Wiley Research

**COVID-19 Impact: Print and Distribution - FAQs for society partners**

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**What is Wiley doing about print and distribution?**

As more and more people are affected by COVID-19, certain aspects of scientific and scholarly publishing need to change. Like us, our vendor-partners have moved quickly towards home working. Some functions at our vendors lend themselves to a quicker move to home-working. That is not the case, however, for print and distribution.

Printing is not a process that can be managed in a work-from-home approach. National and regional lockdowns and an increase in printer staff self-isolation impacts our ability to print at our standard levels. The situation in distribution is even more acute. In many countries and major cities, distribution of printed materials is suspended. In addition, there has been a global reduction in the availability of air freight (due to reduced number of passenger flights) and a re-prioritization to focus on delivery of medical supplies.

Given these issues and others, Wiley has made the decision to suspend all print and distribution of journals and newsmagazines until further notice.

It’s important to note that we will continue to produce journal articles and issues, maintaining our standards of scientific accuracy and quality. For the time being, though, articles and journal issues will be delivered solely via Wiley Online Library.

**Is this a global decision or are there exceptions for countries that are not affected or returning to business as usual – such as China?**

As we are seeing significant disruption to the global supply chain for distribution of printed publications, this is a global decision. However, we will continue to monitor the situation and we will provide updates if the situation changes.

**Why is Wiley suspending print and distribution?**

We are seeing significant disruption to the global supply chain for distribution of printed publications. That disruption informed our decision to suspend print. Some of those specific impacts include:

* Inability to guarantee delivery: Increasing number of lockdowns across different countries mean that Wiley has limited visibility of what’s being distributed to what customer. ​We are increasingly unable to guarantee delivery of print issues.
* Availability of air-freight capacity: Air-freight is severely limited, driven in large part by a reduction in commercial air flights, so our ability to deliver via air is significantly hampered. We also believe that the limited air-freight capacity should be reserved for medical supplies and other essentials.
* Pressure on print staff: We think it’s important to reduce pressure on our printers and other supply-chain vendors to send their employees into work and increase their risk of exposure to and transmission of the virus. This also is true for customers who need to send their employees to work to receive printed issues.

Our digital experiences with content are already reaching millions of customers. We’re exploring a range of digital alternatives to help ensure that customers are receiving this critical information despite the lack of availability of print issues.

**What alternatives are there for readers who previously only received content in print?**

We’re working with all of our customers, partners, and readers to help them access content in our journals, newsmagazines, and other publications digitally. Over 529 million articles were read digitally last year by people in virtually every country in the world, so we’re confident that we’ll continue to provide a hugely valuable digital experience.

Access to the digital versions of our content are available using a number of different options, including via VPN or Proxy Server, Google CASA, and institutions participating in Shibboleth federations or OpenAthens. Every article page on Wiley Online Library currently includes a message directing users on where they can find [options for remote access](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/researchers/read/access-options) and we’re planning other customer communications to ensure that as many users as possible are aware of these and other alternative options.

We’ll share updates as additional solutions are developed.

**What should we tell our members?**

To help you communicate with your membership about this change, an email template will be available on Wednesday, April 1st which can be used to notify members about the suspension of print.

**When will you communicate again?**

COVID-19 is creating a very fast-moving environment. We’ll continue to update you as the situation evolves and will let you know as soon as possible when we plan to return to normal operations.