

Springer Nature Discovers MDPI

The Strain team

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Ambiguous one-word journal titles are a Multi-Disciplinary Publishing Institute (MDPI) trademark (“[Foods](#)”, “[Plants](#)”). In the spirit of “if you can’t beat ’em, join ’em”, Springer Nature has launched a series of journals, the “Discover” series, with near-identical names ([Discover Food](#), [Discover Plants](#)). if you don’t believe us, you can try it yourself in our “Guess Who Is Who” mini-game:

Why? How? And let’s ask the most important question of all: who will this benefit? It’s certainly not the authors.

Springer Nature Discovers MDPI

For-profit academic publishers say they’re allies to the research community. They provide the venue to publish articles, and only ask a small, insignificant, multi-thousand dollar fee for the trouble. *It’s really a steal if you think about it.* Researchers get to promote their work, and publishers get to have profit margins rivalling Google and other big tech companies. Everybody wins!

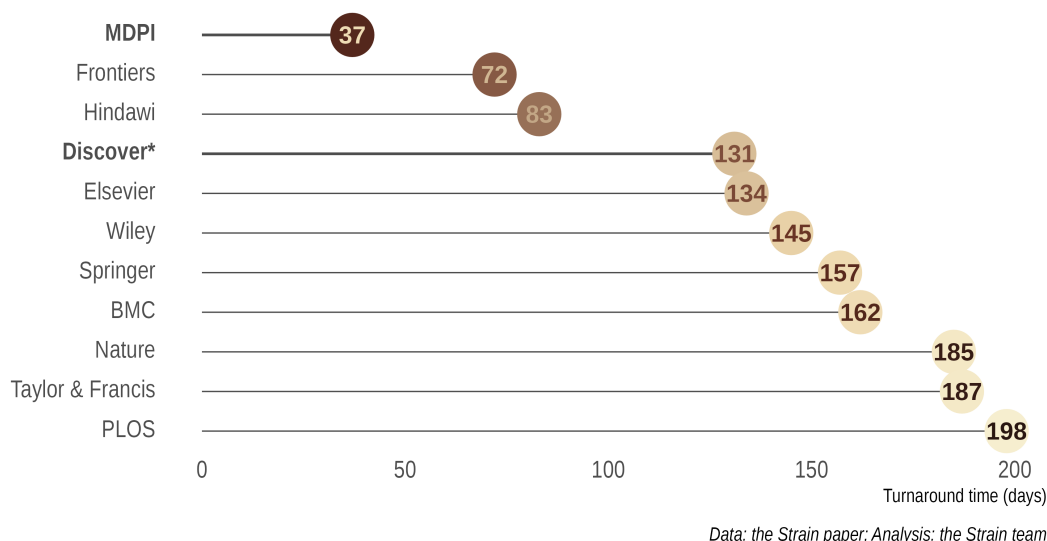
Here at the strain team, we do have a concern though. There has been an unprecedented growth in published academic articles, including the new onslaught of [AI-gobbledygook](#). In

our study “[The strain on scientific publishing](#)”, we highlighted how certain Gold Open Access for-profit publishers motivate this growth. The most significant outlier by any metric was MDPI, a publisher that has been at the centre of many critiques (see: [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here...](#)).

Figure 1: Mean Turnaround Times (days) of major publishers in 2022

Mean Turnaround Times (days), major publishers, 2022

Submissions to acceptance, conditional on acceptance, in days. *for Discover: 2024



MDPI is a unique entity, attracting negative attention for their email spam to scientists inviting them to guest edit “special issues.” This has enabled systematic citation gaming across MDPI journals by unsavoury editors, leading to a farcical and extraordinarily fast peer review process, alongside rampant rates of self-citation and impact factor inflation. On the substance of the articles themselves, the lack of scientific rigour in the MDPI editorial process has led to ridiculous articles being published on “[tomatoes roaming the fields](#)” among [other bunk](#). Such practices in other publishers resulted in mass article retractions and [the end of the Hindawi publishing brand](#). As a result of these high profile controversies, a number of groups have taken concrete actions to curb the damage done by the model of aggressive recruitment of guest-edited article collections, including refusing to fund the publication charges of such papers ([here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

In a healthy world, other publishers might look at the concern over MDPI and consider how to right the ship. *But, dear readers, we do not live in a healthy world.* The biggest publishing

houses are complicit, and actively contribute, to the current strain (including Elsevier, Frontiers, and more). But we were shocked and dismayed (*ok... not shocked, just dismayed*) to learn that Springer Nature Portfolio has launched a “Discover” series of journals that seem to deliberately and systematically mimic the MDPI brand.

Figure 2: Springer Nature, why not just put it on a t-shirt?



Publicly, the Discover series journals say they’ll accept any science: *“Discover journals... provide a home for all research... our remit is to ensure that all research, validated by peers, has a place in a trusted imprint.”* And they’ll do it fast: *“[X is] a Discover journal focused on speed of submission and review, service, and integrity.”* In other words: *“we will publish, fast, anything that you send us so long as it we can call it ‘science.’ It doesn’t need to be useful, you just need to pay us thousands of dollars.”*

Sound familiar? Yes, this is precisely [what MDPI used to say about its role](#) in the publishing ecosystem. They wanted to publish, fast, anything that was true, under the auspice of [‘letting readers determine its significance.’](#)

But it gets so much worse. Springer Nature *Discover* journals are *literally carbon copying MDPI titles* – just pricing them lower to lure scientists in. Below in the Long and Boring Data Appendix we provide the full list of Discover journals, alongside their MDPI equivalents, and the APC charged in 2025. Here we just put one section – *Applied Sciences* – as an appetizer. Out of 66 *Discover* journals, 25 have *identical* names to existing MDPI journals ([Viruses](#) - [Viruses](#)), 11 differ by one letter ([Food](#) – [Foods](#)) and 22 more have looser but clearly distinguishable similarity ([Computing](#) – [Computers](#)). That’s 58 copycat journal titles out of 66 for you.

Figure 3: *Discover* journals in the Applied Sciences section and their MDPI homonyms

Article Processing Charges (2025) -- Discover and similarly-named MDPI journals

Journal name			APCs (€)	
DISCOVER	MDPI	NAME SIMILARITY	DISCOVER	MDPI
Applied Sciences				
Sensors	Sensors	●	1690	2782
Applied Sciences	Applied Sciences	●	1590	2568
Electronics	Electronics	●	1040	2568
Computing	Computers	●	1140	1926
Imaging	Journal of Imaging	●	1040	1926
Robotics	Robotics	●	1690	1926
Artificial Intelligence	AI	●	1190	1712
Data	Data	●	1090	1712
Networks	Network	●	1690	1072
Analytics	Analytics	●	1090	1070
Concrete and Cement	Construction Materials	●	1690	1070
Internet of Things	—	●	1190	—

data: MDPI and Discover websites. Analysis: the Strain team

And, Discover, like MDPI, are now sending unsolicited mails to academics inviting them to head up special collections (aka Special Issues). We know, because we received one such, *generous*, invitation.

It seems that Springer Nature has Discovered MDPI.

Why does this matter?

Well, publishers claim to be filling a market need. While this siren call sounds sweet and inviting, the reality behind it has been much darker. The rush to produce more work in special issues has produced an [avalanche of poor quality work](#). It also matters because the one thing that MDPI had going for it was its transparency. Footling around^a on the MDPI website, their rejection rates, turn around times, and special issue collections were easily visible. The

Discover series demonstrates no such transparency, making it much harder to hold them to account. This muddies the waters of genuine research fields, and undermines public trust in science.

We need to remember that Springer Nature has previously demonstrated a keen interest in generating quantity, rather than quality. In 2011 it launched Scientific Reports, which has become the largest Open Access megajournal ever, overtaking PLOS One back in 2016. What is especially salient there is that PLOS One stated publicly that its editorial rigour was uncompromising, and part of the drop in its publications [was a lower acceptance rate](#). PLOS One had further recruited 3000 editorial board members to handle the then [~5000 submissions per month](#), and introduced new article triaging measures before peer review, helping to handle the immense volume of submissions while maintaining editorial quality. [We cannot see evidence of similar behaviour in Scientific Reports](#).

And the worst thing of all? *This will work.* The Springer Nature brand will protect Discover. Springer Nature will allow *Discover* to prosper at the same time as the services it offers are an expensive distraction. Scientists will turn to *Discover* journals, as the service offers what they are looking for – a reputable open access publication for a small fee. Indeed, many already are: the *Discover* series has grown from 10 journals in 2020 to 66 in June 2025, collectively publishing 2308 papers in 2020, but a whole 5352 in 2024 – so far, we have counted 4739 papers published from January to May in 2025 alone, so this number seems likely to double.

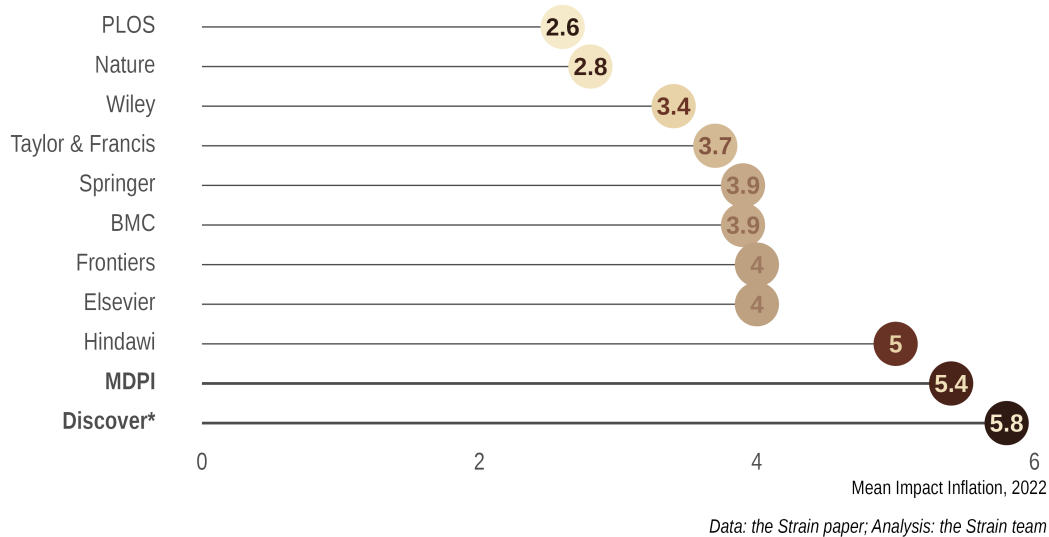
Apart from the literally identical names, how similar are *Discover* journals to their MDPI twins? It's a mixed bag.

In terms of growth, newly-minted *Discover* journals show the same explosive trajectory of MDPI, *circa* 2018-19. Overall, the *Discover* franchise grew by 324% between 2023 and 2024 (635% at Discover Food, 530% at Discover Environment. 1017% at Discover Sustainability – see the Long and Boring Data Appendix for more). The subset of *Discover* journals that has an Impact Factor, as a whole, also sport the same IFI^b as the MDPI journals they took their titles from (2024 mean IFI: *Discover* = 5.6, MDPI = 5.8, while PLOS = 3.0, BioMed Central = 3.8 – and again, IFI of all *Discover* journals and their MDPI counterparts in the LBDA).

Figure 4: Mean Impact Inflation of major publishers in 2022

Mean Impact Factor Inflation, major publishers, 2022

IFI: 3-years cites per document over Scimago Journal Rank. *for Discover: 2024



Still, the *Discover* series is not overly reliant on Special Issues, *yet*. This might soon change. Anecdotally, we observe a surge in emails inviting scientists to edit *collections* – this is the name given to guest-edited special issues at *Discover*. We know, because one of us received one such email. Also, the number of open special issues seem to have had an uptick recently – overall, there are 1255 open SI at *Discover*, about 19 per journal on average (Applied Sciences: 160; Sustainability: 113 – see the LBDA). If we assume about 5 papers per SI, this amounts to about 6 thousand more papers to be expected via the guest-edited model in 2025 and early 2026. We wrote a [whole study](#) on how special issue invitations are an engine for journal growth. In that work, Springer Nature’s main strategy was to open more total journals to drive growth in total articles published, rivalling the growth seen by MDPI’s special issue engine. To see Springer Nature both opening a whole slew of new journals under the *Discover* brand, alongside an aggressive special issue push, is distressing. Note: 36/66 *Discover* journals popped up since 2024 (see the LBDA).

Discover also displays turnaround times more in line with the bulk of the scientific publishing industry (2024 mean: 131 days from submission to acceptance); this is a far cry from other for-profit OA publishers known for their heavy-handed choices in the speed-accuracy trade-off (2022 mean of 37 days for MDPI and 72 days for Frontiers). But we previously showed that

special issues tend to have more rapid turnaround times compared to normal articles, and the bulk of *Discover*'s growth has happened in just the last year alongside this special issue push, so we'd encourage everyone to watch this space closely.

So, *Discover* has the same names, same business model, but not exactly (or not *yet*) the same metrics on all fronts.

What can be done about this?

Let's start by collectively doing what we can:

First, think twice before sending your work to a for-profit publisher. In biological sciences there are journal lists like [DAFNEE](#) that aggregate society and not-for-profit journals. Services like [PeerCommunityIn](#) review and publish work FREE OF CHARGE, with journal sections covering the life sciences and more. Invest your APCs back into science.

Second, IGNORE ALL REQUESTS from these publishers. Do not respond to requests to review. Do not respond to requests to head up special collections. Do not become an editor in these journals. *Do not subsidise their business model.*^c

Third, notify your Director of Research. Ask them to tell to their boss, and ask them to alert key funders (i.e. universities and research councils). Each group will find its own tolerance for action, but time and again it has been shown that change happens when the funders take action.

And, of course:

Fourth, embrace the ridiculousness of the for-profit publishing landscape, try our "Springer Nature or MDPI" mini-games and let's have a chat on the [Bluesky](#) #ResearchIntegrity feed.

Let's stop falling for the same (in this case, *literally* the same) old tricks. Let's stop wasting money on journals we do not need.

~ *The strain team.*

Erratum (June 12th 2025)

The data we use for turnaround times and to assess the growth of *Discover* journals come from a web scrape we made on June 1st, 2025 (see [Data Sources](#) below for more details). There was a bug in the scrape: for the 4 biggest *Discover* journals that had published >1,000 articles over all years (*Applied Sciences*, *Oncology*, *Nano* and *Sustainability*), the script interpreted the comma separating the thousands as "not a number" and hence scraped only a handful of articles (for instance, 6,543 was interpreted as "6"). As a result, our earlier data was missing most turnaround time data for the four biggest *Discover* journals.

We found the bug, and reran the scrape *for these 4 journals specifically* on June 11th, 2025. This led to changes in most of the aggregate data on TATs and number of papers.

Adding these journals in, the average turnaround time for Discover in 2024 falls to 131 days (from 140). The overall growth rate of Discover journals falls to 324% (from 460%). Also, we had claimed there existed 5 *Discover* journals in 2020 – there were 10 – and the overall number of papers published by *Discover* in recent years nearly doubled.

Our general claims are unaffected by these changes.

This correction did not impact in any way Impact Inflation numbers (that come from Scimago), APCs and the names of journals (that come from a manual perusal of *Discover* websites).

Addendum (June 12th 2025)

While we were correcting our scraping problem, we took the opportunity to add data about the number of open special issues (they are called *collections* at *Discover*). We hence added a data table detailing the recent number of papers and the number of open SIs at *Discover*, and some lines of comment in the main text. We also added a table showing the timeline of journal creation – showing how a big expansion in *Discover* titles happened in 2024, as MDPI was slowing down its growth, and that about half of *Discover* journals were born since 2024, 5/6 since 2020.

Long and Boring Data Appendix

Article Processing Charges (2025) -- Discover and similarly-named MDPI Journals

Journal name			APCs (€)	
DISCOVER	MDPI	NAME SIMILARITY	DISCOVER	MDPI
Applied Sciences				
Sensors	Sensors	<div></div>	1690	2782
Applied Sciences	Applied Sciences	<div></div>	1590	2568
Electronics	Electronics	<div></div>	1040	2568
Computing	Computers	<div></div>	1140	1926
Imaging	Journal of Imaging	<div></div>	1040	1926
Robotics	Robotics	<div></div>	1690	1926
Artificial Intelligence	AI	<div></div>	1190	1712
Data	Data	<div></div>	1090	1712
Networks	Network	<div></div>	1690	1072
Analytics	Analytics	<div></div>	1090	1070
Concrete and Cement	Construction Materials	<div></div>	1690	1070
Internet of Things	—	<div></div>	1190	—
Environmental Sciences				
Energy	Energies	<div></div>	1190	2789
Agriculture	Agriculture	<div></div>	1040	2782
Water	Water	<div></div>	1190	2782
Atmosphere	Atmosphere	<div></div>	1090	2568
Sustainability	Sustainability	<div></div>	1090	2568
Cities	Smart Cities	<div></div>	1040	2145
Environment	Environments	<div></div>	1090	1926
Geoscience	Geosciences	<div></div>	1040	1926
Soil	Soil Systems	<div></div>	1190	1926
Oceans	Oceans	<div></div>	1040	1712
Hazards	GeoHazards	<div></div>	1690	1072
Conservation	Conservation	<div></div>	1040	1070
Ecology	Ecologies	<div></div>	1040	1070
Humanities and Social Sciences				
Education	Education Sciences	<div></div>	1090	1926
Psychology	Psychology International	<div></div>	1190	1284
Global Society	—	<div></div>	1090	—
Social Science and Health	—	<div></div>	1140	—
Materials and Chemistry				
Food	Foods	<div></div>	1190	3103
Nano	Nanomaterials	<div></div>	1790	3103
Molecules	Molecules	<div></div>	1040	2889
Polymers	Polymers	<div></div>	1040	2889
Materials	Materials	<div></div>	1190	2782
Minerals	Minerals	<div></div>	990	2568
Catalysis	Catalysts	<div></div>	990	2354
Chemistry	Chemistry	<div></div>	1040	1926
Chemical Engineering	ChemEngineering	<div></div>	1190	1712
Electrochemistry	Electrochem	<div></div>	1040	1070
Medicine and Life Sciences				
Pharmaceutical Sciences	Pharmaceuticals	<div></div>	1040	3111
Health Systems	Healthcare	<div></div>	1090	2896
Plants	Plants	<div></div>	1190	2889
Toxicology	Toxics	<div></div>	1040	2789
Forests	Forests	<div></div>	1690	2782
Life	Life	<div></div>	990	2782
Viruses	Viruses	<div></div>	1040	2782
Animals	Animals	<div></div>	990	2568
Medicine	Medicina	<div></div>	990	2355
Oncology	Current Oncology	<div></div>	1240	2354
Fluid Mechanics	Fluids	<div></div>	1190	1931
Developmental Biology	Journal of Developmental Biology	<div></div>	1990	1926
Biotechnology	Biotech	<div></div>	990	1712
Vehicles	Vehicles	<div></div>	1890	1712
Quantum Science	Quantum Reports	<div></div>	1890	1502
Physics	Physics	<div></div>	1040	1498
Epidemics	Epidemiologia	<div></div>	1090	1287
Civil Engineering	CivilEng	<div></div>	1040	1284
Bacteria	Bacteria	<div></div>	1040	1070
Endocrinology and Metabolism	Endocrines	<div></div>	1040	1070
Immunity	Immuno	<div></div>	1040	1070
Neuroscience	NeuroSci	<div></div>	1690	1070
Mechanical Engineering	—	<div></div>	1090	—
Mental Health	—	<div></div>	1140	—
Public Health	—	<div></div>	1190	—
Respiratory Physiology	—	<div></div>	1190	—
Space	—	<div></div>	1140	—

data: MDPI and Discover websites. Analysis: the Strain team

Articles published, 2019-24 and article growth, 2023-24

52 Discover journals publishing at least one article in 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	GROWTH '23 - '24
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overall

All Discover journals	2182	2308	1334	944	1261	5352	324%
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by journal

Discover Public Health	5	3	17	10	2	252	12,500%
Discover Life	—	—	—	—	1	28	2,700%
Discover Agriculture	—	—	—	—	9	133	1,378%
Discover Sustainability	—	7	58	51	47	525	1,017%
Discover Atmosphere	—	—	—	—	2	22	1,000%
Discover Food	—	—	—	36	26	191	635%
Discover Environment	—	—	—	—	23	145	530%
Discover Education	—	—	—	20	52	285	448%
Discover Global Society	—	—	—	—	21	107	410%
Discover Psychology	—	—	10	48	43	207	381%
Discover Water	—	—	7	15	27	128	374%
Discover Analytics	—	—	—	—	5	20	300%
Discover Computing	18	13	16	17	14	53	279%
Discover Oncology	19	17	62	144	229	846	269%
Discover Energy	—	—	4	8	10	34	240%
Discover Materials	—	2	17	14	33	102	209%
Discover Social Science and Health	—	—	1	25	27	82	204%
Discover Artificial Intelligence	—	—	15	27	44	115	161%
Discover Data	—	—	—	—	5	13	160%
Discover Mental Health	—	—	2	23	27	67	148%
Discover Neuroscience	12	13	6	10	7	17	143%
Discover Mechanical Engineering	—	—	—	6	22	51	132%
Discover Health Systems	—	—	—	10	48	108	125%
Discover Applied Sciences	1731	2024	902	335	328	687	109%
Discover Internet of Things	—	—	18	7	22	36	64%
Discover Chemical Engineering	—	1	6	9	20	32	60%
Discover Space	6	6	7	4	4	6	50%
Discover Nano	391	222	178	113	150	215	43%
Discover Developmental Biology	—	—	8	12	13	11	-15%
Discover Animals	—	—	—	—	—	40	—
Discover Bacteria	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Discover Biotechnology	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Discover Catalysis	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Discover Chemistry	—	—	—	—	—	70	—
Discover Cities	—	—	—	—	—	37	—
Discover Civil Engineering	—	—	—	—	—	151	—
Discover Conservation	—	—	—	—	—	18	—
Discover Electrochemistry	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Discover Electronics	—	—	—	—	—	36	—
Discover Epidemics	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Discover Geoscience	—	—	—	—	—	102	—
Discover Imaging	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Discover Immunity	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Discover Medicine	—	—	—	—	—	170	—
Discover Minerals	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Discover Molecules	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Discover Oceans	—	—	—	—	—	33	—
Discover Plants	—	—	—	—	—	74	—
Discover Polymers	—	—	—	—	—	9	—
Discover Soil	—	—	—	—	—	25	—
Discover Toxicology	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Discover Viruses	—	—	—	—	—	4	—

data: Discover websites. Analysis: the Strain team

Recent articles and number of open Special Issues at Discover journals

66 Discover journals having at least one open Special Issue, as of June 11th, 2025

	N articles		Special Issues
	2024	2025	OPEN IN 2025
overall			
All Discover journals	5352	4739	1258
by journal			
Discover Applied Sciences	687	571	160
Discover Sustainability	525	519	113
Discover Oncology	846	1047	112
Discover Nano	215	88	100
Discover Materials	102	89	47
Discover Public Health	252	314	34
Discover Education	285	145	29
Discover Computing	53	99	26
Discover Global Society	107	49	25
Discover Water	128	38	25
Discover Electrochemistry	13	19	23
Discover Energy	34	12	23
Discover Food	191	172	22
Discover Geoscience	102	56	20
Discover Artificial Intelligence	115	84	19
Discover Chemistry	70	134	19
Discover Cities	37	54	19
Discover Electronics	36	31	18
Discover Environment	145	66	18
Discover Internet of Things	36	64	18
Discover Immunity	5	4	17
Discover Molecules	6	14	17
Discover Chemical Engineering	32	13	16
Discover Psychology	207	34	16
Discover Oceans	33	17	15
Discover Biotechnology	6	11	14
Discover Forests	—	—	14
Discover Mental Health	67	80	14
Discover Polymers	9	11	14
Discover Agriculture	133	85	13
Discover Analytics	20	4	13
Discover Plants	74	169	13
Discover Life	28	20	11
Discover Mechanical Engineering	51	22	11
Discover Toxicology	13	8	11
Discover Catalysis	4	8	10
Discover Data	13	20	10
Discover Pharmaceutical Sciences	—	5	10
Discover Conservation	18	21	9
Discover Medicine	170	141	9
Discover Sensors	—	6	9
Discover Social Science and Health	82	88	9
Discover Space	6	6	9
Discover Civil Engineering	151	99	8
Discover Imaging	3	7	8
Discover Viruses	4	14	8
Discover Animals	40	30	7
Discover Concrete and Cement	—	6	7
Discover Bacteria	7	16	6
Discover Physics	—	—	6
Discover Soil	25	37	6
Discover Atmosphere	22	11	5
Discover Health Systems	108	63	5
Discover Networks	—	—	5
Discover Epidemics	4	4	4
Discover Neuroscience	17	5	4
Discover Ecology	—	2	3
Discover Endocrinology and Metabolism	—	2	3
Discover Fluid Mechanics	—	—	3
Discover Quantum Science	—	—	3
Discover Robotics	—	2	3
Discover Vehicles	—	—	3
Discover Developmental Biology	11	2	2
Discover Hazards	—	—	1
Discover Respiratory Physiology	—	—	1

data: Discover websites. Analysis: the Strain team

Impact Factor Inflation at Discover and at similarly-named MDPI journals, 2024

Impact Inflation: 3-years citations per document over Scimago Journal Rank

Journal name		Impact Inflation	
DISCOVER	MDPI	DISCOVER	MDPI
overall			
All journals with IF	All Discover-equivalent journals with IF	5.6	5.8
by journal			
Applied Sciences	Applied Sciences	7.2	6.4
Artificial Intelligence	AI	9.2	8.1
Computing	Computers	6.4	7.7
Education	Education Sciences	4.9	5.6
Food	Foods	6.7	5.9
Internet of Things	–	7.7	–
Life	Life	3.2	4.5
Materials	Materials	7.1	6.0
Mechanical Engineering	–	7.6	–
Mental Health	–	3.3	–
Nano	Nanomaterials	6.6	6.1
Oncology	Current Oncology	3.5	3.0
Psychology	Psychology International	3.6	3.3
Social Science and Health	–	3.0	–
Space	–	2.8	–
Sustainability	Sustainability	6.8	6.8

data: Scimago. Analysis: the Strain team

Turnaround time at Discover journals, 2019-2025

Days from submission to acceptance, conditional on acceptance

	N ARTICLES	Turnaround time	
		MEAN (DAYS)	95% CONF. INT.
Discover Space	39	288	[204 , 372]
Discover Computing	230	213	[190 , 236]
Discover Imaging	10	167	[127 , 207]
Discover Education	502	164	[156 , 172]
Discover Health Systems	229	164	[151 , 177]
Discover Public Health	603	162	[154 , 170]
Discover Agriculture	227	159	[150 , 167]
Discover Cities	91	153	[142 , 165]
Discover Developmental Biology	46	152	[125 , 180]
Discover Social Science and Health	223	152	[141 , 163]
Discover Data	38	151	[126 , 175]
Discover Biotechnology	17	150	[123 , 178]
Discover Mental Health	199	150	[138 , 161]
Discover Bacteria	23	149	[122 , 176]
Discover Plants	243	147	[141 , 153]
Discover Minerals	5	146	[68 , 224]
Discover Food	425	143	[137 , 149]
Discover Environment	234	142	[133 , 150]
Discover Life	49	140	[122 , 158]
Discover Electronics	67	139	[127 , 152]
Discover Viruses	18	138	[108 , 169]
Discover Geoscience	158	138	[128 , 148]
Discover Epidemics	8	134	[100 , 169]
Discover Soil	62	134	[123 , 145]
Discover Internet of Things	147	132	[118 , 146]
Discover Medicine	311	128	[122 , 135]
Discover Water	215	128	[119 , 137]
Discover Atmosphere	35	127	[108 , 147]
Discover Chemistry	204	127	[121 , 133]
Discover Psychology	342	126	[117 , 135]
Discover Conservation	39	125	[111 , 140]
Discover Molecules	20	125	[105 , 145]
Discover Applied Sciences	6578	123	[122 , 125]
Discover Civil Engineering	250	123	[116 , 129]
Discover Oncology	2364	122	[119 , 124]
Discover Ecology	2	120	[101 , 140]
Discover Polymers	20	120	[99 , 142]
Discover Electrochemistry	32	120	[105 , 136]
Discover Immunity	9	120	[77 , 163]
Discover Artificial Intelligence	285	119	[111 , 127]
Discover Mechanical Engineering	101	119	[105 , 132]
Discover Global Society	177	118	[109 , 127]
Discover Sustainability	1207	116	[112 , 119]
Discover Toxicology	21	115	[88 , 142]
Discover Catalysis	12	114	[87 , 141]
Discover Oceans	50	113	[99 , 127]
Discover Energy	68	112	[98 , 125]
Discover Materials	257	110	[103 , 117]
Discover Nano	1357	110	[106 , 113]
Discover Chemical Engineering	81	109	[97 , 122]
Discover Analytics	29	109	[91 , 127]
Discover Pharmaceutical Sciences	5	104	[62 , 145]
Discover Animals	70	103	[91 , 116]
Discover Neuroscience	70	100	[84 , 117]
Discover Concrete and Cement	6	96	[66 , 127]
Discover Sensors	6	94	[58 , 131]
Discover Endocrinology and Metabolism	2	92	[-397 , 582]
Discover Robotics	2	88	[-280 , 456]

data: Discover websites. Analysis: the Strain team

Discover journals by year of first article published

YEAR OF FIRST ARTICLE	Number of journals	
	NEW	CUMULATIVE
no article yet	8	66
2025	5	58
2024	23	53
2023	7	30
2022	4	23
2021	7	19
2020	5	12
2018	1	7
2017	1	6
2009	1	5
2006	2	4
2004	2	2

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Data Sources

Data	Source	Date retrieved
Names of the journals	Manual perusal of <i>Discover</i> website	May 2025
APCs	Manual perusal of <i>Discover</i> website	May 2025
Impact Inflation	Own computation based on Scimago 2024 data dump	May 2025

Data	Source	Date retrieved
Turnaround Times	For <i>Discover</i> : web scrape of individual articles For all others: The Strain on Scientific Publishing	Discover: June 1st and June 11th, 2025 All others: August 2023
N papers	For <i>Discover</i> : web scrape of individual articles For all others: The Strain on Scientific Publishing	Discover: June 1st and June 11th, 2025 All others: August 2023
N open Special Issues	Scrape of <i>Discover</i> website	June 11th, 2025