

# Leicester Research Archive

This briefing outlines the cumulative and monthly usage and engagement statistics for the Leicester Research Archive (LRA). It also explains the background and rationale for the archive implementation and on-going community engagement plans and further development plans for the service.

## 2020 Cumulative Views 2,256,892



## 2020 Cumulative Downloads 1,566,084



### Referrals

1. leicester.figshare.com  
2. google.com  
3. figshare.com

4. hdl.handle.net  
5. ethos.bl.uk  
6. scholar.google.com

7. oatd.org  
8. google.co.uk  
9. twitter.com

## Content in the Leicester Research Archive 2020 Uploads

**2,483**



what's  
been  
uploaded  
(in total)

Journal contribution	15,274
Thesis	8,301
Figure	1,151
Conference contribution	1,031
Dataset	748
Chapter	542
Report	542
Book	58
Online resource	44
Media	38
Software	23
Preprint	12
Poster	9
Presentation	9



The Leicester Research Archive (LRA) is powered by Figshare, a platform for storing and sharing research outputs that makes them citable, shareable, and discoverable. For more information on the archive implementation, on-going community engagement plans, and further development plans for the service, please turn over.

# About the LRA

## Background

The University of Leicester acquired Figshare for Institutions as a repository for all institutional research outputs in August 2017 and implemented a phased approach. This allowed the service to be up and running as a minimum viable product as early as possible and to continue to build integrations and configurations that met the needs of the institution as needed.

## Key dates

**August 2017**  
Implementation began

**June 2018**  
Arkivum integration completed

**December 2018**  
Configuration of Figshare platform for research data completed

**February to November 2019**  
Migration of records from DSpace to Figshare completed and configuration of Figshare platform as an institutional repository completed

**November 2019**  
IRIS integration completed

## Why Figshare?

Figshare has been a well-established platform for research data repositories since 2012 and works with 164 organisations including universities, publishers, government, funders, conferences, labs, and more. In 2018, Figshare began the process of offering full-institutional repository (IR) functionality, the University of Leicester being one of the first institutions to implement Figshare as a full IR and research data repository. Because of this, the university has had significant input into features and functionality Figshare developed to meet the needs of IRs.

### Key features of Figshare include:

- Researchers can deposit publications into IRIS to be harvested into Figshare. Theses and dissertations are deposited and accessed alongside research data in Figshare.
- Institutional control over content including restricted access, curation services, version control, branded group set-up, customisable metadata for departments, and acceptance of any file type meaning expansion into other use cases possible and easy
- Usage statistics are sent to IRUS-UK and theses are harvested in British Library EThOS
- A well-documented API and FTP uploader
- DOIs or Handles for all public items in the repository and usage tracking including views, downloads, citations
- Out-of-the-box integrations with Altmetrics, Dimensions, GitHub, and more

## Next steps

After a successful researcher-led 'Figshare at Leicester' launch event at the University of Leicester in 2019, the ongoing engagement and targeted advocacy with our researcher community continued in 2020, presenting at research committees, research meetings, and internal and external events.

Next steps around engagement and advocacy include ongoing participation in both internal and external events that support the open research agenda, follow-up with our research data pathfinder champions, and delivering a new targeted advocacy programme for all Colleges.

We aim to continually develop our Figshare service infrastructure by ensuring that key Figshare Roadmap developments are implemented, especially where these will enhance the user experience of our Figshare at Leicester platform.

For more information on the LRA, visit

<https://leicester.figshare.com/>

<https://le.ac.uk/library/research-support/open-research/leicester-research-archive>