

QUALITY METRICS AND INDICATORS OF BRAZILIAN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS IN THE AREAS OF INFORMATION SCIENCE AND LIBRARY SCIENCE¹

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Abstract

The present study aims to analyze the quantitative and qualitative variables that characterize periodical publications in these areas. As a methodology, after selecting the Brazilian journals evaluated in the Capes Qualis System in these areas, we implemented statistical analyses of association between variables extracted from these journals and their qualification strata in the system. Among the results, it is worth noting that we found no relevant association between the length of the journal's existence, its periodicity, publishing articles in a foreign language or requiring the presence of a doctorate among the authors, and the qualifications received in the Capes evaluation. Although we recognize that strategies for evaluating the quality of scientific journals are necessary, we believe that they can condition the logic of creating these channels, placing the aspect of form ahead of content.

Keywords: Scientific Journals. Quality Indicators. Information Science

1 About Métrics in the publications

Metrics play a fundamental role in scientific communication, as they allow us to assess the impact and relevance of published research. They provide quantitative indicators, such as the number of citations, downloads and views of articles, which help to measure the influence of a work in the scientific field. In addition, alternative metrics, such as mentions on social media and other digital platforms, broaden the understanding of the reach and dissemination of knowledge.

Following the steps and studies recommended by (Silveira; Ardigo, 2016), these measures are crucial for researchers, institutions and funders, as they guide decisions about funding, collaborations and the direction of future research, contributing to the evolution and progress of science. Scientific journals play a crucial role in disseminating academic knowledge and fostering scholarly communication. In Brazil, the evaluation of journals in the fields of Information Science and Library Science involves several quality metrics and indicators. These tools help assess their academic

¹ This article was prepared for metric testing purposes as part of an experimental study on scientific metrics and academic information engagement. It should not be considered valid scientific production.

impact, relevance, and contribution to research development. Below are three key aspects to consider when analyzing the quality of these journal.

2 Citation Impact and Indexing in International Databases

One of the primary indicators of journal quality is its citation impact, often measured through tools like the Journal Impact Factor (JIF), h-index, and SCImago Journal Rank (SJR). Brazilian journals in these fields are increasingly striving to be indexed in major international databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and SciELO. Inclusion in these databases enhances visibility and indicates adherence to rigorous editorial and peer-review standards.

The visibility and impact of a scientific journal are closely linked to how often its articles are cited in other academic works. Citation metrics such as the *Impact Factor*, *h-index*, and *SCImago Journal Rank (SJR)* are essential tools used to quantify this impact. Brazilian journals that achieve inclusion in international databases like **Scopus**, **Web of Science**, and **SciELO** benefit from greater international exposure and are recognized for adhering to best practices in editorial and scientific rigor. Moreover, indexed journals typically experience increased readership and submission rates, which can lead to a higher diversity of topics and authors, further enhancing their academic relevance.

3 Editorial Quality and Peer Review Processes

The credibility of a scientific journal is strongly tied to its editorial practices. High-quality Brazilian journals maintain transparent peer review procedures, uphold ethical publication standards, and involve international scholars in editorial boards. Indicators such as the frequency of publication, acceptance/rejection rates, and compliance with open access policies also serve as important markers of editorial quality.

Editorial practices are foundational to the credibility and academic integrity of any journal. In Brazil, high-quality journals in Information Science and Library Science invest in transparent and double-blind peer review systems, ensuring that submitted articles are evaluated objectively and ethically. Editorial boards often consist of experts from both national and international institutions, which contributes to maintaining high standards and diverse perspectives. Key indicators of editorial quality include

publication frequency, editorial turnaround times, rate of article acceptance, and adherence to open science principles, including open access availability and the use of digital object identifiers (DOIs).

4 National Evaluation Systems and Qualis-CAPES

In Brazil, the Qualis-CAPES system is a national framework used to assess and classify academic journals according to their relevance and scientific quality. For journals in Information Science and Library Science, this classification significantly influences researchers' decisions on where to publish. Journals with higher Qualis ratings tend to attract more submissions and funding, thus creating a cycle of continuous quality improvement.

The Qualis-CAPES classification system, managed by Brazil's Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), is one of the most influential tools for evaluating the quality of academic journals in the country. Journals are ranked from A1 (highest) to C (lowest), based on criteria such as editorial quality, citation metrics, indexation, and the relevance of content. For researchers in Information Science and Library Science, the Qualis rating not only influences where they choose to publish but also affects their academic evaluations, funding opportunities, and institutional rankings. Consequently, journals often tailor their editorial strategies to improve their standing in Qualis, contributing to an overall enhancement in publishing standards across the field.

5 Conclusion

In conclusion, the quality of Brazilian scientific journals in Information Science and Library Science is shaped by a combination of international visibility, editorial standards, and national evaluation policies. Strengthening these aspects ensures the ongoing development and international recognition of Brazilian academic publishing.

In summary, Brazilian scientific journals in Information Science and Library Science are evaluated through a combination of **international citation metrics**, **editorial integrity**, and **national classification systems**. These indicators not only

reflect the current state of academic publishing in the country but also offer pathways for continuous improvement and global engagement.

References

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