



Guide to Embase Usage Reports

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COUNTER REPORTS

Starting in 2025, Elsevier usage reports comply with the COUNTER Code of Practice (COP) Release 5.1. COUNTER prescribes two types of reports in this Code of Practice: customizable reports and standard views. The customizable reports can be customized by the user, who can determine which metrics and attributes should be in the report, and how the report should be filtered. To help with the most prominent use cases, COUNTER defined standard views, which are pre-filtered views of the customizable reports.

1.1 General information

1.1.1 Platforms included

Database and Platform Reports: The Embase customizable reports (PR and DR) collate the usage via the Embase.com website and via API. API usage will fall mainly into the text and data mining access type (TDM).

Standard views: The standard views have been pre-filtered according to the COUNTER guidelines, which means that TDM usage is not included in these views.

1.1.2 Available months

The metrics are the same between COP5 and COP5.1. Only the format of the report has been changed.

The usage will be available for the last 4 previous years and current year even if the Code of Practice 5.1 applied starting in January 2025. Because new Counter COP5 metrics has been released in October 2023, the COP5.1 reports will be available from October 2023 onwards.

1.1.3 COUNTER report retrieval


COUNTER reports can be retrieved via SUSHI or via a web interface. For information on SUSHI, please refer to <https://www.elsevier.com/librarians/usage-reports>

In the web interface, after selecting the product, one of the reports applicable to the product can be chosen. Select the “from” and “to” dates and the export format (TSV is a tab delimited file which can be opened with Excel or similar programs; JSON is the SUSHI compliant format). After clicking “Execute”, the report will be run in the background.

If you select a customizable report (PR or DR), the selections for the metrics, filters and attributes applicable to the report will appear. Check the tick box if you want the attribute to appear in the report as a column, and click the dropdown menu if you want to filter on the attribute.

You can check the status of the report under “Requested report status”. Reports will be available for a couple of days. A report can be exported or opened by clicking on the status icon.

Requested report status (COP5)

Customer Id	Report name	Product	Format	Status	Date submitted (mm/dd/yyyy)	Expiring date (mm/dd/yyyy)
C0000000	PR_P1	SD	TSV			

1.2 Platform and Database Reports

Embase has as COUNTER host type A&I_Database, and thus needs to supply Platform Reports (PR, PR_P1) and Database Reports (DR, DR_D1). Embase will not supply DR_D2 since the concept of no_license and access_denied doesn't apply to the platform. For official descriptions of the reports, please refer to [COP5 section on the COUNTER website](#). A summary of the new metrics is available in the [Glossary for COUNTER reports](#).

1.2.1 PR – Platform Report

A customizable report that summarizes activity across the platform and allows the user to customize columns, metrics, attributes and filters as desired. The user can include searches and investigations.

1.2.2 PR_P1 – Platform Usage

A standard view of the Platform Report offering platform-level usage summarized by metric type. The report includes the metric searches_platform.

1.2.3 DR – Database Report

This customizable report provides comprehensive information about activity by database that allows the user to apply filters and select other configuration options. Embase is a single database, so the only database in this report will be Embase. The user can include searches and investigations.

1.2.4 DR_D1 – Database Search and Item Usage

This standard view reports on key metrics needed to evaluate a database. The report includes the metrics searches_automated, searches_federated, searches_regular, total_item_investigations and unique_item_investigations.

1.3 Glossary for COUNTER reports

1.3.1 COUNTER metrics

For official definitions of the metrics and attributes, please refer to [COP5 section on the COUNTER website](#)

Note: Unique item metrics apply to both journals and books. Unique title metrics only apply to books. Unique metrics are calculated within a user-session: A single user connects to the service or database and ends by terminating activity that is either explicit (by leaving the service through exit or logout) or implicit (timeout due to user inactivity).

Metric name	Description	Platform-specific notes
Searches	A user-driven intellectual query. A user action that results in a result list or a change to the existing result list	
Searches_Platform	Searches conducted by users and captured at the platform level	
Searches_Regular	Searches conducted by a user on a host where the user is in control over which databases can be searched.	
Searches_Federated	Searches conducted through a federated search service	Embase.com has no federated searches
Searches_Automated	A search from a discovery layer where multiple databases are searched simultaneously with a single query from the user interface. The end user is not responsible for selecting which databases are being searched.	Does not apply to Embase
Investigations	Investigations include Requests (see above), and links to full text on other platforms and ILL	
Total_Item_Investigations	Total number of times a content item or information related to a content item was accessed	On Embase an item is a record consisting on its bibliographic information (title, abstract, authors)
Unique_Item_Investigations	Number of unique content items investigated in a user-session.	Multiple investigations of an item are consolidated within a user-session in unique item investigations
Access Denied Metrics		

Limit_exceeded	Number of times access was denied because the licensed simultaneous-user limit for the user's institution was exceeded.	Embase does not have a simultaneous user limit
No_License	Number of times access was denied because the user's institution did not have a license to the content.	Embase does not have this concept

1.3.2 Attributes

Attribute name	Description	Values applicable to Embase reports
Access_method	This attribute indicates whether the usage was generated by a human user browsing and searching a website ("Regular") or by Text and Data Mining processes ("TDM")	Regular
Data_type	The field identifying type of content. Applicable to searches.	Searches: Database_AI; Platform Investigations: Journal, Conference, Standard, Thesis_or_Dissertation, Book, Patent, Other, Report, Newspaper_or_Newsletter, Unspecified

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

1.4 General information

DR and PR COP5.1 Reports provide some parameters that allows you to get more insights into your COP5.1 reports by breaking down the COP5 metrics by additional attributes.

Consortium Members (for Consortia only): This new option offers you the ability to download detailed reports that show total usage for all members of the consortium, and which can be broken down by institution.