

InCites Essential Science Indicators

Quick Reference Guide

What is InCites Essential Science Indicators?

Essential Science Indicators is a compilation of science performance statistics and trends data derived from Web of Science Core Collection data.* This analytical tool surveys more than 12,000 journals from around the world for article publication and citation count performance indicators. It ranks authors, institutions, countries, and journals in 22 specific fields of research by the number of papers published, citations received, and citations per paper.

Data covers a rolling 10-year period and includes bimonthly updates to rankings and citation counts.

- Examine the research performance of top-ranking institutions, countries, journals, authors, and papers in each of the 22 research fields in ESI
- Compare the citation performance of a paper with that of its peers by both publication period and field.
- Identify trends and emerging areas of research in the sciences and social sciences.

** Data is limited to Clarivate indexed journals. Books, book chapters, or articles published in journals not indexed by Clarivate are not taken into account, either in terms of publication counts or citation counts*

Sign In

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Your User Account for accessing saved reports

View Indicators, Field Baselines, or Citation Thresholds

Change the table below to show Research Fields, Authors, Institutions, Journals, Countries, or Research

Add a filter to reduce the number of items in the table or target a specific entity

View Highly Cited Papers, Hot Papers, or both

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Indicators | Field Baselines | Citation Thresholds

Top Papers by Journals

Results List: Journals

Filter Results By: [Add Filter]

Include Results For: Top Papers

Map View by Top / Hot / Highly Cited Papers

Total: 8988	Journals	Web of Science Documents	Cites	Cites/Paper	Top Papers
1	PLOS ONE	220,494	3,691,411	16.74	911
2	NATURE	9,074	1,774,803	195.59	3,615
3	PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	35,491	1,774,251	49.99	1,904
4	JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY	26,902	1,728,817	64.26	2,221
5	SCIENTIFIC REPORTS	124,335	1,580,584	12.71	700
6	SCIENCE	8,247	1,465,263	177.67	3,014
7	NATURE COMMUNICATIONS	33,816	1,451,632	42.93	2,532

Open Saved custom reports

Export data from the table below

View Top Papers by country

Choose which indicators to display in the table

Set document thresholds

Sort the table by clicking a column heading

Click the Top Papers count to view the Hot and Highly Cited papers in a document list

Clear filters or **Save** your criteria as a custom report

Filter within the data grid to look for specific items

Total: 8988

Journals

1	PLOS ONE	
2	NATURE	
3	PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	35,491

Web of Science Documents

- Sort Ascending
- Sort Descending
- Filters

InCites Essential Science Indicators dataset updated May 13, 2021

Help us improve the Essential Science Indicators by providing your feedback! [Click Here](#)

PRIVACY POLICY

View Indicators, Field Baselines, or Citation Thresholds

Sort the table by Citations, Publication Year, or Journal Title

Track research performance over time

Click the title of the paper to access the *Web of Science* full record page

The screenshot displays the 'InCites Essential Science Indicators' interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Indicators', 'Field Baselines', and 'Citation Thresholds'. Below this, there are icons for downloading and sharing data. The main section is titled 'Papers by Research Field' and features a 'Citation Trends' sidebar on the left with filters for 'Filter Results By' and 'Include Results For'. The central area shows a list of papers, each with a title, authors, source, research fields, and a 'Times Cited' count. Paper 15, 'CANCER STATISTICS, 2013', is highlighted with a red 'ESI Hot' indicator and a green 'Research Front' icon. The bottom of the interface includes a feedback prompt and footer information.

Export data from the table below

Show additional fields for each item in the table

Identify Hot papers and export graphs of citations

Click the Times Cited count of a paper to view a graph providing the number of citations across citing years

Field Baselines

Baselines are annualized expected citation rates for papers in a research field. View baselines for Citation Rates, Percentiles, and Field Rankings (see the Glossary section for more info)

InCites Essential Science Indicators

Indicators | **Field Baselines** | Citation Thresholds

Field Baselines
Baselines are annualized expected citation rates for papers in a research field.
Citation Rates are yearly averages of citations per paper.

Citation Rates	RESEARCH FIELDS =	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	ALL FIELDS	25.63	23.50	21.40	19.41	17.11	14.25	11.65	8.52
	AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES	19.74	18.16	16.80	15.52	13.85	11.74	9.30	7.19
Percentiles	BIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY	33.97	31.62	28.09	24.90	20.98	17.24	14.02	10.35
	CHEMISTRY	28.28	27.15	24.47	23.14	20.77	17.32	14.44	10.75
Field Rankings	CLINICAL MEDICINE	25.88	23.85	21.39	19.27	17.08	14.01	11.33	7.96
	COMPUTER SCIENCE	16.89	13.90	13.51	13.12	12.30	10.55	9.49	7.05
	ECONOMICS & BUSINESS	21.47	18.39	16.63	14.59	12.42	10.16	7.89	5.53
	ENGINEERING	17.85	16.52	15.93	14.88	13.88	12.23	10.57	8.16
	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	31.18	28.68	25.20	22.17	19.47	16.91	12.89	9.29
	GEOSCIENCES	29.20	26.14	23.52	20.48	17.67	14.25	11.55	7.90
	IMMUNOLOGY	37.28	32.58	30.69	27.34	23.03	19.16	15.36	11.12
	MATERIALS SCIENCE	29.81	28.79	26.63	25.78	23.22	20.25	17.22	12.79
	MATHEMATICS	9.39	8.10	7.16	6.33	5.78	4.82	4.00	3.08
	MICROBIOLOGY	29.92	27.84	25.38	23.17	19.64	17.46	13.93	9.74

Citation Thresholds

View the minimum number of citations required to be ranked as a top author, institution, journal, country, or paper in each of the 22 research fields in ESI

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Indicators | Field Baselines | **Citation Thresholds**

Citation Thresholds
A citation threshold is the minimum number of citations obtained by ranking papers in a research field in descending order by citation count and then selecting the top fraction or percentage of papers.
The ESI Threshold reveals the number of citations received by the top 1% of authors and institutions and the top 50% of countries and journals in a 10-year period.

ESI Thresholds	RESEARCH FIELDS =	AUTHOR	INSTITUTION	JOURNAL	COUNTRY
	AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES	559	2,609	1,418	1,963
	BIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY	1,059	6,397	326	1,534
Highly Cited Thresholds	CHEMISTRY	2,148	8,435	1,766	2,765
	CLINICAL MEDICINE	2,517	3,802	3,078	22,229
Hot Paper Thresholds	COMPUTER SCIENCE	551	4,057	1,779	660
	ECONOMICS & BUSINESS	450	4,902	1,663	434
	ENGINEERING	850	2,976	3,525	2,177
	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	959	4,249	2,382	3,833
	GEOSCIENCES	1,389	6,251	2,508	1,963
	IMMUNOLOGY	989	6,201	538	3,424
	MATERIALS SCIENCE	2,193	7,278	3,952	2,063
	MATHEMATICS	385	4,489	808	540
	MICROBIOLOGY	747	5,499	434	1,965
	MOLECULAR BIOLOGY & GENETICS	3,020	14,208	516	2,454
	MULTIDISCIPLINARY	504	2,852	60	218

Glossary

Citation rates

Average citation rates are calculated for each year of the 10-year period, based on accumulated citations from the year of publication to the most current bimonthly update. Averages are calculated by adding the citation counts of individual papers and dividing by the number of papers. An average for the full 10-year period is also given in All Years.

Field rankings

Field Rankings displays total papers, total citations received, citations per paper, and Hot and Highly Cited papers in each field.

Percentiles

The term *percentile* designates a citation threshold at or above that at which a fixed fraction of the papers fall. This term is used to denote any fixed fraction of top papers ordered by citation count. The levels we have selected for listing by field and year are 0.01%, 0.1%, 1.0%, 10%, 20%, and 50%.

Research fronts

A group of Highly Cited papers, referred to as “core papers,” in a specialized topic defined by co-citation analysis. Since the assignment of papers to a Research Front is not based on the journal categories used in Essential Science Indicators, Research Fronts offer an alternative classification scheme for Highly Cited papers.

Thresholds required for an entity or paper's inclusion in Essential Science Indicators		
	Citation percentile	Years of data examined
Scientists	1%	10
Institutions	1%	10
Countries	50%	10
Journals	50%	10
Highly Cited Papers	1%	10
Hot Papers	.1%	2

Top papers

- **Highly Cited Papers:** The top-cited papers over the last 10 years in 22 scientific fields. Rankings are based on meeting a threshold of the top 1% by field and year based on total citations received.
- **Hot Papers:** Papers published in the past two years that receive enough citations during the most recent bimonthly update to place them in the top 0.1% when compared to peer papers.

Getting help

Click the Help button on any page to get detailed help on features as well as detailed search tips and examples.

Learn more about Essential Science Indicators at:

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