

# LIBRARY APPETIZER

## Library Appetizer: Journal Citation Reports & Impact Factor

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# What Are the „Library Appetizers“?

- A quick insight into services the Library offers for researchers
- An opportunity to get in touch with us & get questions answered
- In English & online, to make it the most accessible



# Agenda

- Introduction: Journal Citation Reports & Journal Impact Factor
- Demo
- Considerations & Further Information

# Journal Citation Reports

Journal Citation Reports™

A database that provides journal data and statistics (metrics):

- Libraries' collections management decisions
- Publishers' measure for a journal's performance
- Researchers' manuscript submission decisions

Includes 22.000 journals (incl. 6,200 open access journals)

- 14.500 science journals
  - 7.500 social sciences journals
  - 2.200 arts and humanities journals
- Compiled to 254 categories

→ The only source for the Journal Impact Factor

# Journal Impact Factor (JIF)



- Emerged in the 1960s
- Developed by Eugene Garfield and colleagues at the Institute for Scientific Information
- Journal-level metric
- Citation-based metric
- A journal receives an JIF for each year
- The JIF-number is static for the year
- Reflects how many times articles published in a given journal in the past two years have been cited
- Provides an approximation of the mean citation rate

# Journal Impact Factor / How to Calculate

## Example 2017 Impact Factor Calculation:

How is Journal Impact Factor Calculated?

$$\text{JIF} = \frac{\text{Citations in 2017 to items published in 2015 (3485) + 2016 (2516)}{\text{Number of citable items in 2015 (356) + 2016 (311)}} = \frac{6001}{667}$$

Video explanation:

<https://videos.clarivate.com/watch/j1L2ayCvpHhrUiqu1fhRgJ> (26.05.2026)

JIF = 8.9

A typical article or review from this journal has been cited about 8.9 times, one or two years after publication.

<https://clarivate.libguides.com/jcr> (26.05.2026)

# Demo

- Access via Library's Database Information System DBIS (<https://dbis.ur.de/TUBG/browse/subjects/>)

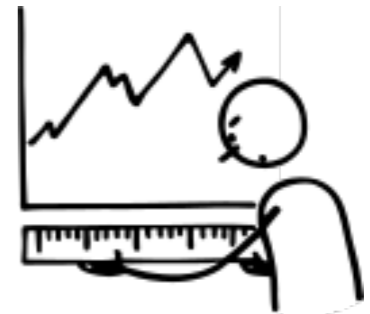


- Library Website > Search the Collections > Database Information System (DBIS)



# Journal Impact Factor: Considerations

- Cannot be compared across disciplines
- Short length of citation window
- Encouraging “citation cartels”
- Flagrant abuse of self-citation



# Responsible Research Assessment – 3 Initiatives

2012 San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment ([DORA](#))

2015 [The Leiden Manifesto for research metrics](#)

2022 Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment ([CoARA](#))



- responsible use of quantitative indicators
- combine metrics with qualitative statement
- reduce emphasis on the journal impact factor and other citation based metrics
- recognise diverse outputs, practices, and activities

## Further Information

- Library blog post “[What You Need to Know About Research Metrics](#)”



- Library website > Research Support > [Research Metrics](#)



# Contact

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Website: <https://www.tugraz.at/sites/bibliothek-und-archiv>

# Social Media



@bib\_tugraz



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bib.tugraz



TU Graz Library and Archives



## More Library Appetizers & Events

- **24/06/2026** Open Access Funding @ TU Graz

General overview:

