

Nature Index Annual Tables 2023: China tops natural-science table

On June 15, the 2023 Nature Index Annual Tables (Nature Index 2023 Annual Tables) was released, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences continued to rank first in the world. According to the previously released Nature Index data, the Chinese Academy of Sciences has ranked first in the world in this list for eleven consecutive years. In addition, the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences has risen from 8th to 5th last year, and the University of Science and Technology of China has risen from 9th to 6th.

The latest Nature Index list is based on statistical data from January 1 to December 31, 2022, showing the high-level scientific research output of different countries and scientific research institutions in the field of natural science. The ranking list shows that the Chinese Academy of Sciences ranks first in the comprehensive ranking of global scientific research institutions, and its share in 2022 is significantly ahead of the second-ranked Harvard University in the United States and the third-ranked Max Planck Society in Germany. The Chinese Academy of Sciences continues to rank first in the world in the three disciplines of chemistry, physical science, and earth and environmental science, and has risen by one place to fourth place in the field of life sciences.

According to the ranking of natural sciences, among the top ten institutions in the world, the French National Research Center, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, University of Science and Technology of China, Nanjing University, Stanford University, Peking

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India is another notable riser whereas Russia is among those losing ground.

Chris Woolston



University, Tsinghua University ranked 4th to 10th.

The latest list shows that China's overall research contribution to the four natural science categories covered by the Nature Index rose to the top for the first time in terms of contribution share. The top ten countries for high-quality scientific research output are China, the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, France, South Korea, Canada, Switzerland and India. Compared with 2021, China's adjusted share increased by 21.4%, the largest increase among the top ten countries in the annual list.

The number of natural science periodicals included in the statistics of the Nature Index before was 82. Starting this year, the Nature Index database includes articles from 64 medical journals for the first time, allowing users to track relevant trends in the health sciences. In this field, the United States is far ahead, and its share is as much as four times that of the second-ranked China.

The Nature Index is an indicator that reflects the scientific research performance of an institution. It mainly uses two scientific research output calculation standards: the number of papers and the share. It tracks research papers published in 146 high-quality natural and health sciences journals through a database that includes author affiliation information and institutional affiliations. The Nature Index provides absolute and fractional counts of papers published at the institutional and country levels, showing global high-quality research output and collaboration.