

The 10 most prestigious publication sources

For the requested “Top 10” list, and for our own publication strategy, we take “the center’s research area” to be *mathematics* to aim at journals having maximal impact. That means that it includes *all* fields and research areas within mathematics, as defined by, say, the *American Mathematical Society*. As an aid to non-mathematicians we have included notes on the next page on how to interpret this list, as well as the biases and choices involved, to the best of our ability. The list we propose reads as follows:

- 1** Annals of Mathematics
- 2** Inventiones Mathematicae
- 3** Journal of the American Mathematical Society
- 4** Acta Mathematica
- 5** Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques. Publications Mathématiques
- 6** Duke Mathematical Journal
- 7** Annales Scientifiques de l’École Normale Supérieure
- 8** Geometry and Topology
- 9** Journal für die reine und angewandte Mathematik (Crelle’s Journal)
- 10** Advances in Mathematics

Explanatory notes to the “Top 10” list and publications in mathematics in general. It is important to note that our definition of our subject area is *mathematics*, including *all* its subject areas, and leading journals will most often be general-interest journals, publishing major breakthroughs of interest across mathematics.

Top 5 journals: The top 5 journals on our list, colloquially referred to amongst mathematicians as “Annals”, “Inventiones”, “JAMS”, “Acta”, and “Publicationes IHES” should for most purposes be considered equal and represent *the absolute highest level of excellence across mathematics*. The top 3 on our list are what mathematicians generally will mean when referring to “the top 3” journals. When asked to elaborate they normally add **4** and **5**, which are generally considered as prestigious, but have very low publication volume.

Journals **4** and **5** each publish ~ 15 articles per year, **1** and **2** each ~ 60 , and **3** ~ 40 . There are ten-thousands of active research mathematicians around the world. Each paper has an average length of perhaps around 40–50 pages in these journals, but with a wide individual variety within the range 10–200.

Top 10 journals. Below Top 5, there is no universally agreed upon list, so the journals we have chosen as 6-10 are not beyond dispute.

Below the Top 5, but still *outstanding*, are the journals **6** “Duke” and a second French low-volume journal **7** (supplementing **5**).

Again a notch below, but still among the *very selective journals* one finds journals like **9** “Crelle” and **10** “Advances”.

The only subject-specific journal we place on the Top 10 list is **8** “G&T”.

Bibliometrics

Due to the long publication time in mathematics, which can be up to 2-5 years, it is not realistic to use bibliometrics for the center development 2010-2012, and they can also often be misleading in mathematics. Papers in Top 5 journals is a standard measure of scientific excellence, and we highlight these in relevant sections.