



## Columns

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### Standards Corner: COUNTER 5 Update

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Since the last report of the Standards Committee, the COUNTER organization has continued its consultations with librarians and publishers and made a few changes to the original COUNTER Release 5 Code of Practice draft.

The most notable changes regard the handling of "gold" and "delayed" Open Access. The technical report of the changes from Draft 1 to Draft 2 is available on the COUNTER organization website

(<https://www.projectcounter.org/release-5-summary-changes-draft-1-draft-2-counter/>), but most librarians may find reading "The Friendly Guide to Release 5 for Librarians" to be the most useful to understanding the overall R5 as it stands now ([https://www.projectcounter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Release5\\_Librarians\\_PDFX\\_20180307.pdf](https://www.projectcounter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Release5_Librarians_PDFX_20180307.pdf)).

One of the ways COUNTER has addressed some librarian concerns, particularly about R4 reports such as the "year of publication (YOP)" breakdown provided in JR5, is to implement "standard views" which are canned filters to the much larger "master reports." For instance, the JR5 has now become the standard view labeled TR\_J4. The reports and standard views are explained on the Release 5 webpage

(<https://www.projectcounter.org/code-of-practice-five-sections/4-1-usage-reports/>). The standard specifies that "to achieve compliance, a content provider MUST offer the Master Reports and Standard Views that are applicable to their host types."

The COUNTER organization continues to solicit feedback on a few remaining fine points, so there may be more changes in the next few months.

While COUNTER 5 officially goes into effect for compliant providers in January 2019, some providers may choose to provide COUNTER 5 reports side by side with COUNTER 4 reports in the last few months of 2018.