



Latest APA Rule Revisions for Citing Articles from Databases

In the fall of 2007 the APA revised and updated the rules for citing “Electronic Media,” established by the 5th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, pp. 268-281. Students required to use APA citation for research projects are well advised to ask instructors which set of rules they will be expected to follow: the 5th edition of the *Manual* or the new *APA Style Guide to Electronic Resources*.

In respect to newspaper, magazine, and journal articles retrieved from the IC Library’s subscription databases, the 2007 *APA Style Guide* makes three important revisions to the *Manual*.

1. Always include *both* the volume and issue numbers when citing journal articles retrieved from databases.

The 5th edition of the *APA Manual* still required a citation for the electronic version of a journal article to make the traditional (print) distinction between journals that paginate by volume (cite only volume number) and journals that paginate by issue (cite both volume and issue numbers). Because the pagination of a journal may be unclear online, the APA now requires the inclusion of both volume and issue numbers for all journal articles retrieved from databases.

2. No retrieval date is necessary for information that is unlikely to be revised or updated—for example, the newspaper, magazine and journal articles retrieved from databases.

Since subscription databases give access to the final form of *published* articles, the date you retrieve them—previously required by the 5th edition of the *APA Manual*— may be omitted.

3. When the article you are citing includes a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), use that *in place of* the database name at the end of your citation.


A DOI is a unique string of numbers and letters that permanently identifies content and provides a persistent link to its current location on the Internet. Publishers, especially scholarly publishers, increasingly assign journal articles a DOI number, and many databases now include a DOI.

Look for the DOI in the brief citation display of your search retrieval, or in the full citation/abstract display, or at the beginning/end of the full text of an article. It *may* be included at one or more of these locations.


Where to look for a DOI: Examples

DOI included in brief citation:

SocINDEX with Full Text

[We're no metrosexuals: identity, place and sexuality in the struggle over gay marriage.](#) By: Rasmussen, Claire E.. *Social & Cultural Geography*, Oct2006, Vol. 7 Issue 5, p807-825, 19p, 1bw; DOI:  10.1080/14649360600974782; (AN 23173218)

[Cited References \(40\)](#)

 [PDF Full Text](#) (202K)

APA citation:

Rasmussen, C.E. (2006). We're no metrosexuals: Identity, place and sexuality in the struggle over gay marriage. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 7(5), 807-825. doi: 10.1080/14649360600974782

Note: The DOI code, when available, replaces the database name as the final element in a citation. Also note that in the citation "doi" is not capitalized, it is followed by a colon, and there is no terminal punctuation, such as the semi-colon that *SocINDEX* inserted.

Note: If the database had not supplied a DOI, the final citation element would simply identify the database: "Retrieved from *SocINDEX* database."

DOI included in full citation:

ProQuest

Global expansion: balancing a uniform performance culture with local conditions

[Joshua B. Bellin, Chi T. Pham. *Strategy & Leadership*. Chicago: 2007. Vol. 35, Iss. 6, pg. 44](#)

Publication title: [Strategy & Leadership](#). Chicago: 2007. Vol. 35, Iss. 6, pg. 44

Source type: Periodical

ISSN: 10878572

ProQuest document ID: 1369380711

Text Word Count: 3463

DOI: 10.1108/10878570710833750 

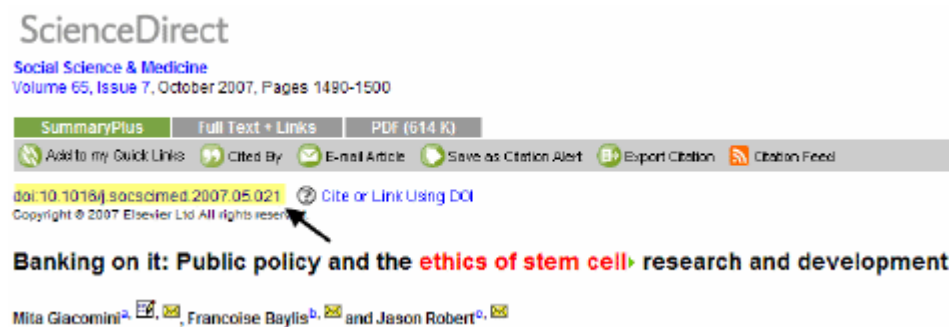
APA citation:

Bellin, J.B., & Pham, C.T. (2007). Global expansion: Balancing a uniform culture with local conditions. *Strategy & Leadership*, 35(6), 44-50. doi: 10.1108 /10878570710833750

Note: Cut and paste the DOI into your citation to avoid transcription mistakes. Only divide a DOI between lines *before* a punctuation mark—a period or slash.

Note: If the database had not supplied a DOI, the final citation element would simply identify the database: "Retrieved from *ProQuest* database."

DOI included at beginning (or end) of full text:



The screenshot shows the ScienceDirect interface for an article. At the top, it says "ScienceDirect" and "Social Science & Medicine". Below that, it indicates "Volume 65, Issue 7, October 2007, Pages 1490-1500". There are several navigation buttons: "SummaryPlus", "Full Text + Links", and "PDF (614 K)". Below these are icons for "Add to my Quick Links", "Cited By", "E-mail Article", "Save as Citation Alert", "Export Citation", and "Citation Feed". The DOI "doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2007.05.021" is highlighted in yellow, with a mouse cursor pointing to it. Below the DOI, there is a link "Cite or Link Using DOI". The article title is "Banking on it: Public policy and the ethics of stem cell research and development" and the authors are "Mita Giacomini, Francoise Baylis, and Jason Robert".

Introduction

While stem cell researchers tackle basic science questions concerning the viability and plasticity of stem cells *in vitro* as well as their performance *in vivo* (Kimmelman, Baylis, & Glass, 2006; Robert, 2004), enthusiasts (some of whom are also researchers) extol the therapeutic potential of stem cells for prevalent, intractable conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, diabetes, osteoarthritis, and rheumatoid arthritis. The track from bench to bedside is long, however, and involves many scientific, technological, and

APA citation:

Giacomini, M., Baylis, F., & Robert, J. (2007). Banking on it: Public policy and the ethics of stem cell research and development. *Social Science & Medicine*, 65(7), 1490-1500. doi: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2007.05.021

Note: If the database had not supplied a DOI, the final citation element would simply identify the database: "Retrieved from *ScienceDirect* database."

Final Notes: For a DOI link resolver, which will point you to the current online location of an article, use CrossRef.org.

Final Notes: For an updated guide to APA citation of articles from databases, see "APA Citation Guide: Articles from IC Library Databases." For an updated guide to APA citation of Web sources, see "APA Citation Guide: Web Sources."

Dr. Brian Saunders, Humanities Librarian, January 2008