

## How to Find Top Journals with Journal Citation Reports

**Journal Citation Reports (JCR)** is a subscription product under Web of Science (WoS) providing transparent and reliable information and analysis of 22,000+ WoS-indexed journals and 5,000+ academic publishers.

JCR gathers rich arrays of publisher-neutral data to inform the scholarly community about the latest rankings and quality of academic journals. The Report provides yearly updates since 1997.

JCR provides essential data and functions including:

- **Journal Profile:** Journal Impact Factor (JIF), Journal Citation Indicator (JCI), Rank by Subject Category and Total Citations
- **Journal comparison:** compares up to 4 journals at a time across metrics including JIF and JCI

**Master Journal List** is another product of Web of Science (WoS) that researchers can use hand-in-hand with JCR to perform **Manuscript Match** to find a list of potential journals suitable for your paper. The tool also provides a glimpse of basic journal metrics and peer review details.

We hope this guide would help you better utilise Journal Citation Reports (JCR) and Master Journal List (MJL) to enlighten your research journey.

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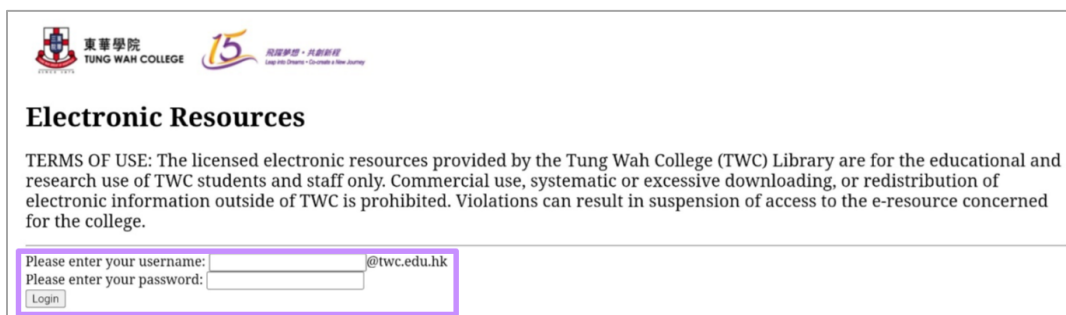
## Using Journal Citation Reports (JCR) to Find Top Journals

### Sign in / Register with college account at Web of Science

1. Visit Web of Science homepage via this link below:

<https://www.edb.twc.edu.hk/login?url=https://www.webofscience.com>

→ If you are off campus, enter your college email login details and click the **Login** button.

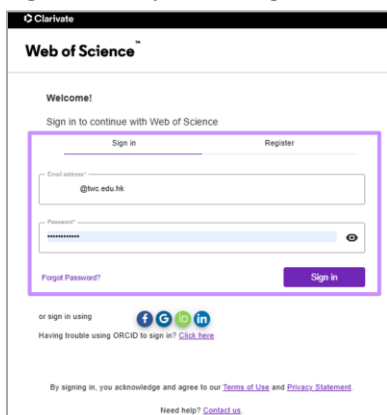


2. On Web of Science homepage, **Sign in with your college email** and self-assigned password in order to access the subscribed services.

If you had not registered an account with your college email, click **Register** button on the upper-right corner and **register with your college email**.



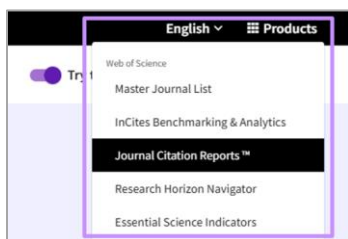
**Sign in with your college account:**



**Register new account with your college email:**

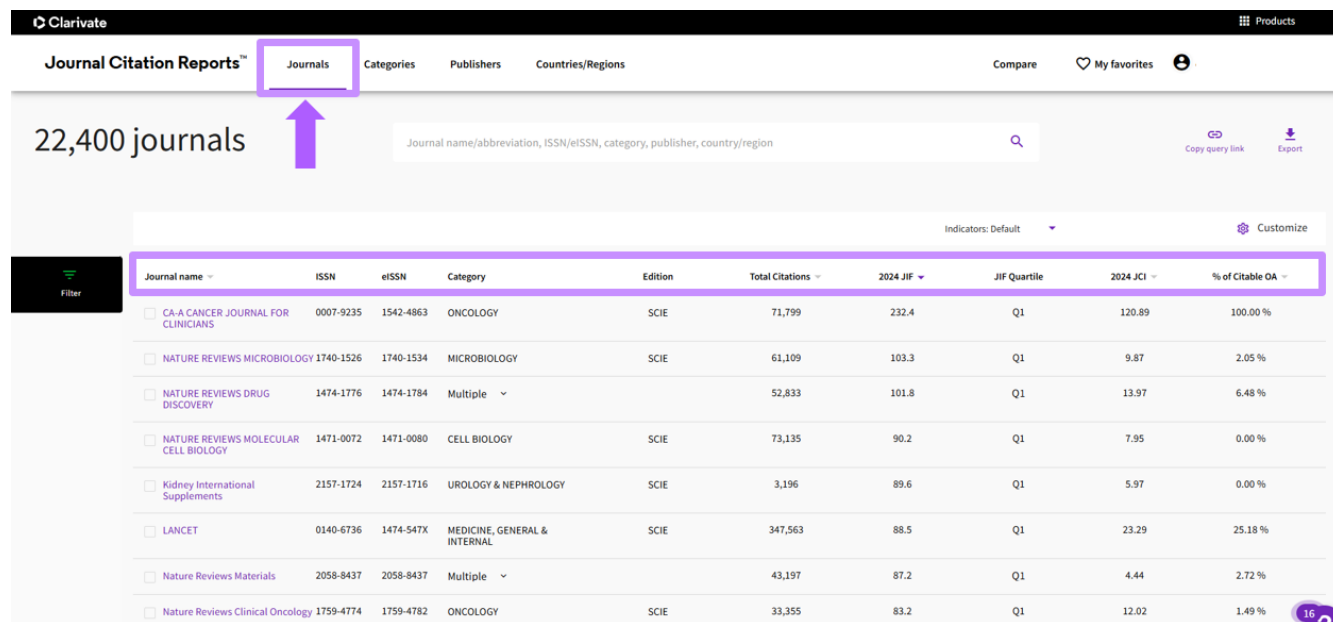


3. After logging in, click **Products** icon on top right corner and choose **Journal Citation Reports** to proceed.



## Introducing the JCR Homepage

This is the homepage of JCR. Under **Journals tab**, you may find a default ranking table of all journals indexed in WoS. This **default view** of the JCR shows the updated data from the **latest available JCR Year**.



The screenshot shows the JCR homepage with the 'Journals' tab selected. A purple arrow points to the 'Journals' tab. The page displays '22,400 journals' and a search bar. Below the search bar is a table of journals with columns: Journal name, ISSN, eISSN, Category, Edition, Total Citations, 2024 JIF, JIF Quartile, 2024 JCI, and % of Citable OA. The table is filtered to show 16 results.

Journal name	ISSN	eISSN	Category	Edition	Total Citations	2024 JIF	JIF Quartile	2024 JCI	% of Citable OA
<input type="checkbox"/> CA-A CANCER JOURNAL FOR CLINICIANS	0007-9235	1542-4863	ONCOLOGY	SCIE	71,799	232.4	Q1	120.89	100.00 %
<input type="checkbox"/> NATURE REVIEWS MICROBIOLOGY 1740-1526	1740-1526	1740-1534	MICROBIOLOGY	SCIE	61,109	103.3	Q1	9.87	2.05 %
<input type="checkbox"/> NATURE REVIEWS DRUG DISCOVERY	1474-1776	1474-1784	Multiple		52,833	101.8	Q1	13.97	6.48 %
<input type="checkbox"/> NATURE REVIEWS MOLECULAR CELL BIOLOGY	1471-0072	1471-0080	CELL BIOLOGY	SCIE	73,135	90.2	Q1	7.95	0.00 %
<input type="checkbox"/> Kidney International Supplements	2157-1724	2157-1716	UROLOGY & NEPHROLOGY	SCIE	3,196	89.6	Q1	5.97	0.00 %
<input type="checkbox"/> LANCET	0140-6736	1474-547X	MEDICINE, GENERAL & INTERNAL	SCIE	347,563	88.5	Q1	23.29	25.18 %
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Reviews Materials	2058-8437	2058-8437	Multiple		43,197	87.2	Q1	4.44	2.72 %
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology	1759-4774	1759-4782	ONCOLOGY	SCIE	33,355	83.2	Q1	12.02	1.49 %

Here is an explainer of the important data covered in this default ranking table:

**Category:** Subject category covered by the journal, a total of 254 WoS categories are available.

**Edition:** WoS Core Collection Citation Index the journal was indexed into. The four indexes are Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), Social Science Citation Index (SSCI), Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI) and Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI).

**Total Citations:** The total number of times that a journal has been cited by all journals included in WoS in the JCR year.

**2024 JIF:** Journal Impact Factor in score from the latest available JCR Year, a higher figure generally represents stronger journal impact.

**JIF Quartile:** Journal Impact Factor in Quartile within its subject category, Q1 contains the highest-ranking journals and Q4 lowest.

**2024 JCI:** normalised Journal Citation Index in score from the latest available JCR Year, the average score is 1.0 and 1.5 means the journal has 50% more citation impact than the average in that subject category.

## Finding the top journals – Searching, Filtering & Sorting

Make sure you make good use of the different functions in JCR to get a more comprehensive analysis of the journals that fit your needs.

- To quickly look up a particular journal, use **Search Box** at the top and search by title or ISSN. Note: the direct search results table currently only displays the basic bibliographic information of the journals without showing the metrics. Click the titles in the results list to directly open the journal profile page to see all detailed data.

Clarivate Journal Citation Reports™ Journals Categories Publishers Countries/Regions Compare

22,400 journals

Search: Sage

JOURNAL NAME	ISSN/eISSN
SAGE Open	2158-2440 / 2158-2440
SAGE Open Nursing	2377-9608 / 2377-9608
SAGE Open Medicine	2050-3121 / 2050-3121
SAGE Open Medical Case Reports	2050-313X / 2050-313X
Passagens-International Review of Political History and Legal Culture	1984-2503 / 1984-2503

See all 8 results >

Journal name	ISSN	eISSN
<input type="checkbox"/> CA-A CANCER JOURNAL FOR CLINICIANS	0007-9235	15
<input type="checkbox"/> LANCET	0140-6736	14

Clarivate Journal Citation Reports™ Journals Categories Publishers Countries/Regions Compare My favorites Products

8 journals  
See all journals

Search: sage

Journal name	ISSN	eISSN	Categories	Edition	Most recent JCR year
<input type="checkbox"/> SAGE Open	2158-2440	2158-2440	SOCIAL SCIENCES, INTERDISCIPLINARY	SSCI	2024
<input type="checkbox"/> SAGE Open Nursing	2377-9608	2377-9608	NURSING	ESCI	2024
<input type="checkbox"/> SAGE Open Medicine	2050-3121	2050-3121	MEDICINE, GENERAL & INTERNAL	ESCI	2024
<input type="checkbox"/> SAGE Open Medical Case Reports	2050-313X	2050-313X	MEDICINE, GENERAL & INTERNAL	ESCI	2024
<input type="checkbox"/> Passagens-International Review of Political History and Legal Culture	1984-2503	1984-2503	HISTORY	ESCI	2024
<input type="checkbox"/> ALSIC Apprentissage des Langues et Systems d'Information et de Communication	1286-4986	1286-4986	EDUCATION & EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH	ESCI	2024
<input type="checkbox"/> RSF-The Russell Sage Journal of the Social Sciences	2377-8253	2377-8253	SOCIAL SCIENCES, INTERDISCIPLINARY	SSCI	2024
<input type="checkbox"/> A N A L'APPROCHE NEUROPSYCHOLOGIQUE DES APPRENTISSAGES CHEZ L'ENFANT	0959-792X	N/A	Multiple		2002

Clarivate Journal Citation Reports™ Journals Categories Publishers Countries/Regions Compare My favorites

Search results > Journal profile

JCR Year: 2024

# SAGE Open Nursing

Open Access since 2015

ISSN: 2377-9608

eISSN: 2377-9608

JCR ABBREVIATION: SAGE OPEN NURS

ISS ABBREVIATION: SAGE Open Nurs.

Journal Information

EDITION: Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)

CATEGORY: NURSING

LANGUAGE: English

REGION: USA

Publisher Information

PUBLISHER: SAGE PUBLICATIONS INC

ADDRESS: 2455 TELLER RD, THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91320

Journal's performance

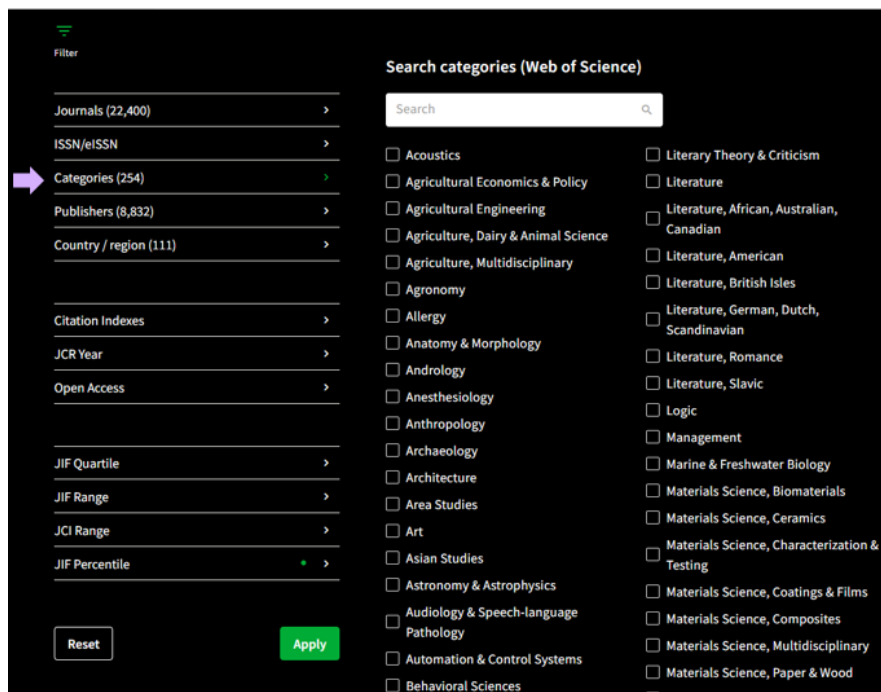
2. If you have no particular journal titles in mind, it is a good idea to perform a **broader search** to explore. In this case you will need to make use of the **filter** and **sorting** functions to return optimal results.

- Firstly, click to expand the **Filter** panel on the left to narrow down your scope. Always click **Apply** button at the bottom to apply your filters.

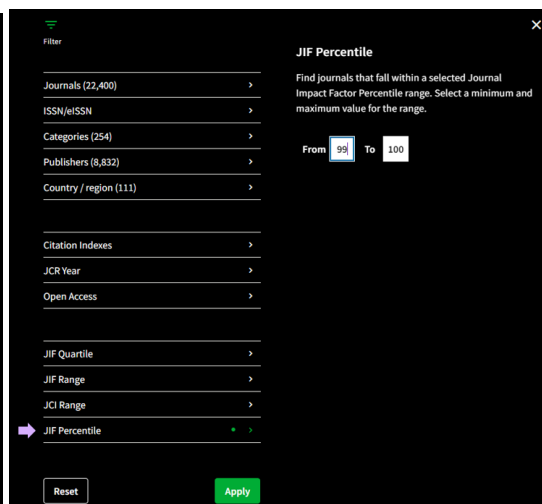
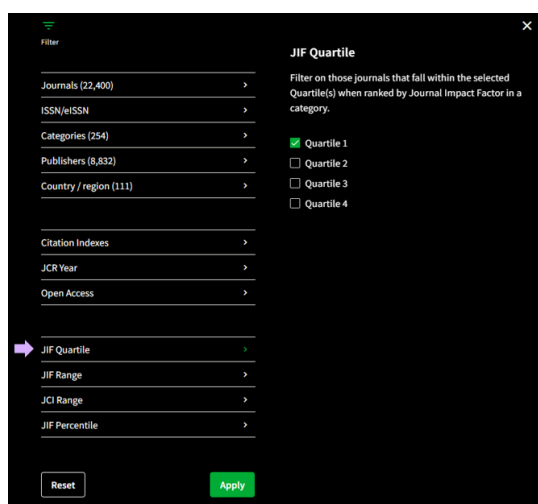
The screenshot shows the Clarivate Journal Citation Reports interface. At the top, it says "Journal Citation Reports™ Journals" and "22,400 journals". Below this is a table of journals. A filter panel is open on the left side, showing various filter categories like "Journals (22,400)", "ISSN/eISSN", "Categories (254)", "Publishers (8,832)", "Country / region (111)", "Citation Indexes", "JCR Year", "Open Access", "JIF Quartile", "JIF Range", "JCI Range", and "JIF Percentile". The "Apply" button at the bottom of the filter panel is highlighted in green with a purple arrow pointing to it.

Journal name	ISSN
<input type="checkbox"/> CA-A CANCER JOURNAL FOR CLINICIANS	0007-9235
	1542-4863
	1474-547X
	1533-4406
	2056-676X
	1545-8636
	1474-1784
	1474-4465
	2051-5545
	1759-4782
	1538-3598
	1935-8245
	1474-0508
	1476-4687

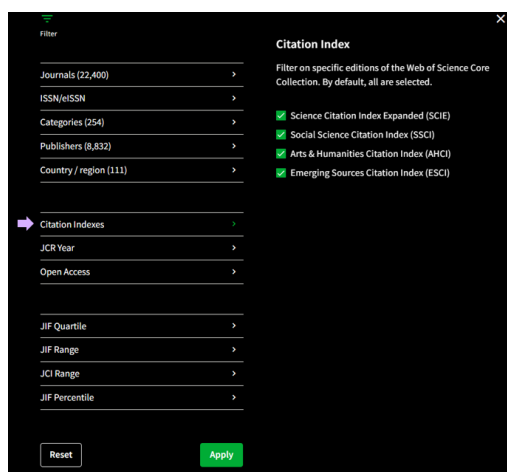
- **Categories:** Choose one or more subject categories from WoS's 254 categories by ticking from the list or directly searching in the box



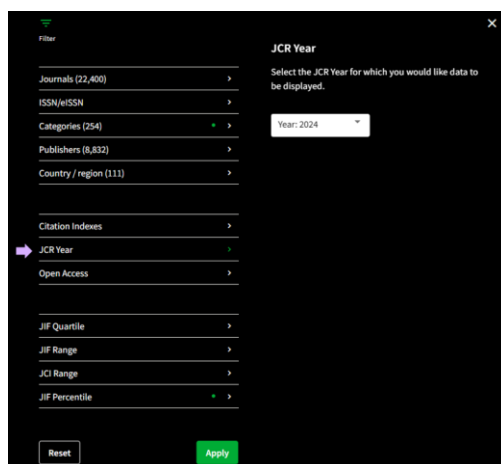
- **JIF Quartile:** Filter high-ranking journals by quartile, **Quartile 1** is the highest quartile
- **JIF Percentile:** Filter high-ranking journals by percentage range  
99-100 covers the journals that ranked within top 1% amongst all journals  
90-100 covers the journals that ranked within top 10% amongst all journals



- **Citation Indexes:** users may refine results by choosing to cover Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), Social Science Citation Index (SSCI), Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI) and / or Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)



- **JCR Year:** the default JCR Year is the latest available year but you can also choose other years. To see the performance of a journal throughout the years, the trends graphs in individual journal profile pages may provide better presentation.



3. After narrowing down your scope with **Filters** to arrive at a smaller list of results, you may use **Sorting** to sort by different data such as total citations, JIF score etc.

Data columns available for sorting have a small arrow by the column label. The column under sorting has a purple arrow.

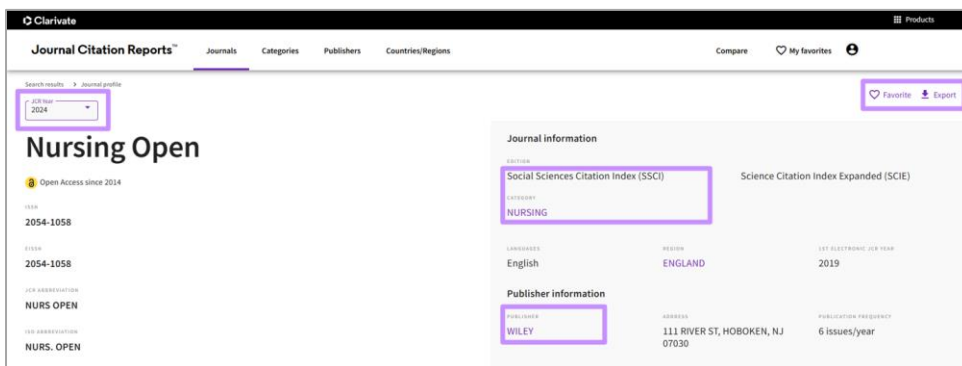
**Click the journal title** to open the journal profile page.

Journal name	ISSN	eISSN	Category	Edition	Total Citations	2024 JIF	JIF Quartile	2024 JCI	% of Citable OA
<input type="checkbox"/> CA-A CANCER JOURNAL FOR CLINICIANS	0007-9235	1542-4863	ONCOLOGY	SCIE	71,799	232.4	Q1	120.89	100.00 %
<input type="checkbox"/> NATURE REVIEWS MICROBIOLOGY 1740-1526	1740-1526	1740-1534	MICROBIOLOGY	SCIE	61,109	103.3	Q1	9.87	2.05 %
<input type="checkbox"/> NATURE REVIEWS DRUG DISCOVERY	1474-1776	1474-1784	Multiple		52,833	101.8	Q1	13.97	6.48 %
<input type="checkbox"/> NATURE REVIEWS MOLECULAR CELL BIOLOGY	1471-0072	1471-0080	CELL BIOLOGY	SCIE	73,135	90.2	Q1	7.95	0.00 %

## Understanding Major Metrics in JCR Journal Profile

Once you click on the journal title in JCR search results, you will be led to the individual journal profile page of the journal. Here is an overview of the important metrics you will find in the JCR Journal Profile.

1. **Basic Information** of the journal including the citation index of the journal, subject category and publisher information.  
You will also be able to **filter** the data by different JCR Year, mark journal as **favorite** and **export** the data of this journal.

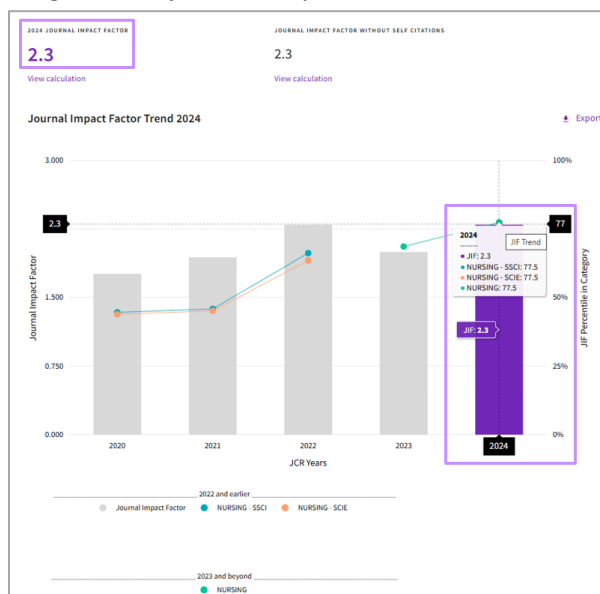


## 2. Journal Impact Factor (JIF)

You will be able to see the latest **Journal Impact Factor score** in bold in JCR, a higher JIF means a stronger citation impact of the journal.

The **JIF Trend Graph** will also provide the **JIF score** and corresponding **JIF Quartile** data of the journal in the prior 5 JCR years.

Mouse over to the plot chart of JIF Trend Graph and you will see the JIF Percentile of the journal under its subject category. In this case, JIF 2024 is 2.3 and JIF Percentile in category is 77.5%, meaning that the journal outperforms 77.5% of other journals in the same field.

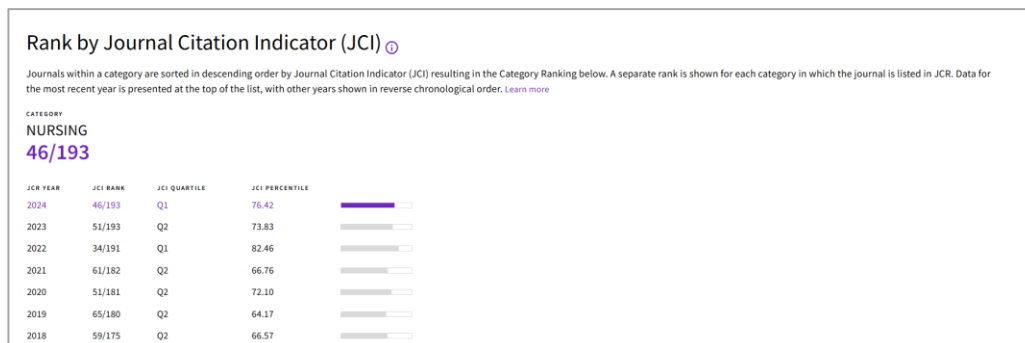
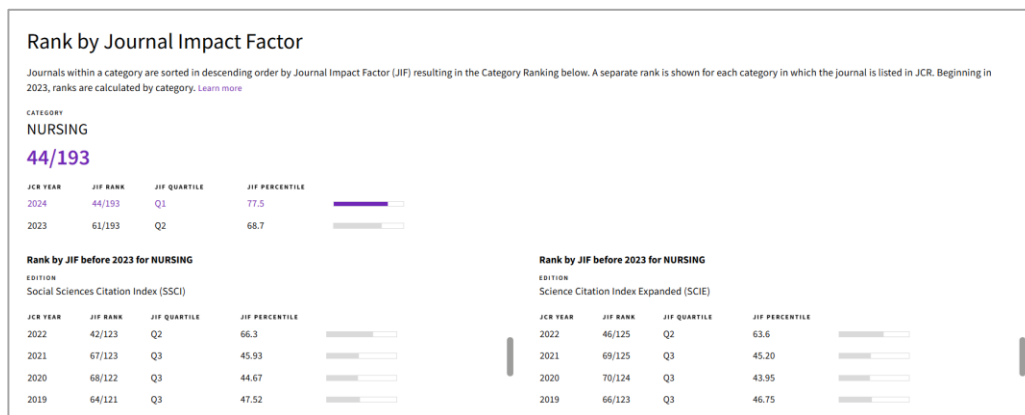


### 3. Rank by Journal Impact Factor & Rank by Journal Citation Indicator

*\*These two graphs are displayed further down the JCR Journal Profile.*

Journals indexed by WoS within the same category are ranked by **JIF** to show **ranking in category**, **JIF Quartile** and **JIF Percentile** of the latest 5 JCR Years.

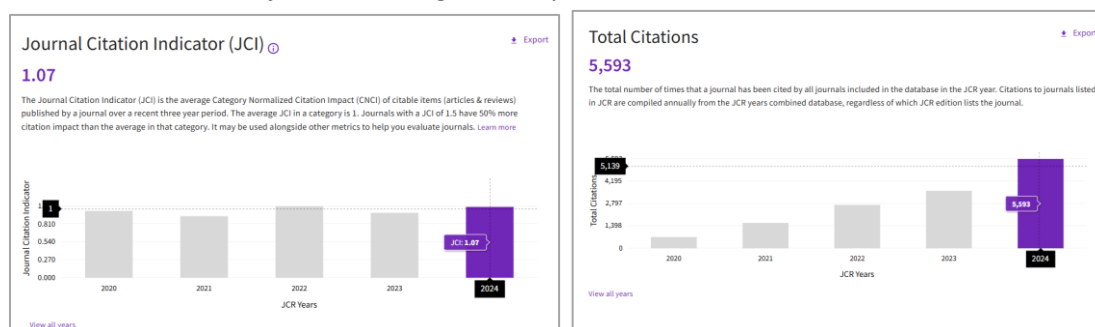
Similarly, the **ranking in category**, **JCI Quartile** and **JCI Percentile** are shown in a separate graph to render normalised calculations. These graphs are helpful in determining the standing of the journal amongst its peers in the same field.



### 4. Journal Citation Indicator (JCI) & Total Citations

**JCI** is a normalised metric that allows appropriate comparison between disciplines with different academic dynamics and audiences. JCI score is displayed in bold and a trend graph across years is also provided.

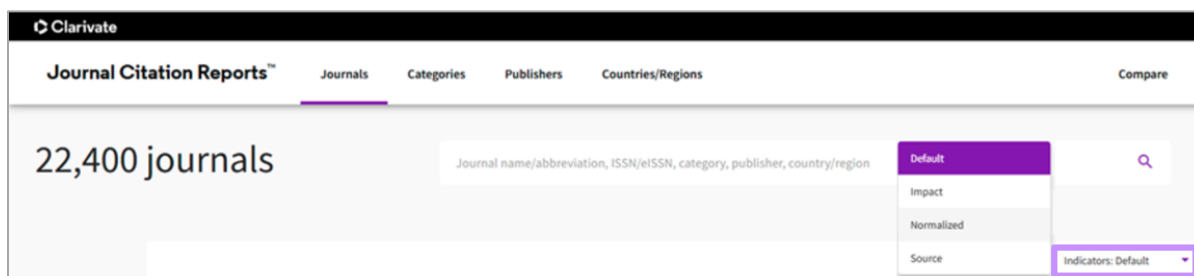
**Total Citations** may also serve as a reference as of how many citations from citable items received from all WoS indexed journals during the JCR year.



## Useful Utilities – View by indicators, My Favorites, Journal Comparison, Export Data

### 1. View indicators by different data modes

**Indicators** could be switched between preset **Default, Impact, Normalized & Source** data modes right below the search box. They allow users to view journal ranking table in different sets of specialised metrics.



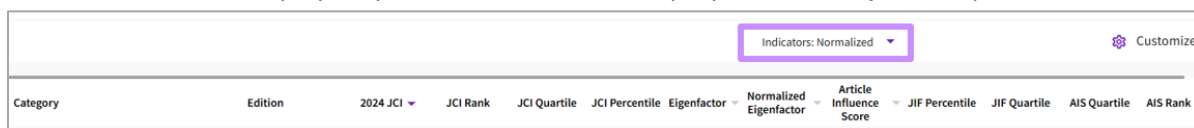
**Default:** displays crucial and most popular metrics of the journals



**Impact:** aims to display targeted metrics that focus on measuring the impact of the journals



**Normalized:** sets to display only normalised metrics for proper cross-subject comparison



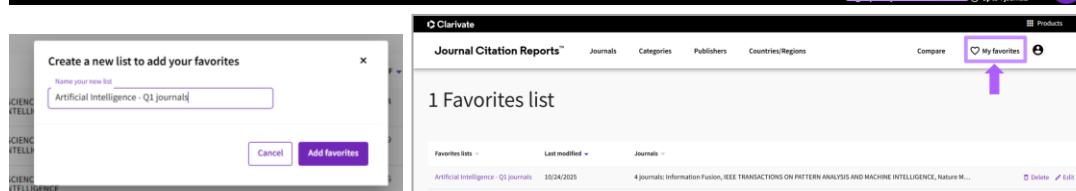
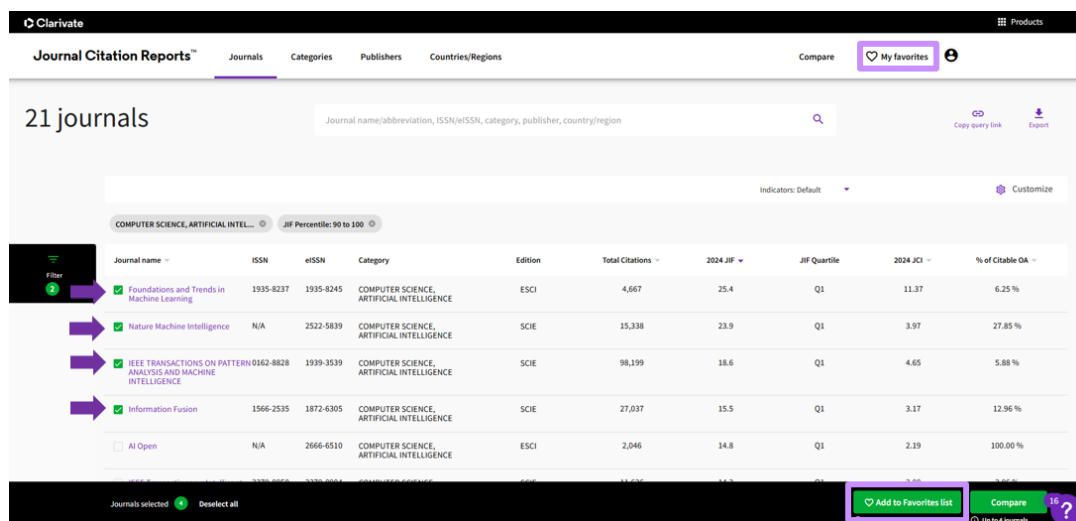
**Source:** contains the statistics about the content of journal (source) itself such as total no. of articles



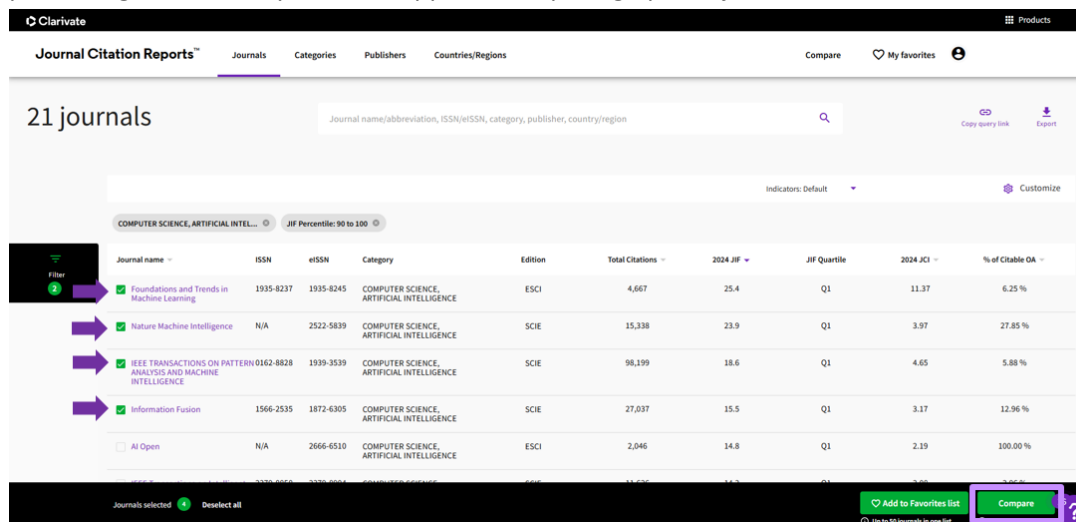
You may toggle between these indicators to view different sets of metrics according to your needs.

## 2. Add journals to **My Favorites & Compare** journals

- From the results list, **check the checkbox** next to the journal title you wish to bookmark / compare
- Click **Add to Favorites List** on bottom right corner to bookmark the journal titles. You will be able see your favorite lists of titles from **My Favorites** and rename your favorites list before saving. Users can add up to 50 journals in one go and manage their favorite items at **My Favorites** icon.



- Click **Compare** at the bottom right corner to add the selected journals to comparison. You may choose to compare journals with similar rankings and subject categories when deciding your publishing venue. The platform supports comparing up to 4 journal titles at a time.



- Different metrics including JIF trend, JIF Quartile / Percentile and JCI are displayed side-by-side for easy comparison. Such comparison may give researchers strong data support in deciding the best journals they could submit their manuscripts to.



### 3. Export your query results

Click **Export** at the top right corner to export all current items in your query results. You may choose between .csv and .xls as output formats.

Journal name	ISSN	eISSN	Category	Edition	Total Citations	2024 JIF	JIF Quartile	2024 JCI	
Foundations and Trends in Machine Learning	1935-8237	1935-8245	COMPUTER SCIENCE, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	ESCI	4,667	25.4	Q1	11.37	6.25 %
Nature Machine Intelligence	N/A	2522-5839	COMPUTER SCIENCE, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	SCIE	15,338	23.9	Q1	3.97	27.85 %
IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON PATTERN ANALYSIS AND MACHINE INTELLIGENCE	0162-8828	1939-3539	COMPUTER SCIENCE, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	SCIE	98,199	18.6	Q1	4.65	5.88 %

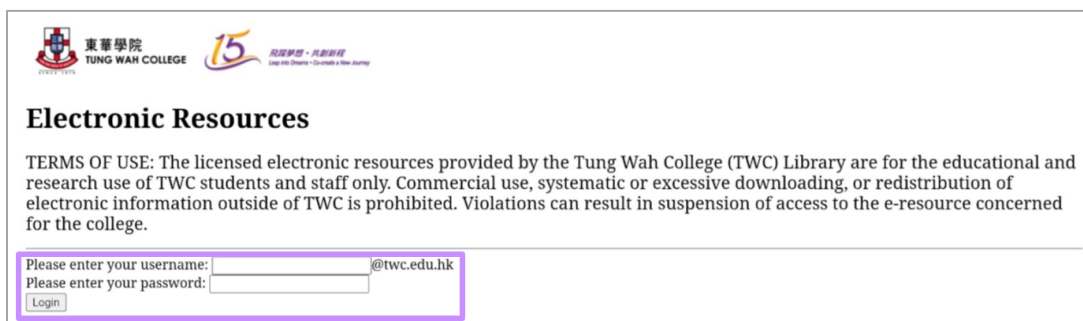
## Using Manuscript Matcher and JCR to Find Best Journals for your Papers

### Sign in / Register with college account at Web of Science

1. Visit Web of Science homepage via this link below:

<https://www.edb.twc.edu.hk/login?url=https://www.webofscience.com>

→ If you are off campus, enter your college email login details and click the **Login** button.

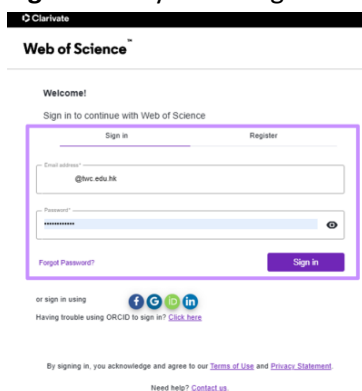


2. On Web of Science homepage, **Sign in with your college email** and self-assigned password in order to access the subscribed services.

If you had not registered an account with your college email, click **Register** button on the upper-right corner and **register with your college email**.



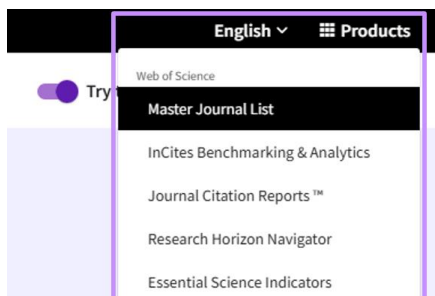
**Sign in with your college account:**



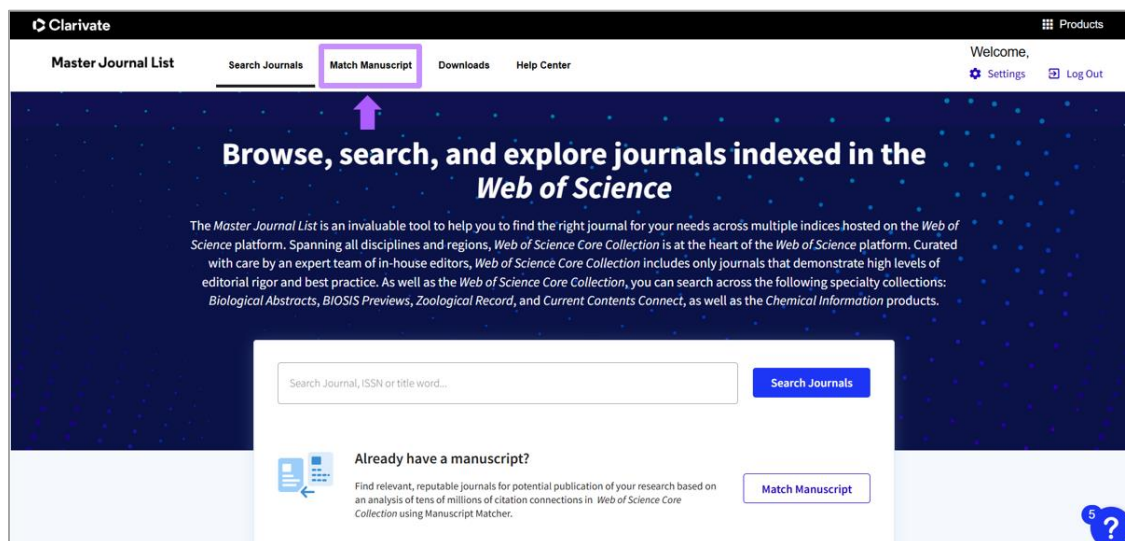
**Register new account with your college email:**



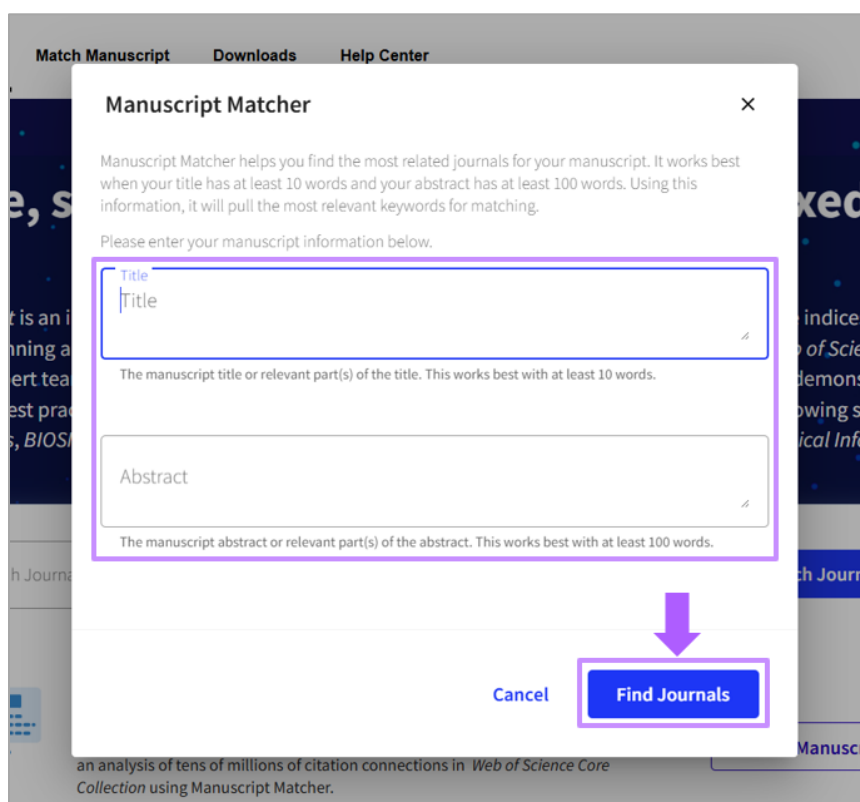
3. After logging in, click **Products** icon on top right corner, choose **Journal Citation Reports** to proceed.



4. Click **Manuscript Match** at the top to open Manuscript Matcher



5. In **Manuscript Matcher**, input both your title and manuscript and click **Find Journals** to start.



6. A full list of results will be generated based on the information you provide. The results are ranked by WoS **Match Score** and users may further filter down the results from the filter panel on the side.
  - To view basic journal information, click **View profile page** under each matched result.

The screenshot shows the Manuscript Matcher search results page. On the left is a filter panel with categories like 'Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHC)', 'Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)', 'Current Contents', and 'Other'. The 'Match Results' section shows 'Found 32 results (Page 1)'. A specific journal result for 'BMC PUBLIC HEALTH' is highlighted, showing its Match Score of 0.99 and a list of top keywords including 'mobile health applications', 'health professional-led training program', and 'detailed manual instructions'. A purple arrow points to the 'View profile page' button.

The screenshot shows the 'Master Journal List' page for BMC PUBLIC HEALTH. It provides general information such as the ISSN/eISSN (1473-2458), publisher (BMC), and journal website. It also includes a 'Web of Science Coverage' table with columns for Collection, Index, Category, and Similar Journals.

Collection	Index	Category	Similar Journals
Core Collection	Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)	Public, Environmental & Occupational Health	Find Similar Journals
Current Contents	Clinical Medicine	Environmental Medicine & Public Health	Find Similar Journals
Other	Essential Science Indicators	Social Sciences, General	Find Similar Journals

- Master Journal List only provides basic journal information. To view detailed journal ranking and metrics, you will need to visit [Journal Citation Reports](#) to perform a search with the ISSN / eISSN of the journals recommended by the Manuscript Matcher.

The screenshot shows the 'Journal Citation Reports' search results page. A search for '1473-2458' has been performed, resulting in one journal match: BMC PUBLIC HEALTH. The journal is listed with its ISSN (N/A), eISSN (1473-2458), and categories (PUBLIC, ENVIRONMENTAL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH).

Journal name	ISSN	eISSN	Categories	Edition
BMC PUBLIC HEALTH	N/A	1473-2458	PUBLIC, ENVIRONMENTAL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH	SCIE

- End -