New interface for ScienceDirect usage reports

Summary
The following document explains upcoming changes to the usage reports for ScienceDirect, including ScienceDirect usage via the journal websites (JBS) and journal mobile apps.

Benefits for customers & key takeaway points
1. Starting with June reports (available in July), we are moving usage reporting to a new system to ensure stability, reliability and accuracy.
2. With the rollout of this new system, the Elsevier AdminTool will become the method for retrieving all ScienceDirect usage reports.
3. The new system enables improvements with metadata so reports are more accurate. It also means that reports will be available earlier in the month.

Background to the change
Starting in July, you will be able to review monthly usage of ScienceDirect using the Elsevier AdminTool, our complimentary web service that enables librarians to self-manage Elsevier products. Once the new system is up and running, we will retire access the former Usage Reports site (estimated by end of July).

Over many months, we have worked to simplify and streamline our usage reporting system in order modernize the system, reduce processing time and deliver more accurate monthly usage reports earlier in the month. We are pleased to be able to improve the delivery of usage reports by making them available via the Elsevier AdminTool.

Release timeline
The beta release, which will be tested with a limited number of customers, will take place in June 2016, with the full release following in July 2016.

Summary of changes
New portal
Starting with June reports (available in July), the Elsevier AdminTool will become the site for accessing all ScienceDirect usage reports. An added benefit is the help functionality in the Elsevier AdminTool, which will include an up-to-date section on usage reports.

Longer timeframe
The additional, non-COUNTER reports currently show usage for a 13-month rolling window. In our new system, librarians will be able to view usage for the last three calendar years.
COUNTER journal reports by platform
The web-based reports and SUSHI reports have been consolidated. Since SUSHI allows only one value in the platform column, the usage of the different Elsevier platforms are now in separate reports.
COUNTER reports JR1b, which will be able to combine usage from different platforms, will be added to the report suite in the near future. In the meantime, to get a full view of your journal usage over the different platforms, you will need to run three reports: SD for ScienceDirect.com, JS for journal-branded websites and JM for the journal mobile apps.

Improved accuracy for serial book usage reporting by ISBN
For book reports BR2 and BR3, you may see slightly higher than previously reported usage due to metadata improvements that remove a previous reporting discrepancy between serial book reports on the ISSN level versus serial book reports on the ISBN level.

Improved accuracy for Year of Publication in JR5
In the old system, not all metadata for journal articles was available and the usage reported in the “Year of Publication unknown” category was relatively high. In the new system, more metadata is available and, as a result, usage that was previously reported in the “unknown” category may have moved to the correct Year of Publication category.

Data quality and COUNTER audit
The usage data in the new system has been checked extensively against the existing COUNTER-audited reports. An official COUNTER audit will be performed in September, bringing the regular annual audit forward by two months.

Links and additional resources
More information on the new reports, such as report descriptions, can be found on the following sites:

- Elsevier AdminTool
- Elsevier.com Usage Reports
- COUNTER