Summary
Institutional stakeholders are charged with showing the return on research value. The way to do that is with research performance metrics. But there are many metrics available, and it takes knowledge and practice to know when and how to use them—and librarians play a key role in navigating the metrics landscape. The following guide will help you become well-versed in eleven key performance metrics to further support your institution’s strategic goals.
Research performance metrics are of central importance to institutional stakeholders who aim to progress and track research productivity.

As information experts, librarians are well-positioned to be leaders in this space, and are well-equipped to provide evidence of institutional research impact, train scholars to approach and progress their own impact, and support strategic institutional research impact goals.

Being well-versed in performance metrics can help you brand the library as a central data hub and help foster generative collaborations between information professionals, research officers, faculty, and more.

Reference this list to learn how key metrics are used, to polish your existing knowledge, or to potentially learn new ways that you can engage with these metrics to support broader institutional goals of research progress.

1. **CiteScore**
   - Capture a broad view of journal performance using eight CiteScore metrics including quartiles, rank, citation counts, document counts, and percentage cited, based on Scopus citations of the journal
   - Analyze comprehensive data sets that cover 23,359 active titles in Scopus and cover a broad range of materials including journals, book series, and conference proceedings
   - Create efficiency in collection assessment work and demonstrate real-time collection value by monitoring how the current year’s CiteScore builds each month
   - Collect data sets that are transparent, simple to replicate, and do not contain hidden algorithms that influence results
   - Access free assessment metrics, including underlying data, that are open to all libraries regardless of whether or not they have an active Scopus subscription

2. **Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI)**
   - Measure the impact of researchers’ portfolios by comparing them against world citation and publication averages in a field of study
   - Identify up-and-coming publication opportunities by viewing world output averages across discipline specific journals
   - Examine international trends in research behaviors and impact within a field of study

3. **h-Index**
   - Analyze authors’ productivity and the diversity of research in their portfolios
   - Provide evidence of the impact and value of research output within a specific department
   - Consult with researchers and develop strategies to expand the reach of their work within a discipline

4. **SCImago Journal Rank (SJR)**
   - Assess and compare journals based on citation numbers and indicators of importance, such as the number of endorsements and the prestige of journals issuing endorsements
   - Analyze the importance of journals across the scientific community as a whole or by subject areas and categories
   - Work with faculty members to locate publishing opportunities that provide research results with the greatest degree of reception, reach, and significance within the scientific community

Whether you are already deeply involved with research metrics, just getting started, or looking for ways to deepen your engagement, this resource can help.
Research performance metrics matter to many stakeholders in the institution, from those tracking research progress at the institution level, to those monitoring their own research impact. Grow the relevance of your library with fluency in the meaning behind these metrics, and the ways that you can engage with them further.

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