

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

Prepared for publishers and their immediate affiliates.



THOMSON REUTERS

Overview

- **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

- **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

- **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

- **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

- **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

- **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

- **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

- **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

- **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

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