

6-1-2014

Did you know...

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Recommended Citation

van Weijen, Daphne Dr (2014) "Did you know...," *Research Trends*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 37 , Article 11.
Available at: <https://www.researchtrends.com/researchtrends/vol1/iss37/11>

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Section 10::

Did you know... that interest in altmetrics is growing fast?

Dr. Daphne van Weijen

Although altmetrics is still a new discipline, it is attracting more and more interest, both online and in the broader scholarly community. For example, a comparison of the results of a Google search for 'altmetrics' versus 'bibliometrics' revealed that the number of searches for both terms, relative to the total number of Google searches over time, is now more or less the same, while two years ago, the interest in 'altmetrics' in Google search terms was virtually non-existent. See [Figure 1](#) to see the Google Trends graph containing the results, with altmetrics in red and bibliometrics in blue.

In terms of scholarly interest, a Scopus.com search (on altmetric* or alt-metric*) revealed that the number of scholarly papers on altmetrics is also increasing at an impressive rate. In 2011 there were just 2 papers in Scopus, followed by 12 in 2012, 32 in 2013 and 8 to date in 2014. Surprisingly those papers weren't only published in traditional journals related to bibliometrics, but also in fields such as Plant Sciences (2), Chemistry (3), and Neuroscience (4).

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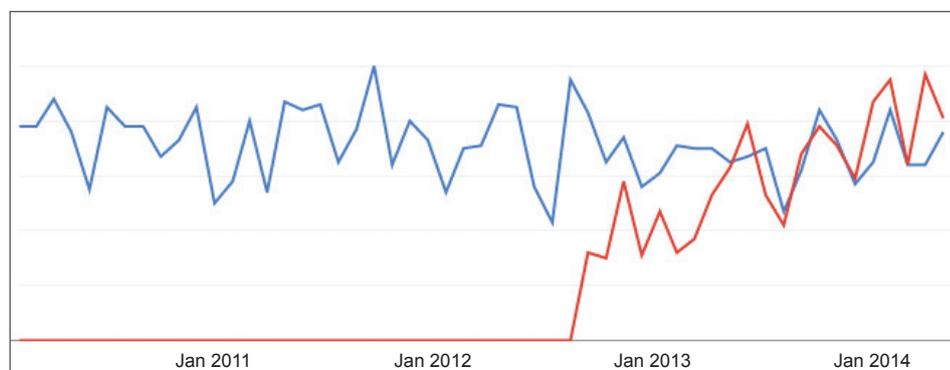


Figure 1: Figure showing Google trends for 'bibliometrics' (blue) versus 'altmetrics' (red).