

## Growth of Open Access Journals in Directory of Open Access Journals

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**Abstract -** Study is to know the growth of open access journals included in the Directory of Open Access Journals. The DOAJ provides the number of open access journals which are published globally. The different parameters like year-wise, country-wise, publishers-wise and language-wise are used for the data analysis. In this study, data is collected from the DOAJ website. The study found that 14442 total number of open access journals are included in DOAJ. In the year 2017, the highest number (17.08%) of journals is included. A large number of journals from Indonesia (11.37%), United Kingdom (11.21%) and Brazil (10.12%) are included as compared to other countries. The study is an original research work conducted with the help of the DOAJ website.

**Keywords:** Open Access, DOAJ, Open Access Journals, Serial crisis, Scholarly communication

### Introduction

The most commonly used methods for scholarly communication are books and journals. But libraries are facing many problems like a serial crisis. The major problem is the small budget of libraries. The price of journals is increasing day by day. So that libraries cannot buy all the journals. With the advent of the Internet, there is a major shift from print to electronic resources for scholarly communication. Open access resources are available on the internet for the scholarly communication. Open access resources may be varied in forms such as open access e-journal, e-books, videos, audios, personal websites, discussion forums, open access database, institutional websites, personal blogs, repositories and institutional repositories and open source software (Prince, 2016)<sup>1</sup>.

Open access journals are e-journals which are freely available on the Internet. Any user can read, download, copy, print, search and distribute the full texts of scholarly articles. These journals can be used for a lawful purpose, without any financial, legal, or technical barriers. These journals can be accessed from any corner of the world. Directory of open access journals (DOAJ) defines open access journals as "journals that use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access." (DOAJ, 2003)<sup>2</sup>.

## Directory of Open Access Journals

The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) was launched in 2003 at Lund University, Sweden, with 300 open access journals and contains 14442 as on 8 April 2020 open access journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social sciences and humanities. The DOAJ provides free access to peer-review open access journals. The main aim of the DOAJ is to increase the visibility and use of open access scientific and scholarly journals.

### Objectives of the study

- To find the year-wise growth of open access journals.
- To find the country-wise number of open access journals.
- To find the publisher-wise number of open access journals.
- To find the language-wise number of open access journals.

### Methodology

The study is conducted based on primary data. The researcher visited the DOAJ website for the collection of data.

### Analysis of the data

**Table-1: Year-wise Journals**

Year	No. of Journals	Percentage
2003	183	01.27
2004	191	01.32
2005	164	01.14
2006	154	01.07
2007	181	01.25
2008	277	01.92
2009	299	02.07
2010	558	03.85
2011	521	03.61
2012	524	03.63
2013	861	05.95
2014	398	02.76
2015	1269	08.79
2016	1645	11.39
2017	2466	17.08
2018	2261	15.66
2019	1958	13.56
2020	532	03.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>14442</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 1 shows the year-wise growth of open access journals in DOAJ. The table shows that in 2017 a large number of journals are included in DOAJ i.e. 2466 (17.08%). But in the year 2006, only 154 (01.07%) journals are included.

**Table-2; Country-wise Journals**

Name of Country	No. of Journals	Percentage	Name of Country	No. of Journals	Percentage
Indonesia	1,642	11.37	Romania	349	2.42
United Kingdom	1,619	11.21	Switzerland	334	2.31
Brazil	1,462	10.12	Ukraine	311	2.15
Spain	771	5.34	India	284	1.97
United States	765	5.3	Germany	264	1.83
Poland	631	4.36	Argentina	255	1.77
Iran, Islamic Republic of	537	3.72	Netherlands	233	1.61
Italy	397	2.75	France	230	1.6
Turkey	396	2.74	Serbia	176	1.22
Russian Federation	390	2.7	Other countries	3025	20.95
Colombia	371	2.56	<b>Total</b>	<b>14442</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 2 shows that out of 14442 journals, 1642 (11.37%) journals are published from Indonesia, 1619 (11.21%) journals are published from the United Kingdom and 1462 (10.12%) journals are published from Brazil. Very few journals are included by other countries in DOAJ. India contributed 284 (01.97%) journals in DOAJ and got 15<sup>th</sup> position in open access journals.

**Table-3: Language-wise Journals**

Full Text Language	No. of Journals	Percentage	Full Text Language	No. of Journals	Percentage
English	7013	48.56	Polish	233	1.61
Spanish	1106	7.66	Arabic	160	1.11
Portuguese	1241	8.59	Catalan	124	0.86
Indonesian	1044	7.23	Serbian	119	0.82
French	791	5.48	Romanian	95	0.66
Russian	629	4.36	Croatian	92	0.64
Italian	415	2.87	Czech	69	0.48
German	410	2.84	Chinese	60	0.42
Turkish	251	1.74	Danish	53	0.37
Ukrainian	283	1.96	<b>Total</b>	<b>14442</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Persian	254	1.76			

Table 3 shows that a large numbers of journals are published in English i.e.14442 (48.56%), 1106 (7.66%) journals which are published in Spanish a 1241 (8.59%) journals are published in Portuguese and a few number of journals are published in other languages.

**Table-4: Peer-review-wise Journals**

Types of Peer-review	No. Of Journals	Percentages
Double blind peer-review	7519	52.06
Blind peer-review	4050	28.04
Peer-review	2564	17.76
Editorial review	136	0.95
Open peer-review	132	0.91
No Information	41	0.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>14442</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4 shows the types of peer review-wise open access journals. In this table, out of 14442 journals, 7519 (52.06%) journals follow the double blind peer-review system, 4050 (28.04%) journals follow the blind peer-review system, 2564 (17.76%) journals follow the peer-review

system, 136 (0.95%) journals follow the editorial review system, and 132 (0.91%) journals follow open peer-review system. There is no information about peer-review of 41 (0.28%) journals.

**Table-5: License-wise Journals**

Types of Journal license	No. of Journals	Percentage
CC BY	5941	41.14
CC BY-NC-ND	3167	21.93
CC BY-NC	2596	17.97
CC BY-NC-SA	1234	08.54
CC BY-SA	941	06.52
Publisher's own license	378	02.62
CC BY-ND	160	01.11
No Information	25	0.17
<b>Total</b>	<b>14442</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 5 depicts that out of 5941, 51 (41.14%) journals follow the CC BY (Creative Commons) licence, 3167 (21.93%) journals adopt the CC BY-NC-ND (Creative Commons-Non Commercial-Non Derivative Works) licence, 2596 (17.97%) journals follow the CC BY-NC (Creative Commons-Non Commercial) licence, 1234 (08.54%) journals adopt CC BY-NC-SA (Creative Commons-Non Commercial-Share-alike) licence, 941 (06.52%) journals adopt CC-BY-SA (Creative Commons-Share-alike) licence, 378 (02.62%) journals which used publisher's own license and 160 (0.11%) journal adopt CC-BY-ND (Creative Commons-Non Derivative Works) licence. There is no information about licence of 25 (0.17%) journals.

**Table-6: Article Processing Charges-wise Journals**

Article Processing Charges	No. of Journals	Percentages
No	10482	72.58
Yes	3916	27.12
No Information	44	0.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>14442</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 6 shows that out of 14442, 10482 (972.58%) journals do not have any article processing charges and only 3916 (27.12%) journals have article processing charges. There is no information about 44 (0.30%) journals.

## Findings

- The study found that 14442 total number of open access journals are included in DOAJ. The journals are increasing over the years. In the year 2017, the highest number (17.08%) of journals is included.
- A large number of journals from Indonesia (11.37%), United Kingdom (11.21%) and Brazil (10.12%) are included as compared to other countries.
- A large number of open access journals are published from Elsevier, Sciendo and BMC.
- A large number of open access journals adopted double blind peer-review system.
- A large number of journals are in the English language.
- CC BY licence is adopted by a large number (41.14%) of journals.

- A large number of journals do not have article processing charges but (27.12%) journals have article processing charges.

### **Conclusion**

The study aimed to see the growth of open access journals in DOAJ. The study found that Open access journals are increasing day by day. In the year 2017, a maximum number of journals is included in DOAJ. In this study, a large number of journals are in English language. A large number of journals are published in Indonesia. The highest number of journals is published by Elsevier. A maximum number of journals adopt CC BY licence. Most of the journals are free from article processing charges.

### **References**

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