



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.



From the Jisc perspective

“There is an increasing demand on universities and research funders and of course infrastructure providers like Jisc to demonstrate impact and the value for their investments. In terms of the UK repository infrastructure - for the first time we are able to start to gauge a national picture of real content usage with the IRUS-UK shared service. This will enable us to provide statistics for benchmarking, tracking the growing use of different types of open access content and eventually being able to compare research output usage with publisher statistics.”

Balviar Notay, Senior Project Manager for Repository Shared Services at Jisc

Item types report

In late 2012/early 2013 we undertook a study of the use of item types by UK institutional repositories (IRs). This had two elements: a review of actual item types used and a comparison of standards and guidelines for item types applicable to UK repositories. The results informed recommendations for a set of item types which were subsequently implemented when reporting usage in IRUS-UK

(http://www.irus.mimas.ac.uk/news/IRUS_item_type_report_Jan2013_v2_0.pdf).

We are planning to revisit this report to see how these item type mappings have worked and to examine any new or revised standards or guidelines. We value your involvement and will be asking for your feedback as this work progresses. Please contact us at irus@mimas.ac.uk if you have any comments or suggestions.

IRUS-UK survey – chance to win £50

You may be aware that our 2014 IRUS-UK user survey is currently live. We would like to understand your views on IRUS-UK, and hear any comments or suggestions for improvement. IRUS-UK development is driven by community needs so we will use the information from the survey to feed into discussions about further enhancements to the service.

As an additional bonus, we are offering entry into a prize draw to win a £50 Amazon voucher to all who complete the survey (details of how to enter are at the end of the survey).

The survey should take no more than 15 minutes of your time and is available until 31st March 2014 at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/irusuk2014>

Review of 2013

2013 was a busy and exciting year for IRUS-UK.

During the year we:

1. Welcomed 38 institutional repositories (IRs), which started to participate in IRUS-UK and saw their usage data made available within the portal. This brought the total number of participants to 51 by December 2013.
2. Recorded over nine million downloads of 165,384 items from participating IRs after exclusion of robots and double clicks.
3. Examined the use of item types by UK IRs and compared the various standards and guidelines available for the use of item types within repositories. Recommendations from the report were implemented for IRUS-UK participants when reporting their data.
4. Worked on refining our treatment of robots and abnormal usage including commissioning a study into the establishment of an adaptive filtering system. Following our work on applying adaptive filtering we will refine the data ingest process, restate the data and make both old and new usage data available. We are working in collaboration with COUNTER (<http://www.projectcounter.org/index.html>) and the results of this work will inform future releases of the COUNTER-PIRUS Code of Practice (<http://www.projectcounter.org/pirus.html>).
5. Collected feedback from new users and published a summary of the findings (http://www.irus.mimas.ac.uk/news/Summary_of_IRUS-UK_new_users_survey_feedback_Aug_2013.pdf) that will be used to inform future developments.
6. Ran or participated in a total of four webinars and spoken at a number of events.

Contact Us

You can keep up-to-date with 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.



IRUS-UK