Institutional Repositories Usage Statistics in UK (IRUS-UK)

IRUS-UK collects raw usage data from UK Institutional Repositories (IRs) and processes these data into COUNTER-compliant statistics. This provides repositories with comparable, authoritative, standards-based data and opportunities for profiling at a national level. IRUS-UK is a community-driven development, responding to user needs.

Welcome to eight new participants

We would like to welcome our latest participating institutional repositories, meaning we currently have 125 institutional repositories representing >83% of eligible institutional repositories:

- Explore Bristol Research
- Plymouth University PEARL
- University of South Wales Research Explorer
- University of Essex Research Repository
- RCA Online
- Eureka: the Oxford Saïd Repository
- National Museums Scotland
- Aston Publications Explorer

As part of our ongoing development we have now been able to add Pure as one of our supported software platforms; we already have institutional repositories using EPrints, DSpace and Fedora platforms.

We are very pleased to announce that so far we have three repositories using Pure Portal who are participating in IRUS-UK:

- Discovery, University of Dundee;
- Explore Bristol Research; and
- University of South Wales Research Explorer.

We would be very happy to hear from anyone else using Pure Portal, v5.6.3 or greater, who would like to be included. Please do get in touch via irus@jisc.ac.uk

If Pure is your platform or if you would like the data from your CRIS to be included in IRUS-UK too, then do get in touch.

Annual Survey 2017

Our annual survey is now live and will remain open until 6th March 2017. Invitations have been sent out to the primary IRUS-UK contacts, but you can also access the survey through the following link: https://t.co/tn7xfFnx. Thank you very much to everyone who has responded so far.

As an added incentive to complete the survey we are offering entry into a prize draw to win a £50 Amazon voucher.
Out and About

Pure User Group meeting, 26th January

Paul Needham, our technical expert, was invited to attend the Pure User Group meeting in Manchester to talk about IRUS-UK and the Pure Portal. He introduced IRUS-UK and the Tracker Protocol and then presented a potted history from initial contact in 2013 through to the successful inclusion of data from the University of Dundee and the University of Bristol. Mary Shrimpton from University of Dundee then shared her experiences of working with Pure and IRUS-UK, from the process of setting it up and to how she is now making use of Power BI to visualise the IRUS-UK data. A Question & Answer session followed with topics discussed including: use of the Pure Portal alongside institutional repositories, distinguishing use of datasets and theses, and the filters and exclusions applied to the data.

Open Science Conference 2017, 21st-22nd March

We will be attending this conference in Berlin and have a poster accepted there.

‘IRUS-UK: on the road to Open Metrics’. Pete Dalton, Hilary Jones, Jo Lambert, Ross MacIntyre, Paul Needham, Laura Wong
Download the poster: PDF

COUNTER Release 5: Draft Code of Practice

As you will have seen the draft for the next release of the COUNTER Code of Practice is now available for consultation. The consultation period is open for the next three months.

The full draft, notes about changes, FAQs and information about how to give feedback are available on the COUNTER website: https://www.projectcounter.org/counter-release-5-draft-code-of-practice-consultation/

Proposed changes to the COUNTER standard will eventually be reflected in the IRUS-UK user interface. Paul Needham, IRUS-UK’s SUSHI expert, is also Chair of the COUNTER Technical Advisory Group, a member of the COUNTER Executive Committee and the NISO SUSHI Standing Committee. Therefore, the IRUS-UK team is well placed to understand the implications of Release 5, to implement changes smoothly and efficiently and to ensure that the portal reflects changes appropriately.
IRUS-OAPEN

OAPEN promotes and facilitates Open Access publishing for humanities and social sciences and the OAPEN Library contains freely accessible books. With the help of the universal IRUS tracker, via IRUS-OAPEN, it has been able to promote the fact that they have reached a new milestone: 4 million book downloads so far.

Blog posts

IRUS-UK recently posted two blog posts on the Jisc Scholarly Communications blog:

**IRUS-UK and ORCIDs** - In order to gain a fuller and more accurate picture of usage in institutional repositories it is important to be able to access standardised statistics as well as to be able to accurately identify individual authors. IRUS-UK has collaborated with one of our participants, White Rose (a consortia repository of the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York) to create a demonstrator, utilising ORCIDs, to be able to uniquely distinguish every researcher/author and so remove any ambiguities.

If you are interested in this area to expose many more identifiers and would like to work in collaboration with the IRUS-UK team, then please contact the IRUS-UK helpdesk at irus@jisc.ac.uk.

Link to blog post: [http://bit.ly/2gPv8QS](http://bit.ly/2gPv8QS)

**IRUS-UK Case Studies and Improving Open Access Support** - In an environment where providing Open Access to research papers and other materials is increasingly important, having access to consistent data on repository usage is vital. IRUS-UK statistics enable benchmarking and advocacy to help promote each Institutional Repository and its successes. We have several case studies by participants sharing how they use IRUS-UK data to promote their repositories and support Open Access. These case studies might help you think of ways to use the data more effectively for your repository.

We are always looking for more examples of how you are using the data so please contact the IRUS-UK helpdesk at irus@jisc.ac.uk.


Both of these are also available on the IRUS-UK website: [http://irus.mimas.ac.uk/news/](http://irus.mimas.ac.uk/news/)
IRUS-UK growth over time

Project Honey Pot

Project Honey Pot is a free, distributed, web-based, open source system for identifying the IP addresses of spammers and spambots. IRUS-UK is participating in Project Honey Pot and has contributed to the project by identifying a previously unknown email harvester. We recommend that our users also participate. Further information can be found on the Project website (http://www.projecthoneypot.org/index.php).

Contact Us

You can keep up-to-date with service developments by visiting our website www.irus.mimas.ac.uk

We welcome your views on your experience of using the website and portal.

Please get in touch if you have comments, questions or ideas for future developments.

Join us on Twitter @IRUSNEWS

IRUS-UK is funded by Jisc

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