

## Space Management on CSDA Unix Disk Storage<sup>1</sup>

CSDA's goal is to provide all of the disk space that people need to get their work done easily. We do not want people to have to juggle files in order to save space. However, we ask that you not be wasteful in your use of disk space usage. We backup /csda, /csdaf, and /csdas regularly, which makes this storage expensive. We have general guidelines of use of up to 100 megabytes of storage on /csdaf for faculty, and up to 25 megabytes of storage on /csdas for students. We do not have a set guideline for directories in /csda/projects, but ask that people who store files in those directories follow the same practices we outline below. Frugal use of disk space will make it possible for us to continue to meet the needs of all of our users. Please help us avoid the unnecessary expense of storing redundant files, or files that are no longer needed. With the cooperation of our users, we will be able to continue meet our users' needs, without introducing more stringent restrictions on disk usage.

We specifically ask the following:

1. Please use the disk /tmp2 for files that you will need temporarily. We do not back up /tmp2, and files on that directory are deleted if they are older than 48 hours old. This is a great place to store data temporarily as you work on it, or to put files that you want to share with others.
2. Please review the files and directories in your storage space regularly. Housecleaning is never fun, but it is necessary. You likely will find many files and directories which you are no longer need. If you fear deleting files without first archiving them, CSDA staff will be happy to help you archive files and directories to CD-Rom disks. We provide this service without charge to all who access our UNIX cluster. Please contact Patty Glynn or Rich McMillan if you would like help with this.
3. Please avoid storing **copies** of data sets on CSDA disks. Files can be shared with others, and accessed from directories owned by others without copying the file. And, copies of data available from ICPSR should not be stored on any of the CSDA disks. We can write CDs of data that you need frequently. You can then FTP it to /tmp2 for use when you need it.
4. If you have a data set that you want to make available all, and that would be of general interest, it may be possible for us to store the file in a special place. (For example, IPUMS files are stored where many can access them.) If you have a file that you think might qualify for this special treatment, please contact Patty Glynn.
5. If you will not be using files for a while, please store them in a compressed format. You can compress all of the files in your directory with the command:  
`gzip -r /csdas/yourid/* &`

You can uncompress them as you need them: `gunzip filename`

Or, uncompress them all with the command: `gunzip -r /csdas/yourid/* &`

6. In SAS programs, use the following line in programs. It asks SAS to store systems files (both temporary and permanent) in a compress format, which saves a significant amount of space.

**OPTIONS COMPRESS=YES;**

C:\all\HELP\space\_management.wpd

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<sup>1</sup>Prepared by Richard McMillan and Patty Glynn, Center for Social & Demographic Analysis (CSDA), University at Albany, State University of New York.  
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