

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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**Data Title:** 2021 Elsevier Journal Title Level Pricing for Seven U.S. Research Universities

**Project Title:** Elsevier Title Level Pricing: Dissecting the Bowl of Spaghetti

**Data Abstract:** This data includes 2021 Elsevier title level pricing for seven universities, including Florida State University; Iowa State University; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; West Virginia University; Purdue University; University of Virginia; and an anonymous university named "Institution A" in the data set. In addition, the data includes a summary analysis that includes for each university the 2021 Published List Price, Adjustment from List Price, Average Cost per Journal, and number of Subscribed Titles. This data will be of interest to anyone interested in examining title level pricing from a major commercial publisher.

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**Associated Publications:**

Thornton, Joel B., and Curtis Brundy. 2021. "Elsevier Title Level Pricing: Dissecting the Bowl of Spaghetti." *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication* 9 (1): 2410. <https://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2410>.

Brundy, Curtis; Thornton, Joel (2021): 2020 Elsevier Journal Title Level Pricing for Five U.S. Research Universities, v2. Iowa State University. Dataset. <https://doi.org/10.25380/iastate.13557536.v2>

## FILE LIST

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The original Excel file is provided as well as plain-text (csv) exports of each workbook in the Excel file.

- **Elsevier\_Title\_Level\_Analysis\_by\_Inst\_2021.xlsx** – Excel file with pricing level data and analysis for all seven institutions, calculation formulas, totals, and a summary level workbook.
- **FS\_2021\_Pricelist.csv** – 2021 data from Florida State
- **IA\_2021\_Pricelist.csv** – 2021 data from Institution A
- **ISU\_2021\_Pricelist.csv** – 2021 data from Iowa State University
- **PU\_2021\_Pricelist.csv** – 2021 data from Purdue University
- **UNC\_2021\_Pricelist.csv** – 2021 data from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- **UV\_2021\_Pricelist.csv** – 2021 data from the University of Virginia
- **WVU\_2021\_Pricelist.csv** – 2021 data from West Virginia University

## Codebook

Name	Description	Values
ISSN	International Standard Serial Number: an 8-digit code assigned to a journal title.	2-sets of four digits separated by a dash.
Title	Journal title	Text
Published List Price	Price as obtained from Elsevier's website.	US Dollars; Numerical
Final Net Price	Final price (USD) after discounts paid by the institution.	US Dollars; Numerical
Difference	Difference between Published List Price and Final Net Price	US Dollars; Numerical values in parentheses or preceded by minus sign (-) indicate negative numbers.
ALP (Adjustment from List Price)	Percentage difference between the Public List Price and Final Net Price	Numerical

## Summary Data for 2021

Institution	2021 Published List Price	2021 Final Net Price	Difference <sup>1</sup>	2021 ALP <sup>1</sup>	2021 ACJ	Subscribed Titles	2020 ALP	ALP Change 2020 to 2021 <sup>2</sup>
Florida State University	855,252	865,310	10,058	1.2%	6,051	143	6.4%	-5.3%
Iowa State University	1,768,058	1,498,539	(269,519)	-15.2%	4,742	316	-14.6%	-0.6%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1,589,140	1,470,900	(118,240)	-7.4%	3,840	383	-7.8%	0.3%
Institution A	1,166,267	980,751	(185,516)	-15.9%	3,987	246	7.2%	-23.1%
West Virginia University	1,174,439	1,066,738	(107,701)	-9.2%	3,995	267	-9.1%	-0.1%
Purdue University	2,098,668	1,803,849	(294,819)	-14.0%	3,372	535	N/A	N/A
University of Virginia	1,556,955	1,302,739	(254,216)	-16.3%	3,323	392	N/A	N/A

<sup>1</sup> A positive (+) number represents the premium paid over list price. A negative (-) number represents the discount received from list price.

<sup>2</sup> A positive (+) number represents a reduced discount between 2020 and 2021. A negative (-) number represents an increased discount between 2020 and 2021. 2020 pricing can be found at: <https://doi.org/10.25380/iastate.13557536.v2>.

### Summary Data Table Columns:

- **2021 Published List Price:** Total list price (USD) based on the 2021 publicly posted prices on Elsevier's website.
- **2021 Final Net Price:** Net final prices (USD) after discounts paid by the institution in 2021.
- **Difference:** Difference between *2021 Published List Price* and *2021 Final Net Price*. Negative values are in parentheses.
- **2021 ALP (Adjustment from List Price):** Percentage difference between the Published List Price and Final Net Price in 2021
- **2021 ACJ (Average Cost per Journal):** Average cost paid per journal (USD) based on the Final Net Price and the number of Subscribed Titles in 2021.
- **Subscribed titles:** The total number of titles subscribed to by the institution.
- **2020 ALP:** The percentage difference between Published List Price and Final Net Price for 2020.
- **ALP Change 2020-2021:** The percentage change in ALP between 2020 and 2021. Note, this is only available for institutions included in the 2020 Elsevier Journal Title Level Pricing for Five U.S. Research Universities, v2 dataset.

## **METHODS AND MATERIALS**

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### **Data Collection Methods**

Pricing data was acquired in two ways. For institutions subject to confidentiality restrictions, public records requests were submitted to obtain the relevant pricing information. For Institutions not subject to confidentiality restrictions, the pricing information was publicly available.

#### **Information Requested through Public Records Requests**

- 2021 journal level final prices from the publisher Elsevier.
- 2021 license agreement with the publisher Elsevier.

### **Data Processing Methods**

The 2021 published list price was obtained from Elsevier's website. For comparability, journal titles lacking a published list price or a net price from the institutional data were excluded from the analysis. The final net pricing was decreased by the amounts excluded.

## **LICENSING**

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