

Origins

The Oxford University Research Archive (ORA) was launched by Oxford University in 2007 as a permanent and secure online archive of research materials produced by members of the University of Oxford. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Journal articles
- Working papers
- Conference papers
- Research theses
- Book chapters
- Patents

ORA is built on bespoke repository architecture with a customized metadata schema which supports DataCite citation and which is broad enough to cover all disciplines. ORA provides the means for institutional compliance with Open Access requirements.

“An Ark to save learning from Deluge”

- Sir Francis Bacon

Since its foundation in 1602, the Bodleian Library - 'The Public Library in Oxford' - has been at the forefront of the Preservation, Conservation and Dissemination of information. The Bodleian Library is committed to preserve its digital collections with the same level of commitment as it has preserved its physical collections over many centuries. On 11 March 2013, The Statement on Open Access at the University of Oxford was approved, committing the University to ensuring the **widest possible** access to research.



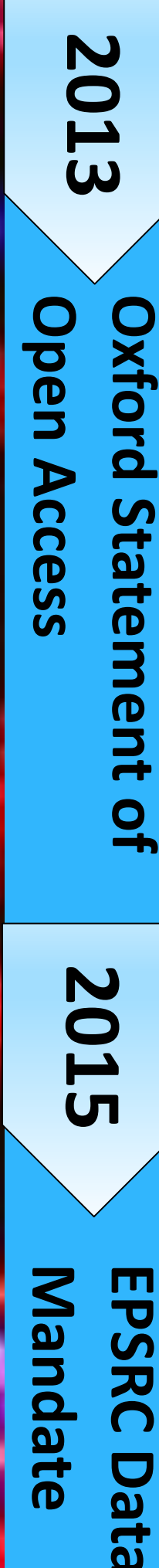
ORA-Data

ORA-Data - the University of Oxford's digital catalogue and repository for research data - was launched in May 2015, partly in response to the EPSRC policy framework on research data. It offers a service to archive, preserve and enable the discovery and sharing of data produced by Oxford researchers

ORA-Data is an extension of ORA for publications and theses, so data can be linked easily and browsed alongside related publications.

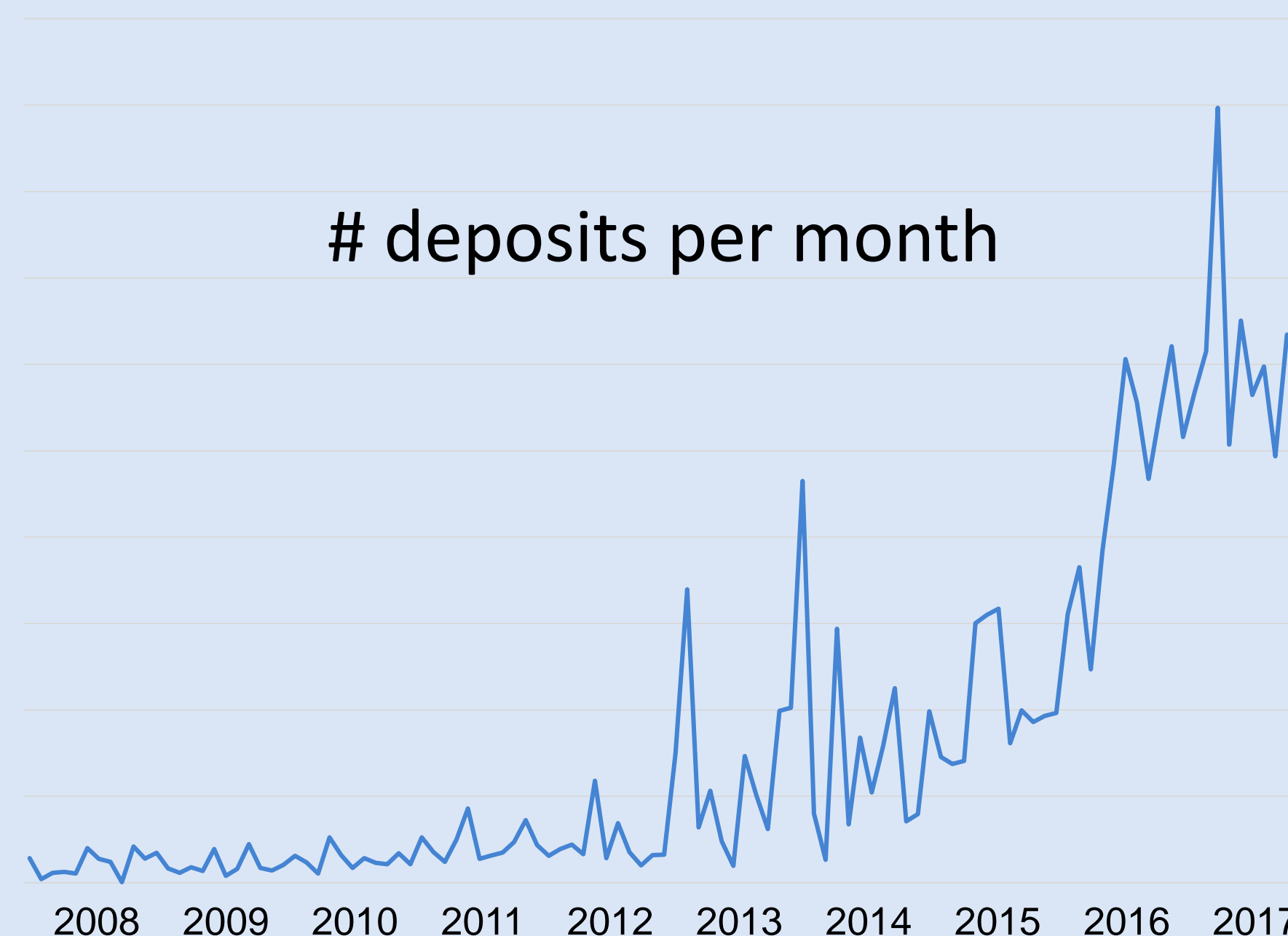
Any type of digital research data may be deposited in ORA-Data, and any file format is accepted.

Datasets in ORA-Data can be assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) for citation and attribution.

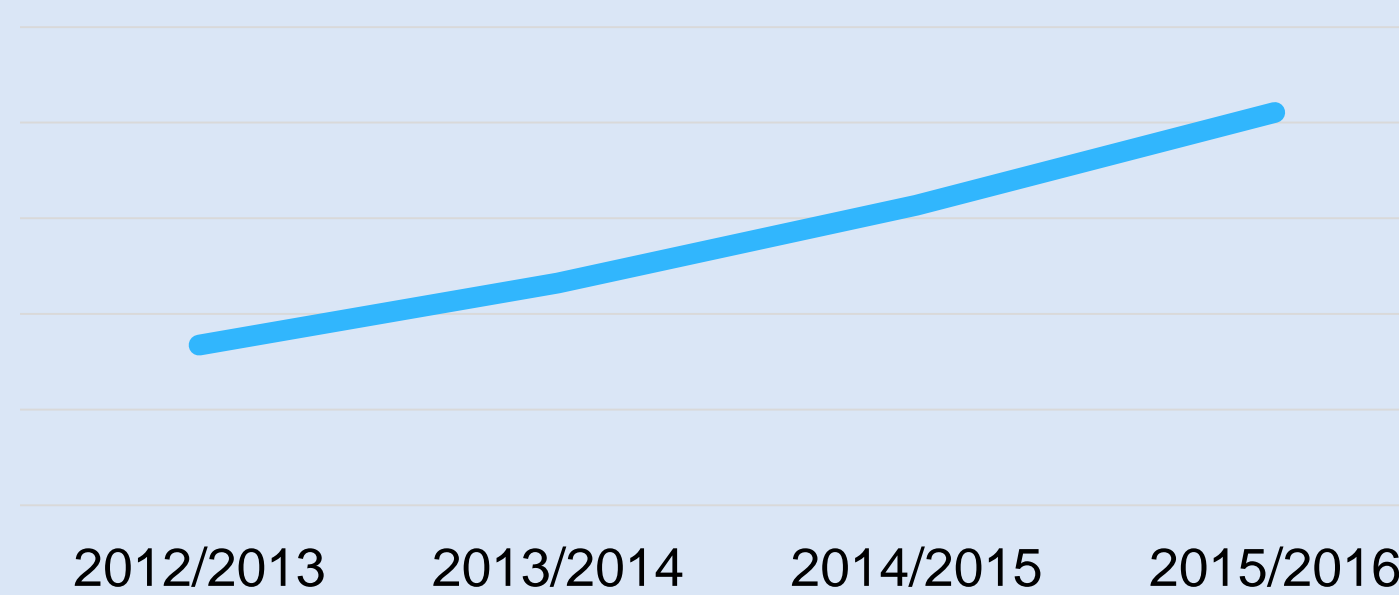


Usage

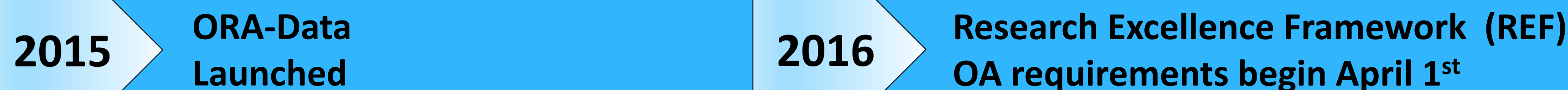
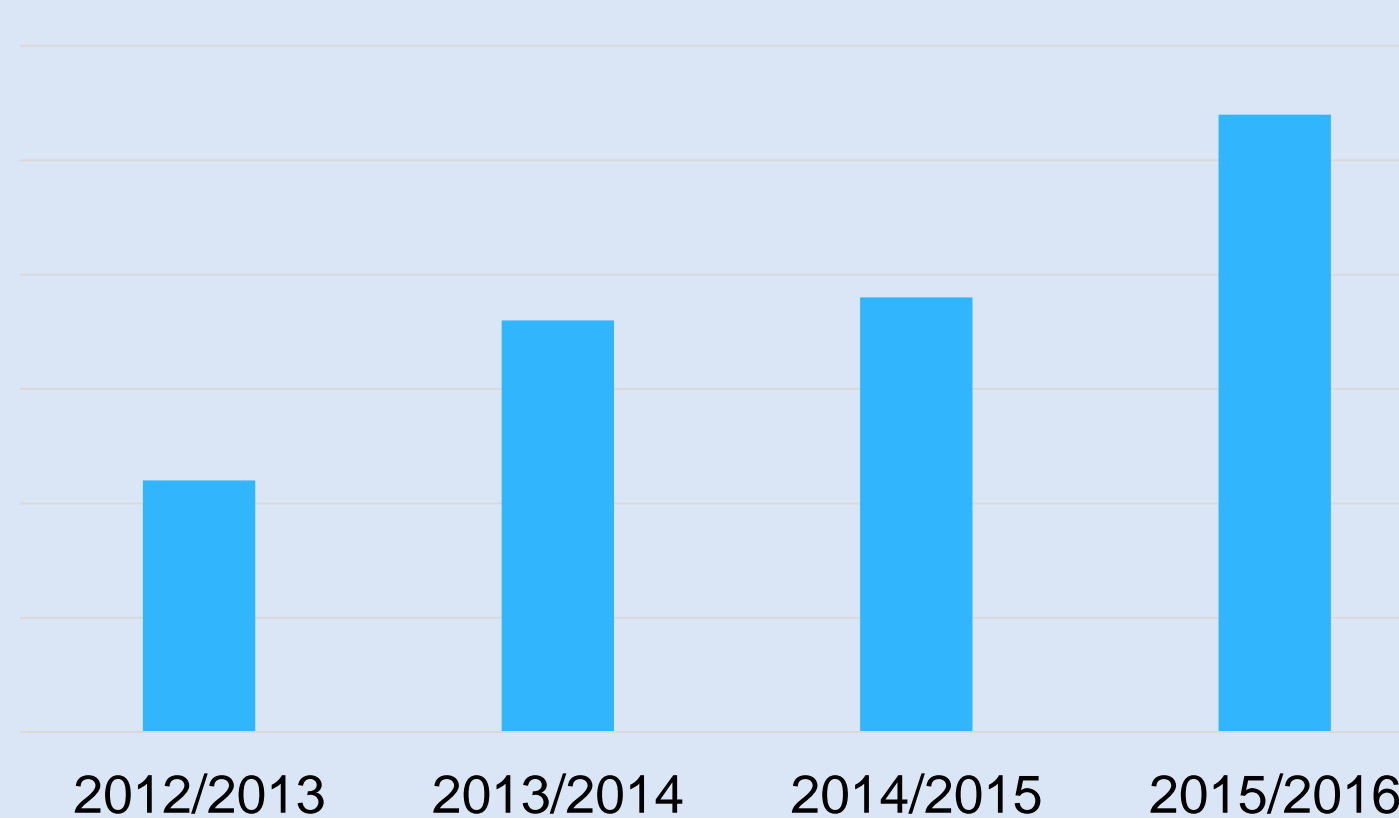
Usage of ORA has increased dramatically over the last several years, with a significant boost given by the HEFCE Research Excellence Framework (REF) requirements, which mandated Open Accessibility of work in a valid repository.



Increase of publicly available full-text items in ORA



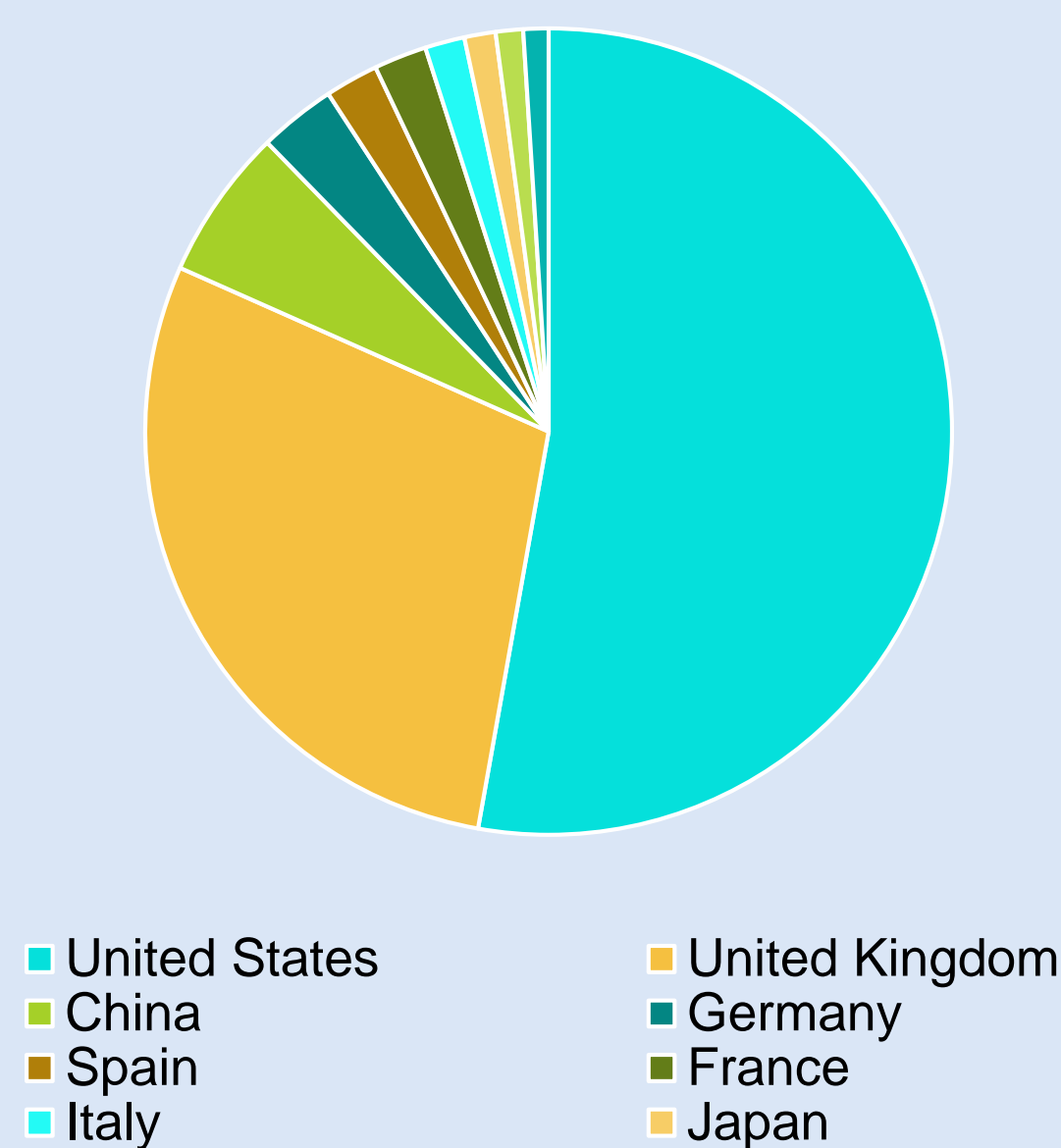
Unique Downloads from ORA



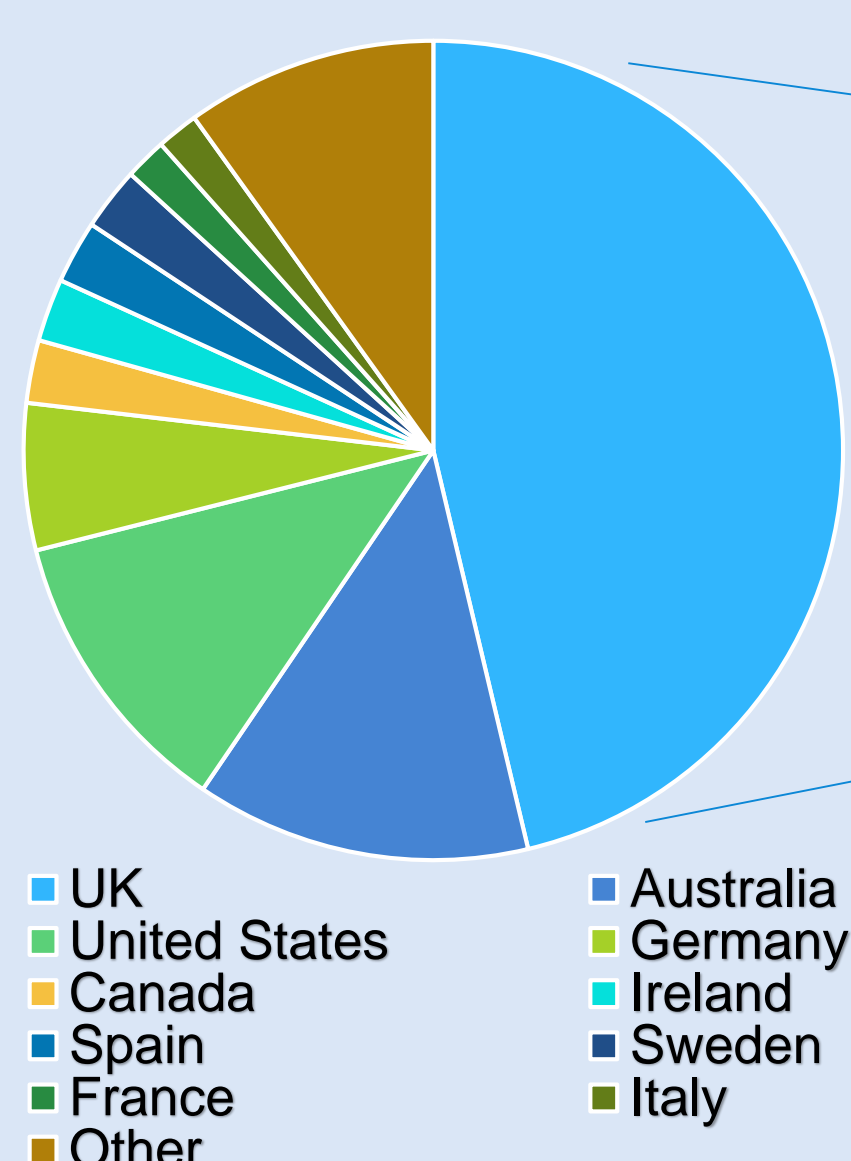
Users

ORA's users are international. Of the visitors to the ORA website, more than half – 53% - were based in the United States, with 29% from the UK. The third largest group of visitors were from China, at 6%.

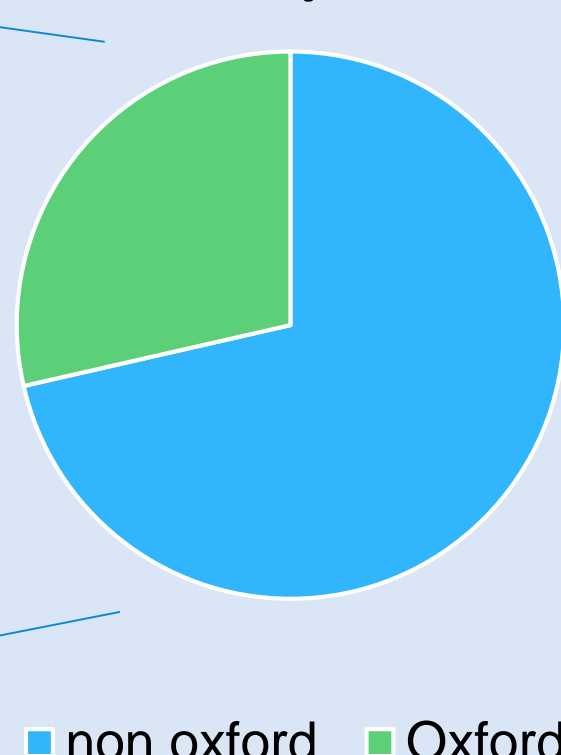
ORA Visitors



Direct item requests



UK requests



Of the direct requests that the ORA helpdesk receives, just under half, 46%, come from the UK. Of those, only 29% originate from Oxford based users. Requests from Australia (13%) and the United States (12%) follow up the UK.



ORA-Data received the Data Seal of Approval in 2015.

The Future

The ORA service and team have grown considerably over the last several years to face the challenges and opportunities of the new Open Access landscape. ORA is now about to embark on a significant project to upgrade most of its software, infrastructure and application stack service. This will enable us to make Oxford University research more discoverable, improve reviewer workflow and provide more sophisticated metrics.

Further Reading

ORA can be found at: <https://ora.ox.ac.uk/>

Our information pages are accessible from: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ora>

Case study: Oxford University Research Archive (ORA)
Rumsey, S (2008). Open repositories 2008
(<https://ora.ox.ac.uk/objects/uid:77f86391-4480-4c74-8143-eea1147141f8>)

From compliance to curation: ORA-Data at the University of Oxford
Burgess, L, Jefferies, N, Rumsey, S et al., (2016). Alexandria, 26 (2), 107-135.
(<https://ora.ox.ac.uk/objects/uid:a92fcc09-cc79-4d05-932a-7f8d27fde270>)

Metadata within the Oxford University Research Archive (ORA)
Partridge, JJ, (2017). Catalogue and Index, 12-20.
(<https://ora.ox.ac.uk/objects/uid:26e20206-520a-4990-8d8b-2052ee38bcb3>)

Statement on Open Access at the University of Oxford
<http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2013/03/Statement-on-Open-Access-at-the-University-of-Oxford-Approved-by-Council-on-11-March-2013.pdf>