

Relative Ranking of a Selected Pool of Leading Scholars in the Social Sciences by
Number of Citations in the Social Science Citation Index, 2000-2009*

Name	Total citations 2000-2009	Rank
Anthony Giddens	8893	1
Robert Putnam	7327	2
Jurgen Habermas	5947	3
David Harvey	4769	4
Manuel Castells	4512	5
Ulrich Beck	4428	6
Marc Granovetter	3749	7
Zygmunt Bauman	2910	8
Daniell Bell**	2697	9
Saskia Sassen	2423	10
Amitai Etzioni	1886	11
David Held	1800	12
Theda Skocpol	1747	13
Richard Sennett	1408	14
Immanuel Wallerstein	1327	15
Joseph Nye	1191	16
Claus Offe	1030	17
Guillermo O'Donnell	1021	18
Alain Touraine	586	19
Mary Kaldor	493	20

* Refers only to living scholars as of April 2009

** For frequently cited scholars with common names and several publications, searches brought up hundreds of citations and it was not always possible to distinguish every single citation to confirm whether it was authored by the required author or another with the same last name and initial. In such cases, it is possible that some citations were erroneously included or excluded. Where there was doubt, the preference was for inclusion rather than exclusion. Therefore, citations for these scholars are more likely to have been overestimated than underestimated. This provision applies especially to the results for these scholars.

Methodology for ranking authors using Social Science Citation Index data

The data for this ranking was obtained from the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) between April 16 and April 20, 2009. Calculations were done using the following method:

For each year, a General Search was first conducted, using the author's name and initials to obtain a list of the author's own articles available in the SSCI database.

This was followed by a Cited Reference Search, which produced a list of all the author's publications that have been cited by others, including all variants of these citations and the total number of citations of each for the entire time span of the database. These publications were selected and a further search retrieved the total number of articles that cited the author during the specified year. The figures provided here therefore, represent the number of articles that cite the author and not the number of times the author has been cited.

Where the Cited Reference Search retrieved a list larger than the database allows access to, the search for number of citations was conducted in two sets. In addition, when the Cited Reference Search produced a list of references that included different authors with the same initials, the address of the author was checked to verify their affiliation, or other options such as a general Internet search were used to verify which publications were not by the required author. The resulting figure was recorded as the number of citations for that year.

The Social Science Citation Index uses only last name and initials, and comes with a caution that author names, initials and publication titles may sometimes be wrongly entered. Interpretation of the results should bear this in mind.