

	Web of Science	Scopus	Dimensions	Google Scholar
<b>Index and abstract database</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No
<b>Fee-based</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes (but does provide limited free access)	No
<b>Why use it</b>	The oldest citation index with a large volume of historical material.	The largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature.	New product launched in 2017 using natural language processing and machine learning for categorisation.	Largest data set of publications including books, articles, conference proceedings, theses etc.
	Exclusive. Indexes only journals it considers of high quality.	Is the data source for the Scimago Journal Rank (SJR).	The paid for version integrates data for grants, publications and citations, alternative metrics, clinical trials and patents.	Google's famous simple search interface.
	Considered the most reputable citation database in some disciplines, namely in Sciences and Health Sciences.	Auto-generated authorID with profile providing author level metrics and analysis including H-Index.	Content and analytics on one platform.	Free author profiles providing citation metrics for articles and calculating H-index for authors.

	Data source for the United Kingdom's Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise.	Data source for Times Higher Education and QS rankings.	Data source for New Zealand's Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE).	Captures more Humanities and Social Science data than Web of Science or Scopus.
	Calculates the Journal Impact Factor (JIF) for journals.	Calculates CiteScore metric for journals.	Includes Altmetric.com metrics to gather and present alternative metrics.	
	Tracks citations and creates a citation report.	Calculates Source Normalised Impact per Paper metric for journals (SNIP).		
	Calculates an H-index.	Includes PlumX metrics to gather and present alternative metrics.		
<b>Cautionary tales</b>	Less data for Humanities, Social Sciences, and non-English publications.	Less data for Humanities, Social Sciences, and non-English publications.	As a new tool there has been less independent research completed on its scope and functionality.	Less discerning, harvesting publications and their data from sources that are problematic e.g. predatory journals and blogs.

	Standard subscription doesn't include all indexes and their associated data e.g. Book Citation Index.			Lack of structure and indexing makes it a poor tool for systematic searching.
				Dirty data e.g. incorrectly spelt names, phantom publications, wrongly attributed citations etc.
<b>Software to support advanced analysis</b>	Incites is the official analytics tool from Clarivate. Requires an additional subscription.	SciVal is the official analytics tool from Elsevier. Requires an additional subscription.	Some analytics in the free version but requires a subscription to Dimensions Analytics to access the full suite.	Publish or Perish is free software that retrieves and analyzes Google Scholar citation data.