

Summary table of journal metrics and their use

Metric	Used for	Pros	Cons
JIF (2-year)	Journal impact measure, journal ranking within field	Independent calculation, published in the yearly Journal Citation Report	Field-dependent
JIF (5-year)	Same as the 2-year JIF but covers a 5-year period	Less influenced by yearly citation fluctuations than the 2-year JIF	Field-dependent
SNIP	Journal comparisons between different fields	Field-independent	
SJR	Comparisons of journal prestige between different fields	Secure because harder to manipulate than other citation metrics	May not always be useful for small fields or subfields
CiteScore	Journal impact measure, journal ranking within field	Includes all source items, 3-year citation range more robust than 2-year JIF	Field-dependent
Citation count	Measures journal or article impact through actual numbers of citations	Simple metric, no databases and algorithms needed for its calculation	Easily manipulated, field-dependent
Rank, percentiles, quartiles	With any of the above metrics, journals can be ranked, usually within fields	Can be used for any metric	Multidisciplinary journals are ranked in several disciplines and may have different Q1 scores per discipline