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# Global Legal Publishing

July 2022



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# Table of Contents

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<b>1. Highlights</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Global Overview &amp; Forecasts</b>	<b>4</b>
Definitions by Media	4
Databases	4
Tools & Solutions	4
Books	5
Directories	6
Journals	6
Looseleafs	7
Demand by Product	8
Product Segments	9
Analytics Driving Growth	11
Databases Continue Central Role in the Legal Research Experience	11
The Mantra of Digital First	11
<b>3. Regional Overview</b>	<b>13</b>
Regional Market Overview	13
North America	13
Europe	14
Asia/Pacific	14
Rest of World	15
Currency Movements	15
<b>4. Industry Structure</b>	<b>17</b>
Leading Competitors	17
Three Giants Dominate	17
Disruptors Entering the Category	17
Changing Competitive Set	17
Mergers & Acquisitions	18
Thomson Reuters	19
LexisNexis	20
Wolters Kluwer	21
<b>5. About This Report</b>	<b>23</b>
Scope	23
Sources	24
Industry Codes	25
Resources	26

# List of Tables & Figures

---

Figure 1   Global Legal Publishing Market Outlook, 2021 – 2026	3
Figure 2   Global Legal Publishing Demand by Product, 2020 – 2026 (US\$ bil)	8
Table 1   Global Legal Publishing Demand by Product, 2020 – 2026 (US\$ mil)	9
Figure 3   Global Legal Publishing Demand by Product, 2020 – 2026 (%)	10
Figure 4   Global Legal Publishing Market by Region, 2021 (%)	13
Table 2   Top 15 Global Legal Publishers (US\$ mil)	18
Table 3   NAICS & SIC Codes Related to Legal Publishing	25

# About This Report

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## Scope

This report forecasts to 2026 the global market for legal publishing by product and major world region in nominal US dollars. To illustrate historical trends, the world market and product segments are provided for 2020 and 2021. Product segments include:

- digital databases
- digital tools and solutions
- e-journals
- e-books
- e-directories
- books
- looseleafs
- print journals
- print directories

The market is also segmented in 2021 by major world region:

- North America
- Europe/UK
- Asia/Pacific
- rest of world

Unless otherwise noted, the figures in this report are worldwide estimates of the markets for legal and business publishing as defined by Simba.

Legal publishing consists of electronic and printed content used by professionals in the legal industry, including attorneys, law firms, law enforcement officials, courts, judges, court reporters, legal assistants, paralegals, corporate counsels, intellectual property professionals, legal aids, and law students.

Legal researchers, legal libraries, the legal and human resources departments of corporations, and law students, instructors, schools, and libraries all purchase content from legal publishers.

Legal publishing includes professional-level print and electronic content, encompassing these areas: administrative law and regulatory practice, antitrust law, business law, criminal justice, dispute resolution, environmental law, family law, general practice, government and public sector law, health law, intellectual property law, labor and employment, law practice management, legal education and admissions to the Bar,

litigation, contract law, public utility, communications and transport law, property, probate and trust law, science and technology law, jury service and selection, and human resources law.

Products in this report include upper-level textbooks used by students and attorneys, peer-reviewed journals, advanced-level professional magazines, professional databases and directories, and electronic services targeted to legal professionals.

To accurately reflect market growth, Simba has added an “eliminations” line to prevent publishing revenue from being counted twice. These eliminations are necessary because of bundled print and electronic pricing of books and journals, inter-publisher alliances, licensing, and profit-sharing agreements.

Freedonia quantifies trends in various measures of growth and volatility. Growth calculated as a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) employs, by definition, only the first and last datapoints over a period. The CAGR is used to describe forecast growth, defined as the expected trend beginning in the base year and ending in the forecast year. Readers are encouraged to consider historical volatility when assessing particular annual values along the forecast trend, including in the forecast year.

Other various topics, including profiles of pertinent leading companies, are covered in this report. A full outline of report items by page is available in the Table of Contents.

## Sources

*Global Legal Publishing* (FW25027) is based on [a comprehensive industry study](#) published by Simba Information.

Primary research included:

- interviews with executives in the industry
- trade associations, such as Association of American Publishers (AAP), Book Industry Study Group, and country-specific trade associations
- government data sources in the US and worldwide, i.e., US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis
- databases from R.R. Bowker, Ulrich – including Books in Print

Secondary research included:

- business, publishing, and information industry trade publications
- annual reports and SEC filings
- company websites and marketing materials
- presentations made by publishers to investors; earnings calls
- press releases
- analyst reports

- industry surveys
- industry conference proceedings and events
- blogs, webinars, and podcasts by industry experts

When reported information was not available, estimates were developed by Simba Information using the above sources. Simba also employed historical trends, general guidance provided by executives, size of competitors, relative sizing based on customer observations, number of titles, library-spending studies, and searches of online news databases.

Estimates of sales and projections were based on classification of revenue into component categories, as well as geographic splits. Guidance from analysts, annual reports, 10-Ks, and industry insider observations of growth or weakness are then applied. Currency movements and merger and acquisition (M&A) activity also played important roles.

Simba's forecast methodology is similar to its approach to building actual global market size numbers. Trends and insights were discussed with industry executives and secondary sources, analyst reports, and industry studies were researched.

The principal drivers of the forecasts were an extrapolation of recent trends, M&A activity, global and national gross domestic product (GDP) forecasts, industry forecasts, company forecasts, and publishing trends.

Specific sources and additional resources are listed in the Resources section of this publication for reference and to facilitate further research.

## Industry Codes

**Table 3 | NAICS & SIC Codes Related to Legal Publishing**

NAICS/SCIAN 2017 North American Industry Classification System		SIC Standard Industrial Classification	
511120	Periodical Publishers	2721	Periodicals: Publishing, or Publishing & Printing
511130	Book Publishers	2731	Books: Publishing, or Publishing & Printing
511210	Software Publishers	2741	Miscellaneous Publishing
519130	Internet Publishing & Broadcasting & Web Search Portals	7372	Prepackaged Software

Source: US Census Bureau

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## Resources

### Simba Information

*Global Legal Publishing Report 2022-2026*  
*Global Medical Publishing 2021-2025*  
*Global Scientific & Technical Publishing 2021-2025*  
*Global Social Sciences & Humanities Publishing 2021-2025*  
*Open Access Book Publishing 2020-2024*  
*Open Access Journal Publishing 2020-2024*  
*Scholarly & Professional E-Book Publishing 2020-2024*  
*STM Online Services 2021-2025*

### The Freedonia Group

#### Freedonia Industry Studies

*Global E-Commerce*

#### Freedonia Focus Reports

*Books: United States*  
*Commercial Printing: United States*  
*COVID-19 Market Impact Analysis*  
*Demographics: United States*  
*E-Commerce: United States*  
*Education: United States*  
*Global Demographics*  
*Global Macroeconomy*  
*Paper & Paperboard: United States*  
*Printing Machinery & Equipment: United States*  
*Professional Services: United States*

#### Freedonia Custom Research

#### Trade Publications

*Book Business*  
*Digital Book World*  
*Digital Publishing Solutions*  
*Printing Impressions*  
*Publishers Weekly*

## Agencies & Associations

American Bar Association

Association of American Publishers

Book Industry Study Group

Eurostat

International Association of Scientific, Technical, and Medical Publishers

International Monetary Fund

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Society for Scholarly Publishing

United States Census Bureau

United States Department of Commerce

Bureau of Economic Analysis

World Bank