APA 7th: A Brief Guide to Changes in Referencing from APA 6th

Author

In-Text citations

- 3+ authors are shortened to Surname et al. in-text – including the first time.
- Suggested contributors for audiovisual works (director, producer, etc.) have changed to better match who is usually considered to be the ‘author’ of the work. For instance, instead of including the producers and director as the authors of a film, now only director is listed. See page 341 in the Manual for a list.
- When citing works by different authors with the same surname: If their first initials are different, include them; if not, cite the works in the standard author-date format. Only include first names in your text when it’s necessary to distinguish between authors, e.g. when comparing their work.
- Similarly, if two works with 3+ authors share a first author, only include more authors in-text if they would otherwise share the same citation (e.g. they were published in the same year).

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<tr>
<td>3+ authors in-text</td>
<td>First use: (Bultas, Hassler, Ercole, &amp; Rea, 2016)</td>
<td>(Bultas et al., 2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Authors with same surname</td>
<td>(Jane Smith, 2019; John Smith, 2019)</td>
<td>(Smith, 2019a; Smith, 2019b)</td>
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Reference list entries

- Include all authors up to 20. After that, treat it as you would 8+ authors in APA 6th.
- Only include the most specific of a series of government agencies. The parent organisations become the publisher. Example: *Group Author.* (2019). *Title.* Govt Org. [https://www.govt.org/path/fulllinkreport.pdf]
- Where authors share surnames and initials, order by year. Works by the same author might be separated.
- There have been some changes to how Wikipedia & online reference works are treated.
### Date
- For secondary sources, include both dates in-text if known: [Smith, 1901, as cited in Lee, 2019].
- For Wikipedia articles, publication date is the date of the revision you used. (Check the permanent link.)

### Title
- Title of a web page is now in italics. Its format will now look more like a book than like a chapter in a book.
- For published theses, include the university name: Title [Doctoral dissertation, Edith Cowan University].

### Publisher
- Place of publication is no longer included.
- Include the whole publisher name, excluding company markers like LLC or Pty Ltd.
- If the publisher is the author, exclude this field instead of writing “Author”. Do not duplicate.
- Website names (including online-only news sources & YouTube) are listed as publisher for web pages.
- Parent agencies are listed as publisher for government reports with individual or smaller group authors.

### Web address or DOI
- If there is a DOI, always include it (use the format https://doi.org/10.xxxx).
- If there is no DOI:
  - Open-access works (no login required): use the complete, direct link for the cited work if possible.
  - Works from an academic database (login required): cite as print with no URL.
  - Works from a proprietary database like IBISWorld or Cochrane Reviews (login required, database is the publisher of original works with no other source): give database homepage URL.
- URLs no longer include the text “Retrieved from” – unless a retrieval date is required (pp. 290, 298-300).
- Use a permanent/static URL if there is one. If there is, no retrieval date is needed.
- URL shorteners (like bitly) are acceptable for complicated links as long as they retrieve the right source.
- If a URL is meant to be read on a computer, links should be live, and may be plain or default link format.