

## Availability and Access to Government Research Data and Freedom of Information in Nigeria: An Evaluation of Selected Government Websites

Dr. Ifeanyi J. Ezema

([ifeanyi.ezema@esut.edu.ng](mailto:ifeanyi.ezema@esut.edu.ng))

University Librarian, Enugu State University of Science and Technology

Research Fellow: Department of Information Science, University of South Africa



Copyright © 2023 by Ifeanyi J. Ezema. This work is made available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License:

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>

---

### Abstract

*Government research data (GRD) are required for growth of democratic culture in line with freedom of information (FOI) law in Nigeria. This paper investigated availability and access to government research data in Nigeria to determine the implications in implementation of FOI law in the country. This study adopted webometric analysis approach to examine the websites of 34 selected websites of government key agencies. Findings reveal that only 26.5% of the 34 agencies have GRD in their websites while two of the agencies have no official and functional websites. Also only 10(29.4%) of the 34 agencies have evidence of using their website to address FOI requests and only 1(2.9%) has FOI Department, while only 3(8.8%) have FOI portal in their websites. The paper concludes that the agencies have not shown enough commitments in implementation of FOI law using their websites.*

---

### Introduction

National development is usually propelled by scientific and technical research which is one of the key mandates of higher institutions and research institutes. In the process of conducting research, data are scientifically collected for analysis and interpretation. These data are often regarded as research data. The digital environment has provided interesting opportunities for storage of research data for future use, and this has ignited interest scholars. Hassan (2023) defined research data as “any information or evidence gathered through systematic investigation or experimentation to support or refute a hypothesis or answer a research question.” These could be primary and secondary data and can be numerical, textual, audiovisual, or visual. Apart from academic institutions government agencies through their activities generate research data which can be analyzed and interpreted for decision purposes.

The availability and access to government research data (GRD) are key indicators of democratic culture such as transparency, accountability, efficiency and citizens' participation in government programmes and activities. That is why soon after Nigeria returned to civilian democracy in 1999, there were wide agitations for freedom of access to government information which culminated in the signing the freedom of information bill into a law in 2011 (Asogwa & Ezema 2017). The assumption is that the law will enhance greater access to government research data which are critical in the overall national development. As many countries across the globe including Africa begin to embrace electronic government, the belief is that the most effective platform for wider visibility and dissemination of government research data is through official websites so as to reduce the obstacles and facilitate access to the data.

Government research data (GRD) are composed of information and datasets generated and collected by government agencies through their activities, research and interactions with the general public and organisations. Such data set are generated in support of government policies, programmes for good governance. Often government research data are usually interchanged with open government data which has dominated literature in the field (see Attard, Orlandi, Scerri, & Auer, 2015; Bello, Akinwande, Jolayemi, & Ibrahim 2016, Ezema 2022). The two concepts could be regarded as same but open government data is more concerned with data generated through government activities and research but freely available for the general public electronically. Government research data are specifically concerned with data generated through the activities of government and in most cases commissioned research or survey by government agencies or departments for the purpose of scientific research, policy analysis or decision making. It could also be administrative data which are generated through the provision of government services (Teng, O'Doherty, McGrail, & Burges 2019). They include but not limited to:

- Census data which are composed of population data collected through nationwide census with required demographic variables including socio-economic status of the citizens.
- Economic data which involves the gross domestic product (GDP), inflation, employment, trade, industry and other related economic activities.
- Health data which deal with information on disease prevalence, access to health care, vaccination statistics, mortality rate, and other related health informatics.
- Environmental data that deal with quality of air and water, pollution statistics, data on climate change, weather monitoring, floods information, use of natural resources, environmental degradation and impact.
- Education data deals with information on educational attainments, students' enrolment, performance of schools and students in different public examinations, educational policies and practices, teacher-students ratio, statistics on educational facilities.
- Crime data that deal with information on crime rates, types of crime, law enforcement activities, crime prevention and control.
- Social data deals with information on poverty rates, social welfare, housing, urbanization, rural development.

Apart from decision making from government agencies, these data are critical ingredients of democratic culture and citizens need them for active participation in government programmes and

activities. It is also of important interest to researchers in articulation of policies that would drive socio-economic and technological growth of the country (Teng, O’Doherty, McGrail, & Burges 2019). Consequently, Somasundaram (2023) posits that government research data have the potentials of facilitating research and development since they are often reliable, credible and unbiased considering the rigorous, painstaking, meticulous and legal processes employed in generating such data. According to Somasundaram, much of the government research data are longitudinal, comprehensive in coverage, highly standardized, accessible to the public and transparency are ensured during collection. The amount of fund and other resources deployed in collection of government research data often makes them indispensable in facilitating policies and practices.

On the contrary, GRD may have some limitations which Somasundaram (2023) identified to include data quality concerns which are related to errors and omissions during collections; privacy and confidentiality which deal with personal and sensitive information that should not be made available to the general public. Other limitations as identified by Somasundaram are access constraints, bureaucratic red tape, incomplete data set, and lack of specify. Many of these limitations contradict the philosophy behind freedom of information law that has been enacted in the country. Another major limitation of government research data is political influences inform of selective presentation of data which often creates biases among the citizens. Such influences often lead to rejection of data which may result to legal litigations.

Expectation from the citizens is that these data should be digitally preserved for wider accessibility from the general public. As Teng, O’Doherty, McGrail, & Burges (2019) have rightly observed, such preservation “increases the potential for the use of data, and increased computing power makes it easier to study the data and find actionable insights.” Access and use of government research data are line with freedom of information (FOI). Freedom of information is about the right of citizens to access information from public authorities and agencies of government. This fundamental principle creates transparency, accountability and openness within government programmes and activities. FOI is usually provided by legislation which grants individuals the right to request and access information without hindrances from government agencies and organizations. Therefore, with agitation for FOI law in Nigeria, the then administration of President Goodluck Jonathan signed into law freedom of information act in 2011 (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2011). The law mandates public institutions to widely publicise information about their activities to the general public through different medium including print, electronic and online platforms. Section 2(4) of the act states; “A public institution shall ensure that information referred to in this section is widely disseminated and made readily available to members of the public through various means, including print, electronic and online sources, and at the offices of such public institutions.”

In a digital information environment, a very robust and reliable method of information dissemination is the creation of websites. Therefore, public institutions that desire to apply the principles of freedom of information law need to create websites for efficient dissemination of

information about their activities. A website is a collection of web pages and related information contents that is identified by a common domain name and published on at least one web server (Wikipedia (2021). Ezema (2023), in his investigation of open government research data relied on the websites of the government ministry to collect required data for the study. It is therefore, the responsibilities of government agencies to design and host websites capable of disseminating their research data to ensure access. Unfortunately, in Nigeria; it appears that citizens still find it difficult to access government research data contrary to the philosophy of freedom of information law. This study is aimed at examining the availability and possible access to government research through selected government websites in Nigeria.

## **Research Questions**

The following research questions guided the study.

1. What kinds of government research data are available in the websites of selected government agencies?
2. What are the types of research data accessible to the citizens?
3. What are the mechanisms adopted by the agencies for access to research data?
4. To what extent would the available research data address freedom of access to government information?

## **Methodology**

This paper adopted literature review approach and webometric analysis of websites of selected government agencies distributed in critical sectors of the socio-economic development of the country. A webometric examination of the 34 websites of government agencies that act more or less as regulatory bodies in various key ministries was carried out from August 6 to 15, 2023 to determine presence of government research data. These agencies covered key sectors of the national development agenda such as politics, education, health, transportation, communication and social issues. Only data that met the operational definition of government research data were included as valid for analysis. Data from the websites were analyzed by identification of presence of government research data and remarks provided in the last column to indicate expected government research data missing in the websites. Data were extracted into Excel Microsoft Offices for analysis using frequency and percentages and presented in tables and charts.

## **Literature Review**

One of the key elements of a civilized society is the entrenchment of democratic culture and norms in governance which requires openness, transparency and accountability that rely heavily on making government information available to the public. Government information increasingly grows through activities of its institutions, agencies and organizations. Some government agencies often commission survey to generate data that would assist it in decision making which are usually required by the public for research and other related matters (Somasundaram, (2023). Different

nomenclatures have been used for government information. Some regard it as open government data; others would refer to it as government research data; but most literatures in the area would use open government data (Ubaldi, 2013; Safarov, Meijer, & Grimmelikhuisen 2017; Ezema 2019; Wirtz, Weyerer, Becker & Müller, 2022; Ezema 2023) but recently scholars are getting interested in the utilization of such data for academic research, hence the concept government research data in some literatures. Studies by Teng, O’Doherty, McGrail, & Burges, (2019), Shaharudin (2020), and Somasundaram, S. (2023) have underpinned the pivotal roles of government data in academic research. Therefore, open government data and government research data are often used interchangeably, but government research data is more concerned with the digitally preserved data from government agencies required for academic research.

As Shaharudin (2020) has rightly observed, GRD are sources of reliable, accurate and verifiable information for scientific enquiry for the promotion of research and development. Similarly, Somasundaram, (2023) remarked that since government has the capacity to fund some commissioned survey, the coverage is usually large and reliable, but there are some identified limitations of such data. The study of Teng et.al (2019) had earlier observed that digital preservation GRD enhances effective utilization for academic research. The global best practice is the preservation of such data in the websites of organisations or institutions that generate them to ensure freedom of information.

Interest in freedom of information in Nigeria came to climax in the early 1990s when the country was under military rule and several decrees were promulgated to clamp down on press freedom and access to information. The agitation increased with return to democratic government in 1999 as many pro-democratic movements continued to mount pressure on government for legal framework for free access to information particularly government information. The essence of FOI law was the establishment of legal principles that would guarantee the citizens access to information in the custody of government institutions and agencies (Segun, 2021). In response to the agitation, the bill for the Freedom of Information Bill was submitted to the Fourth National Assembly of Nigeria in 1999, but went through a very slow process of legislation until 2011 when the bill was signed into law after about a decade.

The enactment of FOI law in Nigeria received commendation from the general public because many believed that it would resolve several bureaucratic bottle necks associated with access to government information in the country. Given that freedom of information is one of the fundamental human rights of the citizens, the law was seen as a veritable instrument for the fight against corruption and other related crimes in the country. The intention is to deepen democratic culture through transparency, accountability, openness, active participation of the citizens and greater empowerment of the general public for poverty reduction.

Prior to the enactment of the law, there was no law in Nigeria that grants citizen access to information. Rather, there were some laws limiting access to information such as the Official Secrets Act, the Criminal Code, the Penal Code, the Evidence Act, etc. These laws were carefully woven to restrict individual access to government information. For instance, the intension of The Official Secrets Act was to prohibit the unauthorised dissemination “of any information which has been classified by any government branch as being prejudicial to the security of Nigeria” (Segun

2021). The implication is that once the government declares any information as classified, it becomes illegal to provide access to such information. This can be abused and often used against political enemies even in a democratic setting.

The critical roles of freedom of information law in modern governance ignites interest among the citizens pushing a lot of countries to enact such laws particularly in developing countries of Africa with weak democratic values orchestrated by sit-tight leaders supervising endemic corrupt infested economy. The study of Asogwa and Ezema (2017) explored freedom of information in Africa and found out that only 25% of 55 African countries had signed freedom of information laws; while 29% were canvassing for it and 45% had no plan of enacting such law. The study also observed that the few countries that have enacted FOI laws have politically motivated challenges that impede implementation. Of very serious concern is the issue of poor implementation of the laws in many African countries. While freedom of information is already entrenched as one of the catalysts of democratic governance in most countries of in the global North, Africans have continued to agitate for FOI over the years; even countries that have enacted the law are finding it difficult to implement. But in some developed countries, implementation of FOI law has recorded considerable success. For instance the study of Grimmelikhuijsen, John, Meijer, worthy, (2018) found a positive effect of FOIA requests on responsiveness in Denmark as the response on request made to the local government was over 76%. The study observed that the strongest effect of FOI was recorded on proactive disclosure (concordance), which is not obligatory for governments to disclose in line with the freedom of information law of the country. Contrast this with Apuke (2017) who found out that FOI law has not created access to government-held information for journalists in Taraba State, Nigeria after six years of enactment of the law in the country. But in Nigeria, studies have reported poor implementation of the law as seen the work of Chukwu, (2019) who reported a low access to information using freedom of information law by journalists in Port-Harcourt Nigeria and recommended more vigorous mechanism among journalists to ensure compliance. A related study by Obayi, Anorue, Chima, Umeokeke, Etumnu (2020) found out that though journalist in Imo State Nigeria are aware of freedom of information law, there are still several limitations for access to information in relation to the law. Similarly a more recent study by Nwoke (2019) looked at the law as blunted and will be difficult to satisfy the expectations of the general public in access to information in Nigeria.

## **Results**

Findings of the study is presented in tables and charts below and the details of the government agencies and their websites to determine the availability of government research data is in appendix 1. Table 1 and fig 1 presents the distribution of government agencies into eight sectors of government developmental sectors. Economic sector has the highest number of agencies with 7(20.6%), followed by Education 6(17.6%); Health has 6(14.7%), while Social service and Communication sectors have 4(11.8%) each. Others are Transportation and Crime Control sectors with 3(8.8%) each, while Political sector has 2(5.9%) agencies.

Table 1: Distribution of government agencies

	Types of Govt Sectors	No Govt Agencies	%
1	Education	6	17.6
2	Health	5	14.7
3	Economic	7	20.6
4	Social Services	4	11.8
5	Transportation	3	8.8
6	Crime control	3	8.8
7	Politics	2	5.9
8	Communication	4	11.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	

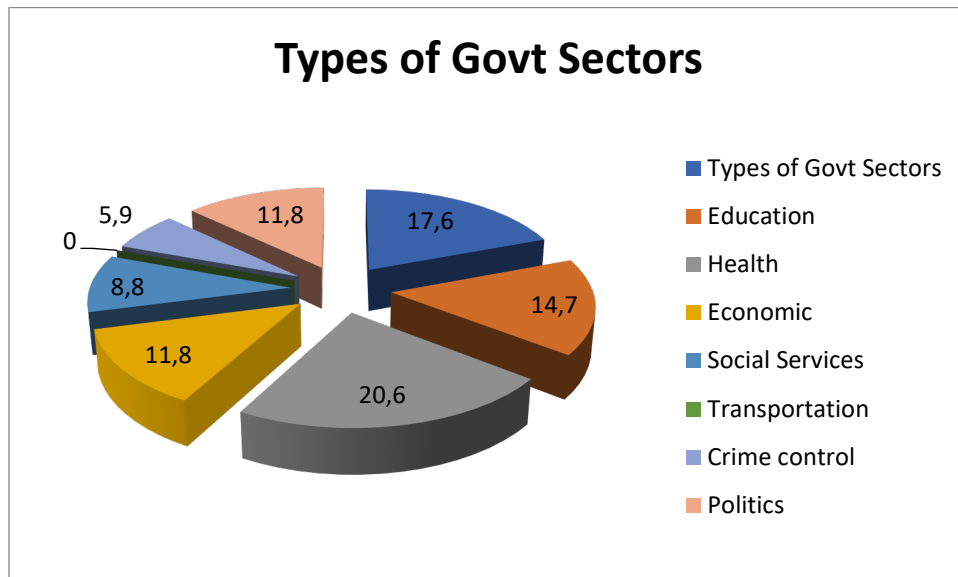


Fig 1: Pie chart showing the distribution of government agencies

After examination of the websites of government agencies, available research data are presented in table 2. A close look at the table shows that Education and Economic sectors have the greatest percentage of research data with 3(8.8%) each followed by Health, Social services and transportation sectors with 1(2.9) each. Others sectors namely Crime control, Political, and Communication sectors have no research data in any of their agencies. Generally, only 26.5% of the government agencies have research data in their websites. It is also important to note that most of the agencies that have research data still have many areas their research data could not cover and some of the research data are not updated. See Appendix 1 for details of agencies that have research data.

Table 2: Availability of Research data in the Websites of Government Agencies

	Types of Govt Sectors	No Govt Agencies	No with Research data	% Research data
1	Education	6	3	8.8
2	Health	5	1	2.9
3	Economic	7	3	8.8
4	Social Services	4	1	2.9
5	Transportation	3	1	2.9
6	Crime control	3	0	0.0
7	Politics	2	0	0.0
8	Communication	4	0	0.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26.5</b>

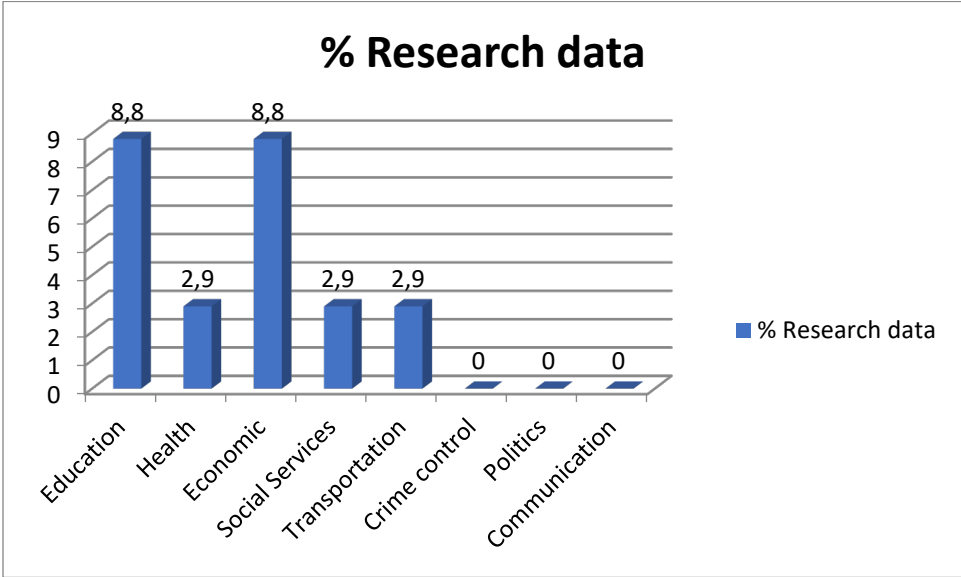


Fig. 2: Percentage of research data available in the government agencies.



Table 3: Government Agencies with presence of FOI on their Websites

	Agencies	Information on FOI	FOI portal	Information FOI Request	FOI Dept
1	Corporate Affairs Commission	Yes	No	No	No
2	National Universities Commission	Yes	No	Yes	No
3	Nigeria Ports Authority	Yes	No	No	No
4	Central Bank of Nigeria	Yes	No	No	Yes
5	Corporate Affairs Commission	Yes	Yes*	No	No
6	Independent Corrupt Practices & Other Related Offences Commission	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
7	Joint Admission and Matriculation Board	Yes	Yes*	No	No
8	National Human Rights Commission	Yes	No	Yes	No
9	National Universities Commission	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
10	Nigeria Ports Authority	Yes	Yes	No	No

\*No content in the portal provided.

The examination of the websites revealed that only 10(29.4%) of the 34 agencies have any presence on handling issues concerning freedom of access to information even when the law has been enacted since 2011(12 years). Also, only 5(14.7%) have freedom of information portal out of which two have no content in the portal as at the time of this study. Fig. 3 is a screen shot of the FOI portal of Corporate Affairs Commission showing no content in the portal created for FOI. Similar situation exists in the website of Joint Admission and Matriculation Board, the regulatory examination body for admission into higher educational institutions as can be seen in fig. 4. Therefore, technically, only 3(8.8%) have of the agencies have effective FOI portals.

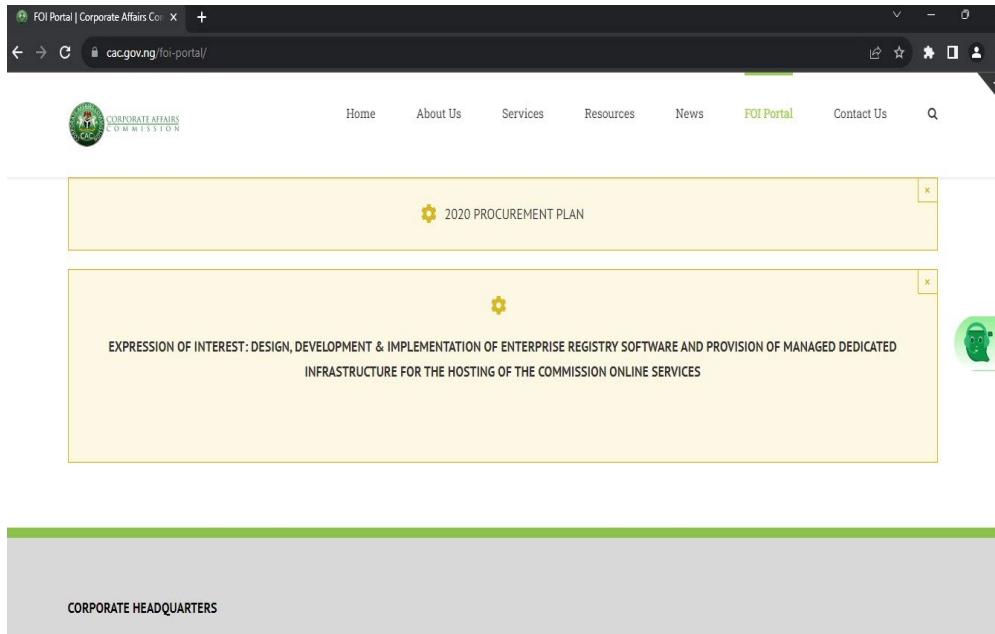


Fig 3: Screenshot of content of FOI portal of Corporate Affairs Commission on August 15, 2023

A closer observation of table 3 also indicates that the majority of the agencies have little or no provision about FOI requests or guidelines on how to request for information in line with the law. Only 4(11.8%) of the 34 agencies have such provisions on their websites as can be seen in table 3. It is even surprising that in some of them that have such provisions, the contents are usually scanty and confusing. Others provided forms to download and complete when applying for FOI. An agencies with detailed data on applications and requests processed in line with FOI laws is National Universities Commission (the regulatory body for universities in the country). It is also surprising that only 1(2.9%) of the 34 agencies has FOI Department which shows glaring neglect of FOI law among the agencies.

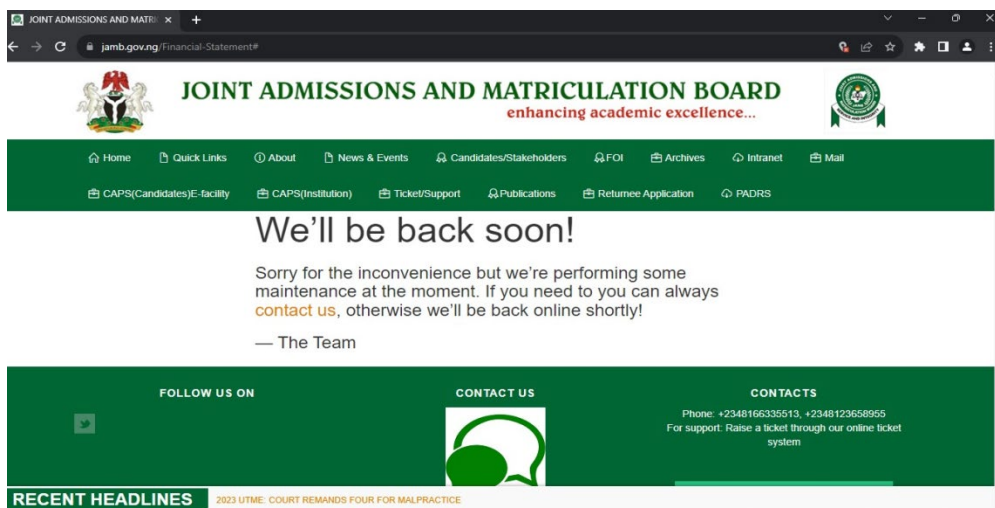


Fig 4: Screenshot of content of FOI portal of Joint Admiision and Matriculation Board on August 15, 2023

## **Discussion**

Findings from this study provides great insight into availability and access to government research data and freedom of information law in Nigeria. The need for access GRD is to deepen democratic culture and provide materials for academic research has been underscored in several literatures. However, findings reveal that Nigeria government agencies need to do more in provision of these critical information for overall national development. It is a sources of concern that out of the thirty-four websites examined only 26.5% of them have available research data. A closer investigation of the agencies with research data reveals that some of the available data are not up to date. Obviously, with the current information environment, majority of the citizen would rely on the websites of these agencies for such information as has been reported in separate studies by Teng, O'Doherty, McGrail, & Burges (2019) and Ezema (2023). This does not really show any form of seriousness and commitment in the provision of research data to the public and has a lot of implications on the required transparency and openness which are key elements of democracy as has been observed by sholars sugc as Ogbondah (2003); Apuke (2017) and Segun, (2021).

Similarly, findings show that only ten of the thirty-four agencies has provisons in their websites on how FOI requests are addressed. These are clear signs of indeference and very poor attitude on issues related to access to GRD and government information generally. The expectation is that wider access to GRD would minimize corrupt related issues that engender national growth and development since government officials would be accountable to the public. Of great concern is that, majority of the agencies are yet to create FOI Departments to handle requests that woluld be coming from the public. Only one agency out of the thirty four has created such department. One requires further investigation to determine the level of efficiency of the Department. The absence of such Departments could be the reason why many studies have observed several constraints against implementation freedom of information laws in Nigeria as have been reported by Ezema, Ezea, Ishiwu & Ukwueze (2012).

As can be seen from the findings (see appendix for details), very few of the agencies created portals in their websites for processing requests for FOI. Such portals are critical in implementation of FOI law in the country in an electronic information environment where many rely on institutions' websites for access to information. Unfortunately, two of the agencies do not have official website, how much more creation of portals. This unfortunate development defeats the objectives of enactment of freedom of information law in the country and therefore requires serious intervention from government at all levels to address. This is because for democratic culture to thrive in the country, much is required to ensure access to government research data.

## **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Availability and access government research data and implications for freedom of information in Nigeria has generated a lot of discussions. Though many of the existing literatures delved more on open government data, the two concepts can be used interchangeably. Evidently, many have argued that implementaion of FOI laws is impeded with a lot of challenges resulting in difficulties in accessing government data. With the proliferation of digital technologies and creation of websites by many of the government agencies, it is believed that access to government research

data would be easier than before. However, findings from this study is quite on the contrary. One can therefore, safely conclude that majority of the government agencies are yet to show commitment in implementation of FOI law using their websites. Based on this development, the paper therefore recommends as follow:

- There should be a government policy on digital preservation of government research data generated from all government agencies.
- All government agencies must ensure the creation of FOI Departments responsible for processing all requests for access to government data in the agency.
- There should be FOI portal on all government websites for application and processing of government research data and statistics of their activities published monthly.
- Heads of the agencies should be prosecuted in line with FOI laws for failure to address requests from the public.

## References

- Apuke, O. D. (2017). Evaluative Study of the Freedom of Information Act on Journalism Practice in Nigeria. *International Journal of Academic Research in Public Policy and Governace*, 4(1), 1–19
- Asogwa, B.E & Ezema, I. J (2017). Freedom of Access to Government Information in Africa: Trends, Status and Challenges. *Records Management Journal* Vol. 27 Issue: 3, 318-338, <https://doi.org/10.1108/RMJ-08-2015-0029>
- Attard, J., Orlandi, F., Scerri, S., & Auer, S. (2015). A systematic review of open government data initiatives. *Government Information Quarterly*, 32(4), 399–418. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.giq.2015.07.006>
- Bello, O., Akinwande, V., Jolayemi, O., & Ibrahim, A. (2016). Open data portals in Africa: An analysis of open government data initiatives. *African Journal of Library, Archives and Information Science*, 26(2), 97–106
- Chukwu, O.J (2019). The Freedom of Information Act, and Journalists' Access to Information in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. *Global Academic Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 1(1) 17-21. DOI: 10.36348/gajhss.2019.v01i01.004
- Ezema, I. J. (2019). Management of open government data in Nigeria academic libraries: Status, challenges and strategies. Paper presented in IFLA WLIC Satellite meeting, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (DNB), Frankfurt, Germany, 22–23 August 2019. Retrieved January 4, 2020 [http:// library.ifla.org/id/eprint/2748](http://library.ifla.org/id/eprint/2748)
- Ezema, Ifeanyi J (2022). Availability and Access to Open Government Data in Nigeria: A Content Analysis of Government Websites and Nigerian Data Portal. *International Information & Library Review*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10572317.2022.2061813>, Published online: 19 May 2022, 1-14

- Ezema, I.J, Ezea,C.S, Ishiwu, B.N & Ukwueze,P.N. (2012). Freedom of Information and Nigerian Democracy: Issues and Challenges. *Proceeding of the 13th Annual Conference/Annual General Meeting, Nigerian Library Association, Enugu State Chapter, Enugu, 21 – 23 November 2012*
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (2011). Freedom of Information Act. Retrieved from <http://www.nassnig.org/nass2/acts.php> on July 4, 2023.
- Grimmelikhuijsen, S, John, P, Meijer, A, Worthy, B. (2018). Do Freedom of Information laws increase transparency of government? A replication of a field experiment. *Journal of Behavioral Public Administration* 1 (2), 1-10. Retrieved from <http://eprints.bbk.ac.uk/24005/> on December 12, 2021.
- Hassan, M. (2023) Research Data – Types Methods and Example. Retrieved from <https://researchmethod.net/> on August 13, 2023
- Nwoke, U. (2019). Access to Information under the Nigerian Freedom of Information Act, 2011: Challenges to Implementation and the Rhetoric of Radical Change. *Journal of African Law*, 63(3). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021855319000299>
- Obayi,P.M, Anorue,I.L , Chima, O.A, Umeokeke, C, Etumnu, E.W. (2020). Journalists Perception of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in Nigeria: A Study of Journalists in Imo State. *MCC*, 4(2), 108 – 128.
- Ogbondah, C. W. (2003). *State – Press Relationships in Nigeria (1993 – 1998)*. Ibadan: Spectrum Books Limited
- Safarov, I., Meijer, A., & Grimmelikhuijsen, S. (2017). Utilization of open government data: A systematic literature review of types, conditions, effects and users. *Information Polity*, 22(1), 1–24. Preprint <https://doi.org/10.3233/IP-160012>
- Segun, F.K (2012). The law of freedom of information in Nigeria . Retrieved from [https://digitalrightslawyers.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/WIG\\_April2012\\_Segun\\_Nigeria.pdf](https://digitalrightslawyers.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/WIG_April2012_Segun_Nigeria.pdf) on May 5, 2023
- Shaharudin, A(2020). *Open Government Data for Academic Research: Working Paper*. Kuala Lumpur: Khazanah Research Institute. License: Creative Commons Attribution CC BY 3.0. Retrieved from <https://www.krinstitute.org/> on August 12, 2023
- Somasundaram, S. (2023). *Government Records for Research -Benefits and Limitations*. Retrieved from <https://www.ilovephd.com/> on August 2, 2023.
- Teng, J, O’Doherty, K, McGrail, K, & Burges, M (2019). *Data collected by governments can be useful to researchers, but only when accessed carefully*. Retrieved from <https://theconversation.com/> on August 7, 2023.

Ubaldi, B. (2013). Open government data: Towards empirical analysis of open government data initiatives, OECD Working Papers on Public Governance, No. 22. OECD Publishing.  
<https://doi.org/10.1787/5k46bj4f03s7-en>.

Wirtz, B.W, Weyerer, J.C, Becker, M & Müller, W.M. (2022). Open government data: A systematic literature review of empirical research. *Electronic Markets*, 32:2381–2404  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12525-022-00582-8>

Appendix : Examination of Government Agencies for Availability of Research Data

S/N	Government Agencies	Websites	Available Govt research data	Remarks
1	Budget Office of the Federation	<a href="https://www.budgetoffice.gov.ng/">https://www.budgetoffice.gov.ng/</a>	Provides archives of the country from 2009 to 2023 including fiscal framework Policy documents on MTEF, MTSS, NDP & OGP No FOI information	Provides citizens guide to the budget Quarterly budget implementation
2	Bureau for Public Enterprise	<a href="http://www.bpe.gov.ng">http://www.bpe.gov.ng</a>	Scanty information on Completed transactions Ongoing transactions Future transactions No FOI information	No data on privatization process No data on revenue from privatization
3	Central Bank of Nigeria	<a href="https://www.cbn.gov.ng/">https://www.cbn.gov.ng/</a>	Robust financial data Data on currency issue system Inflation data Data on the country GDP Daily crude oil price Exchange rate Money and credit data Foreign reserve data Provides FOI Section	The data provided can be exported in exile file.
4	Corporate Affairs Commission	<a href="https://www.cac.gov.ng/">https://www.cac.gov.ng/</a>	No research data Information on process of registration of companies Some registration forms to use. Provides FOI portal without any content	No data on registered companies and other related issues No data on other Corporate governmental and nongovernmental organizations
5	Debt Management Office	<a href="https://www.dmo.gov.ng/">https://www.dmo.gov.ng/</a>	Provide data on external and domestic debts Data on sub-national debts Data on debt services Information on government bonds Publications from DMO are available No FOI information	No data on debts from state governments
6	Economic and Financial Crime Commission	<a href="https://www.efcc.gov.ng/">https://www.efcc.gov.ng/</a>	Statistics on 2020 to 2022 convictions Archives of news bulletin Adverts on auctioning of properties No FOI information	Absence of past convictions and updated data of convictions No data on arrests and prosecutions No data on revenue from auctioned properties
7	Federal Roads Safety Commission	<a href="https://frsc.gov.ng/">https://frsc.gov.ng/</a>	Provides quarterly statistical digest on road traffic up to 2022 Data on traffic offences not comprehensive The data is mainly administrative issues No FOI information	No data on road accidents across the states No data on issuance of driving licenses
8	Independent Corrupt Practices & Other Related Offences Commission	<a href="http://icpc.gov.ng">http://icpc.gov.ng</a>	Provides data on Proceeds of cash and fix asset recovery ICPC budgets for 2021 to 2023	No data on prosecuted and current cases No data on convictions

			<p>Procurements information</p> <p>Provide FOI portal with guideline for requests.</p> <p>Info-graphic data on project tracking</p> <p>Publications and presentation from ICPC</p> <p>No FOI information</p>	
9	Independent National Electoral Commission	<a href="https://www.inecnigeria.org/">https://www.inecnigeria.org/</a>	<p>List of 19 political parties</p> <p>List of candidates for 2023 national elections</p> <p>Data on polling units</p> <p>Only 2019 to 2023 election results are available</p> <p>Constitution and manifestoes of political parties</p> <p>No FOI information</p>	<p>Link to display of voters register inactive as at August 2, 2023</p> <p>Data on previous elections not available</p> <p>No data on past election results</p>
10	Joint Admission and Matriculation Board	<a href="https://jamb.gov.ng/">https://jamb.gov.ng/</a>	<p>No research data</p> <p>Provides portals for registration and checking of results</p> <p>Provides portal for FOI without content</p> <p>No FOI information</p>	<p>No periodic data on students' performance</p> <p>No data on admissions by institutions</p> <p>No periodic data on revenue generation</p>
11	National Agency for Control of AIDS	<a href="https://naca.gov.ng/">https://naca.gov.ng/</a>	<p>No research data</p> <p>Provides some publication on HIV/AIDS in Nigeria including national policy on AIDS</p> <p>No FOI information</p>	<p>No data on HIV prevalence in Nigeria</p> <p>No data of HIV/AIDS infection in Nigeria</p> <p>No data on mortality rate from AIDS</p> <p>No data on yearly trends of infection</p>
12	National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control	<a href="https://www.nafdac.gov.ng/">https://www.nafdac.gov.ng/</a>	<p>No designed research data</p> <p>Provides list of registered drugs in Nigeria</p> <p>No FOI information</p>	<p>No data on drug manufacturing and distributions</p> <p>No data on food manufacturing and distribution</p>
13	National Agencies for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons	<a href="https://naptip.gov.ng/">https://naptip.gov.ng/</a>	<p>Data on sexual offenders</p> <p>Data on cases in courts</p> <p>Rape reports in Nigeria</p> <p>No FOI information</p>	<p>No data on number of trafficked children</p> <p>No data on number of trafficked women</p> <p>No data on rescued persons</p>
14	National Bureau of Statistics	<a href="http://www.nigerianstat.gov.ng">http://www.nigerianstat.gov.ng</a>	<p>Provides robust data on various issues in Nigeria</p> <p>Has a data catalogue and data portal for research in different areas, poverty map, Covid-19 data hub, Central data catalogue of longitudinal studies, health atlas</p> <p>No FOI information</p>	<p>Some of the data are not current. Population data is only for 2006</p>
15	National Communication Commission	<a href="https://ncc.gov.ng/">https://ncc.gov.ng/</a>	<p>No research data</p> <p>There are links for industry statistics</p> <p>No FOI Information</p>	<p>No data on telephone density</p> <p>No data on registration of telephone line</p> <p>Telephone peak period</p>



16	National Drug Law Enforcement Agency	<a href="https://ndlea.gov.ng/">https://ndlea.gov.ng/</a>	No research data Provides annual report No FOI information	No data on abuse of hard drugs No data on drug crimes and arrests No data on prosecuted cases
17	National Examination Council	<a href="https://neco.gov.ng/">https://neco.gov.ng/</a>	Data on available examinations Data on examination results using log-in details Data on examination centres subject to log in detail No FOI information	No open data for examination results across the states No data on periodic students performance across the state Log in details required to access results and centres.
18	National Health Insurance Scheme	No identified website	NA	NA
19	National Human Rights Commission	<a href="https://nigeriarights.gov.ng/">https://nigeriarights.gov.ng/</a>	No robust research data Provides information on women and child rights etc. Annual reports and a few publications Provides statistics on FOI request	No data on human rights violations and abuse No data on prosecution of cases of human right abuse
20	National Information Technology Development Agency	<a href="https://nitda.gov.ng/">https://nitda.gov.ng/</a>	No research data Provides information on government domain registration No FOI information	No data on internet penetration No statistics on computer manufacturing and use
21	National Population Commission	<a href="https://nationalpopulation.gov.ng">https://nationalpopulation.gov.ng</a>	No identified research data. No FOI information	Absence of yearly population by state and local government, data on birth and death, population growth etc
22	National Primary Health Care Development Agency	<a href="https://nphcda.gov.ng/">https://nphcda.gov.ng/</a>	No specified research data Provides list of health centres in the country Publications on measles and COVID-19 vaccination No FOI information	No data on vaccination coverage No data on health personnel No data on country disease prevalence
23	National Salaries Income and Wages Commission	<a href="https://nsiwc.gov.ng/">https://nsiwc.gov.ng/</a>	No research data Provides circular and salary structures civil servants and other professionals No FOI information	No information on political office holders such presidency, governors, legislators, etc.
24	National Scholarship Board	No official website Only application portal <a href="https://fsbn.com.ng/">https://fsbn.com.ng/</a>	No research data No FOI information	No data on national and international scholarships No data on awarding organizations
25	National Universities Commission	<a href="https://www.nuc.edu.ng/">https://www.nuc.edu.ng/</a>	Data on accreditations of university programmes Statistics on request based on FOI from 2014 to 2017 and 2019 to 2022 NUC budget performance 2022 List of approved affiliations	No data on university enrollment No data on university personnel No data on university rankings No data on university graduations

26	Nigeria Centre for disease control	<a href="https://www.ncdc.gov.ng/">https://www.ncdc.gov.ng/</a> separate website for Covid-19 data <a href="https://covid19.ncdc.gov.ng/">https://covid19.ncdc.gov.ng/</a> updated last in 2022	Dash board contains research data on the national outbreak of following diseases cholera, CSM, Lasser fever, measles, monkey pox, yellow fever Data on Covid-19 No FOI information	Covered from 2006 to 2021 for all the states and local governments Provides information on many other diseases
27	Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority	<a href="https://ncaa.gov.ng/">https://ncaa.gov.ng/</a>	No research data Provides information and civil aviation act No FOI information	No data on local and international flights No data on revenue generation No data on the strength of the personnel
28	Nigeria National Assembly	<a href="https://nabro.gov.ng/">https://nabro.gov.ng/</a>	No robust research data Provides 2022 mapping of capital project List of senators and house of representative members Sectorial review analysis for 2022 Budget documents from 2016 to 2022 Budget performance review No FOI information	No archives of bills from National Assembly
29	Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation	<a href="https://nnpcgroup.com/">https://nnpcgroup.com/</a>	No research data Provides information on investment opportunities No FOI information	No data on crude oil production No data on revenue from crude oil sale No data on refined products
30	Nigeria Ports Authority	<a href="https://nigerianports.gov.ng/">https://nigerianports.gov.ng/</a>	No research data Provides information on service tariffs Provides links to FOI but no records of requests and responses	No periodic data on imports and exports No data on revenue generation
31	Nigeria Postal Services	<a href="https://www.nipost.gov.ng/">https://www.nipost.gov.ng/</a>	No research data Provides information on registration of post office No FOI information	No data on public and private courier companies No data of quantity of postages
32	Nigeria Telecommunication Commission	No official website	NA	NA
33	Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TetFund)	<a href="https://tetfund.gov.ng/">https://tetfund.gov.ng/</a>	Provides data on disbursement to tertiary institutions from 2010 to 2023 Specific disbursements to tertiary institutions from 1999 to 2018 Types of funds to institutions Information on guidelines for assessing funds No FOI information	Requires updated data from 2019 to 2023 for specific institutions No data on remittance of education tax
34	West African Examination Council	<a href="https://waec.edustat.ng/">https://waec.edustat.ng/</a>	Provides Registration statistics Examination performance School to school comparison Subject Performance statistics Performance statistics by states Data on private candidates No FOI information	Payment is required for access to the research data No periodic data on revenue generation