

# The DASH Repository

## Harvard Scholarship, Global Impact

Since it launched in 2009, articles in Harvard's DASH repository have been downloaded over one million times and from nearly every country in the world.

Approximately 2/3 of these downloads originated outside of the United States, and half of those (1/3 of all downloads) came from less-developed countries.<sup>1</sup>

### Spotlight: Access in Africa

Reductions in library funding and currency fluctuation have forced African institutions of higher learning to cut back on subscriptions to scholarly journals.

In 2007, the average cost for a one-year subscription to a physics journal was almost \$2,200. By 2011, it was nearly \$3,500. And prices keep rising.<sup>2,3</sup>

**78% of academic libraries at African institutions have less than \$100,000 per year to spend on journal subscriptions.**<sup>4</sup>

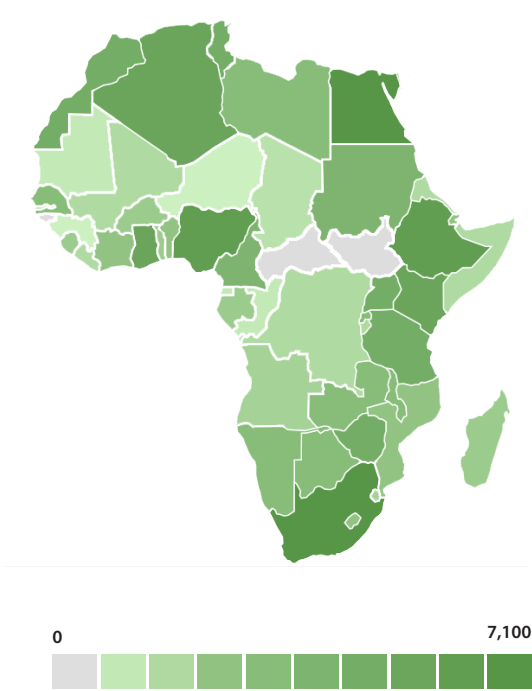
### African Researchers Download from DASH

Scholars at African institutions often have limited access to subscription journals. Some have started turning to the DASH open-access repository, where thousands of journal articles by Harvard scholars are available for download, for free.

Top 10 Downloading Countries, 2009 to Date

Country	Article Downloads
Egypt	7,084
South Africa	6,764
Nigeria	4,757
Ethiopia	4,182
Kenya	3,294
Algeria	2,143
Ghana	1,518
Morocco	1,283
Tunisia	1,237
Tanzania	1,193

Article Downloads by Country



1. Countries considered developing economies according to the International Monetary Fund's *World Economic Outlook Report*, April 2012.

2. Lee C. Van Orsdel & Kathleen Born, "Periodicals Price Survey 2007: Serial Wars," *Library Journal*, April 15, 2007.

3. Stephen Bosch, Kittie Henderson & Heather Klusendorf, "Periodicals Price Survey 2011: Under Pressure, Times Are Changing," *Library Journal*, April 14, 2007.

4. Samuel Kwaku Smith Esseh, "Strengthening Scholarly Publishing in Africa: Assessing the Potential of Online Systems." (PhD diss., University of British Columbia, Vancouver, 2011). Survey data was collected from libraries in 2007.