

WRITING GUIDE | APA Documentation: Authors' names

IN TEXT: APA documentation is an author/year system; use author or authors' last names and the year of publication.

Both narrative and in-text citations are formatted based on **how many authors** the source has.

1 author	Parenthetical citation	Narrative citation (attribution)
	... (Chen, 2017)	Chen (2017) concluded ...

2 authors	Parenthetical citation	Narrative citation (attribution)
	... (Garcia & Martin, 2016)	Garcia and Martin (2016) found ...

NOTE: With two authors, separate the names with “&” in parenthetical citations; use “and” in narrative citations.

3+ authors	Parenthetical citation	Narrative citation (attribution)
	... (Briles et al., 2012)	Briles et al. (2012) found...

NOTE: “et al.” is the abbreviation of the Latin “et alia,” which means “and others.”

What about QUOTATIONS? Quote sparingly! But if you do quote, ALSO include the page number:

Briles et al. (2018) found most had to “submit unreasonably to excessive scrutiny” (p. 167).

Most had been asked to “submit to unreasonably excessive scrutiny” (Briles et al., 2018, p. 167).

IN REFERENCE ENTRIES:

1 author	Chen, D. (2017). Title of article...
2 authors	Garcia, R. S., & Martin, T. (2016). Title of article...
3-20 authors	List all authors's names: Steiner, D., Morgan, B. A., Tanner, J., Morrow, C., McDonald, D., Loftin, S. R., Montes, C., Mallory, C., Mackler, A. M., & Tessman, R. (2020). Title of article....
20+ authors	List first 19 names + ellipsis + final name: Pegion, K., Kirtman, B. P., Becker, E., Collins, D. C., LaJoie, E., Burgman, R., Bell, R., DelSole, R., Min, D., Zhu, Y., Li, W., Sinsky, E., Guan, H., Gottschalck, J., Metzger, E. J., Barton, N. P., Achuthavarier, D., Marshak, J., Koster, R., . . . Kim, H. (2019). Title of article....