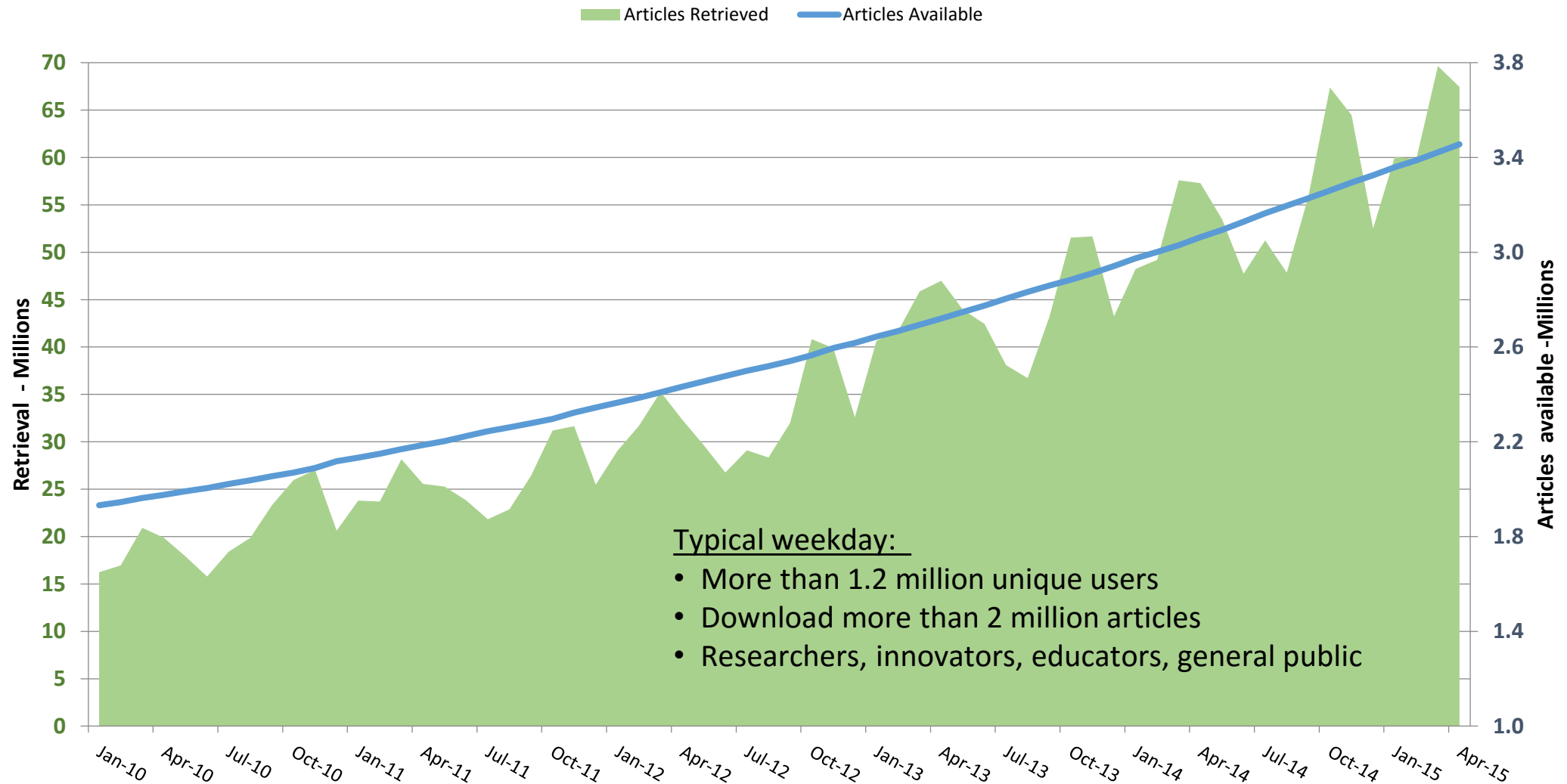
[Read the progress update here.](#)

**UPDATE: July 29, 2015** - On July 29, 2015, OSTP Director John P. Holdren transmitted an update to Congress outlining progress toward the development and implementation of policies to increase public access to the results of federally funded scientific research.

• [Read the progress update here.](#)

# Experience To-Date: NIH Public Access Policy

PMC articles available and retrieved, by month, Jan 2010 - Apr 2015

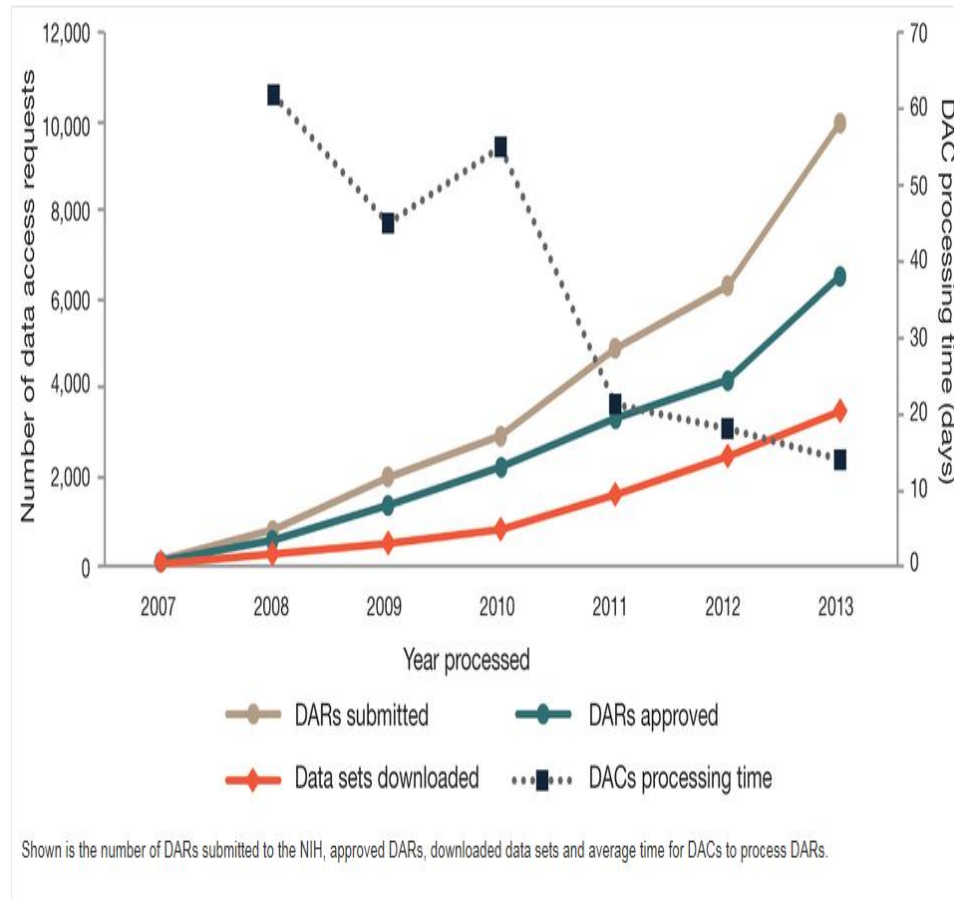


Typical weekday:

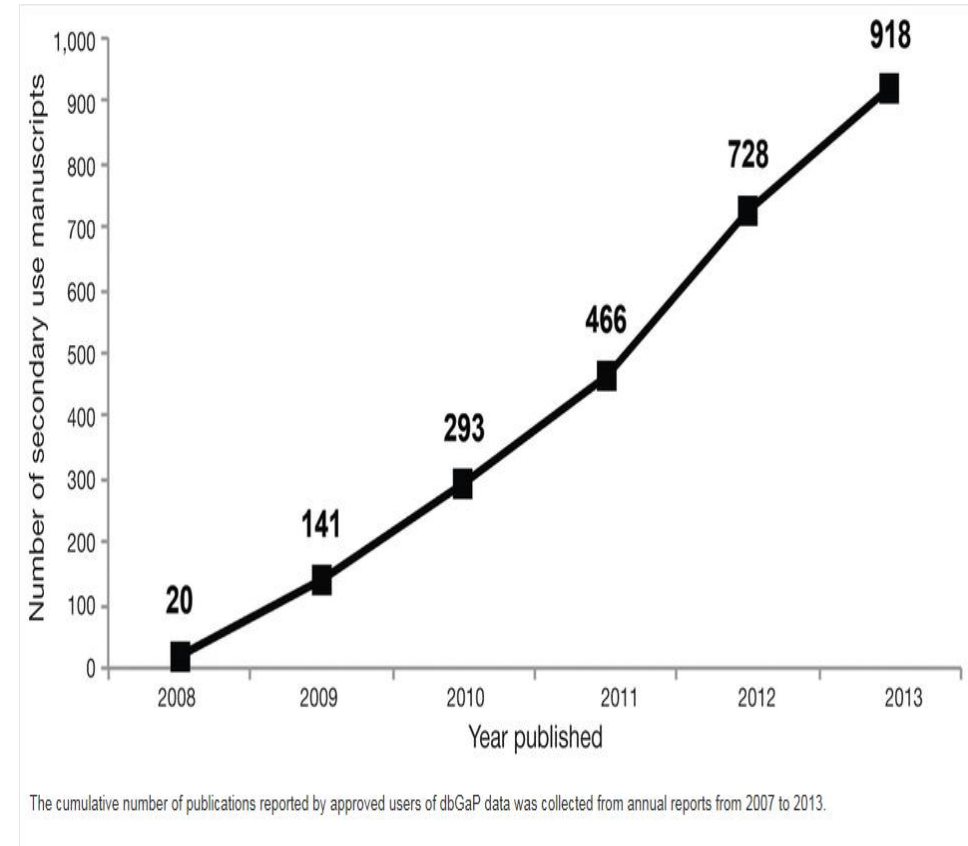
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# Experience To-Date: NIH GWAS Policy

## Increasing requests for GWAS Data



## Publications based secondary use of GWAS data



Source: Paltoo, et al., "Data use under the NIH GWAS Data Sharing Policy and future directions," Nature Genetics 46, 934-938. Published online 27 Aug 2014. doi:10.1038/ng.3062.