Advancing open access
Facts and figures of the DEAL agreements in 2021

DEAL OPERATIONS

July 08, 2022

The nationwide DEAL approach

Hundreds of universities and research organizations of all shapes and sizes actively participate in the DEAL agreements. Through their commitment, learners and researchers across Germany now have equal access to high-quality journals—including those at institutions that previously could not afford subscriptions—and the opportunity to publish their research articles openly.

Institutions actively participating in the DEAL agreements

510 Wiley

486 Springer Nature

A fair proportion of institutions actively participating in the agreements previously lacked journal subscriptions

22% Wiley

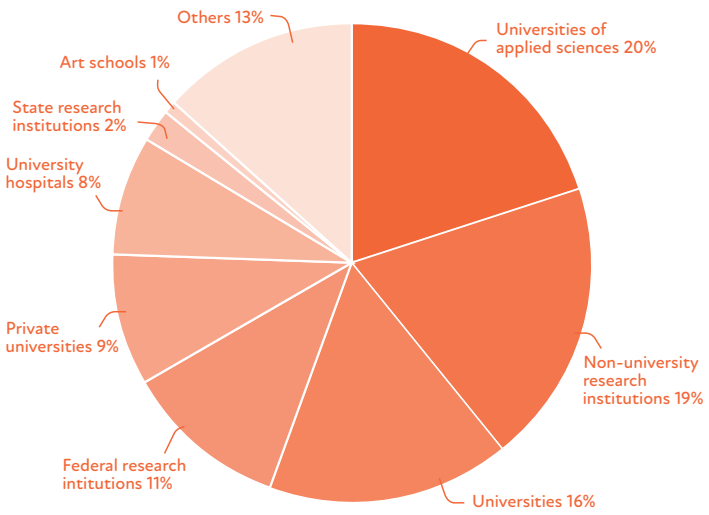
12% Springer Nature

The vast majority of the DEAL articles are by authors affiliated with institutions that actively participate in the agreement

98.4% Wiley

96.7% Springer Nature

Institutions actively participating in at least one DEAL agreement by type



Impact for German research

More than 27,000 articles were published under the DEAL agreements in 2021, making a large proportion of the results of German research freely accessible for scientists and citizens everywhere.

	Total	Wiley	% 2021 vs 2020	Springer Nature	% 2021 vs 2020
Articles published under DEAL agreements in 2021	**27,108**	**10,800**		**16,308**	
Articles in hybrid journals	21,295	9,747[a]	-3%	11,548[b]	+13%
Articles in fully OA journals	5,813	1,053	+20%	4,760	+2%[c]

Authors at DEAL institutions whose manuscripts were accepted for publication in hybrid journals overwhelmingly took advantage of the opportunity granted under the DEAL agreements, opting to publish their articles openly.

Author opt-in rate across both publishers

96-97%

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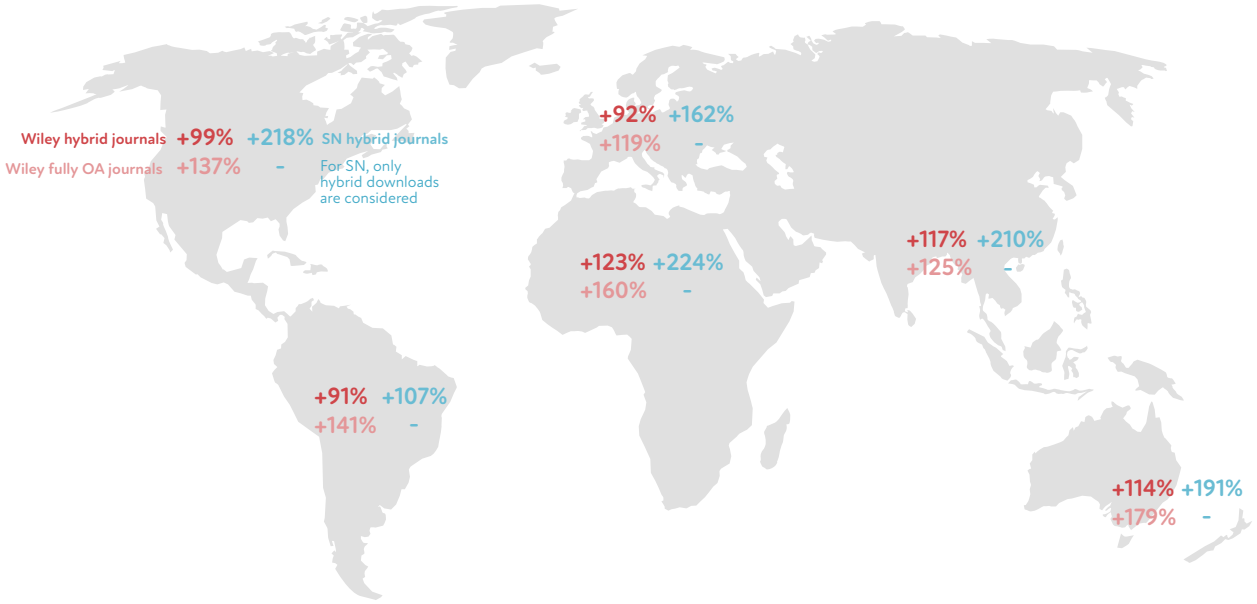
a Of which 207 articles were published in parallel in the German and English editions of the journal *Angewandte Chemie*

b Of which 892 are non-research articles

c Publishing in fully OA journals under the SN agreement began in August 2020, therefore the % compares the same five-month period, Aug-Dec, in 2020 and 2021

Open access publishing generates the broadest possible visibility for German research. Articles published openly under the DEAL agreements in 2020 and 2021 have garnered millions of downloads by researchers at DEAL institutions and tens of millions of downloads, globally.

Global growth in downloads of articles published openly under the DEAL agreements, by type (2021 vs 2020)



Total number of downloads worldwide (2020+2021)		Growth in downloads, globally (2021 vs 2020)		Downloads at DEAL institutions (2020+2021)		Growth in downloads from DEAL institutions (2021 vs 2020)	
32,645,097	**39,741,022**	**+107%**	**+185%** [d]	**5,153,998**	**2,789,311**	**+78%**	**+21%** [d]
Wiley	Springer Nature	Wiley	Springer Nature	Wiley	Springer Nature	Wiley	Springer Nature

Services delivered to researchers as readers

The DEAL agreements have massively increased and equalized researcher access to peer-reviewed journals, satisfying previously unmet reader demand for access to research articles behind subscription paywalls and eliminating disparities. Upon activating their participation, DEAL institutions logged an enormous increase in usage of subscription (closed access) and open access content comprised in the agreement, and usage levels remain at the new high.

	Growth in downloads of *closed* articles by researchers at DEAL participating institutions		Growth in downloads of *closed and open* articles by researchers at DEAL participating institutions	
Pre-agreement to year 1 Year 1 = 2019, 2020	**+35%**	**+38%**	**+41%**	**+50%**
Pre-agreement to 2021	**+50%**	**+77%**	**+71%**	**+107%**
	Wiley	Springer Nature	Wiley	Springer Nature

According to data provided by the publisher Springer Nature, the significant growth in overall usage of journal articles is consistent across institution types.

Random samplings of seven of **Germany's 15 leading research-intensive universities (U15)** showed **usage increases above 80%** when comparing usage before the agreement and usage from the second year of implementation.

A sampling of eight **German Universities of Technology (TU9)** showed **growth rates between 56 and 87%** for the same period, while usage at a **sampling of eight universities of applied sciences** showed **increases between 90 and 149%**.

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d For Springer Nature, the growth rates refer to hybrid downloads only

All download data as reported by the respective publishers