Journal Citation Reports (JCR) allows you to evaluate and compare journals using citation data drawn from over 7,500 scholarly and technical journals from more than 3,300 publishers in over 60 countries. It includes virtually all areas of science, technology, and social sciences. JCR can show you the:

- Most frequently cited journals in a field
- Highest impact journals in a field
- Largest journals in a field

Citation and article counts are important indicators of how frequently current researchers are using individual journals. By tabulating and aggregating citation and article counts, JCR offers a unique perspective for journal evaluation and comparison.

**It’s important to note** that “you should not depend solely on citation data in your journal evaluations. Citation data are not meant to replace informed peer review. Careful attention should be paid to the many conditions that can influence citation rates such as language, journal history and format, publication schedule, and subject specialty.” *(from JCR Help pages)*

**ACCESS** -- From the ODU Library Web page, click “Find Databases A-Z,” then select “Journal Citation Reports” under J.

**SELECT a JCR edition and year** -- All of the data that you see for journals and subject categories come from journal data published in that year.

**OPTIONS** --

A. **VIEW a group of journals** by Subject Category, Publisher, Country/Territory.

B. **SEARCH for a specific journal**. Search by full title or journal abbreviation

C. **VIEW all journals** (in the JCR edition and year you selected). Creates a huge list.

**SUBMIT**

A. **VIEW a group of journals -- by SUBJECT CATEGORY** to compare citation data for journals that deal with the same subject. Every JCR journal has been assigned to one or more subject categories.
   1) Select one or more categories from the list. To select more than one category, use Ctrl-click or Command-click (Mac).
   2) Select **View Journal Data** or **View Category Data** and the desired **SORT** option from the dropdown menu.

   **by PUBLISHER or COUNTRY/TERRITORY** – 1) select one or more; 2) select sort option.
MARK the journals you wish to compare by clicking the box to the left of the title. At the end of a page, be sure to click UPDATE MARKED LIST before moving to the next page of titles. To view your marked list, click the MARKED LIST button at top left.

SORT -- You can change the sort options (top left) while viewing the selected journals or categories, or while viewing your Marked List.

SAVE or PRINT the comparison chart of journals.

VIEW all journal data by clicking on a journal title.

DEFINITIONS

Total Cites
The total number of times that a journal has been cited by all journals included in the database in the JCR year.

Impact Factor
Average number of times articles from the journal published in the past two years have been cited in the JCR year.

Immediacy Index
Average number of times an article is cited in the year it is published.

Cited Half-Life
Median age of the articles that were cited in the JCR year. Half of a journal's cited articles were published more recently than the cited half-life.

Eigenfactor Score
Based on the number of times articles from the journal published in the past five years have been cited in the JCR year, but it also considers which journals have contributed these citations so that highly cited journals will influence the network more than lesser cited journals. Not influenced by journal self-citation.

Cited Journal Data
Cited Journal data show how many citations a journal received in the JCR year.

Cited-Only Journals (Journals with only Cited Journal information)
Some of the journals listed in JCR are not citing journals, but are cited-only journals. This means that the references in these journals are not included in the database. This is significant when comparing journals because self-citations from cited-only journals are not included in JCR data. Self-citations often represent a significant percentage of the citations that a journal receives. Cited-only journals may be ceased journals, suspended journals, or superseded titles. Any journal that appears elsewhere in JCR, but not in the Citing Journal Listing, is a cited-only journal.

Citing Half-Life
Median age of articles cited by the journal in the JCR year.

Citing Journal Data
Citing journal data show how many citations a journal made to other journals (including itself) in the JCR year.