

◀ Tom Sullivan, Editor, Government Health IT

Tom Sullivan is the Editor of Government Health IT. Tom covers healthcare IT in all government settings, at the federal, state and local levels. He writes about industry trends and is responsible for overall coverage

Data grown too big to analyze with old processes, technologies









Only 2 percent of state and local governments have a complete big data strategy.

That's despite one in three surveyed agencies indicating that their data set has grown too big to analyze with the processes and technologies in place today, according to a report published Monday by MeriTalk, The State and Local Big Data Gap, which comes on the heels of MeriTalk's study on federal agencies and big data.

That chasm exists even though participants recognize the value inherent to data management. Indeed, the top three benefits include: improved overall efficiency, speedier decision-making, and a "greater understanding of citizen needs."

But 39 percent of respondents said their agency is just learning about big data and how related technologies might benefit them — while 44 percent have not yet started talking about the topic.

[See also: Commentary: Big data, big challenges.]

The report listed significant challenges to managing large amounts of data as storage capacity, speed of analytics, analysis, distribution and sharing, search/retrieval, talent, capture, and visualizing as well as an understanding of who, exactly, owns the data.

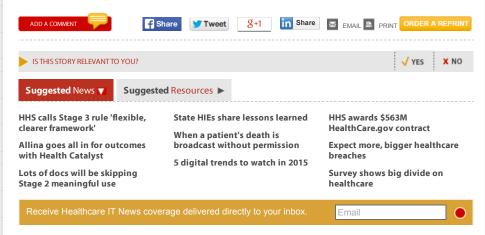
"State and local agencies say they need to double their data storage and computation power and triple their personnel to successfully manage big data," the report's authors wrote. And while some are working to close the IT gap, only about 25 percent are tackling the need for more personnel and those that are have thus far spent time training existing IT employees for big data or educating senior management on the benefits.

[See also: Plenty of healthcare data, but what to do with it?.]

So it follows that just about 60 percent of respondents noted they are analyzing the data they collect, while less than half $are harnessing it for decision-making purposes — perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because \it ``57 percent say their current enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is a perhaps because of the original enterprise architecture is$ not able to support big data initiatives," according to the report.

Big data projects, however, are not likely to get any easier since 97 percent of respondents expect their data to grow by an average of 53 percent in the next two years.

Topics: Business Intelligence, Data Warehousing, Policy and Legislation, Big Data, Analytics, Data storage



Most Read ▶

News People Organizations

Top 10 health IT predictions for 2015 Deaths by medical mistakes hit records **Best Hospital IT Departments unveiled** Docs say how they really feel about EHRs **Employee sacked after EMR snooping**

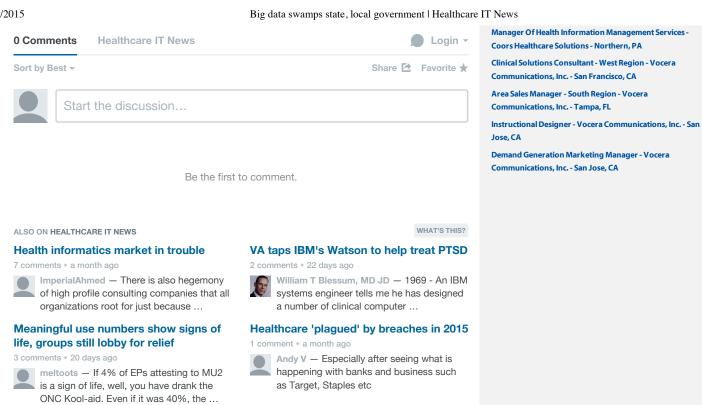


Recent Comments ▶

- Lots of docs will be skipping Stage 2 meaningful use Shocker. I hope CMS is prepared for a complete exit from the MU program. I ... meltoots
- Leapfrog names 'Top Hospitals' of 2014 How did a few of the IL hospitals make the list when they were penalized ... Jennifer

MORE IN POLICY AND LEGISLATION Lots of docs will be skipping Stage 2 meaningful use permission s away their

HIMSS JobMine ▶





Privacy







Add Disgus to your site

5 Steps to Success with Stage 2 Meaningful Use

What does Stage 2 Meaningful Use involve for providers? The simple answer is that it raises the bar across the board on what it means to "meaningfully use" an EHR: there are more core measures, new menu measures, and higher reporting thresholds. In addition, the focus of Stage 2 Meaningful Use shifts away from recording and reporting towards care coordination and patient engagement. Learn the 5 steps to success here. LEARN MORE



Video ▶



CIO Spotlight Episode 22: Gary Light

Gary Light, VP/CIO at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper, Indiana, talks about IT goals for 2015 and offers advice to



White Papers & Webinars ▶

The Product Innovation Challenge

DISQUS

Using Apps to Engage Patients in their Health **Going Mobile**

Validic Bridges the Mobile Interoperability Gap

January 15th @ 12PM ET -- Drive Greater Insight and Improve Patient Care with Scalability Experts' Healthcare Analytics Solution



Events ▶

Patient Engagement Summit, February 9-10, 2015 Privacy and Security Forum, March 5-6, 2015 **Revenue Cycle Solutions Summit at HIMSS15**

fellow CIOs.

Blogs ▶



Nobody knows

January 5, 2015 | Keith W. Boone

In looking back over 2014, and looking forward to 2015, two things stand out: uncertainty and change. MORE



John Halamka looks at how health IT fared in 2014

January 2, 2015 | John Halamka

The Beth Israel Deaconess CIO looks back at the big events that shaped health IT in 2014 — and ahead to what they portend for the coming year. "2014 was quite a year," he writes. "Thinking back to December 2013, I cannot believe that so much has happened." MORE



Will 2015 be the year your watch teaches you about your health?

December 31, 2014 | Nick van Terheyden, MD

There is no known medical condition that enables an individual to predict the future. While such an ability would be extremely useful for myriad reasons, we have, instead, learned to hone and leverage our analytic skills to deduce what might occur, relying on the data we cull and parse to help... **MORE**



Virtual visits: Cutting healthcare costs

December 31, 2014 | Christina Thielst

An Alliance for Connected Care study, released in December, estimates that virtual visits could save an average of \$126 per visit. $\frac{MORE}{}$

See all blogs ▶



I.T. Brought Challenges and Benefits to Healthcare in 2014

Privacy & Security Forum: Final Call for presentations

HHS Gives \$36.3 Million in Quality Improvement Rewards

ICW makes a substantial strategic commitment to focus on the U.S. market

Sophisticated End-to-End Performance Management Comes to Healthcare