Publisher's Report

Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses

STUDIES in RELIGION SCIENCES RELIGIEUSES

Special Section: The Long Drive for National Salvation: Religion and the Canadian Trucker Protest of 2022
Guest Editor: Christopher Jon Jensen

SPECIAL SECTION
Approaching the Freedom Convoy: Intra-disciplinary reflections on religion scholars as public intellectuals
Christopher Jensen
Biblical interpretation at the Ottawa convoy occupation
Christine Mitchell
Americanized discourses of religious freedom and Christian persecution during the 2022 Ottawa trucker convoy
Hannah Dick
Myth, identity and ableism: Jericho March becomes Canadian Marathon of Hope in the Freedom Convoy
Melanie Coughlin
The occupation of Ottawa: Canadian rupture, American rapture or Reformation tradition?
Johannes Wolfart
Response: Religion and ideology between reason and the irrational
William Arnal

ARTICLES
The Bard, the witch and the cathedral: A Shakespearean note on sacred kingship
Nicolas Meylan
Des druides à l'Assemblée nationale du Québec. Laïcité et spiritualité autour de la « Charte des valeurs » (projet de loi 60)
Nicolas Boissière

BOOK REVIEWS / COMPTE RENDUS

CCSR

April 2025

Submitted to

Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion

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Prepared by

Sara Markovic, Publishing Editor

Sage

Executive Summary

This report summarizes *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses's* January 2023 through March 2025 performance. Below is a snapshot of the journal's key performance metrics.

We appreciate your understanding and ask that you not distribute the data contained within this report without permission from the publisher.

If you encounter any accessibility barriers within this report, please notify your Publishing Editor so that Sage can make improvements.

Performance Metrics

Peer Review	118 manuscript submissions in 2024, a 4.4% increase from 2023 35 manuscript submissions in 2025 YTD 23% acceptance rate in 2024 39 days average time to first decision in 2024	Production	4 issues consisting of 638 pages published in 2024 164 pages published in 2025 YTD 36 days average from transmittal to Production to OnlineFirst publication in 2024
Circulation	70 institutional subscriptions in 2024 2,211 package subscriptions in 2024 89.7% renewal rate from 2023 to 2024	Online Usage	69,026 full-text downloads in 2024 16,446 full-text downloads in 2025 YTD
Journal Impact Metrics	2023 Impact Factor is 0.3 2022 Impact Factor was 0.2 2023 5-year Impact Factor is 0.3 2023 Journal Citation Indicator Score is 0.48 2023 CiteScore is 0.70 Google Scholar h5-index is 8	Marketing	605 Email Alert Registrants in 2024 601 Email Alert Registrants in 2025 YTD 99 Recipients of Author Support Email Campaigns in 2024 Featured in Religion Hub

Year in Review: 2024

Sage saw continued growth and advancement in publishing and research integrity policies in 2024, reinforcing our commitment to publishing high-quality, ethical scholarship and we thank our publishing partners for their collaboration in driving achievements across our journals. 2025 marks our 60th anniversary year, and as we reflect on the notable highlights of 2024, we bring you our **2024 Independence with Impact Report** — a reflection of the incredible work we do in partnership with you, the values that guide us, and the lasting impact we continue to make together.

2024 saw over **70,000 articles published**, a significant amount of growth over the 66,000 articles published in 2023. 2024 was our first full year since welcoming IOS Press to our portfolio, and many **IOS Press titles have now migrated** to the Sage Journals platform. We also closed the year out with **the acquisition** of the scientific and medical publisher **Mary Ann Liebert, Inc** and their portfolio of over 100 academic journals. Throughout this expansion, we have remained focused on editorial excellence, robust peer review and strong ethical standards across our portfolio. We are grateful to our editors, society partners, staff and vendors who drive our continued growth and improvement.

In 2024, we strengthened our commitment to fostering a more inclusive, equitable and representative publishing environment. Our journals team expanded our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) resources for editors, authors, and readers, including more webinars, events, and microsites highlighting key issues. For a deeper look at our efforts, please read the DEI section of this report or visit our **DEI hub**. We are excited to continue this journey in 2025 and introduce several more innovative projects to our journals.

Open Access Agreements continued to grow in 2024, increasing the routes to open access (OA) for our authors. We secured new agreements with consortia and institutions in Hungary, Malta, Spain, Turkey, and the USA, further broadening access and funding options. Over the year we published more than **15,000 Hybrid OA** articles and more than **16,000 Gold OA** articles, leading to **45% of all articles published OA**. By increasing Open Access Agreements and working with key policymakers, Sage ensures journals are competitive while remaining sustainable and compliant with key funder requirements.

In 2024, we entered a partnership with **Sense About Science** (SaS), a science literacy organization dedicated to the pursuit of making scientific knowledge accessible. Through 2025, Sage and SaS will be conducting workshops to generate resources on scientific "curation" that aim to inform public understanding and build up our communities.

We also strengthened our efforts to promote a greater understanding of journal and article impact. Following signing **DORA** in 2022 and our promotion of a greater understanding of **impact on an article-level**, we continue to expand transparency and explanatory resources for authors, editors, and readers. This also marked the first full year for **Sage Policy Profiles**, a free tool to help individuals track the impact their articles are having on policy world-wide. Over 19,000 global researchers have now tracked where their work is cited in policy documents, showcasing their works' impact.

Our Research Integrity Team grew to provide expanded support and resources for journal editors and societies in ensuring the content we publish upholds the highest standard of research integrity and publication ethics. In combination with our **updated ethical policies** on **the use of AI in publishing**, we launched a **course on ChatGPT literacy** to collate guidance on ethical ways to use AI as a tool in research. We also adopted the **Dimensions Author Check** tool by Digital Science to more readily identify research integrity concerns. Additionally, we hosted a public webinar on **Fact Checking Sources**. We highlight many of these updated resources and our latest guidance in our newly updated and formatted manuscript submission guidelines, which rolled out to many journals this past year. In 2025, we will develop new guidelines for End Statements, to introduce a clear and sustainable repository for transparent and verifiable ethical information. Sage remains vigilant as new challenges and threats to research integrity arise and we would like to thank our publishing partners for working with us in this important area.

We look forward to celebrating Sage's 60th anniversary with the editors and society partners of our over 1,300 journals, building on our shared successes, and shaping the next chapter together. We commit to remaining focused on driving innovation, strengthening our collaborations, and advancing the future of scholarly publishing.

Eric Moran
Vice President, Research

Miranda Nunhofer
Vice President, Research

Sage

Peer Review and Production

Total Submissions and Acceptance Rate

	2023	2024	2025 YTD
Total	153	155	41
Original	**113**	**118**	**35**
Accept	32	28	4
Reject	65	95	19
Accept Ratio	33%	23%	17%

Please direct all Sage Track support questions and requests to **SAGETracksupport@sagepub.com**.

Total and original submission counts are based on the date manuscripts were submitted to Sage Track. This data is available in the "Manuscripts Received" report in Sage Track. Acceptance rate is based on manuscripts that have received final decisions of accept or reject (does not count revisions). Counts for acceptances, rejections, and acceptance ratios are based on the date the decision is made, not the date the manuscript was submitted. This data is available in the "Manuscript Milestone" report in Sage Track (limiting by decision date, not by date of original submission).

Original Submissions

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2023	13	8	5	6	10	19	5	14	13	5	7	8	**113**
2024	32	12	7	7	10	7	12	7	5	5	8	6	**118**
2025 YTD	13	11	11										**35**

Manuscript Submissions by Country/Region

The following table lists the top countries/regions for corresponding authors that have submitted to *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*.

Manuscript Submissions: Jan 2024-Dec 2024		
Country/Region	**# Received**	**Percentage of Total**
Canada	32	27.1%
China	18	15.3%
Indonesia	11	9.3%
United States	6	5.1%
India	6	5.1%
Nigeria	5	4.2%
Korea (the Republic of)	4	3.4%
Philippines	4	3.4%
Pakistan	3	2.5%
Iran (the Islamic Republic of)	3	2.5%
Malaysia	3	2.5%
Turkey	2	1.7%
United States Minor Outlying Islands	2	1.7%
Kazakhstan	2	1.7%
Lebanon	2	1.7%
Spain	1	0.8%
Uganda	1	0.8%
Morocco	1	0.8%
Malta	1	0.8%
Kuwait	1	0.8%

Manuscripts Accepted: Jan 2024-Dec 2024		
Country/Region	**Final Accepts**	**Percentage of Total**
Canada	20	74.1%
United States	5	18.5%
Switzerland	1	3.7%
Korea (the Republic of)	1	3.7%

Manuscript Submissions: Jan 2025-Mar 2025		
Country/Region	**# Received**	**Percentage of Total**
Canada	6	16.7%
France	4	11.1%
Indonesia	4	11.1%
United States	2	5.6%
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2	5.6%
India	2	5.6%
Philippines	1	2.8%
Turkey	1	2.8%
Australia	1	2.8%
Brazil	1	2.8%
Tanzania, United Republic of	1	2.8%
Nigeria	1	2.8%
Hong Kong	1	2.8%
Belgium	1	2.8%
Pakistan	1	2.8%
Spain	1	2.8%
Bangladesh	1	2.8%
Czech Republic	1	2.8%
Lebanon	1	2.8%
Korea (the Republic of)	1	2.8%

Manuscripts Accepted: Jan 2025-Mar 2025		
Country/Region	**Final Accepts**	**Percentage of Total**
Canada	3	75.0%
Switzerland	1	25.0%

Time to First Decision and Final Decision

Average Review Speed in Days
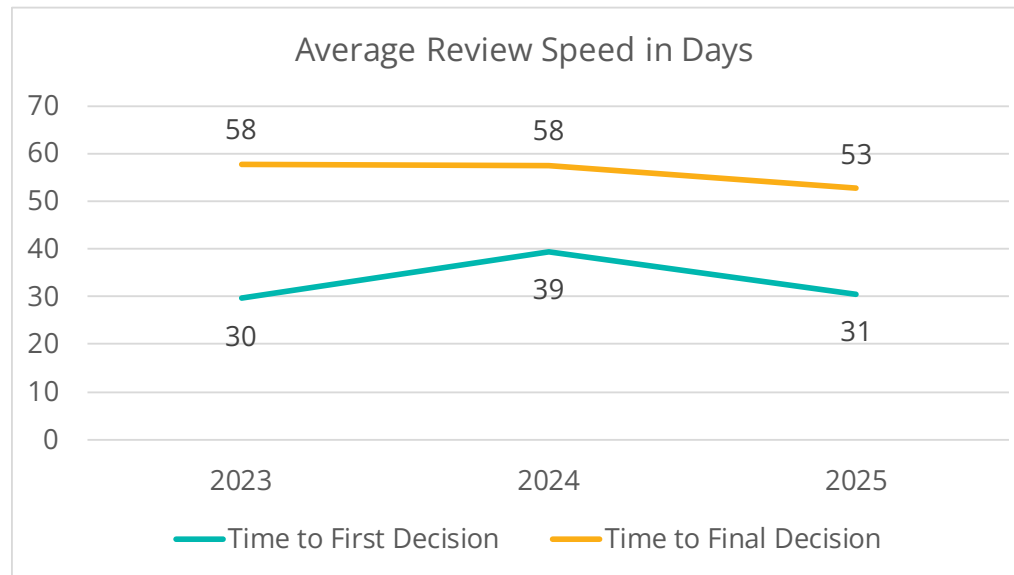
The average time to first decision was 39 days in 2024 and 31 days in 2025 YTD. The average time to final decision was 58 days in 2024 and 53 days in 2025 YTD.

Time to First Decision is defined as all original submissions that received their first decision within each year, regardless of when the manuscripts were submitted. Revisions are not included.

Time to Final Decision is defined as all submissions including revisions that receive a final accept or reject decision within each year, regardless of when the manuscripts were submitted.

Sage Path

Sage Path is an article transfer service that connects manuscripts with the appropriate Sage journal. If a manuscript is deemed out of scope for a particular title, it can be passed over to our team, reviewed, and matched with a more appropriate publication from our database. *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* is set up to refer manuscripts to and receive manuscripts from Sage Path.

	2023	2024	2025 YTD
Articles Referred to Sage Path	0	0	0
Articles Received from Sage Path	3	11	0

ORCID Mandate

Sage signed **ORCID**'s open letter committing to requiring ORCID iDs from at least corresponding authors. This initiative is creating a permanent, clear, and unambiguous record of research and scholarly communication by enabling reliable attribution of authors and contributors. By collecting ORCID iDs in Sage Track, *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* is at the forefront of this innovation linking researchers seamlessly with their contributions across disciplines, borders and time.

Advance: a Sage preprints community

Sage has a preprint server for the humanities and social sciences, launched in partnership with figshare. **Advance: a Sage preprints community** provides academic researchers with a global, open access platform to share early versions of their work ahead of formal peer review and publication. The service enables researchers to disseminate and start communicating about their time-sensitive work and ideas faster and to garner engagement and feedback throughout their research process.

Engaging Reviewers

Sage employs several strategies to engage reviewers in the journal and help them promote their work.

Thanking Reviewers

Sage offers a 60-day free trial as a thank you to reviewers for their work and as an incentive to further engage with the journal. This benefits the journal by increasing usage among key readers and gives the journal exposure to reviewers of related journals. For more reviewer resources, see **https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/journal-reviewer-gateway**.
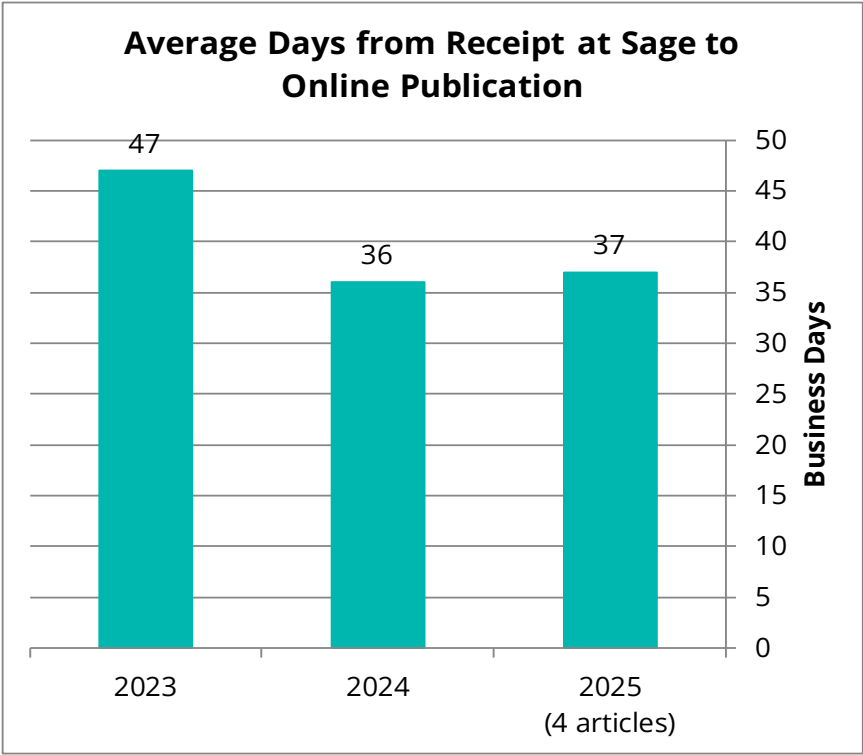
Reviewer Recognition with Web of Science

Sage has partnered with **Web of Science researcher profiles** (formerly Publons) to give reviewers credit for their work and recognize the vital role they play in delivering timely, quality-assured publications.

Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses is fully integrated with the platform, making it easy for reviewers to opt-in as part of the review process, then claim their reviews on their Web of Science researcher profile. Editors also benefit from access to a dedicated Editor dashboard for the journal, which provides valuable insights into the journal's reviewer base. The journal has seen the following uptake in the past 12 months:

Reviewers	Reviews	Uptake Rate
4	5	8.6%

Time in Production

The below graph shows the average number of days a manuscript spends in Sage Production, beginning when the manuscript is exported from Sage Track and ending when the manuscript is published online.

Average Days from Receipt at Sage to Online Publication

Year	Business Days
2023	47
2024	36
2025 (4 articles)	37

The average time to online publication was 36 days in 2024 and 37 days in 2025 YTD.

Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses published 0 issue(s) late in the past year. Submitting articles for each issue by (and ideally ahead of) production deadlines will ensure issues publish on time, which helps retain institutional subscribers and gain indexing opportunities.

Pages Published

The following table summarizes the number of pages published in the past few volume years.

Year	Volume	Issues	Pages Published	Page Budget
2023	52	4	651	640
2024	53	4	638	640
2025 YTD	54	1	164	640

The page budget reflects the annual number of pages designated for regular journal issues only. Supplements are included in the issues and pages published counts.

Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses is a participant in our article growth initiative, providing you with the freedom to publish more of what is right for the journal. This year, we're targeting 1.5% overall growth from last year, which could amount to either 648 pages or 31 articles published.

Articles Published

	Total	Package OA	Sage Choice
2023	36	23	0
2024	31	11	0
2025 YTD	4	3	0

This table shows the total research output of articles published by year, articles published Open Access as part of an institutional package deal, and articles published Open Access via Sage Choice. The numbers in this table are based on articles' first publication date (not the issue publication date).

For more information about Open Access Agreements at Sage, see **https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/open-access-agreements**. Details on Sage Choice can be found here: **https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/sage-choice**.

OnlineFirst Queue

As of April 1, 2025, *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* has 40 articles in its OnlineFirst queue, representing about 2.25 issue(s) of content. The oldest article in the queue was published on Feb 27, 2017. These articles are "fully published," that is, these articles are fully citable using the date of the manuscript's first online posting and the DOI.

Readership

Circulation

Average Circulation by Type

	2023	2024	2025 YTD	Renewal Rate 2024-2025
Individuals	5	6	4	67%
Members	350	350	350	100%
Institutions	73	70	60	86%
Site License	0	0	0	N/A
Package, Read Only	2,284	2,211	1,619	73%
Institutions Migrated into Packages	90	89	74	83%
Package, with Open Access	802	848	586	69%
Lower Income Countries	8,344	8,344	8,344	100%

As institutions have moved their journals subscriptions into package deals and have committed to signing **Open Access Agreements**, it is most accurate to recognize migrated subscriptions as a subset of package circulation. Customers in this category receive access to your journal as part of a package and are recognized solely as package subscribers over time. Note that migrated subscriptions and package subscriptions will decline in your reporting as more customers move from institutional subscriptions to package deals, or into any package deals that include open access.

A **Package, Read Only** agreement is a standard subscription package deal in which the institution pays for access to a collection of journals. A **Package, with Open Access** agreement includes both institutional access to the package and an open access license for authors publishing from a qualifying institution under the agreement.

Backfile (Cumulative)

	2023	2024	2025 YTD	Percent Change 2024-2025
Deep (Vol 1 - 1998)	2,043	2,063	2,066	0%
Shallow (1999 - Current)	1,027	1,051	1,057	1%

Online Usage

	2023	2024	2025 YTD
January	7,905	7,460	4,021
February	4,995	6,173	4,936
March	5,785	7,577	7,489
April	5,576	9,236	
May	4,768	5,537	
June	3,604	4,209	
July	3,785	4,946	
August	3,970	3,830	
September	5,136	4,496	
October	6,770	5,781	
November	7,819	5,590	
December	6,595	4,191	
Total	66,708	69,026	16,446

Full-Text Downloads by Year
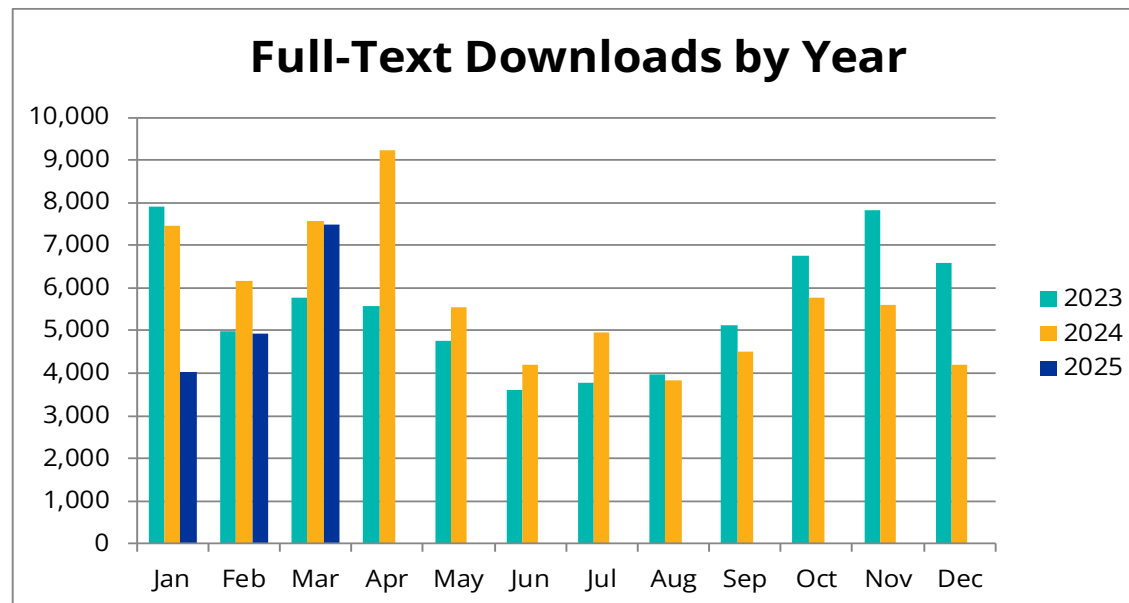
Sage identified an error which had led to download figures from September 2022 to June 2023 being incorrectly reported. This error has been fixed and figures included for these months are now accurate.

Sage was made aware that a bug on the Atypon platform that caused usage data for August and September 2024 to be under-reported. This has been corrected and figures included for these months are now accurate.

In 2024, Atypon rolled out improved bot detection. This has resulted in a perceived decrease in usage across all journals, at Sage and other Atypon publishers, due to prior usage being inflated by bots. We are also seeing further usage decreases across our portfolio, driven by a decrease in referrals from Google, which we believe are due to changes made to their algorithm in 2024 and also the rollout of their AI Overview feature in 2024. These changes are likely affecting the whole industry, not just journals published with Sage.

The **Sage Author Gateway** offers recommendations for increasing usage and discoverability.

Article Usage Statistics

The following table shows the ten articles that were downloaded the most from 2024 on the Sage Journals platform.

Total Downloads	Article
	Hanne Amanda Trangerud
6,640	**The Trump Prophecies and the Mobilization of Evangelical Voters**
	Volume 51 Issue 2; 10.1177/00084298211012698
	Marc Dumas, Jacques Quintin, Lourdine Sauveur
3,834	**Expériences spirituelles et psychoses : que pouvons-nous en dire aujourd'hui ?**
	Volume 52 Issue 2; 10.1177/00084298221111699
	Ali Akbar
2,949	**The Zoroastrian Provenance of Some Islamic Eschatological Doctrines**
	Volume 49 Issue 1; 10.1177/0008429819844499
	Adam M. McGee
1,808	**Haitian Vodou and Voodoo: Imagined Religion and Popular Culture**
	Volume 41 Issue 2; 10.1177/0008429812441311
	Pablo Iglesias-Rodríguez
1,801	**The gambling business from the point of view of Catholic moral and social teachings**
	Special Section / Dossier spécial: Panel Review of New Testament Apocrypha: More Noncanonical Scriptures, volume 2; 10.1177/00084298221144384
	Kelsey Block
1,510	**Complicit silence, fluid identities and a shift to personalized faith: LGBTQ+ experiences in conservative Christian communities**
	Volume 52 Issue 2; 10.1177/00084298221128883
	Amarnath Amarasingam, Carmen Celestini
1,064	**Reviving the violet flame: The new age conspiratorial journey of Canada's Queen Romana Didulo**
	Volume 53 Issue 3; 10.1177/00084298231209700
	Joseph Wiebe, Sydney Thackeray
1,060	**The Mennonite case for counter-sovereignty through Indigenous assimilation: Settler colonialism, self-determination and relation to place in religious identity**
	Dossier spécial / Special Section: La portée transformatrice et politique desrituels autochtones; 10.1177/00084298231165443
	Nils Duranton
897	**Life in abundance: Diet, Black health and spirituality in the Nation of Islam, 1930–1975**
	Special Section / Dossier spécial: The Enduring Value of Albert Piette's La religion de près; 10.1177/00084298241238138
	William Arnal
878	**The state, the gods and the imagination; or, David Graeber as a theorist of religion**
	Volume 53 Issue 3; 10.1177/00084298231201980

The following table shows the ten articles that were downloaded the most from January 2025 through March 2025 on the Sage Journals platform.

Total Downloads	Article
	Marc Dumas, Jacques Quintin, Lourdine Sauveur
867	**Expériences spirituelles et psychoses : que pouvons-nous en dire aujourd'hui ?**
	Volume 52 Issue 2; 10.1177/00084298221111699
	Hanne Amanda Trangerud
690	**The Trump Prophecies and the Mobilization of Evangelical Voters**
	Volume 51 Issue 2; 10.1177/00084298211012698
	Adam M. McGee
631	**Haitian Vodou and Voodoo: Imagined Religion and Popular Culture**
	Volume 41 Issue 2; 10.1177/0008429812441311
	Nils Duranton
541	**Life in abundance: Diet, Black health and spirituality in the Nation of Islam, 1930–1975**
	Special Section / Dossier spécial: The Enduring Value of Albert Piette's La religion de près; 10.1177/00084298241238138
	Kelsey Block
507	**Complicit silence, fluid identities and a shift to personalized faith: LGBTQ+ experiences in conservative Christian communities**
	Volume 52 Issue 2; 10.1177/00084298221128883
	Pablo Iglesias-Rodríguez
374	**The gambling business from the point of view of Catholic moral and social teachings**
	Special Section / Dossier spécial: Panel Review of New Testament Apocrypha: More Noncanonical Scriptures, volume 2; 10.1177/00084298221144384
	Amarnath Amarasingam, Carmen Celestini
321	**Reviving the violet flame: The new age conspiratorial journey of Canada's Queen Romana Didulo**
	Volume 53 Issue 3; 10.1177/00084298231209700
	Sarah Wilkins-Laflamme
237	**And then there were none: Regional dynamics of non-religious identities, beliefs and practices among Canadian millennials**
	Numéro spécial / Special Issue : Les nouveaux enjeux des sociétés de tradition catholique; 10.1177/00084298221102926
	William Arnal
211	**The state, the gods and the imagination; or, David Graeber as a theorist of religion**
	Volume 53 Issue 3; 10.1177/00084298231201980
	Sarah Kathleen Johnson
194	**On our Knees Christian Ritual in Residential Schools and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada**
	Volume 47 Issue 1; 10.1177/0008429817733269

Online Platform

Sage continually strives to improve the user experience and take advantage of innovations in the scholarly publishing industry. Our ongoing site enhancements improve and simplify the user experience and allow us to achieve our overarching goal of making quality research easy to publish, find, and use. The Sage Journals platform is streamlined, inclusive, evidence-based, and vibrant.

Platform highlights include the following features:

- **Streamlined display of article metadata** throughout the site, including across search results, Table of Contents pages, and article pages. Our design principles focus on displaying the essential information in the right context.
- **Article viewing options:** allows users to switch from **HTML** to **ePUB** and **PDF** formats easily, with the e-Reader providing an interactive and accessible reading experience with access to a variety of menus and tools, including easy file download.
- **Engaging journal homepage**: with a layout that showcases essential journal information, quick access to content, and presentation of news and announcements.
- **Intuitive authentication experience** via the Access/Profile menu in the header and Access Options page offering clear signposting for the various content access options.
- **Content and citation alerts** allowing users to sign up to receive automated emails whenever new issues, new articles or published or when a selected article is cited by another publication (obtained via Crossref), helping researchers and academics can track the impact and the influence of their research.
- **Clear eCommerce options** for streamlined pay-per-view including easy to find purchase options, cart navigation and checkout experience.
- **Article sharing:** authenticated readers of your journal can share read-only access to the journal's articles by sending article links which recipients can use to view the article in a browser environment without having to be a subscriber. The links can be shared via email, on social media sites, and within scholarly collaboration networks, encouraging greater discoverability of the content and enhancing its impact through legitimate sharing options.
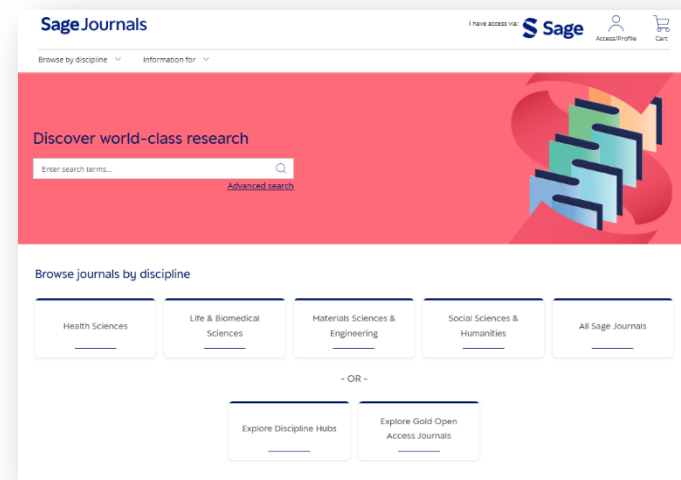
Sage Journals continues to experience impressive site performance and increasing user engagement, including:

- With an average of 34 million **sessions** per month in 2024, we saw a slight increase over 2023 but this was likely driven by bots in early 2024 with improved bot detection implemented in the second half of the year.
- Over 300 million **full text downloads** in 2024, an increase of nearly 4.5% compared to 2023.
- Looking at **usage by format**, HTML usage was up 15% and EPUB usage 11%. PDF has dropped 17%. This reflects the continued focus put on more accessible formats (HTML, EPUB) over PDF, and the fact that 2024 was the first full year where Google Scholar title links directed users to the HTML rather than the PDF format.
- **Mobile usage** went against the trend seen in the last few years with the amount of traffic coming from mobile declining in 2024, with a 17% drop compared to 2023. Mobile now represents 12% of traffic, down from 15% in 2023. We believe this is also a result of improved bot protection, since we have previously observed that a higher than average amount of bot traffic comes from mobile devices.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Taking Action

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) is something that we care deeply about at Sage. We are aware that the publishing industry, including Sage, has much more work to do to better reflect the diversity of the world we seek to educate and inform.

In pursuit of this growth, Sage organized four working groups to guide DEI efforts within our journals research program. Please read more about the aims of our content stream, representation stream, application stream, and data stream on our **Sage Perspectives blog post**. We are also a member of the cross-publisher **Joint Commitment for Action on Inclusion and Diversity in Publishing** and are committed to supporting DEI through our publishing. In 2022, we released a report titled **"Sage and DEI: Where We Stand"** documenting efforts, shortcomings, and successes from Sage's publishing and measuring where we stand in terms of gender, race, sexuality, and other forms of diversity for our workforces in the United States and the United Kingdom.

We urge our journal editors to act and commit to increasing diversity in their editorial boards, in peer review and in their author base. Research has shown that under the right conditions, increased diversity can improve the performance of a team. In 2023, a ScholarOne enhancement to collect self-reported user demographic data was made available to all journals on Sage Track, which will provide a better understanding of each journal's users. Please speak to your Publishing Editor if you would like to discuss this in more detail or have any questions.
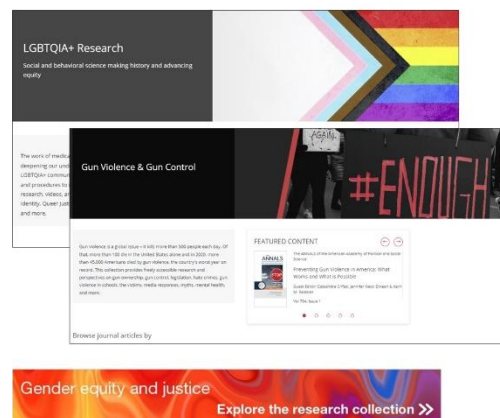
Resources from Sage

Sage strives to provide our partners with comprehensive resources and policies to guide DEI development in journals. Please review the sources below for our recommendations, as well as other industry resources we support.

General Resources

- **Sage's central DEI hub**
- **Sage Journals DEI pledge** and **accompanying statement**

Resources for Editors

- **Steps editors can take to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within their journals**
- **Five steps for a more diverse and inclusive Journal**
- Sage's **Inclusive Language Guide** is a valuable resource for editors, authors, and reviewers
- **Guidelines for editors on unconscious bias, language and working with authors with disabilities**
- **Guide for editors working with contributors (authors) with neuro-diversity disabilities**
- Webinar recording for **Editors in Action: Lightning Talks on Improving DEI in Academic Journals**
- Practices against **"helicopter" or "parachute" science** based on **Global Code of Conduct for Research in Resource-Poor Settings**

Resources for Authors, Reviewers, and Readers

- **Author name change policy**
- **Fostering a more diverse, equitable and inclusive peer review process at Sage**
- **Peer Review process** page, including a transparent **infographic**
- **Themed microsites**, such as **Banned Books and Academic Freedom**, **LGBTQIA+ Research,** and our APEX award-winning microsite on **Legacies of Colonialism**
- **Equity on Journal Publishing series**, with spotlights on several journals
- **Historical Content Statement** regarding the existence of problematic content in our journal archives
- **How to Do Research and Get Published webinar series**
- **How to Be a Peer Reviewer webinar**
- **Plain Language Summaries page** provides guidance to authors on how to address a non-researcher audience within their article

Resources from Related Groups

- **COPE Webinar: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**
- **COPE Seminar: Driving diversity, equity, and inclusion to shape the future of publication ethics**
- **COPE discussion document: diversity and inclusion**
- **COPE guidance on diversifying editorial boards**
- **C4DISC: Toolkits for Equity**
- **Council of Science Editors (CSE) collection of DEI Scholarly Resources**
- The **joint commitment for action on inclusion and diversity in publishing** endorsed set of **recommended standardized questions** for collecting self-reported identity data

DEI Research Collections

Sage is committed to publishing research that is free from bias, is representative of our diverse readerships, and inclusive and sensitive to our communities. To support access to this important research, we have created topic-focused microsites and research hubs, including:

- **Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander**
- **Banned Books and Academic Freedom**
- **Black History Month**
- **Gender Equity and Justice**
- **Gun Violence and Gun Control**
- **Information Literacy**
- **LGBTQIA+ Research**
- **Patient Accessible Research**
- **SDG4: Quality Education**
- **SDG5: Gender Equality**
- **SDG16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions**
- **Southwest Asia and North Africa**
- **Structural Racism and Police Violence**
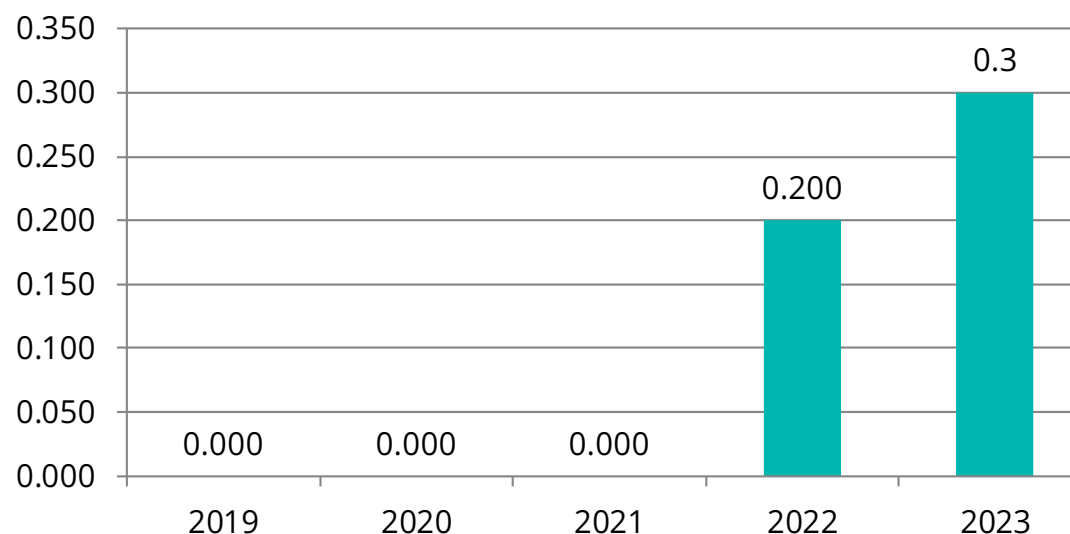- **War and Conflict**

Journal Impact Metrics

Impact Metrics and Readership statistics are presented on *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*'s dedicated Journal Metrics & Indexing page at **https://journals.sagepub.com/metrics/SIR**, giving readers the insight into a variety of methods for measuring the citation impact of published research on a journal level as well as the journal's total usage over the prior calendar year. Please visit the **Understanding Journal Metrics** page on our website for more information about journal and article level metrics.

Impact Factor

Over a period of three years, Clarivate gradually introduced Early Access content in Journal Citation Reports to reflect the dynamic citation environment of rapid online publication more accurately. This phased approach is complete and Impact Factor calculations now prioritize the online publication date for both the citing (numerator) and cited (denominator) article data. For more details on this policy change, including examples, FAQs, and details on Early Access onboarding, please review **Clarivate's presentation** on the JCR 2021 release updates.

In addition, Clarivate announced that starting with the update of the JCR in June 2023, all Web of Science Core Collection journals are given an Impact Factor. This means that instead of just SSCI and SCIE journals receiving an Impact Factor, journals in ESCI and AHCI now receive one as well. In addition, Clarivate now formats the Impact Factor so that it rounds to one decimal place. This means that starting with 2023 the IF appears as #.# rather than #.###. For additional details as well as some of the context around this change, please read **Clarivate's update here**.

Impact Factor by Year

A bar chart titled "Impact Factor by Year" showing:
- 2019: 0.000
- 2020: 0.000
- 2021: 0.000
- 2022: 0.200
- 2023: 0.3

	2022	2023	Percent Change 2022-2023
Impact Factor	0.2	0.3	50%
Cites to Recent Items	16	15	-3%
Citable Items	79	51	-35%
Total Citations	158	228	44%
Immediacy Index	<0.1	0.100	0%
5-Year Impact Factor	0.3	0.3	0%

Self-Citation Rate

The self-citation rate for *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* in the 2023 JCR release is 0.00%. Sage recommends keeping the self-citation rate below 15%, which is the JCR average. This is a metric Clarivate checks when determining if journals need to be dropped or suppressed from JCR, and they have expressed concern for journals with self-citation rates around 30% or more. Having a higher-than-average self-citation rate can be related to numerous variables beyond the number of self-citations, including changes in external citations, how niche a journal is, and industry trends impacting citation patterns in the industry.

Journal Citation Indicator

The Journal Citation Indicator (JCI) measures the citation impact of journals in the Web of Science Core Collection™ and is calculated for all journals in AHCI, ESCI, SSCI and SCIE. The algorithm used to calculate the JCI combines citation averages (like the Impact Factor) with category normalization. This calculation includes citations from the current year and prior 3 years to citable items published in the prior 3 years. Because the JCI is normalized for each category, a JCI of 1 represents the median of that category. A JCI of above 1 means a better than average score, and a JCI of below 1 represents a below average score.

Journal Citation Indicator

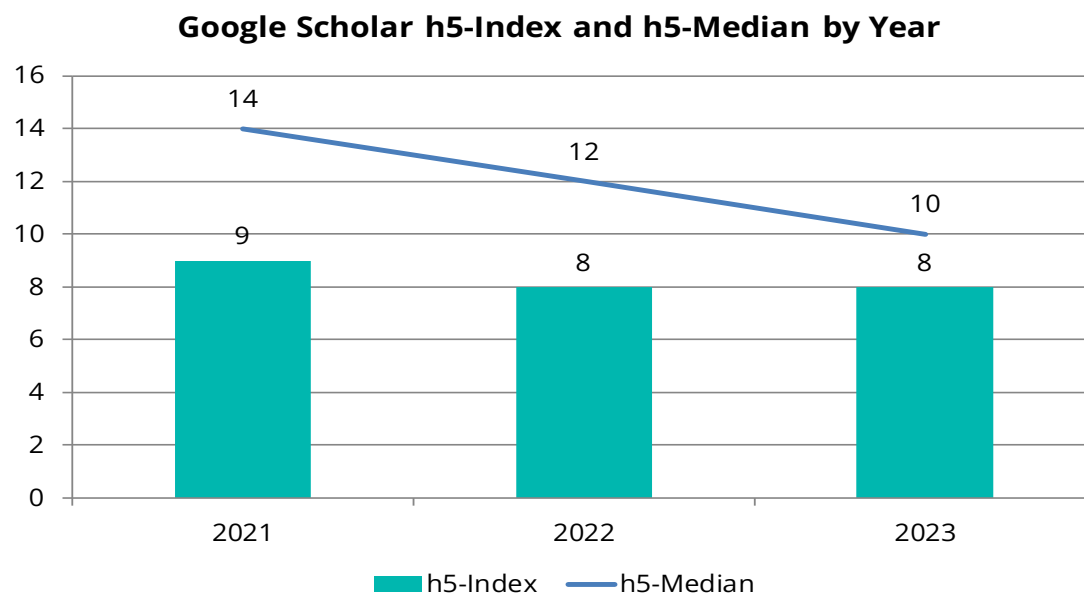|	2021	2022	2023
JCI	0.64	0.40	0.48
Ranking in Religion	0	0	163/339
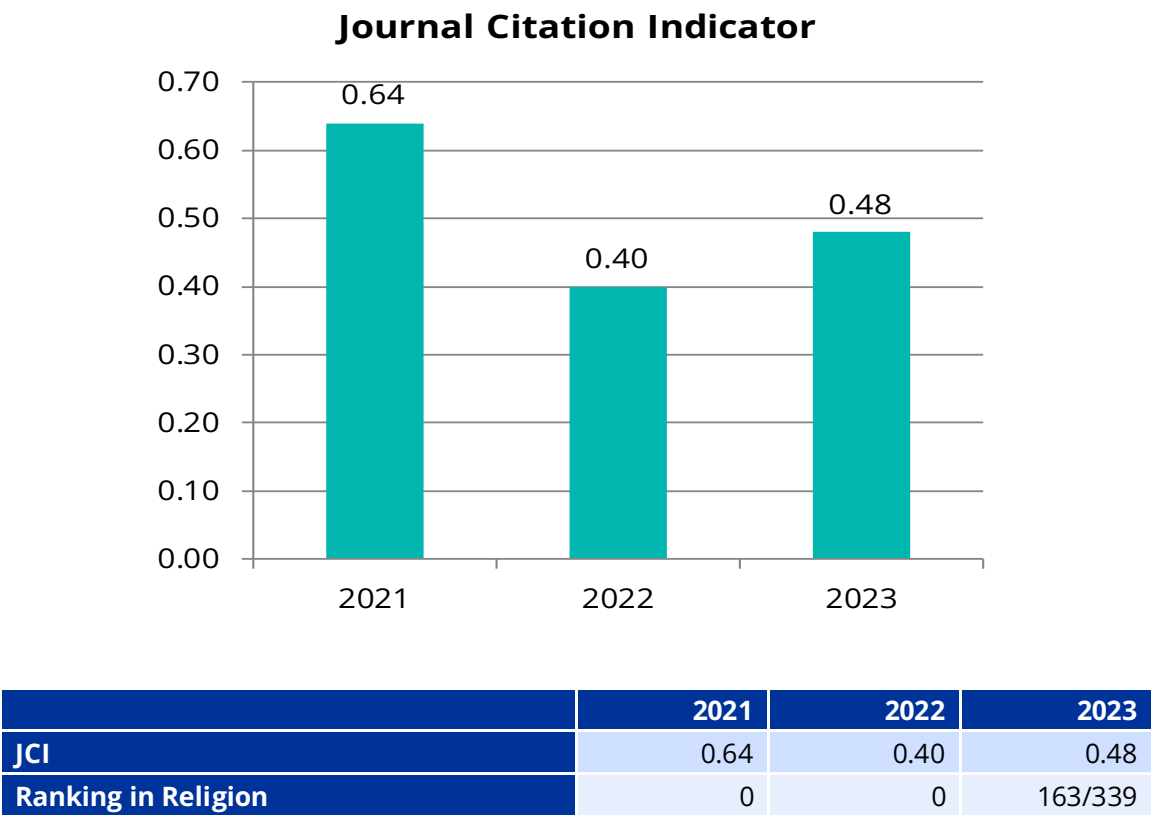
CiteScore

Scopus provides the journal's CiteScore, which is calculated as the total citations made in the CiteScore year and the prior three years to content published in the CiteScore year and the prior three years, divided by the total number of items published by the journal in the CiteScore year and prior three years.

CiteScore by Year
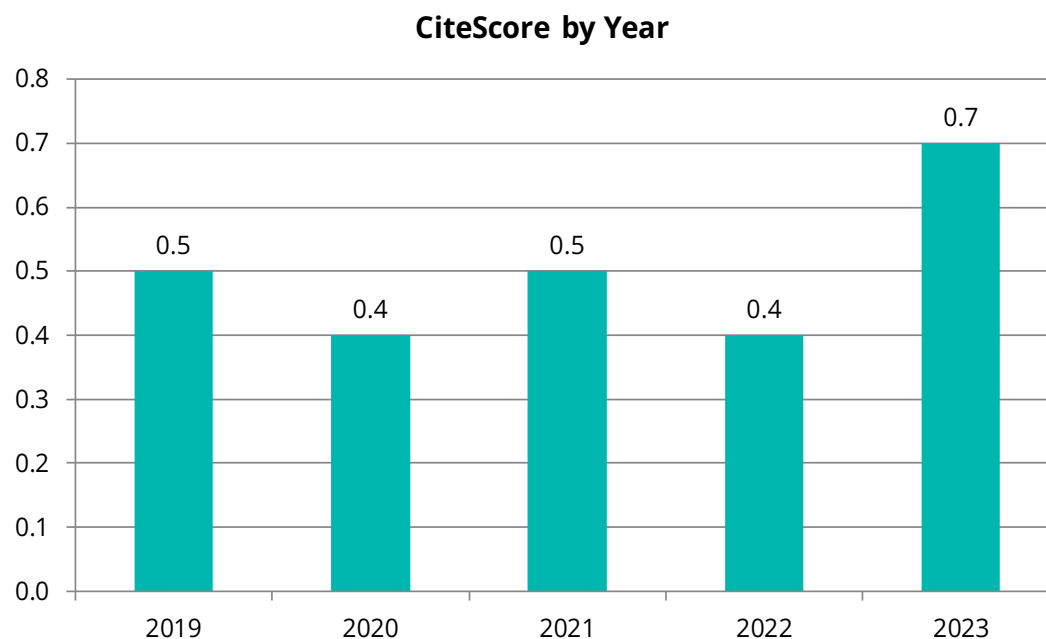
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Percent Change 2022-2023
CiteScore	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	75%
Ranking in Religious Studies	105/492	129/491	165/547	208/584	173/644	N/A
Scimago Journal Rank	0.202	0.172	0.226	0.225	0.230	2%

Google Scholar

Google's h5-index is a metric for evaluating the cumulative impact of a journal's entire scholarly output and performance over a five-year span, representing that the journal has published at least *h* articles that have been cited at least *h* times over the past five years. The h5-index measures quantity with quality by comparing publications to citations and corrects for the disproportionate weight of highly cited publications or publications that have not yet been cited. The h5-median indicates the median number of citations of those *h* articles with *h+* citations.

Google Scholar h5-Index and h5-Median by Year

Google Scholar	2021	2022	2023	Percent Change 2022-2023
h5-Index	9	8	8	0%
h5-Median	14	12	10	-17%

Altmetric

Alternative metrics are becoming increasingly visible in scholarly publishing. Altmetric tracks online mentions of journal articles across online platforms and uses an algorithm to score accordingly. The score is a helpful measure of online engagement and visibility, but it is not directly linked to citations or usage.

Top Altmetric Attention Scores for Articles Receiving Mentions in Past 6 Months

Total Altmetric Score	Article Title
154	Les côtés ténébreux de Mère Teresa
15	The Zoroastrian Provenance of Some Islamic Eschatological Doctrines
9	Reviving the violet flame: The new age conspiratorial journey of Canada's Queen Romana Didulo
4	The politics of in/visibility: The Jews of urban Tehran
4	Neanderthal 'religion'

Sage and DORA

The **Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)** recognizes the need to improve the ways in which the outputs of scholarly research are evaluated. The declaration was developed in 2012 during the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology in San Francisco. It has become a worldwide initiative covering all scholarly disciplines and all key stakeholders including funders, publishers, professional societies, institutions, and researchers. We encourage all individuals and organizations who are interested in developing and promoting best practice in the assessment of scholarly research to sign DORA.

As part of our commitment to publishing **impactful research** that helps to influence and inform policy, practice, and the public, Sage has committed to the five principles for publishers outlined in DORA. Sage's commitment to these principles has been built into the platforms and technologies we have developed over recent years, and we will continue to evaluate and extend our efforts to advance robust and appropriate measures of research impact.

What is Sage doing?

1. Reducing our emphasis on Impact Factor as a promotional tool and presenting a variety of metrics for researchers to use to assess a journal's performance:
   - **Journal metrics pages**: Our comprehensive journal metrics pages cover metrics from Journal Citation Reports, Scopus, and Google Scholar, as well as full-text usage and abstract and indexing services, among others.

- **Five-Year Impact Factors (JIF)**: With regard to citation-based impact metrics, we place emphasis on the five-year Journal Impact Factors (JIF) alongside the standard two-year measure. We believe the five-year metric provides a longer-term and more balanced picture than metrics from shorter windows, especially in research areas where citations are often slower to accrue.
- **10-Year Impact Award**: Recognizing an even longer timeframe during which research has impact beyond citations, every year we award the authors of three papers with a "**10-Year Impact Award**."

2. Making article-level metrics available to encourage assessment based on the content of the article rather than a journal's publication metrics:

- **Article metrics**: Authors and readers can see article metrics for every article we publish, including article usage and citations from Crossref and Web of Science.
- **Journal homepage features**: Each journal homepage features top downloaded articles, top-cited articles, and articles trending on Altmetric.

3. Encourage responsible authorship practices, including details on the contributions of each author:

- **CRediT**: Sage is piloting **CRediT** (Contributor Roles Taxonomy) across several journals. For more information see Sage's **CRediT page** on our Author Gateway.

4. Remove access restrictions or reuse limitations on an article's reference list:

- **Free access**: All articles are published with freely available reference lists.
- **Article sharing functionality**: We provide authors an easy way to share a read-only article version via the **Sage Journals article sharing tool**. This ensures authors' friends and colleagues have a free and accessible way to view articles without the need to subscribe.

5. Reduce constraints on the number of references allowable in research articles:

- **Number of references per manuscript**: Sage allows editors and their editorial boards to determine the number of references allowed per manuscript.

Creating Impact

For information on our commitments beyond DORA and how we maintain accountability on research impact, see the following:

- An interview with DORA chair **Dr. Stephen Curry on Social Science Space**.
- "**On Measuring Social Science Impact**" a thought piece in the journal *Organization Studies* by Ziyad Marar, President of Global Publishing at Sage.
- Sage's white paper on *Measuring Societal Impact in Business & Management Research: From Challenges to Change*.
- **Read more** about Sage's efforts to increase research impact.

Marketing

As a trusted partner of *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*, we seek to foster the growth and sustainability of your journal by leveraging the most effective marketing channels to achieve global reach and meaningful impact. To achieve this, our Marketing and Editorial teams collaborate to engage with your audience effectively, delivering them information that aligns with their interests and needs.

We continuously invest in cutting-edge marketing technology that enables us to provide timely, relevant, and targeted information through strategies such as our "always on", "behavioral", and "customer-centric" marketing. These strategies allow us to connect with your journal audience based on their actions on *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*'s Sage Journals homepage or their current stage in the publishing process. We also monitor and analyze the results of our initiatives to assess our success and refine future approaches.

Our core objectives for *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* are to:

1. Build profile and reputation globally
2. Maximize usage and discoverability
3. Engage authors and reviewers
4. Drive quality submissions

We use a range of strategies to deliver on these goals.

Journal Level Marketing

Email Alerts

New Content Alert Registrants & eTOCs Delivered

Journal users can sign up to receive email alerts for new content (new issues and/or OnlineFirst articles) from *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*.
Register for a personal account on Sage Journals, then add SIR to your profile: **https://journals.sagepub.com/connected/SIR#email-alert**.

601	14,929	307
registrants in 2025 YTD, a decrease of -1% over 2024	alerts sent during 2024 (full issue and/or OnlineFirst)	article click-throughs from email alerts in 2024

Most Popular eTOC Articles

The following were the top 5 most clicked articles from the journal's eTOCs opened in 2024.

Article Title	Authors	Issue	Clicks
The state, the gods and the imagination; or, David Graeber as a theorist of religion	William Arnal	Vol. 53, No. 3, September 2024	7
Problems of Citation in the Study of Religion: Who Do We Cite and Why?	Britt Halvorson, Ingie Hovland	Vol. 53, No. 2, June 2024	7
The Mennonite case for counter-sovereignty through Indigenous assimilation: Settler colonialism, self-determination and relation to place in religious identity	Joseph Wiebe, Sydney Thackeray	Vol. 53, No. 1, March 2024	4
Albert Piette and lived (non-)religion: Conceptual and methodological considerations	Lauren Strumos, Lori G Beaman	Vol. 53, No. 4, December 2024	3
Compte rendu / Book Review: Paul Tillich. Au-delà du naturalisme et du supranaturalisme, Jean Richard Paul Tillich. Au-delà du naturalisme et du supranaturalisme Richard Jean Québec : Presses universitaires de Laval , 2022 . 147 p.	Marc Dumas	Vol. 53, No. 2, June 2024	3

Email Campaigns

We segment Sage's contacts within *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*'s discipline to further drive usage, citations, and/or submissions to the journal.

- Inclusion in targeted campaigns to faculty and librarians at subscribing institutions to drive usage to *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*.
- Engage *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*'s authors and researchers to further drive loyalty, detailed in the "Engaging Authors" section below.
- Interact with *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*'s potential authors who have clicked through to your submission guidelines but did not submit by sending an email with more information about your journal.

Author/Reviewer Support Email Campaigns

We manage a number of email campaigns which automatically send relevant resources to users based on publishing behaviors and web activities.

- **Author Resources** reconnects with previously published authors to inspire new submissions, while also encouraging submissions from contacts who utilize our website's author support resources.
- **Published Author Care** targets authors post-publication and provides resources to help them promote and track the impact of their article.
- **Revise and Resubmit** targets authors whose manuscripts are in revise and resubmit status with a further reminder to resubmit and support resources to streamline the revision process.
- **Reviewer Resources** targets researchers who recently reviewed a manuscript and encourages them to engage with our resources and benefits.

Across the Author Resources, Published Author Care, Revise and Resubmit, and Reviewer Resources Email Journeys, 99 authors received an email campaign in support of their publishing journey at Sage.

Social Media

Journal content including resources for authors, awareness days, DEI initiatives, trending topics, and newsworthy content is promoted across our Sage Journals, Health and Nursing, and Clinical Medicine X – formerly Twitter channels, which have 22,618 followers to date. We encourage editorial board members to post about recent journal articles and tag us @SageJournals.

Selected Recent Posts from Sage

Date	Tweet
15-Mar-25	Have you explored our collection addressing gender oppression, inequity, and the systems that hinder equality? This #WomensHistoryMonth, engage with research that challenges barriers and amplifies voices for change. Discover more here: https://ow.ly/CgbC50Vheev #GenderEquality https://twitter.com/SageJournals/status/1900985415521243144/photo/1
8-Mar-25	On #InternationalWomensDay, we spotlight the research that challenges gender inequity & uplifts liberation psychologies. Explore how unjust systems impact equality & what we can do to dismantle them: https://ow.ly/Z4qf50V6MMu #IWD #WHM #Equity https://twitter.com/SageJournals/status/1898312826659238158/photo/1
5-Mar-25	This #WomensHistoryMonth, explore research that confronts systemic oppression & reimagines a more just world. Read more: https://ow.ly/7f9C50V6MGb #WHM #GenderJustice https://twitter.com/SageJournals/status/1897361694021603666/photo/1

Author Marketing

Publicity and Outreach

Articles with appeal beyond your core audience may benefit from publicity efforts. We have a range of potential options, including social media promotion, a blog post on the **Sage Perspectives Blog**, an article press release on EurekAlert!, or a pitch to The Conversation.

Sage Author Resources

- The Sage **Journal Author Gateway** provides a variety of **How to Get Published resources** and **Promote your article** guidelines to support authors. The gateway had 1.3 million page views in 2024.
- The **Chinese Author Gateway**, with 26,000 page views in 2024, provides materials in Simplified Chinese to support author needs, aid with selecting the right journal for their research, and prepare articles for publication.
- The APEX Award-winning, monthly **How to Do Research and Get Published Webinar Series**, features speakers from Sage and external experts and provides guidance to researchers on every step of the publishing process, from choosing the right journal to article promotion. There were over 38,000 registrants with an audience of over 11,000 in 2024.
- **Sage Author Services**, powered by Editage, offers high-quality professional pre- and post-publication support services including language editing and manuscript formatting services. In the first half of 2024, Sage Author Services had 25,000 visitors and completed 605 jobs.
- The **Sage Journal Editor Gateway** features a variety of supporting materials, such as the **Journal Editorial Board Members Hub** and **Taking Action on Diversity** guidance for editors. It generated 216,000 page views in 2024.

Sage Reviewer Resources

Sage provides resources to assist new and experienced reviewers in conducting peer review.

- The **Sage Reviewer Gateway** provides a variety of reviewer support resources including: a **website** and **reviewer's guide** on how to review articles, and **videos** on how to become a peer reviewer and how to conduct peer review.
- The **How to Be a Peer Reviewer webinar series** which was run three times in 2024 had 3,000 registrations, leading to 150 review assignments.
- The **Reviewer Selection Handbook** for journal editors.
- Collaboration for the cross-publisher Peer Review Week initiative, including a **landing page** with original content from Sage.

Discipline Branding and Content Promotion

Discipline Hubs

Our discipline hubs are webpages hosted within the Sage Journals Platform which offer a simple, user-friendly experience displaying the breadth of our publishing in one place, encouraging researchers, librarians, and authors to explore Sage's content in our core disciplines. *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* is featured on our Religion Discipline Hub (**https://journals.sagepub.com/religion**) to drive content awareness, article usage, and relevant journal news.

Traffic to Religion Hub: Past Quarter

Pageviews	Sessions
434	351

Content Marketing

Content marketing is key to elevating *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* as an authority on a given subject being actively addressed at a given time across society. We actively engage in awareness days, DEI initiatives, and trending topics by marketing *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*'s content alongside other relevant Sage content via different marketing initiatives including microsites and landing pages.

Market Reach via Consortia and Open Access Agreements

The Library Marketing team maintains and increases global access for your journal by supporting the Global Sales team to renew existing library subscriptions and by generating new leads for package sales and upgrades. Most of our customers access through packages including Sage Premier, while many customers also access through standalone "traditional" subscriptions. We create a range of Sales enablement tools, including data-driven campaigns which prove effective in demonstrating value from existing holdings and show librarians their unmet demand which drives upgrades.

Sage Premier

Sage Premier includes over 1 million articles from 1058 titles, 512 titles published on behalf of societies, with 79% ranked in the JCR (Premier 2025).

In addition, your journal is available in over 7,000 institutions in lower income and emerging economies as a result of our partnerships with the UN's Research4Life initiative, The International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP), and The eIFL Foundation.

2023 Premier Sales: all categories

Region	%
Western Europe	23%
United States	34%
South America	8%
North America (excl US)	5%
Middle East	3%
Great Britain	12%
Eastern Europe	3%
Central America	2%
Australasia	1%
Asia	8%
Africa	1%
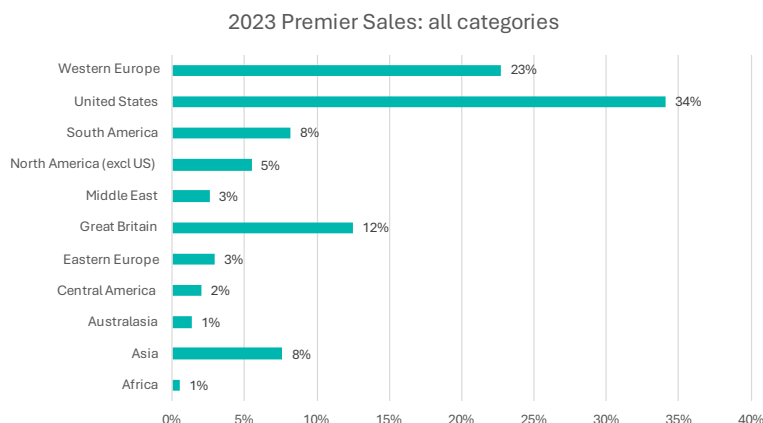
2023 Premier Sales: non-academic markets

Category	%
Corporate	32%
Medical	29%
Other	9%
Public	31%
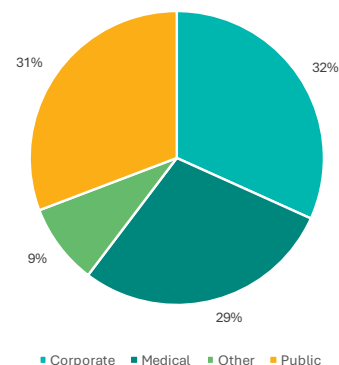
Open Access Agreements Marketing

Our marketing support for Open Access agreements is targeted at participating institutions. A combination of email, online resources, social media, webinars, and digital ads build awareness of the deal among faculty and librarians and drives articles submission from eligible authors.

Campaign Name	Total Delivered	Unique Opens	Open Rate %	Unique Clicks	Click Rate %
OA Program Onboarding	23,126	6,554	28.34%	454	1.96%
OA Program Submission	73,369	22,109	30.13%	437	0.60%

Editorial Board Actions for Impact

We would like to leave you with a few suggested action items for editorial board and/or society members to help promote the journal.

⚠️	**New Content Alerts**	Sign up for email alerts and journal notifications at **https://journals.sagepub.com/connected/SIR#email-alert**. Alerts will tell you when the latest content has published OnlineFirst and when a new issue has been released. Flag newsworthy articles to the Editor for potential promotion on social media, blogs, or press releases. Alerts also serve as reminders to share relevant content.
📄	**Solicit Submissions**	When traveling to conferences, speaking at lectures, and collaborating with colleagues, be on the look-out for opportunities to recommend submission to the journal. As an editorial board member, you are in the best position to recruit papers from interesting posters or presentations. Recruiting new, exciting, and innovative research from colleagues and upcoming researchers is a great way to increase citations and help improve the Impact Factor.
👥	**Recruit Reviewers**	One of the most common difficulties for Editors is securing reviewers in a timely fashion. It is much easier to maintain a full and active pool of reviewers when all editorial board members offer new contacts. Recruit authors of noteworthy papers, engaged readers looking for more involvement, and early career researchers to review for the journal.
👤	**Editorial Board Representation**	If you know of a colleague interested in becoming an editorial board member, flag the request with the Editor of the journal for their consideration. A diverse and engaged editorial board is key for journal growth. Consider recommending consistent reviewers, your study collaborators, and researchers in areas not already represented on the Editorial Board.
📚	**Mentor Junior Scholars**	It is important to engage junior scholars and early career researchers with the journal early. Consider mentoring someone new to the field by co-authoring articles and training them on quality reviews. People are much more likely to submit their manuscripts and return high quality reviews after building a connection with the journal. Early engagement may also encourage them to become an Editorial Board member in the future.
✓	**Recommend Special Issues**	Editorial board members can help Editors build highly cited special issues or sponsored supplements by identifying hot topics in the field. Notifying the Editor of emerging trends and/or submissions you are recruiting helps keep the journal competitive.
💬	**Engage with Social Media**	Be sure to reference your role with the journal on your professional social media accounts, such as LinkedIn, or relevant academic social networks, such as Mendeley or Academic.edu. Share articles and journal news with your network of contacts. This generates additional discoverability and exposure for the journal by driving web traffic and interest in submitting to the journal.
📰	**Share Articles Appropriately**	We encourage you to share articles with your colleagues, especially where it relates to courses, ongoing research, or noteworthy content. **Sage's article sharing feature** enables subscribers to share read-only copies of articles within the copyright allowance. Posting the final PDF of a manuscript is not allowed without permission, unless noted by an Open Access license.
🏫	**Remind Institutions to Subscribe**	If your university or institution does not already subscribe to the journal, please encourage them to do so. A faculty member recommendation to subscribe to a particular journal carries more weight and helps build the case. Recommend the journal to your library using the form on our homepage: **https://journals.sagepub.com/home/SIR**.
🏛️	**Update Faculty Page & CV**	Make sure that your faculty page and LinkedIn profile are up to date with your recent publications, mention your role on the journal's editorial board, and link back to the journal site. By linking your website or CV to the full-text article published in the journal, you will help increase the journal's search engine results and article downloads.
❓	**Questions?**	Visit our **Journals Solutions Portal** or **Journal Editor Gateway** for answers to common queries.