

Appendix: The survey

Journal Use Survey

Do you look for and value articles published in your key journals? Do you focus on one article at a time, and not necessarily notice which journal it came from or what other articles were published in the same issue?

Please tell us how you rely on key journals to keep up with your discipline.

Q1. What is your academic rank? [n=74]

20	Assistant Professor
17	Associate Professor
25	Professor
12	Lecturers, Post-docs, Asst/Assoc in Engineering, Emeritus [Misc.]

Q2. What is your department? [n=74]

6	ABE	Agricultural & Biological Engineering
6	BME	Biomedical Engineering
6	CHE	Chemical Engineering
6	CCE	Civil & Coastal Engineering
4	CISE	Computer & Information Science & Engineering
9	ECE	Electrical & Computer Engineering
4	EES	Environmental Engineering Sciences
3	ISE	Industrial & Systems Engineering
12	MSE	Materials Science & Engineering
15	MAE	Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
3	NRE	Nuclear & Radiological Engineering

Q1 and Q2. Merged respondent demographics

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
Assistant	2	3	2	3	1	2	1	0	1	4	1	20
Associate	2	0	0	1	1	3	2	1	1	5	1	17
Professor	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	1	6	5	0	25
Misc.	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	4	1	1	12
<i>total</i>	6	6	6	6	4	9	4	3	12	15	3	74

Q3. Do you skim/browse the titles of articles appearing in your favorite journals as a method for keeping informed or research in your area? [n=74]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	<i>total</i>
Frequently (every 1-4 weeks)	12	9	17	8	46
Occasionally (between 1-6 months)	5	6	7	3	21
Rarely (less than every 6 months)	2	2	1	0	5
Never	1	0	0	1	2
<i>total</i>	20	17	25	12	74

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
Frequently (every 1-4 weeks)	3	5	3	3	0	3	3	2	9	12	3	46
Occasionally (between 1-6 months)	3	0	3	2	3	5	1	1	1	2	0	21
Rarely (less than every 6 months)	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	5
Never	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
<i>total</i>	6	6	6	6	4	9	4	3	12	15	3	74

Q4. How do you skim/browse? (Check all that apply) [n=69]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	total
RSS feeds or emailed Table of Contents (ToC) alerts from the journals	7	10	9	3	29
Go to the journal/publisher website	11	7	16	7	41
Review articles in issue when linking to a single article	6	8	6	6	26
Read the ToC of print journals	2	5	9	1	17
Other [SciFinder, PubMed (2), Google, search engine, association news, editor's choice compilations, skim in library – less often]	2	1	4	2	9

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	total
RSS or emailed ToC from the journals	3	5	2	2	0	1	1	0	4	10	1	29
Go to the journal / publisher website	3	3	3	2	2	6	2	2	6	10	2	41
Review articles when linking	2	3	1	2	2	6	0	1	4	3	2	26
Read ToC of print journals	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	0	1	3	0	17
other	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	2	0	9

Q5. Do you think your practices have changed with the availability of e-journals? [n=72]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	<i>total</i>
I still read the titles of most/all articles in my favorite journals' Table of Contents.	13	11	15	8	47
I used to read the titles of most/all articles in my favorite journals' Table of Contents, but I don't anymore.	4	4	8	2	18
I have never paid attention to other articles in Table of Contents except the precise ones I intend to read.	2	2	2	1	7
<i>total</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>72</i>

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
I still read the titles of most/all articles...	5	4	2	4	1	5	4	2	6	11	3	47
I used to ... but I don't anymore.	0	2	3	1	2	3	0	0	3	4	0	18
I never paid attention to other articles...	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	7
<i>total</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>72</i>

Q6. What other methods do you use for keeping up with current literature? (check all that apply)

[n=74]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	<i>total</i>
Colleagues at UF	10	9	10	9	38
Conference attendance and colleagues outside of UF	15	13	23	5	56
Links within other articles	16	13	17	8	54
Professional associations' websites	5	3	7	2	17
Email discussion lists	1	3	3	3	10
Searching databases (Web of Science, Google Scholar, Compendex, etc.)	19	15	18	10	62
Blogs	0	1	1	0	2
<i>Other</i> [PubMed (3), CiteSeer/arXiv, editing/reviewing activities, grad students]	3	2	3	1	9

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
Colleagues at UF	2	4	2	3	2	6	1	2	8	6	2	38
Conference attendance and colleagues outside of UF	3	6	3	4	4	7	3	3	9	11	3	56
Links within other articles	6	6	5	4	4	6	4	2	11	5	1	54
Professional associations' websites	1	1	0	0	1	4	1	1	3	4	1	17
Email discussion lists	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	3	2	0	10
Searching databases	6	5	4	6	3	7	4	2	11	13	1	62
Blogs	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Other	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	9

Q7. How confident are you that you're keeping aware of preprints and publications in your field?
[n=74]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	<i>total</i>
Very confident	4	1	6	0	11
Moderately confident	12	12	15	8	47
Not very confident	4	4	4	4	16
<i>total</i>	20	17	25	12	74

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
Very confident	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	1	1	2	1	11
Moderately confident	2	4	3	4	4	4	4	2	7	12	1	47
Not very confident	4	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	4	1	1	16
<i>total</i>	6	6	6	6	4	9	4	3	12	15	3	74

Q8. When you are looking at an online article, do you pay attention to the journal name? [n=74]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	<i>total</i>
Always	15	14	20	8	57
Sometimes	4	1	5	2	12
Never	1	2	0	2	5
<i>total</i>	20	17	25	12	74

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
Always	3	5	6	4	2	9	3	3	10	10	2	57
Sometimes	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	2	3	1	12
Never	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	5
<i>total</i>	6	6	6	6	4	9	4	3	12	15	3	74

Q9. We all block out headers from familiar websites. Which of these publisher or association graphics do you notice when you connect to their e-journals? (check all that apply) [n=69]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	<i>total</i>
ScienceDirect (Elsevier)	17	15	21	10	63
Wiley	9	10	9	8	36
Springer	11	11	14	8	44
Blackwell/Synergy	5	1	3	2	11
BioOne	2	0	0	0	2
IEEE Xplore	6	10	11	3	30
Other professional societies (ASME, ASCE, AIP, IoP, ACS, RSC, etc.)	7	10	11	5	33
<i>Other</i> [ASABE, ACM (3), SCS, Taylor&Francis,]	0	0	2	1	3

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
Science Direct	6	5	6	4	3	6	4	3	12	12	2	63
Wiley	5	4	4	3	0	2	1	2	6	9	0	36
Springer	6	4	2	3	3	3	0	3	8	11	1	44
Blackwell Synergy	4	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	11
BioOne	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
IEEE Xplore	1	4	0	2	2	9	0	1	4	5	2	30
Other societies	5	3	3	3	1	3	1	1	6	6	1	33
Other	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3

Q10. Do you teach your grad students to look for or to value key journals in your field? [n=74]

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	<i>total</i>
Always	14	11	18	8	51
Sometimes	5	4	5	3	17
Only when they ask	0	0	0	0	0
Rarely	1	1	2	0	4
Never	0	1	0	1	2
<i>total</i>	20	17	25	12	74

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	<i>total</i>
Always	4	5	3	4	2	7	3	3	8	10	2	51
Sometimes	0	1	3	2	1	2	1	0	3	4	0	17
Only when they ask	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rarely	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	4
Never	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
<i>total</i>	6	6	6	6	4	9	4	3	12	15	3	74

Q11. When you are looking for a specific journal article, which methods do you use? (check all that apply)

	My most frequent method	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	total
Link directly to article	28	27	8	3	66
Go to the journal website, and immediately find the article	34	24	7	4	69
Go to the journal website, and observe other articles published in the journal or issue	8	40	11	3	62
Go to my favorite database (Web of Science, Google Scholar, Compendex, etc.) and search for the article	36	23	8	0	67

	Assistant				Associate				Professor			
	Most	Some	Rare	Never	Most	Some	Rare	Never	Most	Some	Rare	Never
link	5	11	3	0	6	6	1	2	12	7	2	1
website direct	8	8	2	1	9	4	1	2	11	9	2	1
website skim	2	12	3	1	3	9	2	1	2	13	4	1
search	11	6	2	0	9	6	1	0	10	7	4	0

Q12. When you look for articles on a topic, where do you start? (check all that apply)

	Assistant	Associate	Professor	Misc.	total
Google Scholar	9	11	13	6	39
Google	8	8	14	7	37
Library databases (Compendex, Web of Science, SciFinder Scholar, CSA, GeoRef, etc.)	13	13	16	9	51
ScienceDirect (Elsevier)	6	7	5	3	21
IEEE Xplore	3	7	4	2	16
Publisher's website (Wiley, Springer, Blackwell/Synergy, etc.)	5	5	4	2	16
PubMed	4	2	3	1	10
BioOne	0	0	1	0	1
Other professional societies (ASME, ASCE, AIP, IoP, ACS, RSC, etc.) websites	3	4	8	2	17
Other [CiteSeer/arXiv, SciFinder, TRIS]	0	1	0	0	1

	ABE	BME	CHE	CCE	CISE	ECE	EES	ISE	MSE	MAE	NRE	total
Google Scholar	5	4	2	2	1	8	0	3	5	8	1	39
Google	2	3	4	3	4	5	1	2	5	7	1	37
Library databases	6	3	5	5	2	2	4	0	10	11	3	51
Science Direct	2	1	2	3	1	0	1	2	4	4	1	21
IEEE Xplore	1	1	0	1	1	6	0	1	1	2	2	16
Publisher website	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	4	4	0	16
PubMed	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	10
BioOne	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other societies	4	0	1	3	0	0	0	2	3	4	0	17
Other	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Q13. Any other comments on tracking your favorite journals or keeping up with articles in your field? [some responses shortened]

Direct links [link resolver] ... wonderful time-saving tool
Please keep these electronic access points to journals open.
I never read print any more unless magazine subscription – just digital articles
Procedure of looking up restricted sites from home should be easier
Frustrating when I find an article to which UF does not have access
It saves me countless hours to be able to access important articles via library system online.
Colleagues at other institutions and former students inform me of interesting articles
Tracking top conferences and journals and monitor colleagues' personal websites for their research
One key method ... is through websites of researchers close to the topic
I wish there was more available on [topic] from [one journal]
EndNote Web + ISI Web of Knowledge is particularly useful
PubMed alerts
I would like to use SCOPUS [not licensed at UF]
Publishers have done an excellent job