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Changes between APA 6th and APA 7th

This document outlines some key differences between the APA 6th edition and APA 7th edition referencing styles.

In-text citations

Number of authors displayed

As per previous edition, for works with one or two authors, include author name(s) in every citation

In APA 7th the in-text variations for three to five authors, and six or more authors have been removed. Now for all works with three or more authors, you only include the first author followed by et al. in all citations

If multiple works with three or more authors shorten to the same in-text citation, to avoid ambiguity write out as many names as needed to distinguish the references and abbreviate the remaining names to et al.

APA 6th	APA 7th
<i>One to two authors</i> (Lane & Catling, 2016)	<i>One to two authors</i> (Lane & Catling, 2016)
<i>Three to five authors</i> (Habary, Johansen, Nay, Steffensen, & Rummer, 2017) and subsequent citations (Habary et al., 2017)	<i>Three or more authors</i> (Habary et al., 2017)
<i>Six or more authors</i> (Cramer et al., 2014)	<i>Ambiguous citations</i> (Smith, Jones, McDonald et al., 2017) (Smith, Jones, Black et al., 2017)

Reference list

Inclusion of DOIs and URLs in reference list entries

As per previous guidelines include a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) for all online works that have a DOI. If there is no DOI, then provide a URL.

APA 7th no longer requires a URL be included for online works (with no DOI), sourced from academic research databases. However; the Curtin APA 7th referencing guide differs on this point and still requires a URL be included in the reference, regardless of the source.

For those that are publishing (e.g. PhD, submitting a journal article), please consult section 9.30 and 9.34 of the APA 7th manual for further information.

Formatting of DOIs and URLs

Use the following guidelines for formatting DOIs and URLs:

- Present all DOIs and URLs as hyperlinks (i.e. beginning with <https://...>)
- It is no longer necessary to include “Retrieved from” or “Accessed from” unless a retrieval date is needed (e.g. Wikipedia, UpToDate)
- It is acceptable to use either the default display settings for hyperlinks in Word (e.g. blue font, underlined) or plain text that is not underlined (as long as they are applied consistently)
- Links should be live if work is to be published or read online

Number of authors appearing in journal article references

APA 7th now requires journal articles with up to 20 authors to list all author’s names in the reference list entry. For articles with 21 or more authors, the first 19 author’s names are included, followed by an ellipsis (. . .) and then the final author’s name

APA 6th	APA 7th
<p>Naghavi, M., Abajobir, A. A., Abbafati, C., Abbas, K. M., Abd-Allah, F., Abera, S. F., Aboyans, V., Adetokunboh, O., . . . Murray, C. J. L. (2017). Global, regional, and national age-sex specific mortality for 264 causes of death, 1980–2016: A systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. <i>The Lancet</i>, <i>390</i>(10100), 1151-1210. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32152-9</p>	<p>Naghavi, M., Abajobir, A. A., Abbafati, C., Abbas, K. M., Abd-Allah, F., Abera, S. F., Aboyans, V., Adetokunboh, O., Afshin, A., Agrawal, A., Ahmadi, A., Ahmed, M. B., Aichour, A. N., Aichour, M. T. E., Aichour, I., Aiyar, S., Alahdab, F., Al-Aly, Z., Alam, K., . . . Murray, C. J. L. (2017). Global, regional, and national age-sex specific mortality for 264 causes of death, 1980–2016: A systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. <i>The Lancet</i>, <i>390</i>(10100), 1151-1210. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32152-9</p>

Publisher sources

The name of the publisher is now included for a number of electronic reference types (books, edited book chapters and reports etc.).

The publisher location is no longer included in the reference

APA 6th	APA 7th
Crawford, L. A., & Novak, K. B. (2018). <i>Individual and society: Sociological social psychology</i> (2nd ed.). Retrieved from https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/curtin/detail.action?docID=5323290	Crawford, L. A., & Novak, K. B. (2018). <i>Individual and society: Sociological social psychology</i> (2nd ed.). Routledge. https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/curtin/detail.action?docID=5323290
Doyle, T., MacGregor, S., & McEachern, D. (2015). <i>Environment and politics</i> (4th ed.). Milton Park, UK: Routledge.	Doyle, T., MacGregor, S., & McEachern, D. (2015). <i>Environment and politics</i> (4th ed.). Routledge.

Web pages

Web page titles are now italicised. A site name is also included as part of the source information (when the author and the site name are the same this is omitted).

A 'Retrieved from' statement is no longer required before the URL.

There is a new reference type for a webpage on a news website. Use this format for articles published in online news sources which do not have an associated daily or weekly newspaper e.g. ABC News

APA 6th	APA 7th
Department of Education and Training. (2016). <i>Improving Australian and European mobility</i> . Retrieved from https://www.education.gov.au/news/improving-australian-and-european-mobility	Department of Education and Training. (2016). <i>Improving Australian and European mobility</i> . https://www.education.gov.au/news/improving-australian-and-european-mobility
	MacLennan, L. (2019, October 25). <i>Michael McIntyre ticket scalping highlights need for onselling crackdown</i> . ABC News. https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-10-25/michael-mcintyre-ticket-scalping-highlights-onselling-problem/11640714

Article numbers

For journal articles with an article number (eLocator), write the word Article followed by the article number in place of the page range

APA 6th	APA 7th
Simon, S. L., Field, J., Miller, L. E., DiFrancesco, M., & Beebe, D. W. (2015). Sweet/dessert foods are more appealing to adolescents after sleep restriction. <i>PLOS ONE</i> , <i>10</i> (2), 1-8. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0115434	Simon, S. L., Field, J., Miller, L. E., DiFrancesco, M., & Beebe, D. W. (2015). Sweet/dessert foods are more appealing to adolescents after sleep restriction. <i>PLOS ONE</i> , <i>10</i> (2), Article e0115434. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0115434

Contributor's roles for audio visual media types

APA 7th now provides clearer guidance on who to credit as the author for audio visual media types e.g. Film, TV series, YouTube video etc.

Media type	Include as author
Film	Director
TV series	Executive producer(s)
TV series episode	Writer and director of episode
Podcast episode	Host of episode
Online streaming video	Person or group who uploaded the video
Webinar	Instructor

Religious and classical works

Reference list entries are now required for religious works (e.g. Bible, Qur'an) and classical literature (ancient Roman and Greek texts, Shakespeare). These are cited as books.

APA 6th	APA 7th
1 Cor. 13:1 (Revised Standard Version) (Aristotle, trans. 1931)	(King James Bible, 1769/2017) <i>King James Bible</i> . (2017). King James Bible Online. https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org (Original work published 1769) (Shakespeare, 1623/1995) Shakespeare, W. (1995). <i>Much ado about nothing</i> (B. A. Mowat & P. Werstine, Eds.). Washington Square Press. (Original work published 1623)