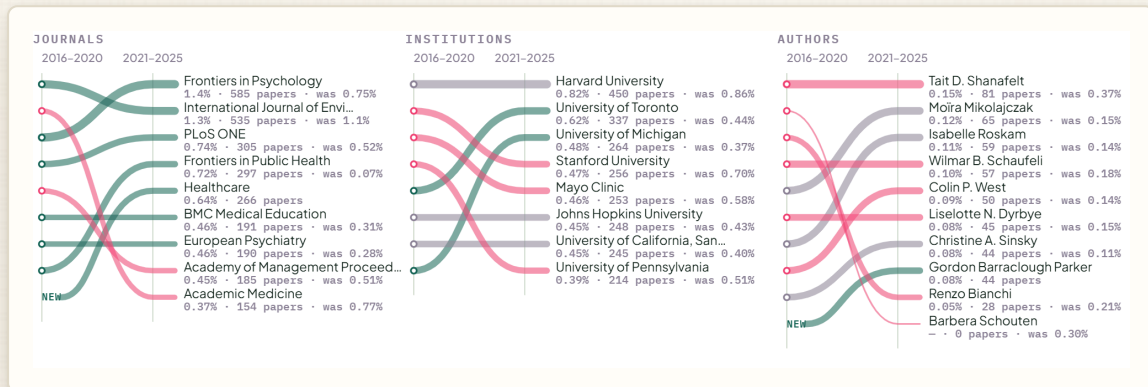




SCHOLARSCOPE

Know *who is talking*

ScholarScope — how to see which journals, institutions, authors and countries carry your topic now, read a scholar's record, and draw a first shortlist of journals, from live OpenAlex records.

Know *who is talking*

A literature review joins a conversation. Before you write your way into it, find out who is in it: which journals publish the topic, which groups and people lead it, where it is growing, and where your own paper could land. This volume does that for the worked study.

Site. <https://syahmedu.github.io/scholarscope/>

Version. 1.0.1 (2026-10-18) · build 3702b3b+edits · 2026-10-18T15:45:22Z

Figures. Real screenshots of the live site, captured 2026-10-18 by `scripts/capture.mjs`; sample data shown in figures is labelled simulated where it is simulated.

Sources. 8 DOI-verified references, numbered in order of use. Nothing in this book is invented: counts and labels are read from the site or its published data.

Status. A user guide, not documentation of record. Where the site and this book differ, the site is right — please report it (see Version history).

Type. Fraunces, Plus Jakarta Sans and IBM Plex Mono (SIL Open Font License). Laid out with Paged.js.

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01

BEFORE YOU SEARCH

Who is in the conversation

A paper is read against the work it answers. Knowing where that work is published, and by whom, tells you what to read, whom you must cite, and which journals will recognise your paper as part of their conversation.

A literature review is organised around concepts, not authors, but it starts from knowing the main contributors and where they publish ¹. Authors show that their work belongs to a field by citing it coherently, so the reader sees a shared conversation that the paper then extends ². Missing the people and journals that carry a topic is one of the quickest ways to look like an outsider.

ScholarScope answers four questions from live OpenAlex records ³: which journals, institutions and authors carry the topic now and five years ago; which countries carry more of it than their size predicts; what a given scholar's record looks like; and, in the Publish desk, which journals fit a paper's field, quality and speed.

YOU KNOW THE CONVERSATION WHEN...

- ☐ I can name the journals that publish most of my topic now, and the ones that used to.
- ☐ I know the scholars whose work defines the topic, and have read their most-cited papers.
- ☐ I know whether my setting (country, sector) is common or rare in the topic's literature.
- ☐ I have a shortlist of journals whose readers are in this conversation.

THE WORKED EXAMPLE – CONTINUED

The study (Volumes 5–10) tests whether job autonomy buffers the link between long shifts and burnout among nurses, using the JD–R model. It has a definition (Volume 10), a theory (Volume 5) and a measure (Volume 6). Before the literature review and the cover letter, it needs to know who carries burnout research now, and which journals might take the paper.

02

TOPIC CURRENTS

Who carries the topic now

Type the topic once. Three charts show which journals, institutions and authors hold the largest share of it now, and where they stood five years ago.

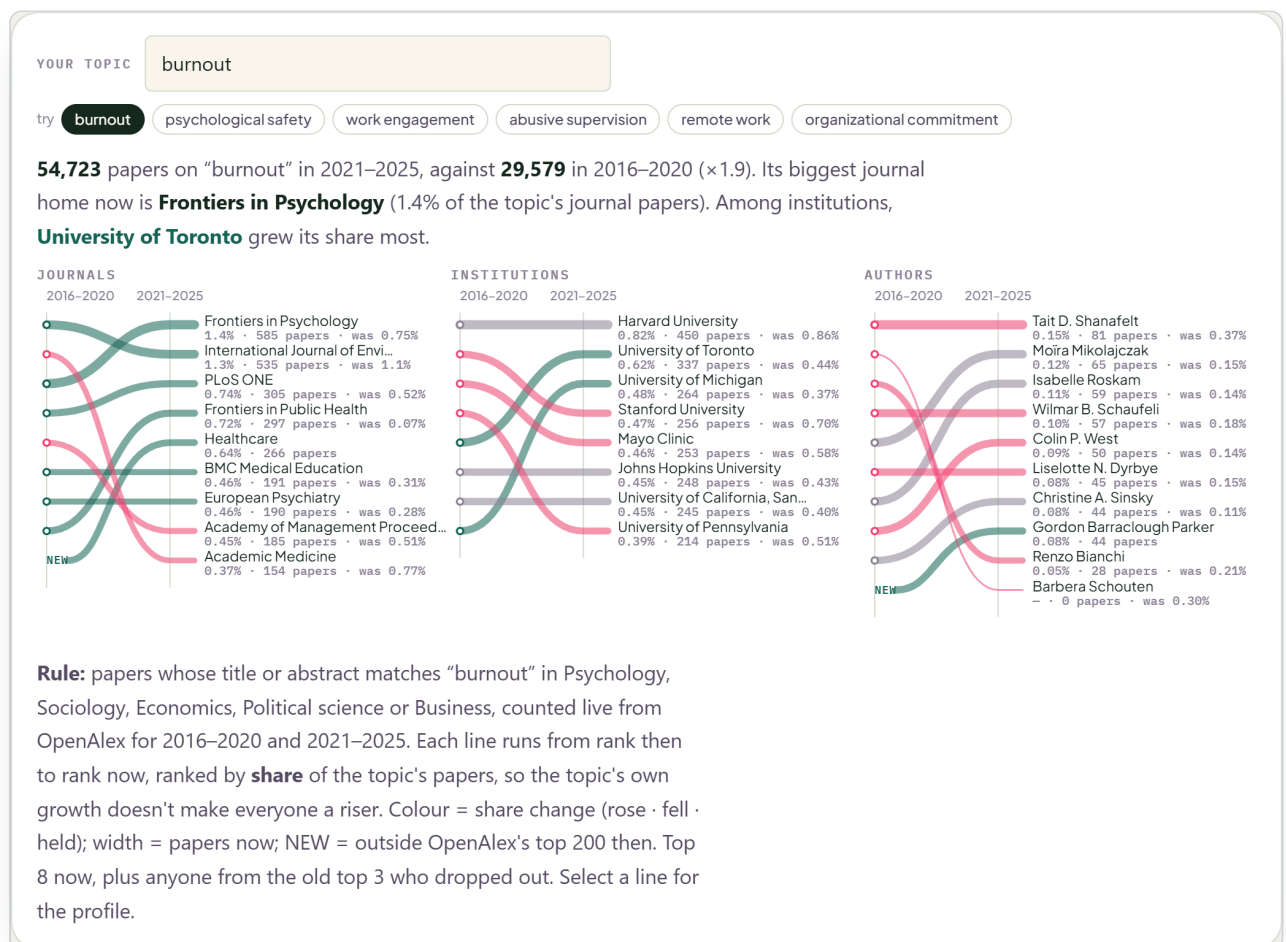


FIG 2.1 Topic currents for *burnout*. **54,723 papers** in 2021–2025 against **29,579** in 2016–2020 (×1.9), in the five fields of the lens. Journals: *Frontiers in Psychology* leads with 1.4% (585 papers). Institutions: *Harvard University* 0.82% (450); *University of Toronto* grew its share most (0.44% → 0.62%). Authors: *Tait D. Shanafelt* 0.15% (81 papers); *Wilmar B. Schaufeli* 0.10% (57).

Read the numbers before the lines. The largest journal holds 1.4% of the topic and the largest institution under 1%. Burnout research is not owned by a few venues or groups. It is spread across hundreds. For the literature review, that means a search of two or three journals will miss most of it.

What moved

MOVEMENT	FROM THE FIGURE	WHAT IT SUGGESTS
New entrant	<i>Healthcare</i> (NEW, 0.64%); <i>Frontiers in Public Health</i> 0.07% → 0.72%	Burnout has moved into health-services and open-access outlets.
Fell	<i>Academic Medicine</i> 0.77% → 0.37%; <i>Academy of Management Proceedings</i> 0.51% → 0.45%	Older homes now carry a smaller share, though they still publish on it.
Author rising	<i>Gordon Barraclough Parker</i> (NEW, 44 papers)	A newer, productive line of work worth checking.
Author fell	<i>Renzo Bianchi</i> 0.21% → 0.05%; <i>Barbera Schouten</i> 0.30% → 0 papers	Fewer papers now, or a record split under another name. Open the profile.

WHAT A LINE CAN AND CANNOT TELL YOU

Matching is by words in the title or abstract, so a paper that mentions burnout in passing counts as much as one about it. A drop to zero papers can mean a scholar stopped publishing on the topic, or that OpenAlex now files their work under a different author record. The site says so in its rule; open the profile before you draw a conclusion about a person.

- 1 Type your topic in **Your topic**, or pick one of the **try** chips.
- 2 Read the sentence under the box first: the topic's size now, then, and its biggest journal home.
- 3 Scan each chart for new entrants (NEW) and large fallers.
- 4 Select a line to open that journal, institution or author's profile.
- 5 Repeat with the topic's neighbours (*work engagement*, *emotional exhaustion*) to see whether the same names recur.

Why it looks like this

Topic currents are bump charts: each line joins a rank then to a rank now. Rank is drawn as vertical position, the most accurately read channel, so who overtook whom is read first ⁴. Ranking by share rather than by count is a choice about the question: a topic that doubles in size would otherwise make every regular contributor look like a riser.

Colour carries only the direction of the change (rose, fell, held) and line width only the papers now. These are secondary readings, and both channels are less precisely read than position, so the chart puts the exact share and count in text beside each name ⁵.

The Countries chart puts both axes on log scales. Paper counts span from 25 to several thousand, and the size index is a ratio, where $\times 2$ and $\times \frac{1}{2}$ should sit the same distance from $\times 1$. Only labelled countries carry tails to their 2016–2020 position, to keep the field readable.

03

COUNTRIES

Where the topic is carried

Big countries publish more of everything. The Countries view asks a sharper question: which countries publish more of your topic than their size in the field predicts?

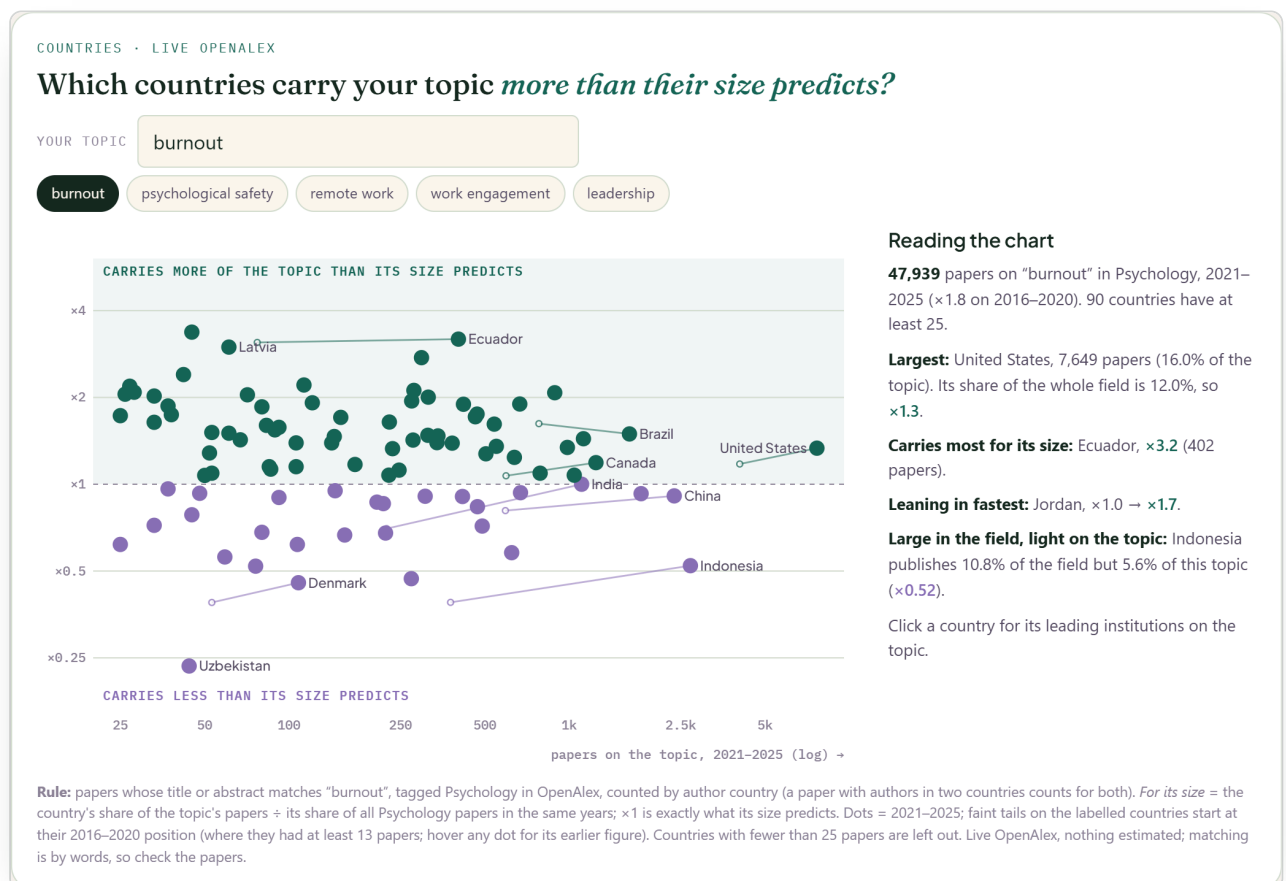


FIG 3.1 Countries for *burnout* in Psychology, 2021–2025: **47,939 papers** (×1.8 on 2016–2020), 90 countries with at least 25. Largest: *United States*, 7,649 papers, 16.0% of the topic against 12.0% of the field (×1.3). Most for its size: *Ecuador* ×3.2 (402 papers). Leaning in fastest: *Jordan* ×1.0 → ×1.7. Large in the field, light on the topic: *Indonesia*, 10.8% of the field but 5.6% of the topic (×0.52).

Above the dashed line, a country carries more of the topic than its size predicts; below, less. Across, the number of papers, on a log scale. A country high and to the right both publishes a lot on the topic and leans into it. One low and to the right is a big producer in the field that studies the topic relatively little.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Where the study's nurses work matters for its contribution. If the sample comes from a country that carries little of the topic for its size, the setting itself is part of the case for the study, provided the paper explains why burnout might differ there and does not rest on novelty alone. If it comes from a country already heavy on the topic, the contribution has to come from the question (autonomy as a buffer), not the place.

Click the country in the chart to list its leading institutions on the topic. These are the local groups whose work the review should cite and whose measures may already be adapted for that setting.

HOW THE INDEX IS COUNTED

Counts are by author country: a paper with authors in two countries counts for both. Only papers OpenAlex tags with the chosen field are counted; switch the field chips to check whether the pattern holds in Business or Sociology. Countries with fewer than 25 topic papers are left out rather than shown with unstable ratios.

04

PROFILES

Read a scholar's record

A profile turns a name in the currents into a body of work: how much, how cited, on what, and which papers carry it. Use it to find the primary sources you must read.

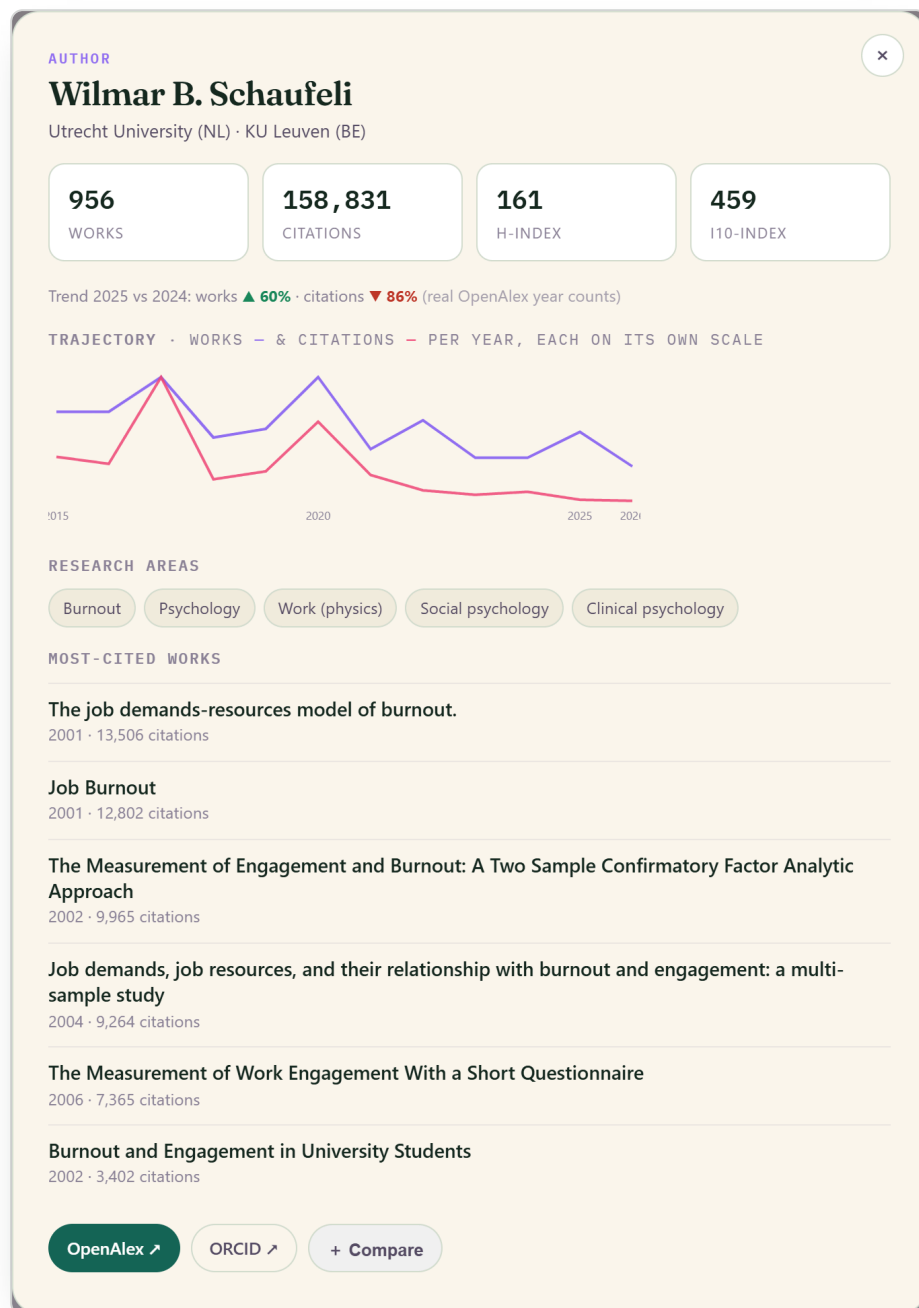


FIG 4.1 Selecting Wilmar B. Schaufeli in the author currents opens his OpenAlex profile: 956 works, 158,831 citations, h-index 161. His most-cited works include *The job demands-resources model of burnout* (2001, 13,506 citations) and *The Measurement of Work Engagement With a Short Questionnaire* (2006, 7,365).

For the worked study this profile is a reading list. Its two most relevant entries are the papers behind the study's theory and outcome: the JD-R model of burnout ⁶ and the short work-engagement scale ⁷. A profile also shows the scholar's co-authored work, so it leads to the rest of the group. *The job demands-resources model of burnout* appears here because Schaufeli is a co-author; its first author is Demerouti.

- 1 Open the profiles of the top three or four authors in the currents.
- 2 From each, note the most-cited works that bear on your question, and read them.
- 3 Use **+ Compare** to set two or three scholars side by side.

- 4 Use [OpenAlex](#) or [ORCID](#) to check the record and see the full list of works.
- 5 For construct-level detail on authors in the Research Book corpus, open [Author Explorer](#).

READ THE RECORD, CHECK THE TAGS

Research areas are OpenAlex's automatic tags, and some are wrong: this profile lists *Work (physics)*, a tag for the word "work", not a field Schaufeli works in. Citation and year counts come from OpenAlex as it stands; the profile's trend line compares only the last two years, so treat a one-year swing as a question and check the year counts on OpenAlex before reading anything into it.

A first shortlist of journals

The currents show where the topic is published. The Publish desk narrows that to journals that fit your paper's field, quality and the time you can wait for a decision.

The desk holds 1,805 journals with first-decision, acceptance-time and acceptance-rate data. Every figure carries its source: publisher-stated, community-reported, or estimated. 347 of the 1,805 carry an estimate rather than a stated or reported figure, and the site badges each one.

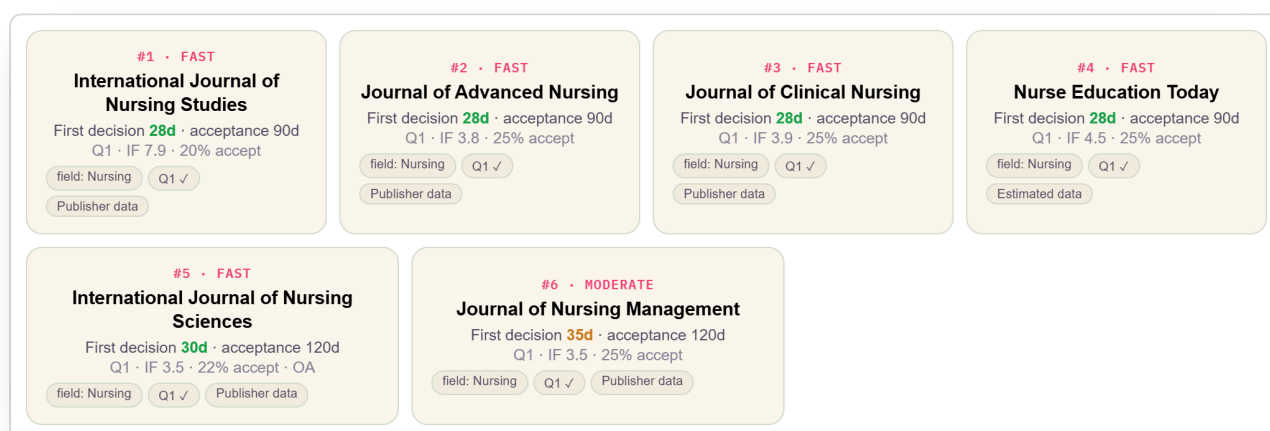


FIG 5.1 Find my journal with field *Nursing* and *Q1* only, ranked by first decision: *International Journal of Nursing Studies* (28 days, IF 7.9, 20% accepted), *Journal of Advanced Nursing* (28), *Journal of Clinical Nursing* (28), *Nurse Education Today* (28, **estimated**), *International Journal of Nursing Sciences* (30, open access) and *Journal of Nursing Management* (35). Each card restates the criteria it met and its data source.

Speed is the last criterion, not the first. A journal fits when its readers are in the conversation the paper joins, which the currents and the journals' own recent issues show. Four of the six journals above give the same 28 days and 90 days. That may be a publisher-stated figure rather than one measured journal by journal. Check each journal's own page, and compare measured submission-to-publication times in Volume 8.

WORKED EXAMPLE

The worked study sits between two fields. As a nursing workforce study it fits the nursing journals above. As a test of JD-R theory it could go to an organisational behaviour journal; Volume 8 compares those. The choice depends on which conversation the paper joins, and the literature review should be written for that journal's readers.

- 1 Choose a **Field**, a minimum quartile and an access type; add **Max wait (days)** only if you have a real deadline.
- 2 Press **Find journals** → and open each card for details and live OpenAlex metrics.
- 3 In **Browse journals**, star (☆) candidates to keep a shortlist on this device.
- 4 With two or more starred, **Compare** → sets them side by side.
- 5 Check the source badge on every speed figure before relying on it.

WHAT THE SHORTLIST IS

Turnaround figures are what publishers state, what authors report or, where neither exists, an estimate; none is a promise for your paper. Acceptance rate is not your chance of acceptance. The ranking only sorts the journals that meet your criteria; it does not judge fit.

06

THE OBJECTIONS YOU WILL MEET

Defend it

Reviewers and editors test whether a paper knows its conversation. These are the questions that ScholarScope helps you answer before they are asked.

REVIEWER

"The review misses key work on this topic."

YOUR ANSWER

Check the review against the authors who lead the currents for your topic and its neighbours, and their most-cited papers. Cite the primary source, not a later summary of it.

REVIEWER

"Burnout is a crowded topic. What is new here?"

YOUR ANSWER

Growth ($\times 1.9$ in five years) shows interest, not a gap. Name the gap in the question itself, here autonomy as a buffer under long shifts, and show it with the literature (Volumes 2 and 4).

REVIEWER

"Why this setting?"

YOUR ANSWER

If the country carries little of the topic for its size, say so with the figure and its source, and give a reason burnout might work differently there. Novelty of place alone is not a contribution.

REVIEWER

"Why submit to this journal?"

YOUR ANSWER

Show that the journal publishes this conversation now: its recent papers on the topic, and the readers your findings serve. Speed is not a reason an editor accepts.

MODEL PARAGRAPH

Research on burnout has grown quickly: OpenAlex records 54,723 papers on the topic in five social-science fields in 2021–2025, against 29,579 in 2016–2020 ³. The literature is also widely dispersed; no single journal carries more than 1.4% of it. Much of this work follows the Job Demands–Resources model ^{6,8}, and engagement is commonly measured with a short scale developed within that tradition ⁷.

Model sentences for the illustrative study. Counts are from ScholarScope's live OpenAlex query on 18 October 2026, with its rule (title or abstract matching, five fields); re-run the query and report the date and rule if you use such figures, since OpenAlex updates continuously.

07

REFERENCE

ScholarScope at a glance

The views, data sources and limits, for when you know what you want and need to find where it lives.

PART	USE IT TO...
Topic currents	See which journals, institutions and authors carry a topic, by share, now and five years ago; select a line for the profile.
 Leaders	Rank institutions, authors or journals in a field by works in OpenAlex.
 Countries	See which countries carry a topic more or less than their size in the field predicts; click one for its institutions.
 Search	Find any institution, author or journal in OpenAlex by name.
 Publish	Find my journal , Browse journals (filters, star, compare) and the Journal Explorer.
 Author Explorer	Construct-level dossiers for authors in the Research Book corpus.

SOURCE	WHAT IT SUPPLIES
OpenAlex (live)	Currents, Leaders, Countries, Search, profiles and live journal metrics.
Curated journal list	1,805 journals with turnaround and acceptance data; 347 carry an estimated turnaround, badged.
Lens	Psychology, Sociology, Economics, Political science and Business.

WHERE THE RECORDS COME FROM

Every entity and count is a real OpenAlex record, linked so you can open it. Nothing is estimated except the badged journal turnarounds. Matching is by words, and OpenAlex's field tags and author records have errors, so the counts tell you where to look; the papers tell you what is there.

Glossary

Lens

The five OpenAlex fields ScholarScope counts in: Psychology, Sociology, Economics, Political science and Business. A paper counts when OpenAlex tags it with one of them.

Share

A journal's, institution's or author's papers on the topic as a percentage of all the topic's papers in the same five years. Ranking by share stops the topic's own growth from making everyone look like a riser.

Topic currents

Three bump charts (journals, institutions, authors): each line runs from its rank by share in 2016–2020 to its rank in 2021–2025.

NEW

Outside OpenAlex's top 200 for the topic in 2016–2020.

For its size

A country's share of the topic's papers divided by its share of all papers in the field in the same years. $\times 1$ is what its size predicts.

h-index

The largest number h such that h of the scholar's works have at least h citations each, as OpenAlex counts them.

Estimated turnaround

A first-decision time in the Publish desk that is a badged guess, never a measurement. Publisher-stated and community-reported figures are badged too.

References

Every reference was resolved by its DOI against Crossref (or DataCite) and matched on first author and year before it could be cited — 8 sources in this volume. Verification date per entry is kept in `references/verified.json`.

- 1 Webster, J., & Watson, R. T. (2002). Analyzing the Past to Prepare for the Future: Writing a Literature Review. *MIS Quarterly*, 26(2), xiii-xxiii. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4132319>
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- 8 Bakker, A. B., & Demerouti, E. (2017). Job demands–resources theory: Taking stock and looking forward.. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 22(3), 273–285. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ocp0000056>

Version history & errata

This guidebook is version-controlled. Corrections are made in its source, the version number is raised, and the change is recorded here and in [CHANGELOG.md](#). Report an error with the page number and the version printed in the footer.

VERSION	DATE	CHANGES
1.0.1	2026–10–18	Series back to 13 volumes (Throughline CS dropped: a separate product, not one of the Lazy Research Lad sites); covers and title pages now read 'of 13'. Text and figures unchanged.
1.0.0	2026–10–18	First edition, written as a research guide on the series' worked study: topic currents, countries for their size, reading a scholar's profile, a first journal shortlist, reviewer objections and a model positioning paragraph. Figures captured 18 October 2026 from the live site.

Errata

No errata recorded for this version.