

# Emerging Sources Citation Index: A New Edition of Web of Science

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Prepared for publishers and their immediate affiliates.



THOMSON REUTERS

# Overview

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- **The goals of the Thomson Reuters journal selection process**
  - To evaluate and select the best scholarly journal content available for coverage in Web of Science.
  - To provide the worldwide publishing community with objective standards useful in building world-class publications.
  - To ensure Web of Science reflects the global body of science and scholarly activity.

# Overview

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- **Thomson Reuters understands that Web of Science users:**
  - Seek **quantity**: more content to suit their needs
    - More data to support research assessment and analysis
    - More coverage of local content with significant regional importance
  - Expect **quality**: the platform must remain selective
    - Provide thought leadership
    - Identify the journals with the most impact in their fields
    - Keep the rigorous selection criteria for the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), and the Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI)

To meet these different  
yet equally important expectations,

Thomson Reuters is creating

**The Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI),  
a new edition of Web of Science**

## Questions and Answers

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- **What is the Emerging Sources Citation Index?**
  - This new edition is a collection of journals that deepens coverage of content in Web of Science.
  - The journals selected have been identified as important to key opinion leaders, funders, and evaluators worldwide.
  - ESCI ensures that Web of Science covers scientific trends and developments beyond the high-impact literature.

# Questions and Answers

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- **What are the ESCI selection criteria?**
  - The minimum selection criteria for the new edition are:
    - Peer-reviewed journals
    - Journals that conform to ethical publishing practices
    - Content of high interest to a scholarly community (researchers, funding bodies, research administrators, etc.)
    - Content that meets Thomson Reuters' technical requirements (electronic delivery is strongly preferred)

## Questions and Answers

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- **How is content selected for the Emerging Sources Citation Index?**
  - Thomson Reuters' worldwide editorial staff has recommend journals based on feedback from Web of Science customers.
  - If a journal meets the selection criteria, the publisher is contacted by the Thomson Reuters Publisher Relations team.
  - At that time, publishers can recommend additional journals for inclusion.

## Questions and Answers

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- **What are the benefits of having a journal in the new edition?**
  - ESCI provides an additional level of inclusion in Web of Science and increased transparency regarding Thomson Reuters' selection criteria.
  - A journal in this new edition is searchable, discoverable, and citable; publishers get real-time insight into a journal's citation performance while the content is considered for inclusion in other Web of Science collections.



## Questions and Answers

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- **When a journal enters the new edition, what happens next?**
  - Indexing in the Emerging Sources Citation Index means a journal has passed an initial editorial review.
  - The journal remains in consideration for indexing in products such as the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), and the Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI).
  - If the journal passes a more rigorous evaluation, it is moved to one of the aforementioned databases.
  - If the journal does not pass, it remains in ESCI and is scheduled for a re-evaluation.

## Questions and Answers

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- **If a journal is in the new edition, is it more likely that it will pass the rigorous review?**
  - Being a part of ESCI does not increase a journal's likelihood of being indexed elsewhere – but it does not hinder those chances either.

## Questions and Answers

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- **How is the Journal Impact Factor calculated in the new edition?**
  - Journals in the Emerging Sources Citation Index do not receive a Journal Impact Factor. That status is reserved for journals that have passed a rigorous review and reside in SCIE or SSCI.
  - Citations from journals in the new edition will accrue. However, these citations will not contribute to a Journal Impact Factor.

## Questions and Answers

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- **When will the Emerging Sources Citation Index be available?**
  - The new edition launches in Q4 of 2015 with over 3,000 journals.