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Open Access at Elsevier

A guide for authors

Alison Ferrett, Customer Success Manager, Research
Intelligence
March 2024



Who you learn with?

Alison Ferrett is a Research Intelligence Customer Success Manager, supporting customers on the responsible use of Elsevier's research intelligence solutions.

Prior to this, Alison spent 14 years at the University of Plymouth, working in the research environment. She worked for the last five years as a Research Information Officer responsible for systems implementation and management.

She was successful in rolling out and promoting systems including SciVal to support the University's research strategy. Alison also worked as a research assistant with a team of researchers working on women's health.



Agenda

1. Journal and article ecosystem
2. Open Access and Open Science
3. Open Access at Elsevier
4. Open Access agreements
5. Licenses
6. Author's hub

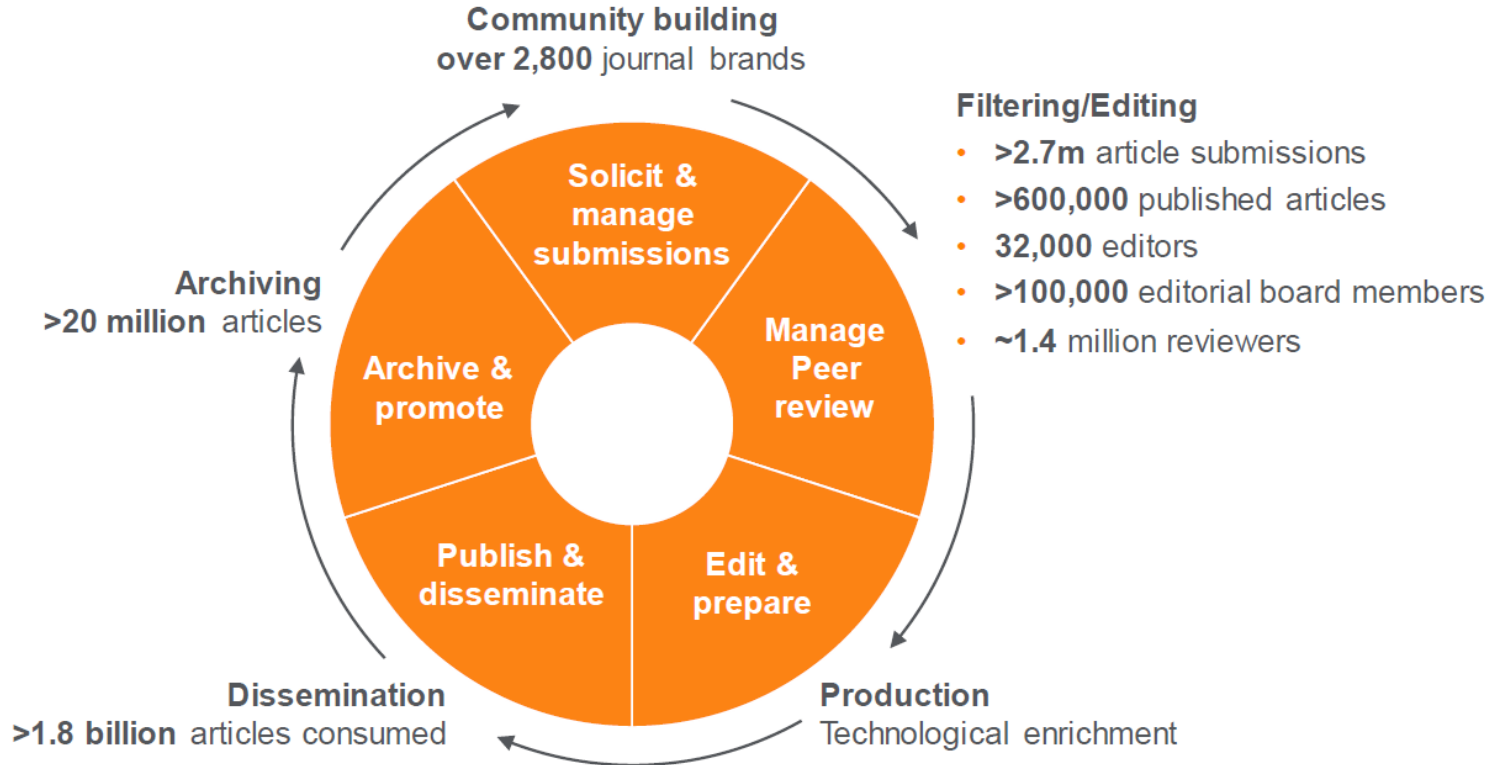


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Journal and article ecosystem

Journal and Article Ecosystem

How Elsevier supports scholarly communication

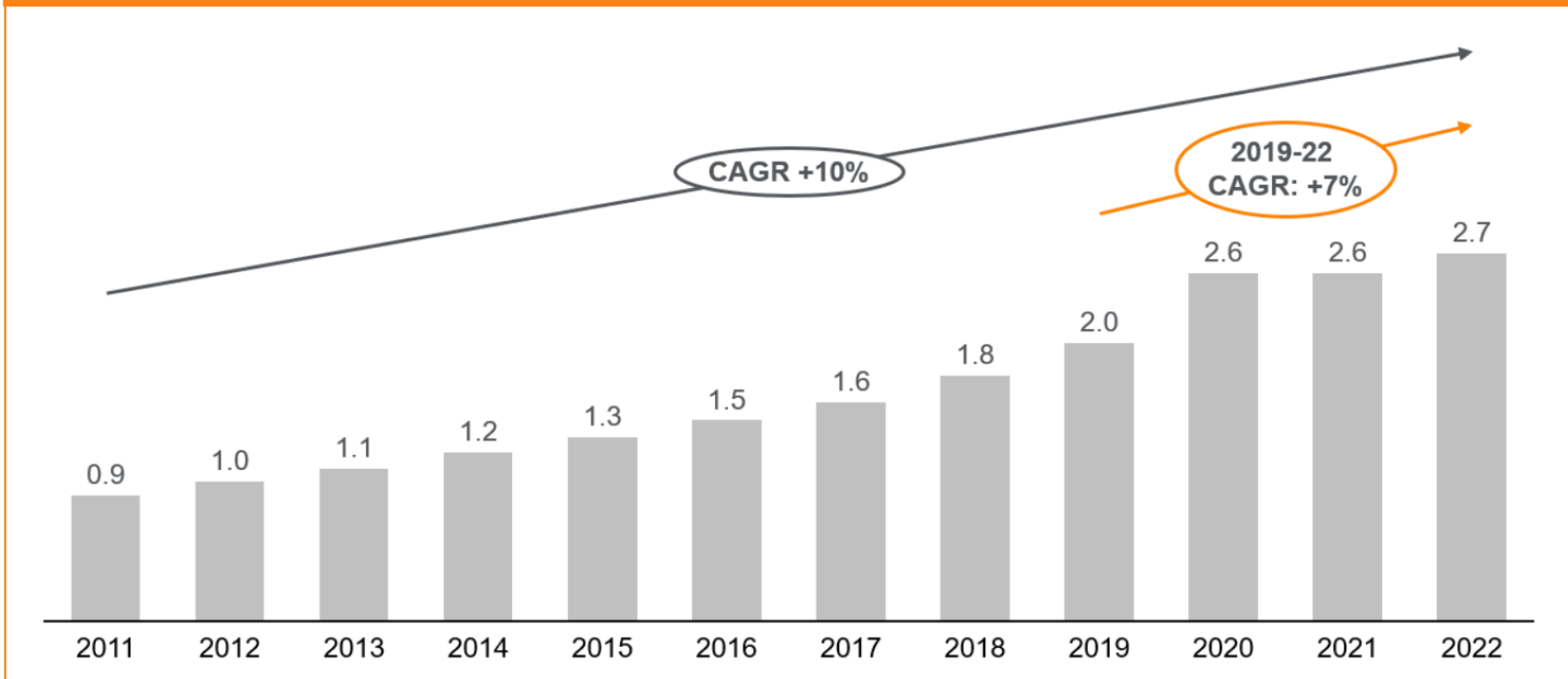


Article Volume Growth: Submissions

Consistent article submissions volume growth



Elsevier Submitted Articles (Units, Millions)

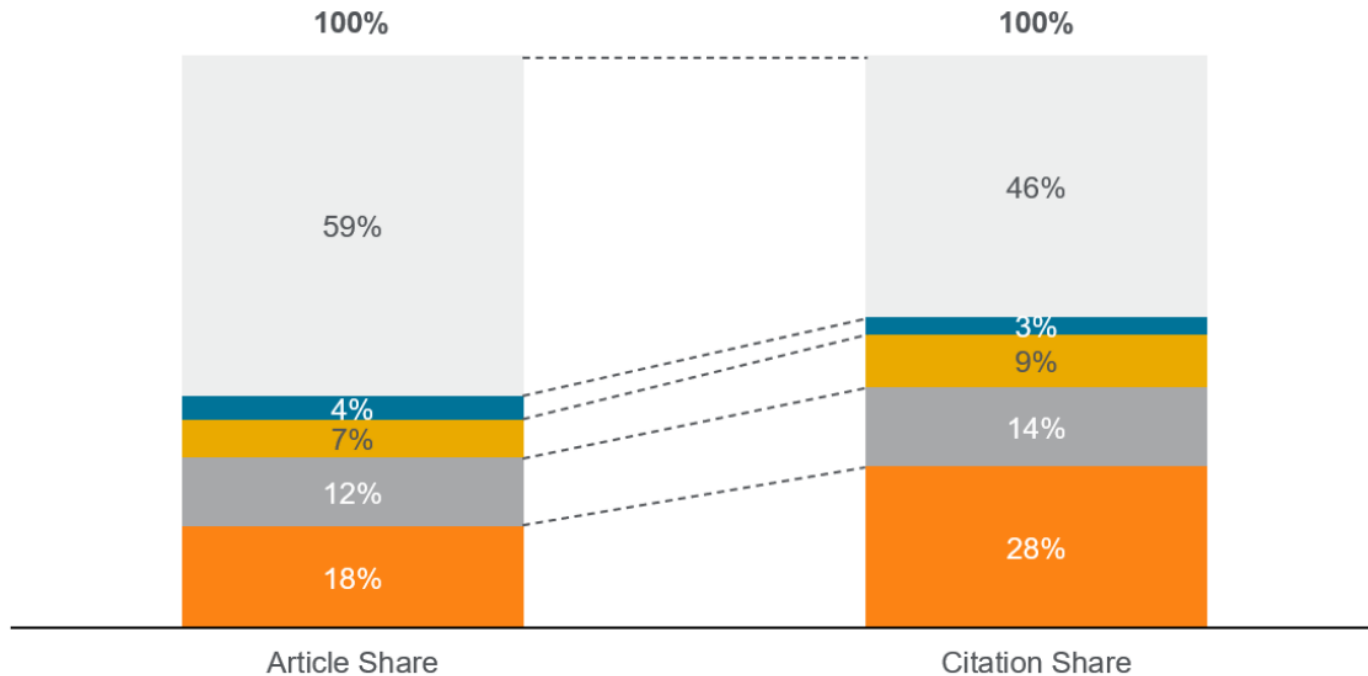


Journal and Article Quality

Article and citation share



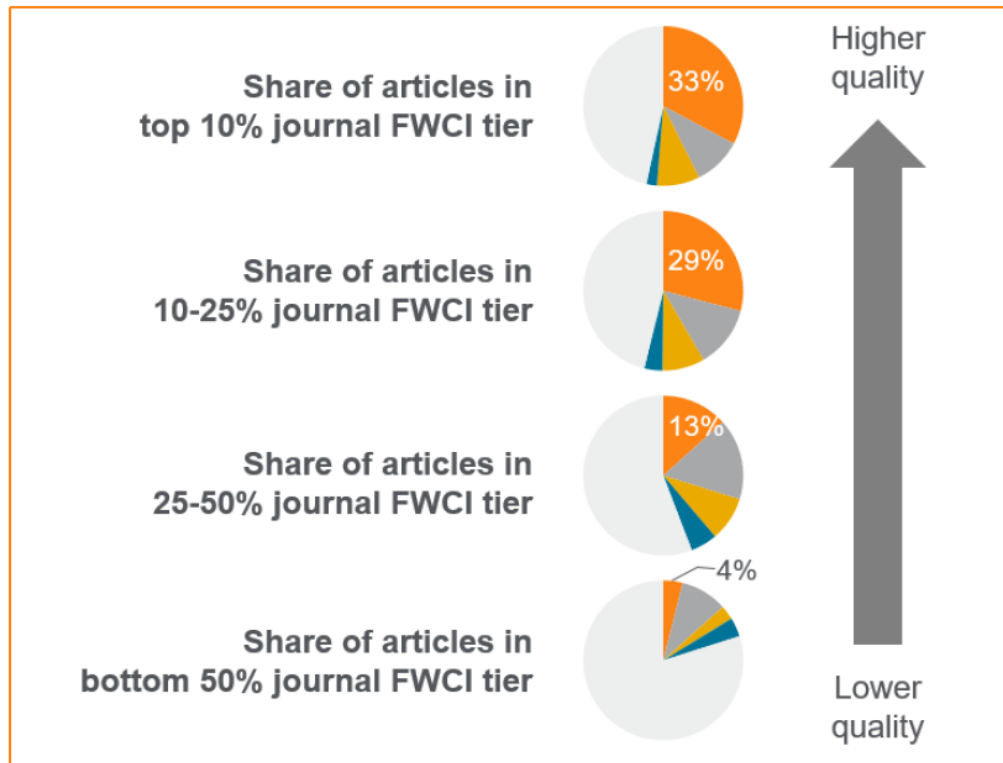
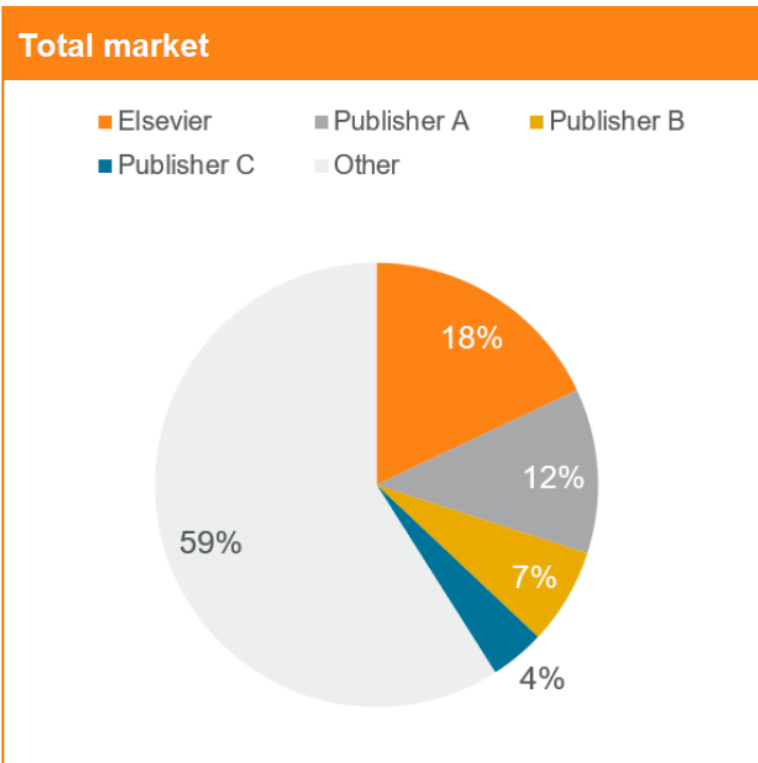
Elsevier Publisher A Publisher B Publisher C Other



Journal and Article Quality

Share of articles per journal quality tier

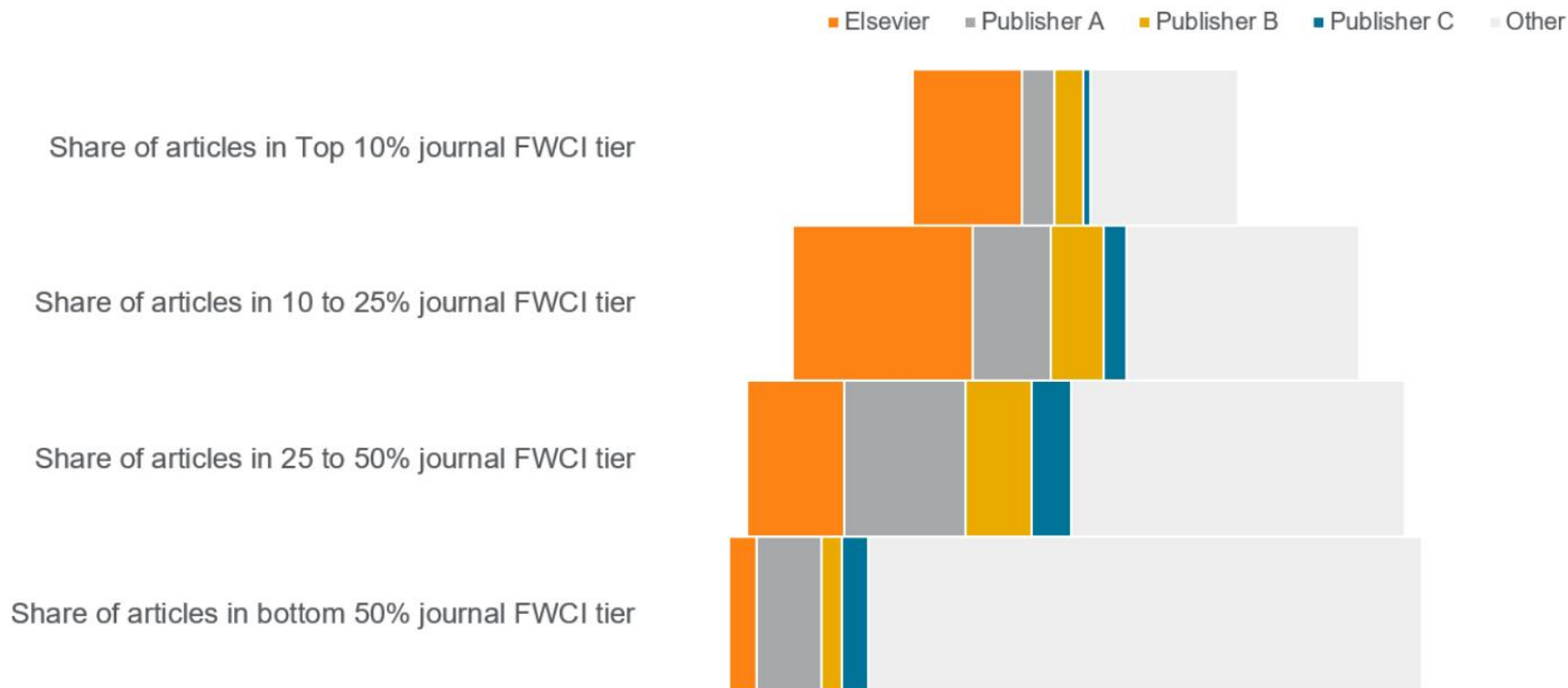
Share of articles per journal Field Weighted Citation Impact Tier*



* Articles published in 2017-2021. Field Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) is calculated on the basis of citations in 2017-21 to articles published in 2017-21 and accounts for article type, publication year and subject field. Source: Scopus data.

Journal and Article Quality

Share of articles per journal quality tier



Leading research platforms with global reach and scale



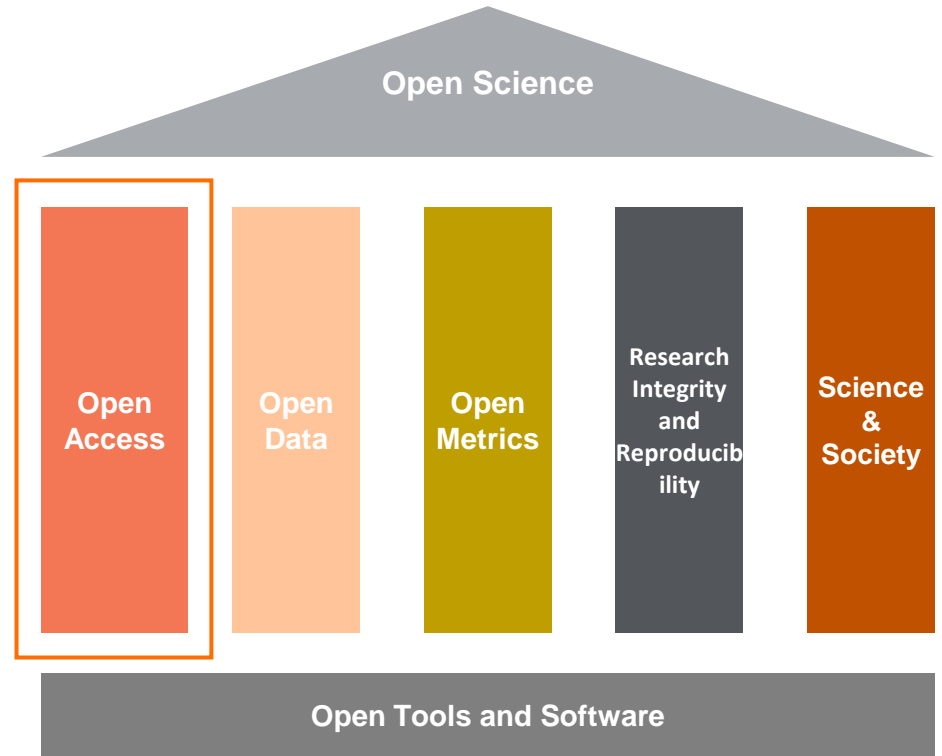
Increasing article volume, search and usability, adding sophisticated analytical capabilities



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Open Access and Open Science

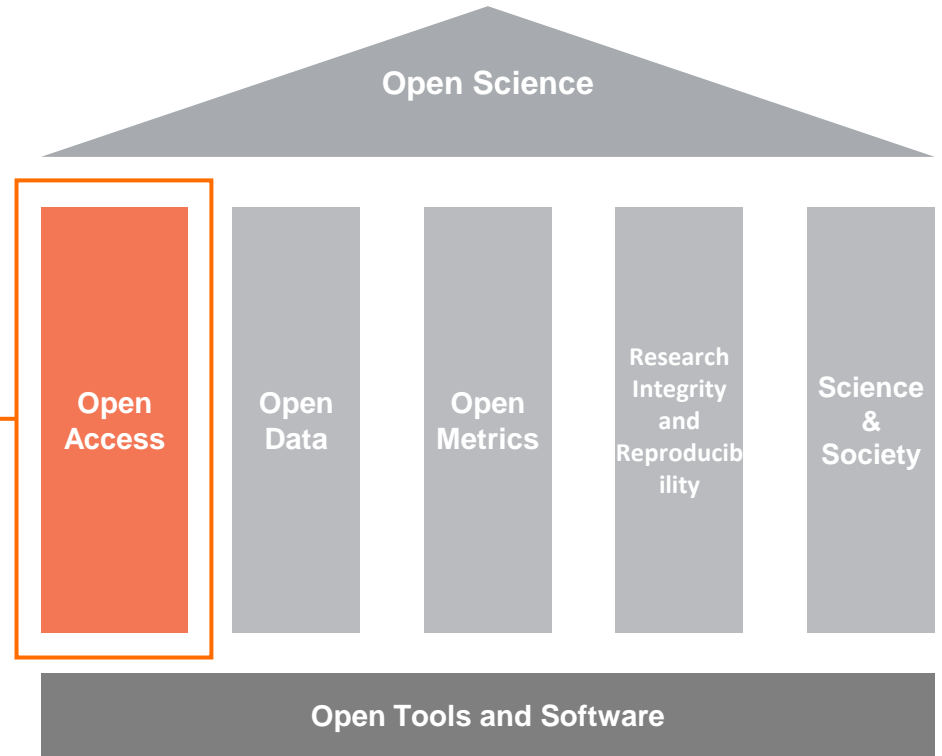
- Open science describes a way of working which makes research more inclusive, more collaborative, and more transparent.
- Elsevier partners with the research community to enable open science.
- We believe open science can benefit research and society and drive research performance.



The term 'Open Access' defined by so-called **Budapest Open Access Initiative** in 2001

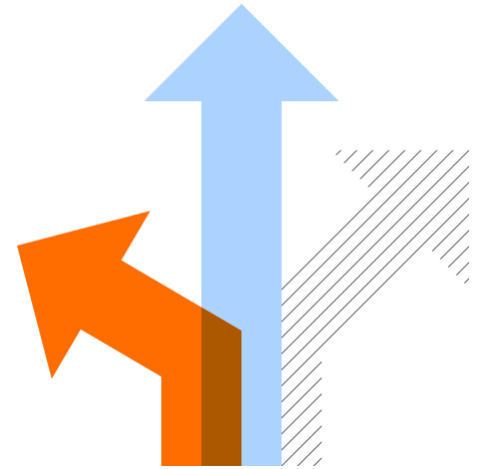
“By ‘open access’ to this literature [primarily peer-reviewed journal articles, as mentioned earlier in the Initiative], we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself.

The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited.”



Is open access the same as open science?

- **Open science** is a **set of principles** used to conduct, publish and disseminate research in a collaborative, inclusive and transparent way. In other words, it is a way of working that promotes openness
- Publishing **gold open access** (using the pay-to-publish model) or making an article openly available through other means are some but not all of the ways to advance open science.
- Some examples of other elements of open science, distinct from open access, are: [open data](#), open methods, [research integrity](#), as well as efforts to [bring science into society](#).



Open access is enabled by...



Funders

Establishing open access policies and mandates



Institutions

Creating open access policies and repositories



Researchers

Being encouraged to publish research output open access



Publishers

Implementing open access options for researchers



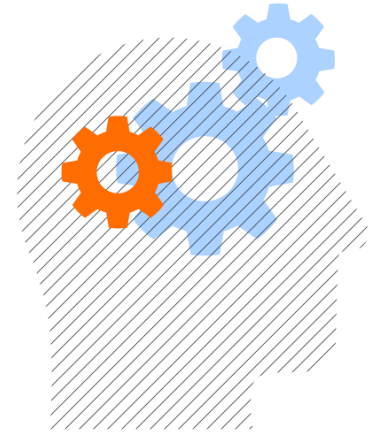
Readers

Looking for additional ways to read research content



Governments

Deciding on open access policies and mandates



Stakeholders have different research goals we are working to support





Examples of funding body policies

OSTP

- Open access within 12m of publication
- Open data (if unclassified)

Canada (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC)

- Offers APC funding
- Open access within 12m of publication

HEFCE

- Deposit AM in repository (12/24 month embargo)

UKRI **policy under review**

- Gold – preferred, with funding available, CC BY
- Open access within 12/24m

Wellcome Trust

- Gold – preferred, with funding available, CC BY
 - Open access within 6 months and deposit in PMC
- Fom 2021: Plan S compliant policy**

Department of Energy

- Deposit within 12m of publication

Howard Hughes Medical Institute

- Gold OA preferred; open access within 12 months of publication
- Deposit in PMC if field applies

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- Offers APC funding
- PMC deposit within 12m of publication

National Science Foundation

- Deposit within 12m of publication

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

- Offers APC funding
- Immediate access to publication and data

Worldwide Cancer Research

- Offers APC funding
- Deposit in PMC within 6m of publication

National Institute of Health Research

- Offers APC funding
- Gold mandatory, CC-BY and deposit in PMC within 6m of publication

JST and JSPS

- Open access as soon as possible by depositing in a repository

Research Council Norway

- APC funds available
- Deposit in repository with 6m for STM and 12m for SSH

Research Council Sweden (Vetenskapsradet)

- APC funds available; CC-BY required
- Deposit in repository with 6m for STM and 12m for SSH

National Natural Science Foundation of China

- Deposit in NSFC repository within 12 months

Chinese Academy of Sciences

- Deposit in institutional repository within 12m of publication

Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NOW)

- Immediate open access mandatory
- Offers APC funding

FWF (Austria)

- Offers APC funding; CC-BY required
- Green OA within 12m by depositing in a repository

European Commission (Horizon 2020 program).

- APC funds available
- If not immediately available, deposit within 6 months (or 12 months for humanities and social sciences)

Australian Research Council and National Health and Medical Research Council

- Output should be made openly accessible within 12 months of publication



Plan S

Making full & immediate
Open Access a reality

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How does cOAlition S define an OA journal?

For the purposes of Plan S, an OA journal is one where all peer-reviewed research articles are openly available from the point of publication. Other content may be behind a paywall.



Gold Open Access by region in 2022



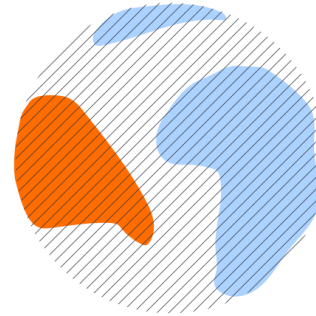
21%



28%



29%

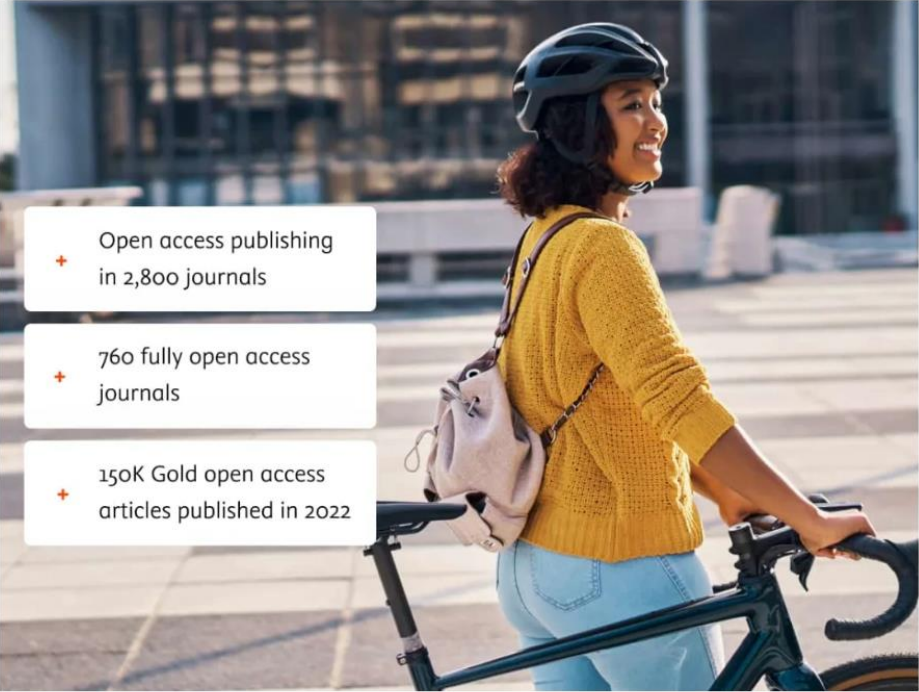




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Open Access at Elsevier

Offering ~2,800 journals to the research communities



- + Open access publishing in 2,800 journals

- + 760 fully open access journals

- + 150K Gold open access articles published in 2022

Enabling open access

As one of the fastest-growing open access publishers in the world, nearly all of Elsevier's **2,800** journals now enable open access publishing, with more than **150k** Gold open access articles published in 2022 and more than **760** fully open access journals across our portfolio.

[Publish open access with Elsevier](#)

Advancing Open Access at Elsevier



2002

Elsevier is founding member of Research4Life, which gives **free or affordable access in 120 low- and middle-income countries**. 100K+ peer reviewed resources are currently available.



2004

- Elsevier **allows all authors to post a free copy of their article** in their repository.
- Selected journals make **archives free to read**. Now for 140+ journals, including *Cell*.



2005

Elsevier starts **sending articles to PubMed Central** to make freely available — 260k+ to date.



2009

Elsevier launches its **first fully gold open access journal**.



2013

- Elsevier **gives authors option to publish open access** in most journals that were previously subscription-only.
- Elsevier founds program to **make articles from major US federal funders freely available**. 50k+ now available subscription-only.



2018

Elsevier **signs OA agreement in Finland**, allowing their researchers to publish open access at no charge to the author.



2019

Elsevier **signs open access agreements in Norway, Poland, Hungary, Sweden, France and with Carnegie Mellon University in the US**, allowing their researchers to publish open access.



2020

- Elsevier **signs open access agreements in Switzerland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Qatar and Korea and with the University of Florida in the US** to enable their researchers to publish open

Elsevier makes **all COVID-19 articles and data freely available** — 50k+ resources to



2021

- Elsevier expands open access options for Cell Press Journals and **converts 160 subscription-based journals** into open access models
- Elsevier is first publisher to sign an open access transformative agreement with the Royal Danish Library to support continued reading and OA publishing for Danish researchers.



2022 ...

- Elsevier launches 100+ new fully gold open access journals, bringing the total to **600 fully gold open access journals**.
- Elsevier publishes **119k+ gold or pay-to-publish open access articles** — a year-on-year growth rate of over 46%. This makes Elsevier one of the largest open access publishers in the world.
- Elsevier signs **transitional agreement with Jisc-UK**, allowing their researchers to publish open access across all Elsevier journals.



Defining open access models

Open access models represent a combination of three aspects necessary to publishing quality research:

1. How publishing services can be adequately funded
2. How and when readers can access articles and for how long
3. How published articles can be further distributed or used

Elsevier provides both the gold open access model and green open access route, derived from the subscription model, to enable authors to make their manuscripts available open access.

Different shades of open access

- **Gold:** published under a CC license with publication costs covered by an Article Processing Charge (APC) either as Gold in full open access journals or Gold in hybrid journals.
- **Green:** archived accepted manuscript of articles published under the subscription model, typically after a 6-24 months embargo period.
- **Bronze:** publicly available to read without a CC license (e.g., Open Archives)
- **Platinum/Diamond/Subsidised:** published under a CC license with publication costs typically covered by a third party (e.g., the society, the university etc.) behind the journal.
- **Black:** illegally stored final version of articles published under the subscription model

Gold open access

Gold open access: Articles published gold OA are immediately, permanently, and freely accessible for anyone to read and share. Libraries and other journal readers do not pay a subscription fee to access these articles. Publishing costs are covered by authors (or research funders on their behalf) with an **article publishing charge** (an **APC** — see more about this below). This is also described as “pay-to-publish.”

With gold OA, authors retain the copyright on their article, and they are able to apply a choice of creative commons end user licenses, which offer flexible options for sharing and reuse. Nearly all of Elsevier’s 2,700 journals offer a gold OA choice for authors.



Green open access

Green open access: Also known as **self-archiving**, green OA is an option where authors can upload a copy of their research article published under the subscription model to an institutional or other repository, which makes it available for anyone to read for free.

These research articles are subject to an **embargo period** — this means authors may have to wait a specified number of months before uploading the manuscript to a repository. The length of the embargo period depends on the journal.

See our [sharing policy](#) for more information.



Other terms for understanding the open access landscape

Article Publishing Charge (APC): Publishing is more than just posting online. To support [the services](#) that go into publishing academic research, publishers cover these costs with APC fees, which vary per journal. These fees replace the need for subscriptions but maintain the same journal quality. APCs cover many activities that ensure the integrity of research, provide for discovery and readability, and maintain the continuity of the scientific record.

<https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies-and-standards/pricing>

Other terms for understanding the open access landscape

Embargo period: The period of time after an article is published in a subscription journal before it can be accessed for free on an institutional or funder's repository.

Hybrid journal: A journal that enables authors to publish under either the subscription or the gold OA models. At Elsevier, the option is open for anyone to publish gold OA in almost all of our hybrid journals.

Over 97% gold open access

Over 97% of our journals offer the option to publish open access, making your article permanently available and free to read. In the **gold open access** model, you pay an article publishing charge (APC), making your article immediately, permanently, and freely available for anyone to access, read, and build upon. In many cases, your institution or research funder will pay the APC on your behalf.

100% green open access

If you choose to publish a subscription article, we can still help you meet your open access funding requirements. All of our subscription journals offer a **green open access** option, meaning you can post a version of your article in a repository after an embargo, so people can access it freely. See our [sharing policy](#) for more information.



Open Access agreements

Publishing models

There are two main routes for publishers to recoup the costs of publishing: Pay to Read and Pay to Publish

Pay to Read (the subscription model)

Under the pay-to-read model, the **cost of publication is covered by readers**, typically in the form of subscriptions.

This way, the cost of publishing articles is spread across typically thousands of institutional and individual subscribers, who pay to receive access.



Pay to Read

Readers pay to **receive access** to research content published around the world.

Publishing models

There are two main routes for publishers to recoup the costs of publishing: Pay to Read and Pay to Publish

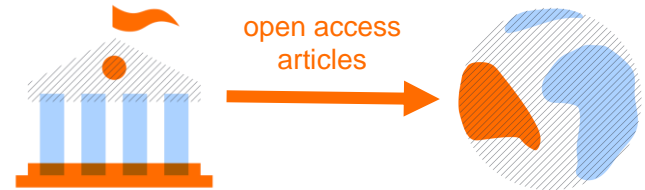
Pay to Publish (the gold open access model)

In the case of Pay to Publish, **individuals or institutions pay an Article Publication Charge (APC)** upfront to cover the cost of publishing. These articles are made immediately and permanently available to the rest of the world on publication. **Readers do not pay** a subscription to access these articles.



Pay to Publish

Individuals cover publication costs to **broadcast** their own article to the rest of the world.



What is a transformative agreement?

The underlying principle is to 'transform' subscription spend to support OA publishing. Particularly popular in Europe as a way of driving immediate open access.



Elsevier open access agreements

More than **2000 institutions** around the world are now able to publish open access through one of our transformational agreements.

<https://www.elsevier.com/open-access/agreements>





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Licenses

Copyright licenses at Elsevier

Authors publishing gold open access have a choice between two Creative Commons (CC) licenses: CC-BY and CC-BY-NC-ND. A license tells readers what they can and can't do with your article and ensures authors get credit for their work.

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Source:



Copyright licenses at Elsevier

Here are a few details about the implications of each license for an OA article:



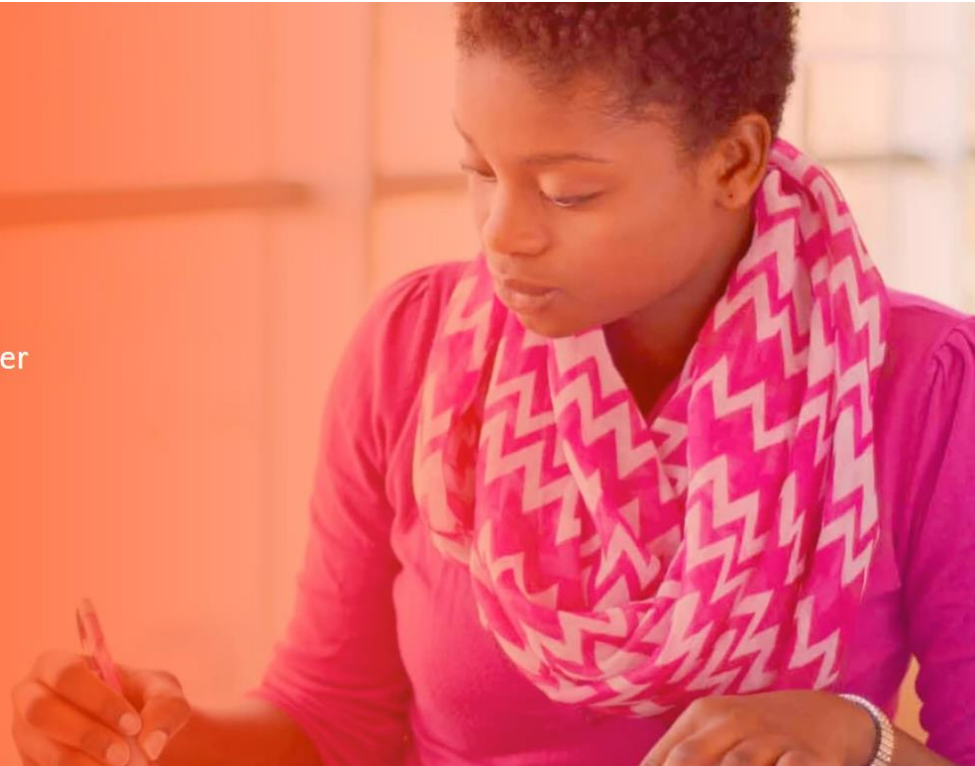
User license	Authors' choice	Read, print, download	Redistribute or republish the final article	Translate the article	Download for text and data mining purposes	Reuse portions or extracts from the article in other works	Sell or reuse for commercial purposes
CC BY	34%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
CC BY NC ND	66%	Yes	Yes	Yes (private use)	Yes	Yes	No

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Elsevier for authors

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Bonus: Free access

Open archive

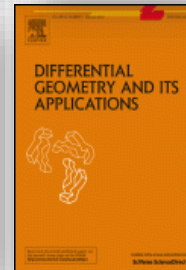
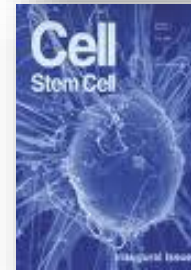
We make **open archives** available for **140 journals**, including Cell Press titles after 12 months.



Open archive

Elsevier enables subscribers and the general public to have free access to archived material in **over 140** Elsevier journals via ScienceDirect.

- Articles featured in the archives are free for everyone to read and download and are made available after an embargo period



We continuously improve how we support researchers, reviewers, and editors - access

Elsevier has [programs](#) in place to ensure broad public access to research for those who need it.

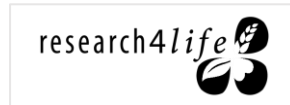


Patient access

Patients and caregivers can make requests for individual papers related to medicine and healthcare at no cost.



Access for disadvantaged communities/ emergencies



Through Research4Life, institutions in 120 low- and middle-income countries receive free or low cost access to nearly 100,400 peer reviewed resources and Scopus



Elsevier's free health and medical research on the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and COVID-19



Free access to content for Ukrainian researchers and relevant articles freely available: [Humanitarian 2022 Special Issue | Sustainable Development Goals - Resource Centre \(relx.com\)](#)

Useful links:

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- Open access licenses: <https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies/open-access-licenses>
- Article sharing policies: <https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies/sharing>
- Sample publishing agreement for articles published open access with
 - a commercial user license (CC BY):
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https://www.elsevier.com/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/1243188/CC-BY-NC-ND-JPLA_updated_March-2022.pdf
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Thank you

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