
PsychArchives Sharing Levels

PsychArchives offers different sharing levels determining access to and usage rights of PsychArchives content. Our sharing levels range from open and immediate access to more restrictive access categories. Each sharing level is equipped with specific licensing options. Contributors choose a sharing level when submitting content to the repository.

The PsychArchives sharing level concept is in line with the [Recommendations concerning Data Management and Data Sharing in Psychological Science](#) by the German Psychological Society (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie / DGPs).

Sharing Levels 0 and 0+ (Public Use File)

Sharing Levels 0 and 0+ are equivalent to the provision of public use files, allowing open and immediate access to PsychArchives content. These sharing levels are applicable in all cases in which there are no plausible reasons (such as the inclusion of human subjects data or research ethics) for restricting access and use from the perspective of the scientific community.

When assigning Sharing Level 0 or 0+ to their content, contributors choose an Open Content license from our license portfolio. Permissive Open Content licenses foster reuse and widespread dissemination of public use files; for more information on the topic of available licenses, visit our [Rights and Licenses page](#).

If contributors wish to learn how others use their content, they may provide it through Sharing Level 0+. When retrieving 0+ content, users are asked to optionally disclose information about their intended use of the content. Contributors are then informed about the retrieval via e-mail and, if provided by the user, the intended use of the respective content.

Sharing Level 1 (Scientific Use File)

Sharing Level 1 refers to content that is provided for scientific use only. It is based on a standardized license agreement offered by PsychArchives. This sharing level is applicable if contributors want to ensure that usage of their content is exclusively restricted to the context of scientific analysis and discourse.

Content made available in Sharing Level 1 can be accessed by accepting the applicable license conditions before download of the content. Users are asked to provide information about the intended use of the requested content. Contributors may keep track of the number

of accepted license agreements and the intended use of their content through their PsychArchives profile.

Sharing Levels 2 and 3

Sharing levels higher than 1 (“scientific use”) are in preparation and this page will be updated once they become available.

Implementation in PsychArchives

PsychArchives is currently offering Sharing Level 0. Sharing Levels 0+ and 1 will be implemented in 2021. We will update this page accordingly when these sharing levels are introduced.

Prospectively, access and usage rights may vary within one DRO, i.e. PsychArchives will allow for a flexible and granular allocation of sharing levels on the level of individual files. For instance, contributors may archive their research data and codebook as part of one DRO, which receives one DOI. While they will have the option of providing their research data under the conditions of Sharing Level 1, Sharing Level 0 can be allocated to the corresponding codebook. This granular application of sharing levels will be implemented in 2021.

Independent of the chosen sharing level, contributors may define an embargo for their content in PsychArchives. This is important, for example, if contributors want to safeguard first use of their research data. Embargoed content is made available according to the chosen sharing level at a pre-specified future date set by the contributor. Until the embargo period expires, only the metadata of the DRO and not the file itself are publicly available. Find out more about this option, which is already available in PsychArchives, in our [FAQ section](#).

Choosing a Sharing Level

Promoting openness and transparency, the German Psychological Society (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie / DGPs) recommends researchers to share content “as openly as possible, as closed as necessary”.

When choosing a sharing level in PsychArchives, contributors should, among other things, consider

- data protection and copyright laws,
- aspects of research ethics,
- requirements of third-party funders and/or scientific journals,
- their own legitimate scientific interests.