FACTSHEET

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JSTOR at a glance

Purpose

JSTOR (jstor.org) is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content on a trusted digital archive of more than one thousand academic journals and one million primary sources.

History

JSTOR was conceived by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to help university and college libraries struggling to provide adequate space for an ever-growing amount of published scholarship. In 1995, JSTOR was founded as a shared digital library to help academic institutions save costs associated with the storage of library materials and to vastly improve access to scholarship. JSTOR merged with and became of service of ITHAKA (ithaka.org) in 2009, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Portico (portico.org) and Ithaka S+R (ithaka.org/ithaka-s-r).

Key facts

- JSTOR archives and provides access to archival and current issues of more than 1,400 scholarly journals across more than 50 academic disciplines.
- JSTOR includes scholarly journals, conference proceedings, primary source materials, and, launching in 2012, books.
- JSTOR licenses content from a group of more than 800 publishers that includes university presses, commercial publishers, scholarly and professional societies, university departments, independent journals, museums, and libraries.
- JSTOR is dedicated to the long-term preservation and high digitization standards of scholarly materials.

Impact

- More than 7,000 institutions—higher education institutions, public libraries, community colleges, government and not-for-profit research institutions, museums, secondary schools—from more than 150 countries have access to JSTOR.
- More than 90% of participating institutions are medium to very small schools, and organizations that have never had broad access to this content. JSTOR enables librarians at these institutions to provide their patrons with the resources of a major research library.
- More than 990 secondary schools around the world have access to JSTOR. Approximately 30% are public schools.
- Fourteen percent (14%) of institutions participate through two special programs that offer free JSTOR access or reduced fees. These programs are our African Access Initiative (AAI) and the Developing Nations Access Initiative (DNAI).
- Public library participation includes 130 public libraries in 32 countries. Many of these libraries provide remote access to their patrons via library card logins.
- New programs such as the Alumni Access Pilot offer ongoing access to graduates.
- All JSTOR license agreements allow for walk-in use of the resource.
- Users downloaded more than 74 million articles in 2010, and total accesses of the database (including searches and page views) eclipsed 590 million.