COUNTER
FOUNDATION
CLASSES

Class 6

Release 5
Database Reports

Database Reports

This tutorial explains the new Database Reports and how to use them

COUNTER Database Reports

In Release 5 there are three reports that will provide information about database usage:

- **DATABASE MASTER REPORT (DR)**

- **DATABASE SEARCH AND ITEM USAGE (DR_D2)**

- **DATABASE ACCESS DENIED (DR_D2)**

Database Master Reports (DR) show activity across all metrics for entire databases or fixed collections of content which behave like a database.

The DR can be filtered according to user needs and has two Standard Views.

Standard View: DR_D1

Identifier	Name	Description	Metric_Types
DR_D1	Database Search and Item Usage	Shows total item investigations and requests, as well as searches	Searches_Automated Searches_Federated Searches_Regular Total_Item_Investigations Total_Item_Requests

Standard View: DR_D1

Identifier	Name	Description	Metric_Types
DR_D2	Database Access Denied	Shows where users were denied access because simultaneous use (concurrency) licenses were exceeded, or their institution did not have a license for the database	Limit_Exceeded No_License

Search Metrics

Searches_Regular: The number of times a user searches a database, where they have actively chosen that database from a list of options OR there is only one database available to search.

Searches_Automated: the number of times a user searches a database, where they have not actively chosen that database from a list of options. That is, Searches_Automated is recorded when the platform offers a search across multiple databases by default, and the user has not elected to limit their search to a subset of those databases.

Searches_Federated: the number of times a search is run remotely through an API.

Let's take a look at the search metrics in action

Susan is researching the history of antibiotics on Publisher Platform Alpha
She runs a search for "history AND antibiotics"
The counts are:

Searches_Regular   **1**

Searches_Automated   **0**

Searches_Federated   **0**

...the search metrics in action

Susan is researching the history of antibiotics on Publisher Platform Alpha, which includes multiple databases. She runs a search for "history AND antibiotics"

The counts are:

Searches_Regular   0

Searches_Automated   3

Searches_Federated   0

…the search metrics in action

Susan then selects the 'History of Medicine' database and reruns her search

The counts are:

Searches_Regular   1

Searches_Automated   3

Searches_Federated   0

…the search metrics in action

In a separate session, Susan uses an API to search Publisher Platform Alpha
The counts are:

Searches_Regular　　　　　**0**

Searches_Automated　　　**0**

Searches_Federated　　　**1**

Key Metrics

The key metric depends on the *type* of database being analysed:

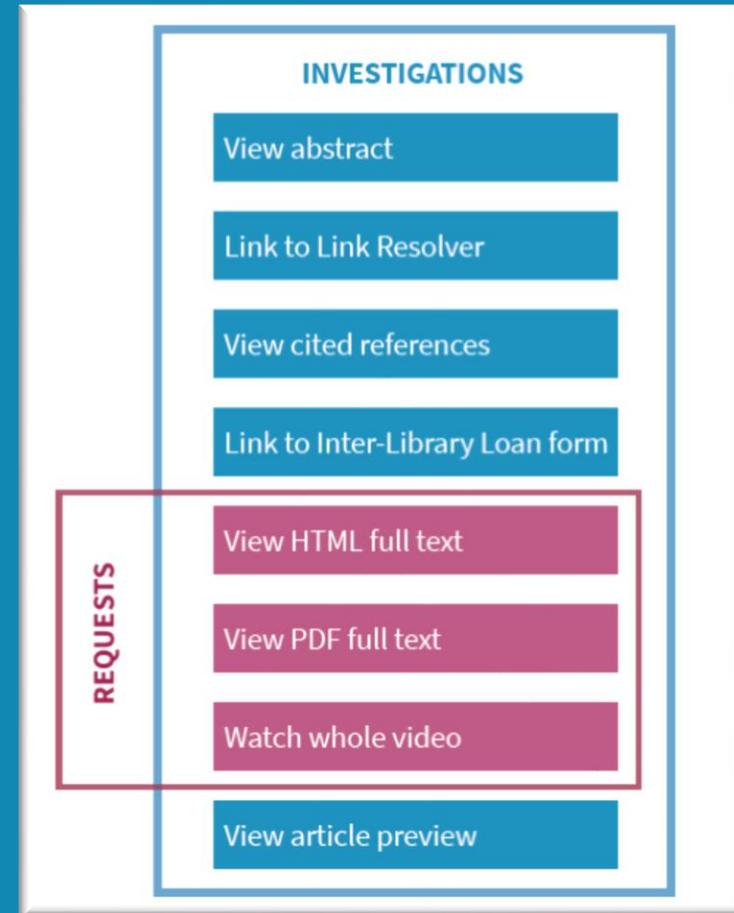**Total_Item_Requests** for full text databases (although Investigations are also counted).

Total_Item_Investigations for non-full text database (also known as abstracting and indexing(A&I) or citation-only databases).

Requests and Investigations

Total_Item_Requests: the total number of times the full text of a content item was downloaded or viewed.

Total_Item_Investigations: the total number of times a content item or information related to a content item was investigated by a user.

Susan's Investigation and Request activity on a full text database

Susan is researching the history of antibiotics on the PPα full text database. PPα is only database available on the platform.

From the list of search results, Susan opens the following items:

- 2 article abstracts from *Journal of Antibiotics are Fun*

- 1 article abstract from *Journal of Medical Historical Trivia*

Susan's other activity on PPα

Susan triggers additional investigation as well as some request metrics, by:

- Downloading 2 article full-text PDFs from *Journal of Antibiotics are Fun*

This truncated example of the **DR_D1** Report shows how Susan's search, requests and investigations will be reported for Database PPα

Database	Publisher	Data_Type	Metric_Type	Reporting_Period_Total
PPα	Alpha	Database	Searches_Regular	1
PPα	Alpha	Journal	Total_Item_Investigations	5
PPα	Alpha	Journal	Total_Item_Requests	2

Key Metrics

Because Database PPα has full text, Susan's librarian will use **Total_Item_Requests** when analysing the usage of the database.

She will also use the Title Reports to see the Unique_Item_Requests for journals and the Unique_Title_Requests for books in the database.

Susan's activity on a non-full text database Gamma

Susan found the articles from the *Journal of Antibiotics are Fun* very useful.

She wants to read more articles by the same author and runs a search on the author's name on Gamma a non-full text database.

From the list of search results, Susan opens **three abstract records** about journal articles by this author.

This truncated example of the **DR_D1** Report shows how Susan's search, and investigations will be reported for Database Gamma

Database	Publisher	Data_Type	Metric_Type	Reporting_Period_Total
Gamma	Beta	Database	Searches_Regular	1
Gamma	Beta	Journal	Total_Item_Investigations	3

Key Metrics

Because Database Gamma has no full text, Susan's librarian will use **Total_Item_Investigations** when analysing the usage of the database.

Total_Item_Investigations replaces the Result Clicks metric that was in Release 4 of the COUNTER Code of Practice.

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