

A Guide to COUNTER 5.1 and APS's Usage Portal

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Updated: March 2026

What is COUNTER and COUNTER 5.1?

COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resource) is a nonprofit organization that ensures global standardization for measuring and reporting digital content usage. They set industry-wide Code of Practice, which are standards for collecting library usage data.

COUNTER provide regular releases of the Code of Practice. COUNTER Release 5.1 is the latest Code of Practice, published in 2022. It improves R5 reports by providing clearer open access metrics, more granular item-level tracking for books, revised content types, and enhanced technical API standards.

Compliance with COUNTER standards is mandatory.

What is Scholarly iQ (SiQ)?

Scholarly iQ (SiQ) is APS's new usage statistics provider. They are an independent company that provides data management, analytics, and COUNTER-complaint usage reporting for publishers and libraries.

Why did APS change usage statistics provider to SiQ?

APS's previous provider did not meet APS's standard on data and reporting accuracy. APS decided to partner with SiQ, as the leading provider for over 30 publishers on usage reporting through its advanced analytics platform. APS is confident that SiQ will provide better and accurate COUNTER-complaint reporting.

What to expect with the transition?

As part of the transition to SiQ, APS introduced minor optimizations and fixes to ensure more precise and accurate usage statistics, and more robust reporting.

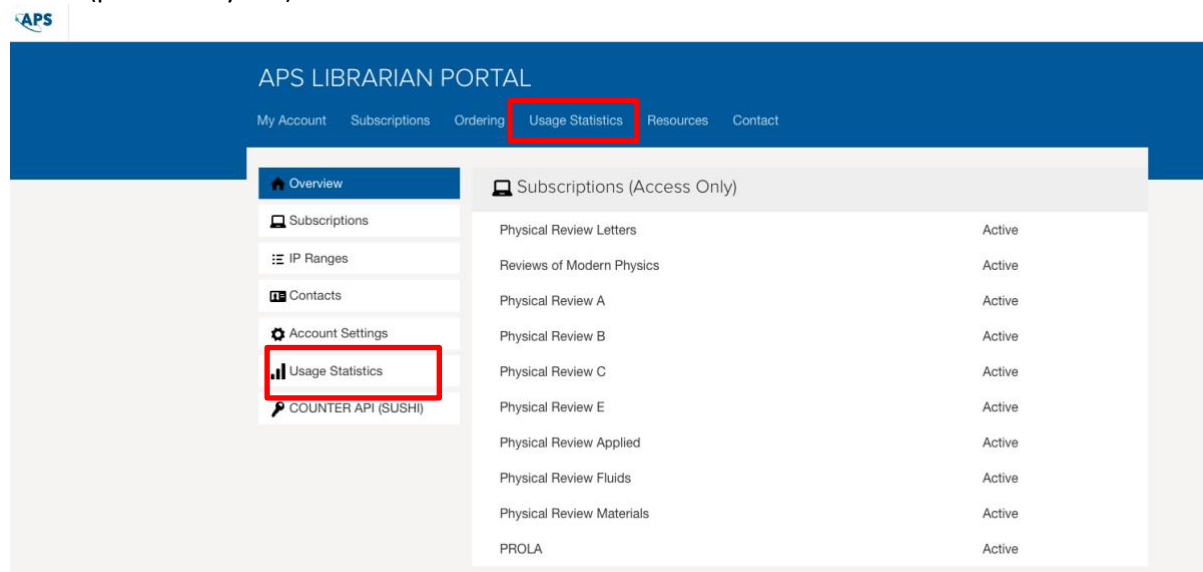
- **Reliable historical data:** SiQ reprocessed 5 years of usage data to be COUNTER Release 5.1-compliant to ensure conformity of usage metrics by the same provider.
- **Enhanced Accuracy:** Regular audit views by SiQ to ensure data reliability.
- **Monthly Count:** Usage statistics will be changed from daily to an audited monthly format to prevent any confusion caused by varied, inconsistent reporting methods (bots vs. humans).
- **Optimized Metrics:** Improved data points tailored for better individual, consortia and multisite analysis.
- **Usage Data correction:** There is a discrepancy between the previous provider and SiQ's reprocessed usage data. APS confirmed the variance on average for subscribers to be in the single digit. APS acknowledges the discrepancy is unexpected and not to APS's standards, hence our transition to SiQ to ensure better audits and accuracy in usage reporting.
- **Better Reporting Platform:** The new usage portal offers better reporting capabilities and dashboard insights.

What about Consortia Reports?

Consortia Admin can now retrieve consortia reports with confidence on the new usage portal. APS has reprocessed all consortia-level reporting for 5 years based on 2026 current listing of consortia members.

Logging in to the APS Usage Portal

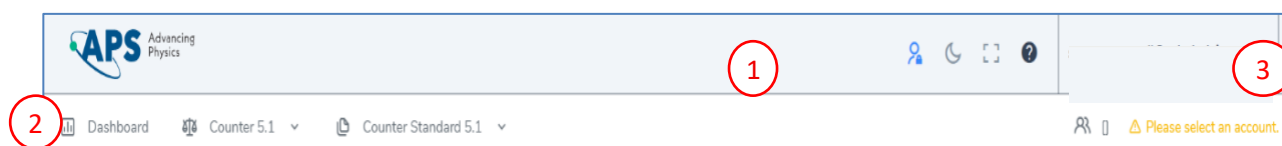
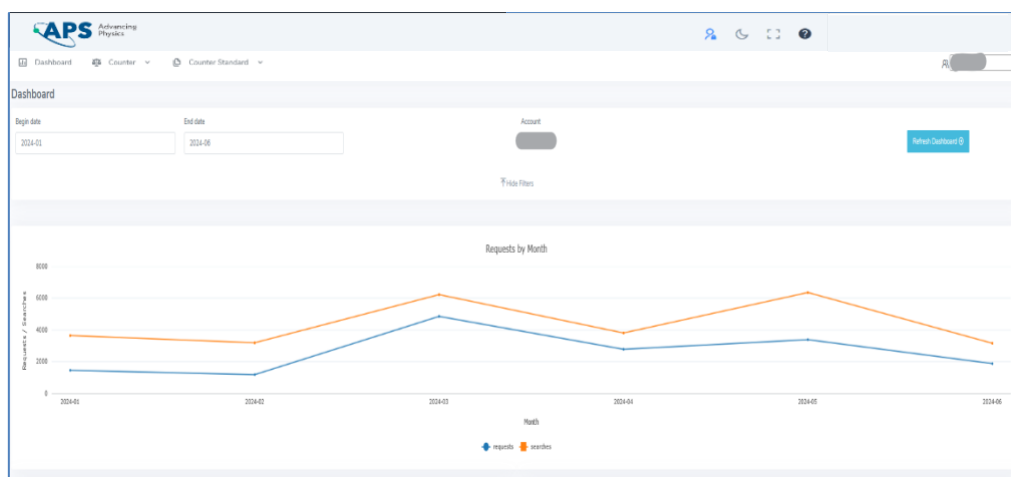
APS COUNTER 5.1 usage reports are available by logging in your Librarian's Portal account and clicking on the Usage Statistics from the navigation bar. This will take you directly to APS Usage Portal (provided by SiQ).



Navigating within the portal

The APS Usage Portal provided by Scholarly IQ (www.scholarlyiq.com) is designed to be as user-friendly and intuitive as possible whilst being compliant to the latest COUNTER 5.1 standards.

Once logged in, you will be presented the following page with an Executive Dashboard to visualize key usage criteria.



The primary features of the reporting interface include:

- 1) Toolbar – you will find the icons for Theme Mode, Full Screen and Help Section.
- 2) Available Reports—this area lists the reports that are enabled for your account. Reports are grouped by category, and clicking a report will display the filtering options available.
- 3) Account – the name of the account selected. Click on the account name to:
 - a. Find COUNTER API/SUSHI credentials
 - b. Select other Accounts – Consortia Only
 - c. Log out

When a report is requested, the following additional options are presented to the user:

The screenshot shows the 'TR Title Report' form in the APS interface. Four red circles with numbers are overlaid on the interface:

- 1: Points to the 'Begin date' field (2024-01).
- 2: Points to the 'Metric_Types' dropdown menu (All).
- 3: Points to the 'Run Report' button.
- 4: Points to the bottom right toolbar area containing search, expand, and download icons.

- 1) Calendar – the calendar control allows you to apply date ranges to the active report.
- 2) Report Configuration – selections available to configure the active report.
- 3) Run Report – run the selected report.
- 4) Report Toolbar – search, expand, edit columns and download the active report.

Report Selection

APS usage reports are available in APS Reports, COUNTER and COUNTER Standard Reports in the top menu bar.

This screenshot shows the 'TR Title Report' form with a dropdown menu open for report selection. A red rectangle highlights the dropdown menu and the 'Apply Filters' button. The dropdown menu lists several report titles:

- TR_B1 - Book Requests (Excluding OA_Gold)
- TR_B2 - Book Access Denied
- TR_B3 - Book Usage By Access Type
- TR_J1 - Journal Requests (Excluding OA_Gold)
- TR_J2 - Journal Access Denied
- TR_J3 - Journal Usage by Access Type
- TR_J4 - Journal Request by YOP (Excluding OA_Gold)

COUNTER: This contains COUNTER-compliant Master reports, which can be dynamically filtered and changed

COUNTER Standard: This contains reports that are pre-configured to the COUNTER standard and cannot be dynamically changed

When a report is requested (Run Report)

report is presented to the user:

The screenshot shows the APS TR Title Report interface. Numbered callouts identify the following components: 1) Calendar control for date selection; 2) Report Configuration section for selecting metrics, data types, and access methods; 3) Run Report button; 4) Hide Filters button; 5) Report Toolbar with search and column management options; 6) The main report table area.

- 1) Calendar – the calendar control allows you to apply date ranges to the active report.
- 2) Report Configuration – selections available to configure the active report.
- 3) Run reports – run the selected report.
- 4) Hide Filters – closes the report configuration to expand the active report.
- 5) Report Toolbar – search, expand, edit columns and download the active report.
- 6) Active Report – the report requested.

Calendar selection

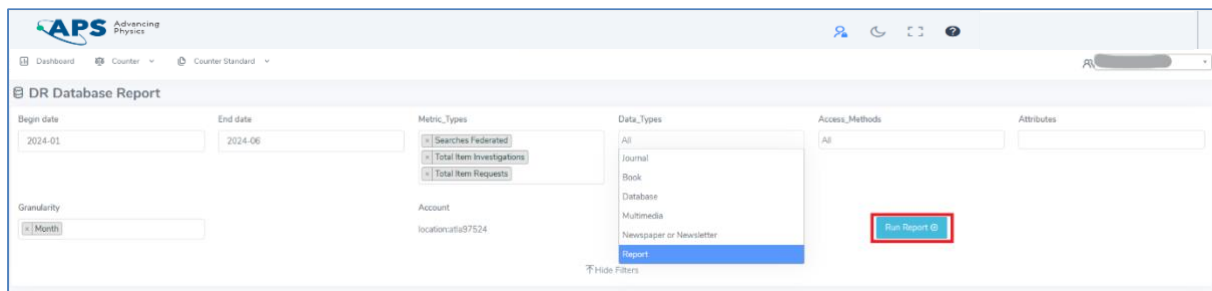
Selecting a date range from the Calendar control will apply the requested date range to the active dashboard or report.

This screenshot illustrates the calendar selection process. A red dashed line connects the 'Begin date' field (containing '2024-01') in the main report configuration to a detailed view of the calendar widget. The calendar widget shows the month of January 2024, with 'Jan' selected. The 'End date' field is set to '2024-12'. The 'Granularity' is set to 'Month'. An 'Apply Filters' button is visible at the bottom of the calendar widget.

Running a COUNTER 5.1 Master Report

COUNTER Master reports are designed to show all available COUNTER metrics and attributes. They can be dynamically filtered and changed.

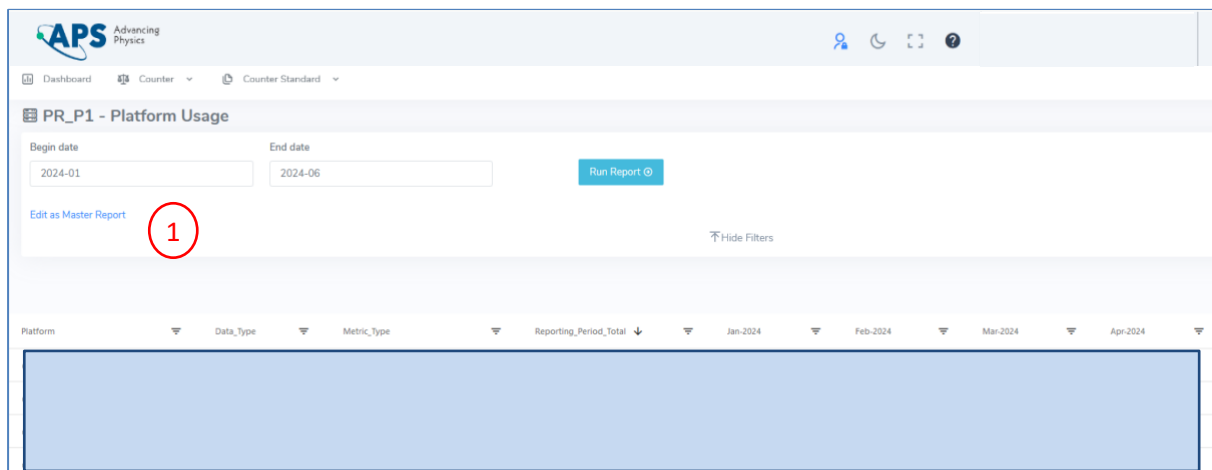
The current report configuration is visible at the top of Master Reports. Click on the dropdowns to edit or change which attributes and metrics are displayed in the report.



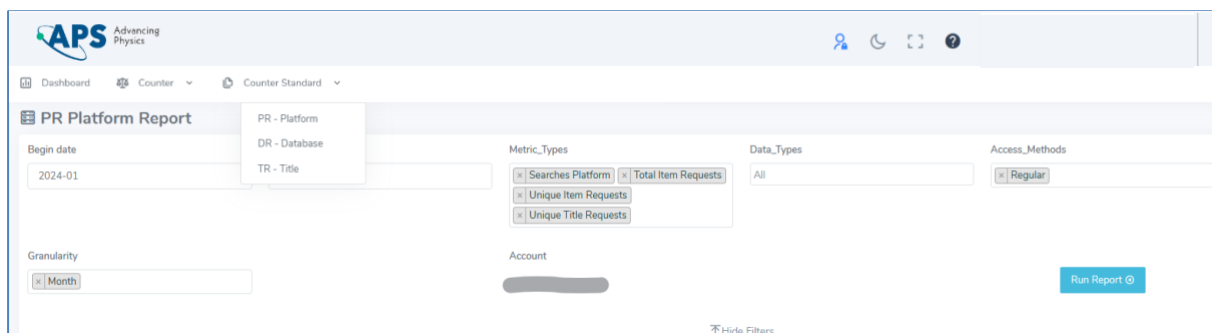
When all the required attributes and metrics are selected, click on Run Report  to generate the report.

Running a COUNTER 5.1 Standard report

Selecting a COUNTER 5.1 Standard report from the COUNTER Standard report folder will generate a pre-configured COUNTER-compliant version of that standard report.



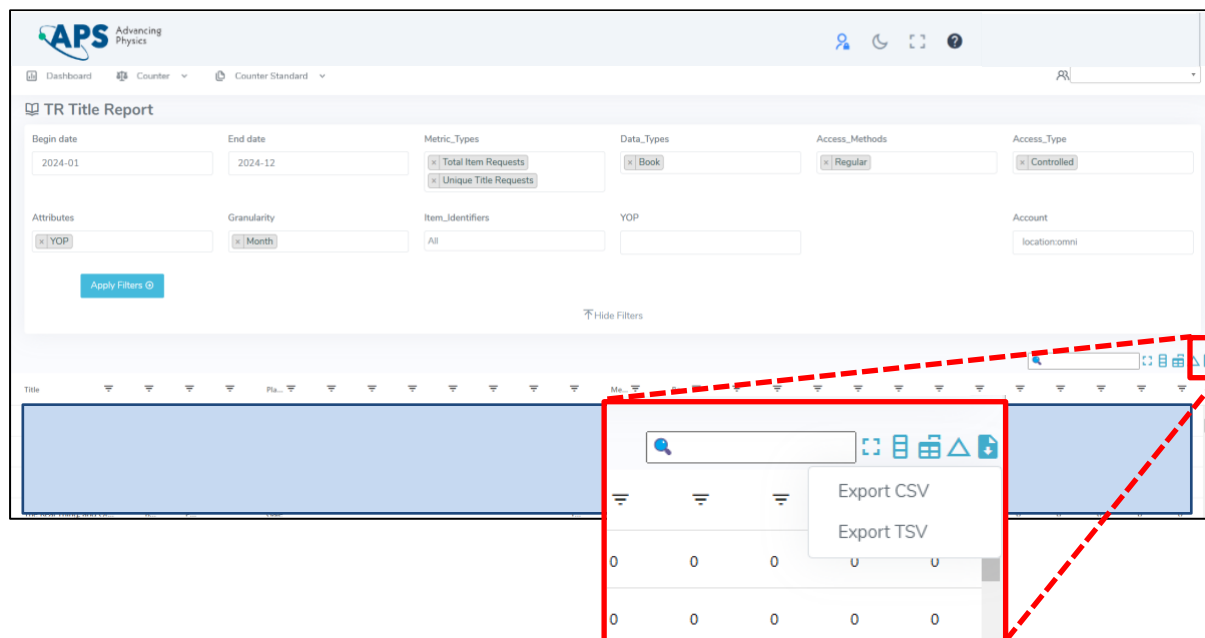
- 1) Users can open an editable version of a COUNTER Standard Report by selecting Edit as Master Report.



This will open a Master Report with pre-configured settings based on the Standard Report selected.

Exporting and saving data

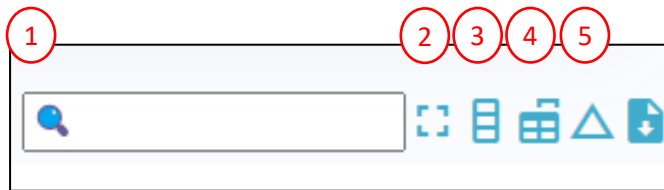
Data from any report can be exported to CSV and saved locally.



The report will be downloaded in COUNTER-compliant formats CSV and TSV. APS Usage Reports will also be available in the same formats.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Report_Name	Platform Report					
2	Report_ID	PR					
3	Release	5.1					
4	Institution_Name						
5	Institution_ID						
6	Metric_Types						
7	Report_Filters						
8	Report_Attributes						
9	Exceptions						
10	Reporting_Period	Begin_Date=2025-01-01; End_Date=2025-01-31					
11	Created	2025-02-24T12:46:45Z					
12	Created_By	Scholarly iQ					
13	Registry_Record	https://registry.countermetrics.org/platform/2346c55e-8065-4818-aaf7-96a9bb2d757b					
14							
15	Platform	Platform	Data_Type	Metric_Type	Reporting_Period_Total	Jan-25	
16							
17							
18							

Additional features



The APS Usage Portal includes some additional user-friendly features to aid report customization.

- 1) Search within the active report
- 2) Expand the active report table to full screen
- 3) Select columns displayed in report table
- 4) Expand report columns to fit
- 5) Delta to show the % change in report metrics

Additionally, returned reports themselves can be further configured by users. Please note that report in the UI have a maximum of 150,000 rows, in report filters will only apply within this maximum and larger reports should be downloaded for full data.

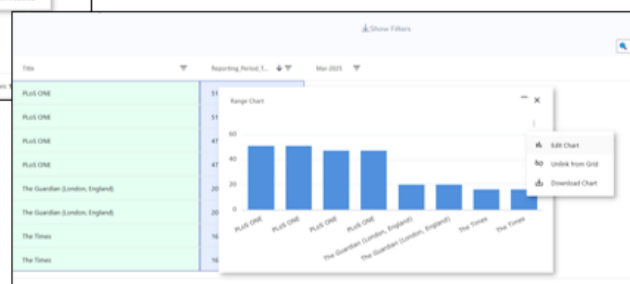
Advanced Filtering by Columns

Title	Publisher	Publisher_ID	Platform	DOI	Proprietary_ID
The Gale Encyclopedia of Children's Health Vol.2:884	Gale, part of Cengage Group		Gale		Gale-8750
Neuroscience Bulletin	Springer		Gale		Gale-2584
Journal of Engineering	Research LLC		Gale		Gale-2521
Journal of Religion and Popular Culture	University of Toronto Press		Gale		Gale-582P
Journal of Sport Behavior	University of South Alabama		Gale		Gale-2711
Encyclopedia of Global Brands Vol.2:882	Gale, part of Cengage Group		Gale		Gale-8928
Franchising World	International Franchise Association		Gale		Gale-5988
Revista Banco - Americano de Estrategia	Universidade Nova de Lisboa		Gale		Gale-4750

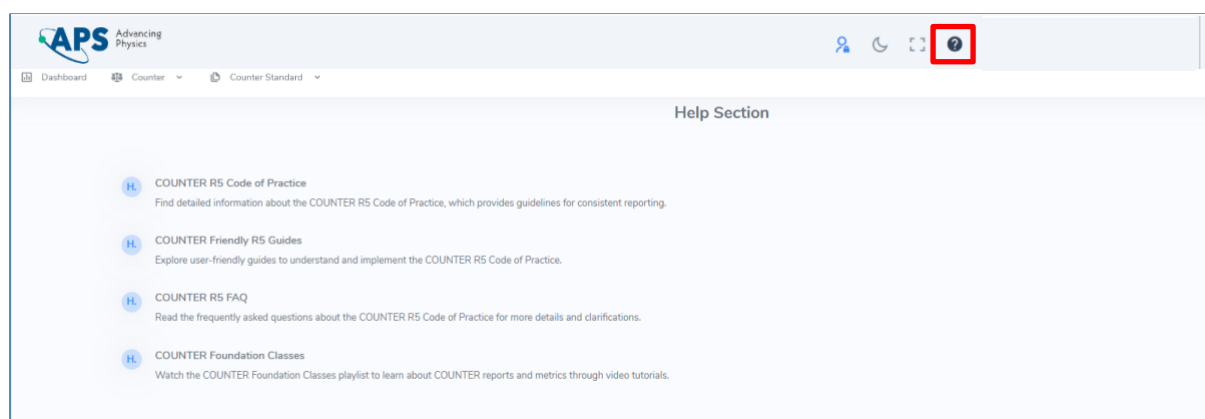
Report Visualization

Title	Reporting Period	Value
Plut One	Mar 2025	51
Plut One	Mar 2025	51
Plut One	Mar 2025	47
Plut One	Mar 2025	47
The Guardian (London, England)	Mar 2025	20
The Guardian (London, England)	Mar 2025	20
The Times	Mar 2025	16
The Times	Mar 2025	16

Report Visualisations



Help Section



Help materials are available within the reporting portal. Help is available from the Help button in the top toolbar.

APS Customer Services

Contact APS Customer Services at help@aps.org for APS support issue or questions.

Scholarly iQ

For technical portal and COUNTER API (SUSHI) support, please contact support@scholarlyiq.com.

COUNTER API (SUSHI)

R5.1 COUNTER API (SUSHI) Setup

The Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI) protocol is an automated request and response model for harvesting usage data. The SUSHI protocol is rebranded and updated to the COUNTER API as part of the COUNTER Release 5.1 standards.

To access your COUNTER 5.1 compliant reports from APS, follow the following steps to retrieve your COUNTER API (SUSHI) access credentials. With these, you can harvest usage reports using your preferred COUNTER API (SUSHI) ERM tool.

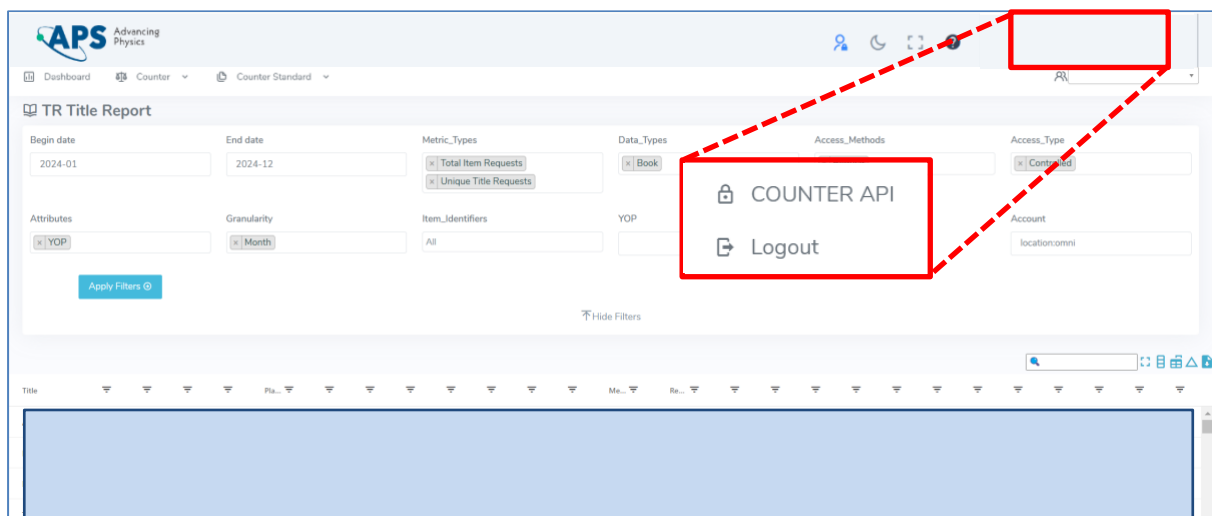
The **APS Usage Portal COUNTER API (SUSHI) service** is available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

Step 1

Log into the APS Usage Portal as explained on page 1.

Step 2

Click on your account name in the top right corner and select COUNTER API. This will navigate to the COUNTER API (SUSHI) registration page.



Step 3

You will then be presented with your COUNTER API (SUSHI) credentials. To activate your **APS Usage Portal COUNTER API (SUSHI) service**, click on 'Enable'. You can deactivate and re-activate your service at any time by clicking 'Disable/Enable'.

Your **APS Usage Portal COUNTER API (SUSHI) service availability** is displayed alongside your COUNTER API (SUSHI) credentials.

The required COUNTER API (SUSHI) account credentials for your institution will include:

COUNTER API

Report

R5.1 URL

https://api.siqcloud.online/counterapi/r51

Platform

Customer ID

Registry Record

https://registry.countermetrics.org/platform/a44d3e70-3166-4d1e-870f-69bb22335a77

COUNTER API Access Type	Access Value	Enable/Disable	Description	Test Access
Requestor_ID		Off	Enabling access by Requestor_ID is recommended for testing purposes or scenarios where data privacy is not a concern.	Test Access
API Key	 Show/Hide	Off	This is the recommended access type. Treat the key as a secret password.	Not Available

Close

Step 5

To then access the **APS Usage Portal COUNTER API (SUSHI) service**, point your own **COUNTER API (SUSHI) ERM tool** or access software to the provided service URL.

If you have any questions about our service or need some assistance, please contact support@scholarlyiq.com.

Please refer to COUNTER for further information on harvesting.
<https://www.projectcounter.org/code-of-practice-five-sections/8-sushi-automated-report-harvesting/>