JOURNAL METRICS

Researchers use **journal metrics** to determine the relative impact of a particular journal in a given field. Authors might also look at journal metrics to decide where to publish their academic work.

When comparing journal metrics, always compare like against like within a particular discipline, as metrics can vary widely between academic fields.

Learn more about how to calculate each metric at: https://libguides.csudh.edu/metrics

Metric name	How it's measured	What it tells you	Consider this
h-index	X number of publications a journal or author has published that have been cited X number of times	Productivity and consistency over time as it relates to citation frequency	High h-indexes take time for a journal to develop. Favors those with well established careers and disciplines without long citation lags
Scimago Rank	rank score = h-index + total number of citable documents + average number of citation counts in a time period	How a journal compares to its peers in a discipline based on the factors in the rank	Includes more journals than other proprietary citation metrics but privileges English language journals
Acceptance Rate	% of articles published in a journal out of all total submissions	How competitive a journal may be to publish in (i.e. lots of submissions or very few articles make it through to publication)	Not every journal publishes their acceptance rate and those that do usually self-report. May not point to the quality of a publication but rather the size of it
Cite Score	frequency with which the "average article" in a journal has been cited in a three (3) year period	Citation frequency for an entire journal over three years	Only calculated for certain journals in the Scopus database. Large journals in larger disciplines tend to have higher scores
Journal Impact Factor (JIF)	frequency with which the "average article" in a journal has been cited in one (1) year	Citation frequency for an entire journal over a year	Only calculated for certain journals in the Web of Science database and we don't have access to it at CSUDH. Large journals in larger disciplines tend to have higher JIFs