Welcome to the Altmetric Explorer for Institutions!

Your access enables you to:

- Browse and filter on the attention surrounding research from your institution.
- View results at the author and departmental level.
- Explore the full Altmetric database of over 7 million research outputs with online attention.
- Upload DOIs and other identifiers to create custom searches and comparisons.
- Create an account to save your searches.

This guide outlines the main features and functionality of the Explorer:

1. Main Search screen
2. Results Analysis screen (which has 4 tabs)
3. Altmetric Details pages
4. Finding research from your institution
5. Setting up email alerts
6. The Altmetric Attention Score and Donut explained
7. Tasks to try
1. The main search screen

The main search bar. Search for keywords, identifiers, authors or departments from your institution, output types etc. Or click on the Advanced Search button.

Instantly toggle between your institution's publications or the full Altmetric database.

Toggle between the main search screen, your list of saved searches, and a departmental hierarchy.

Page through your results.

Blue tick? That means this is one of your institution's research outputs.

Help, Account Settings, Sign Out.

Click any result to go to its Details Page (see all mentions, demographics, score in context).

Everyone at TAMU has access to Altmetric through the library database search. No need to create an account. Sign in using NetID.
2.1 Results analysis: summary tab

- Navigate around the 4 analysis tabs.
- Display your choice of sources on the timeline graph.

Choice of pre-defined time periods for timeline graph.

- An interactive histogram of the mentions for your choice of source(s) and time period.
- Click onto a bar of the graph to see the mentions that it represents.

Click any bar to go to the Mentions tab for that time period.

Use date sliders to define custom time period to display.

2.2 Results analysis: attention highlights tab

- Quickly see the most important News mentions for publications in your results set.
- We plan to add the most important mentions from other sources in future.
2.3 Results analysis: demographics tab

See the Twitter demographics map and table for your results set - a great way to get an idea of the geographic reach of your work!

2.4 Results analysis: mentions tab

View just the mentions that occurred in your chosen source(s) and time period.

Where a mention refers to more than one publication, we will show all the publications that it refers to.

Adjust the source type(s) and time period as required.

Click through to mention.

Click through to details page.

Blue tick? That means this is one of your institution’s research outputs.
3.1 Altmetric details pages: summary tab

- Altmetric Attention Score for the item (a weighted count of the attention it's received).
- Summary of sources with mentions for the item. i.e. explanation of the colours in the donut.
- Bibliographic details of the item.
- Tabs to explore the details of each mention.
- Click through to the full publication (may require subscription).
- Create a daily email alert for new mentions of this item.
- View Mendeley demographics or score context.
- Twitter demographics map and table.

3.2 Altmetric details pages: mentions tabs

- Altmetric Attention Score for the item.
- Summary of sources with mentions for the item. i.e. explanation of the colours in the donut.
- Back to Summary tab.
- Tabs to explore original mentions from each source.
- Overview of reach for this source.
- Page through mentions from this source.
- Click through to profile.
- Click through to mention.
4. Finding research from your institution

There are 2 ways you can easily find research outputs from your institution in the Explorer:

1. Type the name of an author or department into the search bar on the main search page.

2. Click on the institutions icon in the left-hand navigation bar to browse through departments and groups.

Click on a department heading to expand the hierarchy.

All the results will have blue ticks because they are all associated with your institution.

You might see a grey donut, even though there are Mendeley readers. This is because although Altmetric knows about the item, Mendeley is the only attention found for it so far, and that source doesn’t contribute to the Altmetric Attention Score or have a colour in the donut.

‘View results’ will take you to the main search screen, where the items that belong within that department or group will be displayed.
5. Setting up email alerts

You can set up email alerts for the research outputs that appear in your search results to be delivered to your inbox daily, weekly or monthly.

Run your search in the main screen and click on ‘save search’.

Click on ‘daily’, ‘weekly’ or ‘monthly’ next to your saved search to set up the alert.

You can click on the aeroplane icon to send an example report to yourself.

Outputs mentioned most in the timeframe of the alert (daily, weekly, or monthly) will be listed in the report.

The report summary section details all of the attention the items in your saved search results have received to date.

Click on the article title to be taken to the Altmetric details page for that item.

New mentions received in the timeframe your alert is set for (daily, weekly, or monthly) are broken down below.
6. The Altmetric Attention Score and Donut explained

The Altmetric donut visualisation and score have been developed to help give an at-a-glance summary of the online attention an item has received. A higher score indicates a larger amount of attention, and the different colours of the donut represent the different sources in which the output has been mentioned.

How the Altmetric score is calculated
The Altmetric score is our quantitative measure of the attention that a scholarly article has received. It is derived from 3 main factors:

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<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>Authors</th>
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<td>The score for an article rises as more people mention it. We only count 1 mention from each person per source, so if you tweet about the same paper more than once, Altmetric will ignore everything but the first.</td>
<td>Each category of mention contributes a different base amount to the final score. For example, a newspaper article contributes more than a blog post which contributes more than a tweet.</td>
<td>We look at how often the author of each mention talks about scholarly articles, at whether or not there’s any bias towards a particular journal or publisher and at who the audience is.</td>
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From time to time you might notice that the score for your item fluctuates, or goes down. This can happen when the original author of the mentions deletes their post when we remove posts which have been flagged as spam, or occasionally when we add new sources so need to re-weight our scoring algorithm.

The colours of the donut

For Mendeley and Citeulike Altmetric shows counts of readers but they do not contribute to the donut or score. When you’re logged in to Explorer for Institutions you’ll also be able to see any Scopus citations for the item on a tab in the details page, but again these will not contribute to the donut or the score.

Data from most sources is updated on an hourly, or at least daily, basis. News sources and policy documents are text mined for mentions of the journal title and author names, and cross-reference this with an external database to determine which article the news story is about.

For all other sources for Altmetric to be able to pick up the mention automatically there needs to be an HTML link to the article page (the one with a DOI or other unique identifier on) in the main body of the text.
7. Tasks to try

i. Demonstrating the value of your work in a grant application

Scenario
- You are trying to secure grant funding.
- As part of the application you have to demonstrate “broader impact” and “wide dissemination” outside of academia.

Instructions
- Using Explorer for Institutions, search for a researcher.
- What altmetrics data would you include in your grant application?
- Hint: Remember it’s not about numbers but qualitative stories that demonstrate “broader impact”.

ii. Finding the latest popular articles in a specific discipline

Scenario
- You want to find the latest trending articles in your field.
- You have RSS feeds, journal alerts, etc. set up but are concerned you might be missing research getting attention in places they can’t track.

Instructions
- Use the search bar and attention summary to identify currently trending articles in a specific topic.
- Set up a saved search that will enable you to easily check back in and keep up to date.

iii. Building a strategy for promoting the availability of your dataset

Scenario
- You’re about to upload a big dataset to Dryad, and want to make sure people who might want to make use of it can find it.
- You’re also keen to make sure that the data is not misinterpreted.

Instructions
- Use the search bar to search the database for other datasets that have been published in your field - check the summary view and individual details pages to determine where those items got the most attention from, and why.
- Write up your own plan for promoting your data: who will you proactively reach out to? Are there any specific bloggers who might want to cover it?
- Sign up for alerts to be notified when the dataset gets new mentions, so you can keep an eye on what people are saying about it.