

ACADEMIC ANALYTICS

FAQ - AAD 2018 Database

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General Questions

What is contained in the Academic Analytics Database (AAD)?

The Academic Analytics Database contains comparative data on over 225,000 faculty members, associated with more than 9,900 Ph.D. programs and 11,000 departments at 447 universities in the United States and abroad.

Data are aggregated and matched to individual faculty members in nine areas of research activity: book publications, journal article publications, journal article citations, published conference proceedings, federal research grants, professional honorific awards, U.S. patents, clinical trials, and book chapters.

What primary areas of research activity are covered in the database and what is the date of coverage for each?

Comparative/Details Database

The Comparative/Details Database is the base level of licensure. Clients subscribing at this level receive two views of national scholarly activity, comparative data which act as a base or ground and details data which is an overlay on top of comparative data, providing enumerations of the base data. The Comparative Data are released annually and reflect scholarly activity in academic research for a given time window – a rolling range of years. The database includes metrics on professional honors and awards, federal grants, book publications, journal articles, conference proceedings, and citations. The coverage period of the current Comparative Data is:

Articles:	2015 - 2018
Citations:	2014 - 2018
Conference Proceedings:	2015 - 2018
Books:	2009 - 2018
Grants:	2014 - 2018
Awards:	No Limit

The Details Data include everything in the Comparative Data plus greater details regarding the individual pieces of scholarly activity linked to faculty in the Comparative Data. Unlike the Comparative Data, which provide a locked snapshot of activity for a given range of years, the Details Data are updated daily and contain activity outside of the most current Comparative Data time window. The Details Data may be accessed on the downloads screen of our online portal and in faculty-specific portal tools such as Quintiles by Rank, the Career Progression chart, and the Unit Modeling tool. The maximum coverage timeframe within the Details Data is:

Articles:	2004 - present
Citations:	2004 - present
Conference Proceedings:	2003 - present
Books:	2003 - present
Grants:	2006 - present
Awards:	No Limit
Patents:	1976 – present
Clinical Trials	1995 – present
Book Chapters	2003 – present

The Details Data allow clients to drill down into the particulars of individual faculty research activity to see publication meta-data for journals, books, book chapters, and conference proceedings in addition to detailed information on awards, grants, patents, and clinical trials. The Details Data contain over fifty separate downloadable files which are organized into four segments:

- Administration Data
- Comparative Data
- Comparative Details Data
- Full Data

Master License Agreement (MLA)

The Master License Agreement is the second level of licensure. Clients with a Master License Agreement have access to the entire Academic Analytics production data set. Access includes the entire Comparative and Details databases, as well as access to the larger data warehouse. Further, this level of access offers other tools such as Collaborations and Research Insight. Finally, custom analyses performed by Academic Analytics analysts are provided to answer specific client questions.

How is the database organized?

Each academic unit is classified in one or more areas of our taxonomy of 172 disciplines. Reports and comparative data are generated at four levels of aggregation: the base level is what we call “counts” and records the research activity of the individual faculty member; level one represents individual academic disciplines; the second and third levels provide comparative data on increasingly broader scales (e.g., level one’s *chemistry* and *physics* are aggregated into the second level *physical sciences*, which in turn is aggregated into the third level *physical and mathematical sciences*). Finally, a fourth level aggregates entire institutions. The Academic Analytics online portal displays comparative data for level one, level three, and the institutional level classifications. Faculty counts are available to those universities who have subscribed to Counts, Details Data or a Master License Agreement and users who have been given credentialed access. level two data are available upon request.

How do you handle interdisciplinary programs?

If there is no single classification within the Academic Analytics taxonomy that accurately describes the work being done by the scholars in an academic unit, Academic Analytics uses multiple classifications to fully characterize activity within that program in an appropriate comparative context. We then provide reports on all of those classifications at all levels of the taxonomy. The classification of academic units is reviewed carefully by our client institutions to ensure that national comparisons reflect the appropriate comparative context. Additionally, users may work with the Academic Analytics team to create custom analyses of comparators that best represent an appropriate peer group.

Which faculty members’ research activity is reported in the database?

Tenured and tenure track faculty, or other permanent faculty for whom scholarly work is expected (e.g., “Research Professor” who has a research expectation). Titles for these individuals are generally “Professor” (Associate, Assistant, Distinguished, Research, etc.). Academic Analytics does not include the following titles unless we are advised that scholarly work and/or doctoral student committee leadership is expected from all faculty who hold the rank: Adjunct, Adjoint, Affiliate, Visiting, Clinical, Emeritus, Postdoc, Lecturers, and Instructors. There are occasional exceptions, e.g., emeritus professors whom an institution indicates are heavily involved in doctoral education and research.

For a full discussion of identifying the population of faculty to be included in the database and the disambiguation of faculty names, please see the downloadable document “Faculty Definitions” under the tab “How the Database is Assembled.”

How does Academic Analytics compile faculty names?

AAD 2018 faculty names are compiled via two sources: direct university submissions of faculty rosters, and harvesting from online directories, graduate bulletins, and other resources available within an institution's website. Both processes are followed by a careful quality assurance procedure to ensure that lists of faculty are accurate and reflect the academic year for which we are compiling data.

What if a faculty member is involved in several Ph.D. programs and/or departments?

That faculty member will contribute his/her complete research activity to each program and/or department. However, when individuals are aggregated into groups at higher levels in our taxonomy, each individual will appear only once in those broader fields where they would be represented multiple times to prevent "double-counting" their research as data are aggregated at increasingly higher levels.

If a faculty member moves from one institution to another, which institution gets credit for his/her research?

Each faculty member in the Academic Analytics database has a unique ID number (Academic Analytics Unique Identifier, AAUID). When an individual moves from one institution to another, Academic Analytics tracks that person and credits the new home institution with all of that person's research activity.

If a person leaves an institution in November, is she still counted in its faculty for that year?

Yes, our database represents a snapshot as of November 1st of your local HR database year and the person should be included.

Is it necessary to include a unique person ID with a faculty names submission?

Although it is not necessary, it is encouraged. It is helpful for disambiguating similarly named individuals, and it helps us to more easily maintain accuracy when matching records to an individual. Additionally, our custom data integration solutions benefit from having such a crosswalk between our faculty lists and those on your campus.

How often is the database released?

The database receives one major annual release. Multiple times per year updates are applied to the database to account for post-hoc faculty list changes and new subscriber information. The dates for these updates are available on our online portal home page in the "release picker" tool.

If I discover an error in the database, can it be changed or corrected?

We encourage subscribers to let us know when they think there is an error in the database. Please forward a description of what you believe is incorrect to your dedicated Academic Analytics Liaison or send an email to our Help Desk (help@academicanalytics.com).

A screenshot of the tool or data you are looking at or the error code given (if any) is helpful.

We will investigate your query promptly and communicate back an explanation and, if it is an error, when it will be corrected.

Metric Family Questions

Journal Articles & Citations to Journal Articles

Where do journal article and citation data come from?

Publication data are obtained directly from publishers, and digital object identifiers (DOI) are used to attach information about each article's citations.

Citation data are derived via DOI-to-DOI linkages based on the literature-cited section of published journal articles. Data covers five years of citations to journal publications from 2014-2018. For example, articles published in 2014 have 5 years of citations (they may have been cited by other articles in 2014, and articles in 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018). Likewise, an article published in 2015 may have citations from articles published over the following 4 years (2015-2018); a 2016 article may have 3 years of citations, and so on. Citations are updated periodically to capture new citations, and our database is refreshed to reflect these updates.

What is the date range of coverage for journal publications and citations?

2015-2018 (earlier years are maintained in our data warehouse, but are not displayed on the Portal) for journal articles, and 2014-2018 for citations.

How do you handle co-authored journal articles and citations to co-authored journal articles?

Every author of a multi-authored article is credited with authorship of the article; moreover, each author is also credited with the citations. In the case of two or more authors on a research article that are in the same academic unit, articles are de-duplicated as data are aggregated such that the program, department, or other unit does not have "double-counted" articles and citations.

A faculty member claims that important articles she has published are not included in the database. How do you resolve this issue?

For a scholarly journal to be included in our database:

- The journal must contain peer-reviewed articles that are distinguishable from other content (e.g., book reviews, obituaries, letters to the editor).
- The journal must be published on a regular, ongoing basis;
- The journal should have digital object identifiers (DOIs) associated with each unique article;
- The journal should be currently in press (i.e., not defunct nor a merged/split title).

We must first determine if the journal articles in question meet the criteria specified above. Is it peer reviewed? Is it an ongoing publication? Are there Digital Object Identifiers associated with each unique article? If they meet these criteria, we will work to see how they were missed and include them in the next update of the database.

Are there any tiers or weights assigned to specific journal titles?

No. The database contains no default tiers or weights for journal titles. However, users can create their own tiers or weights for journal titles associated with specific disciplines through the list of disciplinary literature under the Article Profile page of the portal.

Conference Proceedings

Where do conference proceedings data come from?

Conference proceeding data are obtained directly from publishers. Digital object identifiers (DOI) are used to attach information about each individual proceeding's citations.

Citation data are derived via DOI to-DOI linkages based on the literature-cited section of published journal articles and other conference proceedings. Data covers five years of citations from 2014-2018. For example, proceedings published in 2014 have 5 years of citations (they may have been cited by other articles and proceedings in 2013, and proceedings in 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017, and 2018). Likewise, a proceeding published in 2015 may have citations from articles and proceedings published over the following 4 years (2015-2018); a 2016 proceeding may have 3 years of citations, and so on. Citations are updated periodically to capture new citations, and our database is refreshed to reflect these updates.

Books

What is the source of Academic Analytics books data?

Academic Analytics receives book publication data from Baker & Taylor and the British Library.

What are the date ranges of coverage for book publications?

2009-2018.

What information is included in books data?

There are over 112,000+ books matched to 57,000+ faculty who are authors, co-authors, editors, co-editors and translators of books published in 2009-2018 (inclusive). Introductions, forewords, afterwords, and citations in and to books are not currently captured. A book title is reported once per author/editor; all published works are weighted equally (distinctions between authors, editors and translators are available via a details feed if a user wants to separate them by type). Series editors are not included in the books metrics and do not appear in the data-feeds from our providers.

How do you handle co-authored or co-edited books?

Authors, co-authors, editors, co-editors, and translators are all credited with a book publication for books published in ten full calendar years represented in the database: 2009-2018. Introductions, forewords and afterwords, authors of individual chapters, and citations to books are not included.

Do you have data on foreign language books?

Yes, Academic Analytics' database includes bibliographic data on the foreign language holdings of the British Library and includes those data in its book publication metrics.

Do you have data on chapters in books?

Academic Analytics does not currently include book chapter data in the comparative database.

We are aware that this is important to some disciplines, however we have not yet discovered a complete source.

We currently receive book chapter data data from Baker & Taylor, and provide this data through the Downloads page and Research Insight.

Do you have data on citations in books or to/from books?

Currently, AAD 2018 does not capture information regarding citations from books to books, from journal articles to books, or from books to journal articles. We are researching a solution, and we actively solicit advice from our client institutions on this topic.

Honors and Awards

What is the source of Academic Analytics honors and awards data?

The 2018 database includes almost 7,500 awards from 1,300 societies represented in the comparative database.

We continue to review requests and encourage their submission by our clients and by awarding bodies. The general principle for the inclusion of an award in the database is that the award must be open to all people in a discipline or to a major subset (i.e., age, gender) at the national and/or international level.

What can I do if the database doesn't include an award that is important to my discipline?

Please let us know and we will collect data for that award and include it in the database, providing that it is a national/international award that is open to all scholars in the discipline or to a major subset (i.e., age, gender), and the awardee list is publicly available.

Federal Research Grants

For which federal agencies do you aggregate data?

We collect data from the following agencies:

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)*
National Education Association (NEA)
Department of Commerce (DOC)*
Department of Defense (DOD)*
Department of Education (ED)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Department of Energy (DOE)*
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
National Science Foundation (NSF)
Department of Transportation (DOT)*

For clients subscribing at the Details Data level or above, we also collect data for two non-federal granting societies, and display those data in the Portal in the “Grants Market Share” screen:

American Heart Association (AHA-- available in grants market share screens on the Portal only)

American Cancer Society (ACS--available in grants market share screens on the Portal only)

*Not all agency offices are represented in the database. For a complete list of offices, see the Academic Analytics “Grants” document.

What is the date range of coverage for federal research grants?

New and continuing grants are covered for 2014-2018.

What types of grant funding are included in the database?

The 2018 database includes grants data from 13 federal agencies matched to the principal investigator at the lead institution. There are over 165,000 grants matched which total over \$38 billion in annualized competitive grant funding. We are working on a plan to investigate other types of grants data, including co-PIs and subcontracts, corporate, industrial, and private foundation sources.

Cooperative agreements will not be included by default to maintain consistency with previous releases, but data are available in custom reports for the following agencies (coverage varies by year and coverage by office is the same by agency as described below):

- DOE
- EPA
- HHS (including NIH)
- NASA
- NOAA
- NSF
- USDA

Co-PIs have been warehoused and matched to scholars when the data are available. These data are available to clients subscribing at the Details Data level and above and can be accessed through Portal downloads and the Faculty Counts display. The Collaborations tool also presents Co-PI relationships for clients at the Master License Agreement level of licensure. Currently, the following agencies have Co-PI names matched:

- NIH (NIH contact PI is classified as PI; all other PI's are classified as Co-PI.)
- NSF
- USDA
- NEH

How are grant dollars calculated?

Grant dollars are calculated one of two ways:

1. When we know the exact start date, exact end date, and total dollars of the grant, we calculate the number of years of the grant (End date minus start date. If the answer is in days, then divide by 365.25 to convert to years. The 0.25 is a correction for leap years). We then divide total dollars by the number of years. For example, a \$900,000 grant that runs from 1 Jan 2013 to 1 Jan 2016 = \$900,000 / 3 years = \$300,000 per year.
2. Some agencies provide amounts by year, rather than the full award amount. In such cases, we divide the amounts awarded each year by the number of years that funding was received. For example, a three-year grant that is awarded with \$300,000 in 2013, \$100,000 in 2014 and \$100,000 in 2015, would count as a single grant worth \$166,667 per year.

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Scholarly Research Index Questions: How do I Apply Custom Filters to our SRI Scores?

Custom Filters

Custom Filters can be applied to three sections of the Academic Analytics Database; Institutions, Departments and Programs. There are two filters available for application to the data, Peer Groups and Time Windows.



Figure 1 Custom Filters Peer Group Selection Box

Users are able to apply standard comparative filters or create a custom peer set on the fly. Clicking on Peer Group brings up standard filters that will be applied to all subsequent charts on the page. Filters include; AAU/All/Yes/No, Public/All/Public/Private, States/All/Individual Selection, Carnegie Classification/All/Specific Classification and Land Grant/Not Land Grant/Land Grant/Member of APLU. Filters can be used individually or in concert, such as Public and AAU. The last standard filter on the top of the page is Institutions. Clicking on Institutions brings up a list of all 447 institutions in the database and allows the user to select individual institutions which will create a custom comparative peer set. Users are also able to select multiple options for Carnegie and State peers in the Comparative filter. Clicking on “Apply” applies those filters to the view of the database and then changes all subsequent pages and displays. Clicking on “Save” saves the filter for use at a later session. The “Reset” button returns the database view to default settings.

Time Windows allows users to create their own snapshot of research activity using custom date ranges in place of default date ranges. Time windows available for variables are:

Articles:	2004 - 2018
Awards:	no limit - 2018
Books:	2003 - 2018
Citations:	2004 - 2018
Conference Proceedings:	2004 - 2018
Grants:	2006 - 2018

Once date ranges have been selected, clicking on “Apply” applies those custom date ranges to the view of the database and all subsequent pages and displays. Clicking on “Save” saves the custom date range filter for use at a later session. The “Reset” button returns the database view to default settings.

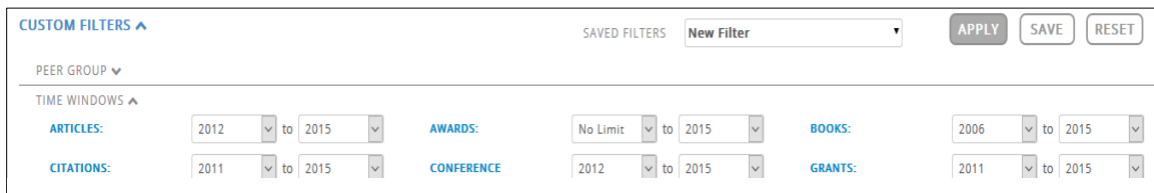


Figure 2 Custom Filters Time Windows Selection Box