During 2018, India was ranked at 3rd, 5th and 9th in scientific publication output as per the NSF, SCOPUS and SCI database respectively. It is primarily due to varying methodological choices adopted by different citation databases. India is ranked ahead of many developed and developing countries including BRICS except China.

During 2011-16 as per SCI database, India’s largest share of global research publications were in Chemistry (7.2%), Agricultural Sciences (6.6%), Pharmacology and Toxicology (6.3%), Material Science (6.2%), Physics (5.2%), Biology and Bio-chemistry (4.9%), Engineering (4.7%) and Microbiology (4.6%).