

The Journal Impact Factor (JIF) will be calculated in a new way that considers the Early Access publication year – for Chemistry Europe journals, this is the Early View publication year. This new approach will be phased in over the next years, making the 2020 and 2021 JIFs somewhat different from what came before and what will follow.

In 2019, all data items in this calculation referred to the cover year.

$$\text{2019 JIF} = \frac{\text{Citations with cover year 2019 to papers with cover years 2017 \& 2018}}{\text{Citable items with cover years 2017 \& 2018}}$$

The 2020 calculation is like the usual calculation but includes citations with an early access year of 2020 as well. This means that the JIFs for all journals will be slightly higher, also for journals without early access content.

$$\text{2020 JIF} = \frac{\text{Citations with cover year 2020 to papers with cover years 2018 \& 2019} + \text{Citations with early access year 2020 to papers with cover years 2018 \& 2019}}{\text{Citable items with cover years 2018 \& 2019}}$$

The 2021 JIF might decrease somewhat, as citable items with an early access year of 2019 but a cover year of 2020 will be counted as being published in 2020 but items with an early access year 2020 will be counted too. In the graphic below, they are grouped together as citable items with early access year 2020.

$$\text{2021 JIF} = \frac{\text{Citations with early access year 2021 to papers with cover year 2019} + \text{Citations with early access year 2021 to papers with early access year 2020}}{\text{Citable items with cover year 2019} + \text{Citable items with early access year 2020}}$$

In 2022, the transition to the new calculation mode will be complete. Impact factors overall might be slightly lower, because the cycle during which citations are counted has been shifted earlier, giving articles less time to accumulate citations.

$$\text{2022 JIF} = \frac{\text{Citations with early access year 2022 to papers with early access years 2020 \& 2021}}{\text{Citable items with early access years 2020 \& 2021}}$$