

Finding Influential Journals: Scopus Metrics

Scopus metrics can be used to help you to identify the highly-cited journals in your subject area.

You can use Scopus to view lists of journals in a particular subject area ranked according to various different metrics. When comparing journals, it's always best to use a variety of methods, and we recommend that Scopus metrics are used in conjunction with other journal ranking tools such as Journal Citation Reports and alongside qualitative judgements.

Search for Scopus via StarPlus, or go directly to <https://students.sheffield.ac.uk/library/eresources/scopus>

Click **Connect to Scopus**


from thousands of international publishers. A full description of content can be found on the Scopus website, or you can download the [Scopus Content Coverage Guide](#).

Access

Access is available directly from this page by connecting to the Scopus website - you'll be prompted to log in to MUSE as necessary.

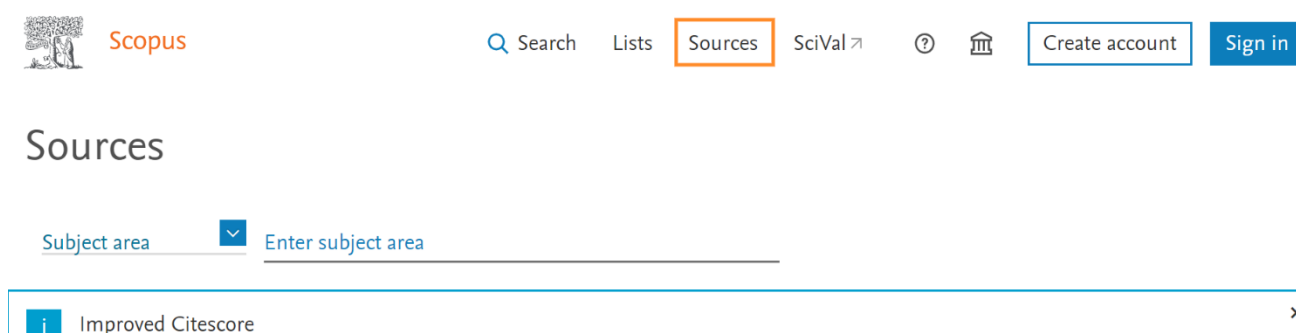
[Connect to Scopus →](#)

Using Scopus Video Guide



The screenshot shows the Scopus website navigation bar with the following elements: The University of Sheffield logo on the left, and navigation links for 'Search', 'Sources', 'Lists', and 'SciVal' on the right. The 'Sources' link is highlighted with an orange box.

Once in Scopus, click on **Sources** to view journal metrics for the journals indexed in the database:

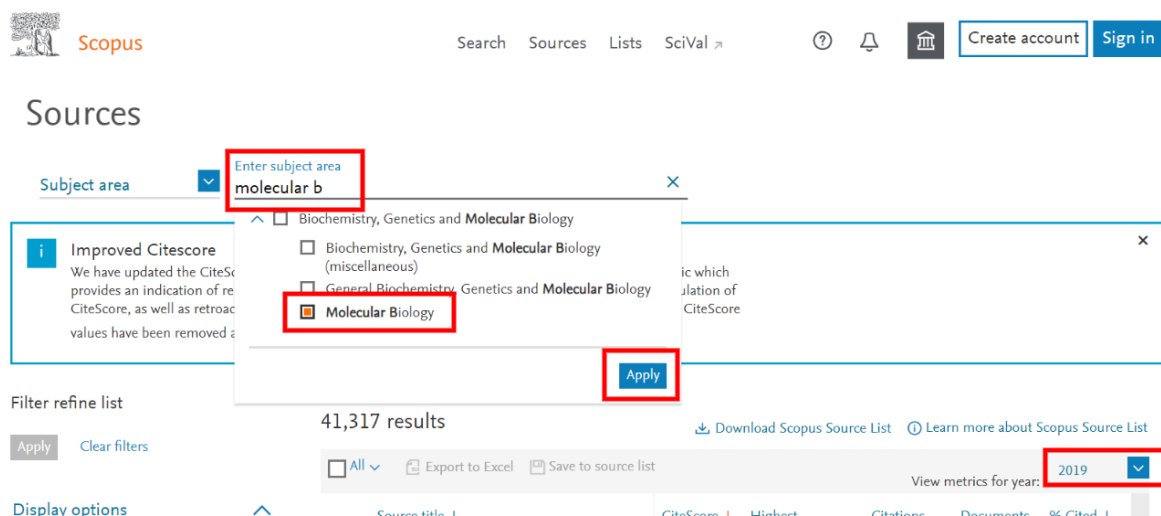


The screenshot shows the Scopus website header with the Scopus logo on the left and navigation links for 'Search', 'Lists', 'Sources', and 'SciVal' in the center. The 'Sources' link is highlighted with an orange box. On the right, there are links for 'Create account' and 'Sign in'. Below the header, the page title 'Sources' is displayed. Underneath, there is a dropdown menu for 'Subject area' with a blue arrow icon and the text 'Enter subject area'. At the bottom of the page, there is a blue banner with the text 'Improved Citescore' and a close button 'x' on the right.

CiteScore indexes over 25,000 journals. When you first arrive at the Sources page, it will show a list of all these journals, ranked by the CiteScore metric. You can filter this list in various ways.

Use the 'Enter Subject area...' box to search for the field you're interested in (e.g. molecular biology). When you start typing, it will suggest subject areas that match. There are several broad subject categories and many more sub-categories – if you can't find one that exactly matches the area you're interested in, pick the closest available heading. Click **Apply** to refine the list by your chosen subject area.

You can also choose to view metrics for a particular year:



You should now see a list of the journals in your chosen subject category. The figure above the list shows how many journals are included in this category. By default, the list is ranked by the CiteScore metric.

The screenshot shows a list of journals ranked by CiteScore for the year 2023. The table has columns for Source title, CiteScore, Highest percentile, Citations 2020-23, Documents 2020-23, and % Cited. The top 5 journals are:

Source title	CiteScore	Highest percentile	Citations 2020-23	Documents 2020-23	% Cited
1 Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology Find it @ Sheffield	173.6	99% 1/410 Molecular Biology	34,204	197	92
2 Nature Methods Find it @ Sheffield	58.7	99% 1/438 Biochemistry	45,477	775	79
3 Nature Reviews Genetics Find it @ Sheffield	57.4	99% 1/347 Genetics	14,934	260	78
4 Physiological Reviews Find it @ Sheffield	56.5	99% 1/193 Physiology	9,542	169	97
5 Cell Research Find it @ Sheffield	53.9	99% 3/285 Cell Biology	15,310	284	93

There are several different metrics available:

CiteScore

This metric indicates the average number of citations per paper published over a four year period.

The CiteScore shows the total number of citations received in the selected year by documents published in the previous 4 years, divided by the total number of documents published in those 4 years. This includes; articles, reviews, conference papers, data papers and book chapters.

CiteScore 2023 methodology

CiteScore 2023 counts the citations received in 2020-2023 to articles, reviews, conference papers, book chapters and data papers published in 2020-2023, and divides this by the number of publications published in 2020-2023.



Want to learn more? Visit [Citescore FAQ](#)

CiteScoreTracker 2024 uses the same methodology with citations based on the latest 2024 data.

Highest Percentile: CiteScore Percentile indicates the relative standing of a serial title in its subject field based on the CiteScore metric. The Percentile and Ranking are relative to a specific Subject Area. The Source table only displays the Subject Area where the source performs the best.

% Cited: The percentage of the documents published in the last 4 years that have received at least 1 citation in the selected year.

Citations: This is the total number of citations received by the documents published in the previous 4 years.

Documents: This is the total number of documents published in the serial title in the 4 years.

SNIP: Source Normalized Impact per Paper indicates the average citation count per paper but also takes into account the likelihood of being cited within the journals' subject category. Unlike the CiteScore metric, SNIP is adjusted to account for differences in citation behaviour between different academic disciplines, so you can use this number to compare journals in different subject fields.

SJR: Scimago Journal Rank differs from SNIP in that it assigns a higher value/weight to citations from more prestigious journals. Subject field, quality and reputation of the citing journal have a direct effect on the value given to a citation. Like SNIP, SJR also normalizes for differences in citation behaviour between subject fields.

You can re-sort this list by any of the other metrics listed. Try clicking on % cited to reorder the journals by this metric:

557 results

[Download Scopus Source List](#) [Learn more about Scopus Source List](#)

<input type="checkbox"/> All Export to Excel Save to source list		View metrics for year: 2023			
Source title ↓	CiteScore ↓	Highest percentile ↓	Citations 2020-23 ↓	Documents 2020-23 ↓	% Cited ↓
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cytokine: X Find it @ Sheffield	13.2	92% 34/438 Biochemistry	369	28	100
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Biophysical Reviews Find it @ Sheffield	8.9	87% 20/152 Biophysics	3,112	348	99
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Annual Review of Plant Biology <i>Open Access</i> Find it @ Sheffield	40.4	99% 1/516 Plant Science	5,338	132	98

The order of the list may change depending on which metric you choose. This is because different metrics measure different things.

Remember that metrics can only tell you so much about a journal, so always use your own judgement and that of your colleagues when comparing journals.

Click on the title of any journal in the list to see more detailed information

	Title	CiteScore	Highest CiteScore Percentile
1	Annual Review of Cell and Developmental Biology <i>Cell Biology</i>	16.39	99%
2	Nature Cell Biology <i>Cell Biology</i>	12.67	96%

Click on the 'CiteScore rank & trend' tab to see a graph of how the CiteScore for this journal has varied over the years, and a list of the other journals in the same subject category

Nature Reviews Genetics

Scopus coverage years: from 2000 to Present
 Publisher: Springer Nature
 ISSN: 1471-0056 E-ISSN: 1471-0064
 Subject area: Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology: Molecular Biology Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology: Genetics
Medicine: Genetics (clinical)

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CiteScore 2019 ⓘ
73.5

SJR 2019 ⓘ
28.619

SNIP 2019 ⓘ
9.126

CiteScore CiteScore rank & trend Scopus content coverage

[Export content for category](#)

CiteScore rank ⓘ 2019 In category: Molecular Biology

Rank	Source title	CiteScore 2019	Percentile
#1	Nature Reviews Genetics	73.5	99th percentile
#2	Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology	73.4	99th percentile
#3	Cell Metabolism	37.5	99th percentile
#4	Physiological Reviews	36.1	99th percentile
#5	Annual Review of Plant Biology	32.8	98th percentile
#6	Nature Methods	31.3	98th percentile

CiteScore trend

Year	CiteScore value	Percentile in category
2015	~70	100
2016	~68	100
2017	~75	100
2018	~68	100
2019	73.5	100