What is the size of the audience for an undergraduate paper?
But how hard did a student work? Who else is going to benefit from this knowledge creation?
WIKIPEDIA AND ECONOMIC THOUGHT: USING THE CLASSROOM TO CONTRIBUTE TO PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE
THE WORLD’S Top 50 Websites

Below, we show the key players—from Google to Twitch—that currently dominate the Internet.

BREAKDOWN BY CATEGORIES (GLOBAL, NOV 2020)

Social Networks and Online Communities
- 11

News and Media
- 9

Search Engines
- 7

Marketplace
- 7

Adult
- 4

Programming and Developer Software
- 3

TV Movies and Streaming
- 2

Email
- 2

Others
- 5

With explosive growth, newcomer Zoom surpasses Netflix, LinkedIn, and Reddit in monthly visitors.

Amazon-owned Twitch attracts 1 billion monthly visitors as the most popular gaming site worldwide.

Since 2019, Instagram’s monthly visitors have jumped from 3.2 billion to 6.1 billion.

Google, along with nearly every Big Tech company rank in the top 20.

Together, Google and subsidiary YouTube attract over 127 billion visits monthly—more than the next 48 websites combined.

China’s search giant Baidu has also ventured into AI and autonomous vehicles.
Science is Shaped by Wikipedia: Evidence From a Randomized Control Trial

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Abstract

“I sometimes think that general and popular treatises are almost as important for the progress of science as original work.” — Charles Darwin, 1865

Incorporating ideas into Wikipedia leads to those ideas being used more in the scientific literature. We provide correlational evidence of this across thousands of Wikipedia articles and causal evidence of it through a randomized control trial where we add new scientific content to Wikipedia. In the months after uploading it, an average new Wikipedia article in Chemistry is read tens of thousands of times and causes changes to hundreds of related scientific journal articles. Patterns in these changes suggest that Wikipedia articles are used as review articles, summarizing an area of science and highlighting the research contributions to it. Consistent with this reference article view, we find causal evidence that when scientific articles are added as references to Wikipedia, those articles accrue more academic citations.
THERE IS A NEED

Say's law

Article Talk

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article has multiple issues. Please help improve it or discuss these issues on the talk page. (Learn how and when to remove these template messages)

- This article is written like a personal reflection, personal essay, or argumentative essay that states a Wikipedia editor's personal feelings or presents an original argument about a topic. (October 2021)
- Some of this article's listed sources may not be reliable. (October 2021)

In classical economics. Say's law, or the law of markets, is the claim that the production of a product creates demand for another product by providing something of value which can be exchanged for that other product. So, production is the source of demand. In his principal work, A Treatise on Political Economy (Tratat d'économie politique, 1803), Jean-Baptiste Say wrote: "A product is no sooner created, than it, from that instant, affords a market for other products to the full extent of its own value."[1] And also, "As each of us can only purchase the productions of others with his own productions – as the value we can buy is equal to the value we can produce, the more men can produce, the more they will purchase."[2]

As a theoretical point of departure

This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources in this section. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (April 2012) (Learn how and when to remove this template message)

This section possibly contains original research. Please improve it by verifying the claims made and adding inline citations. Statements consisting only of original research should be removed. (March 2018) (Learn how and when to remove this template message)

The whole of neoclassical equilibrium analysis implies that Say's law in the first place functioned to bring a market into this state: that is, Say's law is the mechanism through which markets equilibrate uniquely. Equilibrium analysis and its derivatives of optimization and efficiency in exchange live or die with Say's law. This is one of the major, fundamental points of contention between the neoclassical tradition, Keynes, and Marxians. Ultimately, from Say's law they deduced vastly different conclusions regarding the functioning of capitalist production.

Consequences

A number of laissez-faire consequences have been drawn from interpretations of Say's law. However, Say himself advocated public works to remedy unemployment and criticized Ricardo for neglecting the possibility of hoarding if there was a lack of investment opportunities.[29]

Recession and unemployment

This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (April 2013) (Learn how and when to remove this template message)

Say argued against claims that businesses suffer because people do not have enough money. He argued that the power to purchase can only be increased through more production.
Skin in the game

• Contributions are seen by the general public. They make a difference!
  • Years later, students proudly report that their edits are still up.
• Wikipedia requires high level writing
  • Citations
  • Neutral tone
  • No opinion/original analysis
  • Summarizing/Synthesizing
THE ASSIGNMENT

• End of Semester 6-page essay
• Includes a 250 word edit to an existing Wikipedia Page
• If the edit stays present for at least three weeks, then students are awarded 1.5% extra credit.
• Include Edit in paper’s appendix, including Wikipedia Username.

From their Editing Tutorial: “The goal of a Wikipedia article is to create a comprehensive and **neutrally written** summary of existing mainstream knowledge about a topic: Wikipedia does not publish **original research**. An encyclopedia is, by its nature, a **tertiary source** that provides a survey of information already published in the wider world. So we require that information be **verifiable** in **reliable external sources**. Ideally, all information should refer to reliable outside sources, using **citations**. When adding content and creating new articles, an **encyclopedic style** with a **formal tone** is important. Instead of essay-like, argumentative, or opinionated writing, Wikipedia articles should have a straightforward, **just-the-facts style**.”
BEST PRACTICES

• Remember this is part of a community
  • No free loading our grading
• Take classroom time to properly prepare students
  • Objective Tone
  • Proper Citation Format
  • Quality Writing
    • No “fluff” or redundancy
    • Active voice
    • Conciseness
• Is their contribution appropriate for the article? Does it add something that was missing?
Data

63 Untouched
14 Modified
21 Deleted
27 No Edit Attempt

Spring 2020 – Spring 2023, 5 semesters
125 submitted papers
SUCCESS RATE

64.3% Untouched

14.3% Modified

21.4% Deleted

78.6% Edits Still Remain
CITATIONS!

Reasons for Edit Deletions

- Citation
- Poor Writing
- Unrelated
- Original Research
- Page Rework
- Misleading

Citations: 12

Reasons: Poor Writing - 4
Unrelated - 2
Original Research - 2
Page Rework - 2
Misleading - 1
71% are deleted in first 5 days
ONE LETTER GRADE INCREASE ON THE PAPER IS ASSOCIATED WITH 14% INCREASED LIKELIHOOD OF REMAINING
Word Count does not make a difference.
Page Views

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parentheses are robust standard errors. 97 observations.
How Can Everyone Use This?
Small to Medium Classes

• Focus on smaller articles
• Intermediate Micro/Macro
• Current Events
• Upper Division Electives
• Read/Summarize an accessible paper
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