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| **Intended Users:** | **Information Professionals** | **Researchers and Faculty** |



# [iCite](https://icite.od.nih.gov/)

**Description:** iCite was launched in 2015 and is hosted by the National Institute of Health Office of Portfolio Analysis. The site analyzes bibliometric information at the article, author, and institutional level. iCite uses data collected from the NIH Open Citation collection which includes data from PubMed Central, Medline, Entrez, CrossRef, as well as other sources of open access publications. iCite has three analysis modules. The Influence module looks at metrics, such as number of publications and citation statistics that are field adjusted and benchmarked to NIH publications. The Translation module looks at the content of an article and if it is more relevant to human, animal, or molecular/cellular biology and provides citation metrics based on those categories. Finally, the Citations module disseminates link-level, public-domain citation data from the NIH Open Citation Collection. People can search for a specific author, university department, or institution. People can also query up to 10,000 PMIDs at a time to look at and compare large groupings of articles.

## Popular uses of this product:

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| **Information Professionals** | **Researchers and Faculty** |
| * Gather bibliometrics about a university, hospital or other institution. * Get readymade visualizations that show publications and citations over time. * Export report as a shareable link or spreadsheet file. * Analyze bibliometrics from large groups of articles at once. Query up to 10,000 PMIDs at a time. * Understand the broader impact of scholarly articles. Use iCite to run analysis on papers that cited the original query. * Use the Translation analysis to find papers cited by articles to show clinical impact of research. | * Explore impact of scholarly articles and their influence in clinical research. * Visualize how a researcher’s focus has changed over time, shifting from molecular/cellular to animal to human. * Compare bibliometrics for clinical articles, research articles, and papers cited by clinical articles to demonstrate impact from bench to bedside. * Include bibliometrics in tenure promotion portfolio. |

## Key Points:

1. iCite has three powerful modules to understand and create visuals for scholarly impact and bibliometrics.
2. People can use iCite to compare peer to peer bibliometrics (researcher to researcher, institution to institution, etc).
3. iCite uses data from several sources including NIH Open Citation collection, PubMed Central, and Medline.

## Considerations:

1. All citation metrics have drawbacks and limitations. Be aware of the limitations when communicating to researchers and faculty about various citation metrics and impact.
2. Recently published articles may have lower citation rates because of the time it takes to produce new scholarly literature. Open access articles and other factors may also influence citation metrics.
3. Relative Ratio Citation (RCR) is a metric developed by the Office of Portfolio Analysis. A paper with an RCR of 1.0 has received the same number of citations per year as the median NIH-funded paper in its field. While an RCR of 1.5 may *seem* low, that article received an above average number of citations per year compared to other articles in that field.

## Teaching Example:

1. Search for “Anthony Fauci”. Review his Influence page and filter results for “only papers cited by clinical articles”. Note the changes in number of publications and Relative Citation Ratios (RCR). Review his Translation page and look at the biomedicine triangle visual. Which category did Fauci most publish in? Have participants search for a researcher at their institution and compare to Fauci.
2. Find several highly cited PubMed articles, preferably published two or more years ago. Enter the PMIDs into iCite and analyze. Find the RCR. Select the citations page. Look at the list of articles and click the number of references. This takes you to PubMed and searches for all the PubMed references cited in that article.

## Real Life Example:

1. A researcher is preparing their portfolio for tenure. They use iCite to gather information about their citation metrics. They compare the influence of their cumulative articles, with their articles that resulted from NIH funding. The researcher further analyzes their publication influence by looking only at papers cited by clinical articles to see bench to bedside impact.
2. A health science librarian teaches faculty about bibliometrics. They describe impact factor, h-index and the limitations of those measures. They define Relative Citation Ratio and how to use iCite and how to look at scholarly impact of the entire institution, a specific department, or a selected group of articles.

## More Information:

[iCite User Guide](https://icite.od.nih.gov/user_guide?page_id=ug_overview) [RCR Statistics Explained](https://icite.od.nih.gov/stats) [RCR: what is it and why should medical librarians care?](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30271298/)

[John Hopkins Scholarly Metrics LibGuide](https://guides.library.jhu.edu/metrics/home) [The NIH Open Citation Collection](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31600197/)