OA Factsheet

We have championed the value and impact of open access (OA) for over 20 years. OA has clear benefits for researchers and society – increased usage, reach, and visibility, whilst also ensuring that the very content that can help address global challenges gets into the hands of those that can effect change.

We continue to invest in our fully OA portfolio, new OA models and transitioning our hybrid journals with a focus on gold OA. Springer Nature aims to have half of all primary research OA by end of 2024.

1.4m+ primary research and review articles published via Gold OA
44% of our primary in research was, published OA 2023, including Cureus
3,700+ global institutions now covered by our TAs, ensuring more researchers can publish OA
2,900+ OA books published since the launch of our OA Book Programme in 2012
380m+ downloads from our OA book chapters
600+ fully OA journals – with the highest average citation rate and downloads per article of any fully OA publisher
2,700+ our content-sharing tool SharedIt covers 2,700+ journals and over 4.4 million article links were accessed in 2022

Why OA matters

For authors
Publishing OA increases visibility and usage of their work, supporting career progression
OA articles achieve
1.6x More citations than non OA articles across all subjects
2.5x Altmetrics Attention
OA articles attracted 1.9x more news mentions and 1.2x more policy mentions than non OA articles
OA books achieve
50% More citations than non OA books on average
10x More Altmetric Attention than non OA books on average

For librarians and institutions
OA articles / books have higher downloads than non OA content
6x More downloads for OA articles than non OA articles
10x More downloads for OA books on average than non OA books on average

For society and science
OA ensures that research is open for all and able to be used to tackle societal challenges
As a result society can benefit more quickly rom scientific discoveries – such as the COVID vaccine
54%+ of SDG–related articles are OA driving forward knowledge around tackling societal changes
65% of our OA articles are published in fully OA journals, ensuring greater access to research
Transformative agreements
TAs are the most proven, sustainable and equitable way to transition to OA for all disciplines and at scale

For librarians and institutions
ensure an easy OA workflow, one central payment, increase read and publishing usage

For authors
make OA a viable option, no payment required, discipline neutral

For funders
increase reach of authors' work, enabling county level flips to OA

For science and research
driving growth in content, enabling equitable transition for all disciplines

Our TAs support researchers from over 3,700 institutions

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Driving Open Science
Open Science helps to deliver efficiencies and speed up scientific discoveries

We are committed to paving the way forwards for an open science future by creating the tools and services, of which OA is one, to make Open Science a reality for all.

Making sure research is open, can be replicated and knowledge built upon is essential to the development of a fully Open Science world. Driving knowledge forwards, it ensures science reaches the hands of those that can lead change against the world’s most pressing societal challenges.

More about our Transformative Agreements

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We work in partnerships with organisations such as Figshare, CodeOcean and ResearchGate to help researchers make all parts of their findings as accessible, discoverable, usable, re-usable and shareable as possible.

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