

Using Bibliographic Databases

Bibliographic Databases (sometimes called Bibliographic Indexes, Citation Databases or just Databases) are databases of literature, research publications, reports, scholarly articles and other resources. These are not collections of texts, but provide a world-wide index of scholarly materials online and in print.

Bibliographic Indexes usually provide an abstract or summary about resources rather than linking to the full text of the resource (although some Indexes will provide options for accessing the full text online).

If you would like to perform a deeper search, not simply across subscribed University collections, but across electronic and printed resources published world-wide, you can use Bibliographic indexes or databases to identify a particularly scarce or specialist resource or to confirm the publication details for a resource you are using.

You can search the SCOPUS or Web of Knowledge databases from the Library Web pages. *Online students also see the [E-Resources](#) page in the [Library for Online Programmes](#).*

You can access further Bibliographic Databases from our subject specialist [LibGuides](#) (designed for the on-campus physical Library) or our [Databases A-Z](#) page.

Some bibliographic such as SCOPUS or Web of Knowledge include a range of subjects, others are designed for specialist subject areas, these include:

- ASSIA - Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts: an indexing and abstracting tool covering health, social services, psychology, sociology, economics, politics, race relations and education.
- BNI - British Nursing Index & Archive: subject areas covered include: accident and emergency nursing, breast cancer, evidence based practice, learning disabilities, midwifery, nurse practitioner, orthopedic nursing and other specialist area.

- Computer and Information Systems Abstracts: a monthly update on the latest theoretical research and practical applications around the world.
- EconLit: including books, journals and dissertations covering all aspects of economic theory and applications.
- Zetoc: contains details of approximately 20,000 current journals and 16,000 conference proceedings for science, technology, medicine, engineering, business, law, finance and the humanities.

Obtaining texts discovered via Bibliographic Databases

Bibliographic indexes may provide a link to freely available resources on the World Wide Web or may provide access via University of Liverpool subscriptions.

You may see a 'Is it @ Liverpool'  icon, if you click this you should see a screen confirming if access is available via Library subscriptions, if access is available you will see a GO button to visit the full text. If this screen shows 'Full text not available' this means it is unlikely we have access to the resource via our subscription systems.

If you identify a resource using a Bibliographic database and cannot immediately discover the full-text version of the document, also try using the 'Go to an article' tool shown in the electronic library (*Online students also see the [E-Resources](#) page in the [Library for Online Programmes](#)*), you should note the publication/ citation details (journal name, volume, issue etc.) to use this tool effectively.

Obtaining resources in print / outside University collections

To obtain a resource (E-Journal article, E-Book etc.) outside Library subscriptions please see our guide

Journal Bibliometrics / Research Impact

Bibliographic Databases and related platforms provide options for viewing the research impact of academic research. Evaluating the impact of an individual author, subject area, specialism or industry can assist you in selecting the most relevant and important source material for your own academic writing and research. The following guides and presentations provide an introduction to journal bibliometrics:

- Introduction to Journal Bibliometrics / Research Impact

- Table of Journal Impact Standards
- Accessing Personal Author Impact Statistics
- Using Bibliometrics / Research Impact in the SCOPUS platform

For these guides and additional video/ tutorials see the [Research Support LibGuide](#), online students also see our [guides and tutorials on journal and author rankings](#).

Further Help

If you have any questions please contact your Librarian (see [list of Liaison Librarians](#) and [Librarian for Online Programmes](#)).

