



# How Well Are Social Work Scholars Represented?



Assessing Author Profiles across Bibliometric Platforms



Leah DeSantis, MLIS

Social Work and Research Impact  
Librarian

University of Washington(UW),  
Health Sciences Library(HSL)



<https://hsl.uw.edu/>

# UW School of Social Work (SSW)

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**TOP 10**

**Schools of Social Work in the nation**

*U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT 2025*

- 1 of 6 Health Sciences Schools
- Includes BASW, MSW, and PhD programs
- 2025 Cohort
  - 52 BASW Students
  - 308 MSW Students
- 24 Current PhD Students
- Research Centers
- Partners across institutions and non-profit organizations

# Research Impact & SSW

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- Publications for PhD students
  - SSW PhD newsletter
  - Web of Science & Google Scholar
- Faculty and their promotion documentation
  - CV & Web of Science
- Tracking Publications, Citations, and H-index score

# Social Work Research Topics

**Community-level perceptions of housing services for people with opioid use disorder: a qualitative analysis of community stakeholders in the HEALing communities study**

Dsouza, N; Russo, M; (...); Gilbert, L

Apr 15 2026 | SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT PREVENTION

**Development of a Social Media Campaign to Support HIV Prevention and Care Among Transgender Latina Women: Community-Engaged Mixed Methods Feasibility Pilot Study**

Lee, JJ; Paipilla, KA; (...); Graham, SM

**Perinatal Wage Equity, Parental Leave Access, and Reproductive Justice Among American Indian and Alaska Native Working Mothers in Washington State**

Abrahamson-Richards, T; Haitsuka, K; (...); Romich, J

Dec 1 2025 | SOCIAL SERVICE REVIEW ▼ 99(4), pp.725-761

**Advancing Administrative Data Justice Through Indigenous Representation and Co-Governance Methodologies**

Abrahamson-Richards, T; Camacho, SG and Romich, J

Sep 1 2025 | JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL WORK AND RESEARCH ▼ 16(3), pp.499-517



★ Enriched Cited References

# Goals of this Research

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- Identify differences in how impact is captured
- Understand the variability of citation data across platforms
- Help librarians and information professionals better represent the scope and research of their faculty and students
  - Make it easier for researchers and librarians to track their work
- Strengthening the visibility and recognition of Social Work research
  - For tenure and promotion
  - Potential collaborations and grant funders

# Social Work Authors

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Sample set of 4 PhD students

Factors in Selection:

- More publications
- Uniqueness of Name
- Further along in the PhD program
- Existing Author Profiles

# Bibliometric Platforms

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- Dimensions
  - Free limited version
  - Create an account
- Web of Science
  - Subscription
- OpenAlex
  - Web Interface
- Semantic Scholar
- Google Scholar



# Platform Coverage

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- Dimensions
  - Includes more than 160 million publications and 42 million datasets
- OpenAlex
  - 474 million scholarly works
- Web of Science
  - Journals, conference proceedings, and books
  - 22,000 journals
  - The full Web of Science platform has 271 million records
- Semantic Scholar
  - 200 million academic papers sources from publisher partnerships, data providers, and web crawls.
- Google Scholar
  - Peer-reviewed online academic journals and books, conference papers, theses and dissertations, preprints, technical reports, and patents

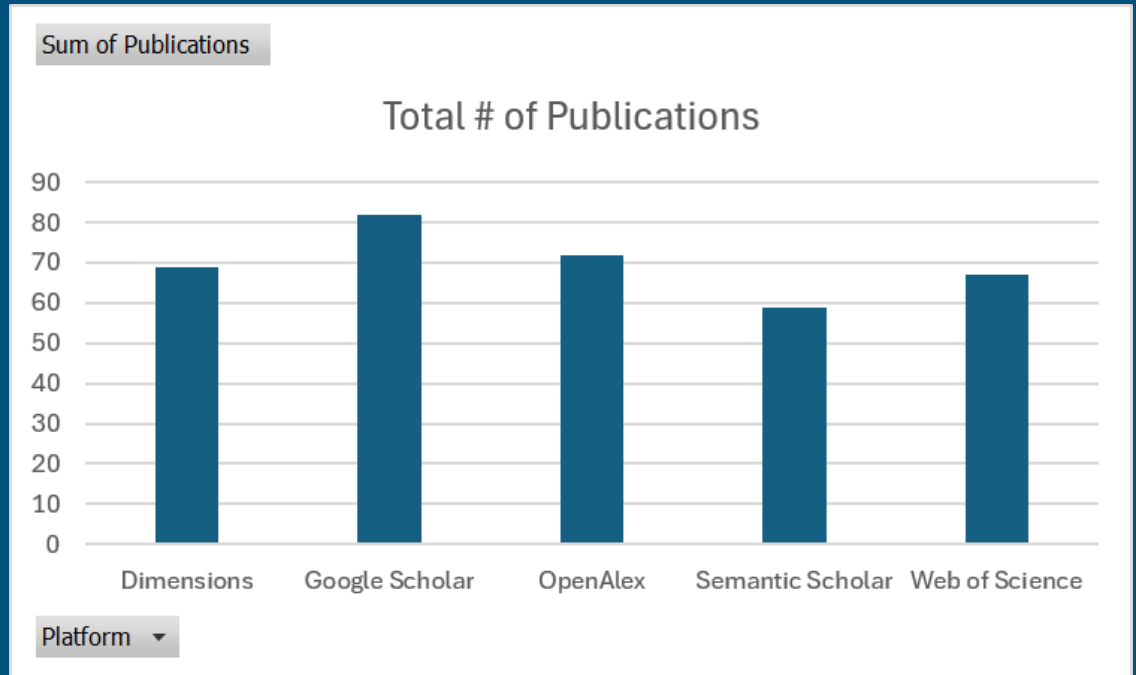
# Methods

- Looked at 4 authors and 5 different platforms
- Totaled their number of publications and number of citations or times cited
- Comments on author profiles or missing information

| Last Name  | First Name         | Platform         | Publications | Citations | H-Index | Comments                   |
|------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|---------|----------------------------|
| Abrahamson | Richa Teresa (Tea) | Web of Science   | 11           | 31        | 3       |                            |
| Abrahamson | Richa Teresa (Tea) | Google Scholar   | 17           | 52        | 4       |                            |
| Abrahamson | Richa Teresa (Tea) | OpenAlex         | 13           | 32        | 3       |                            |
| Abrahamson | Richa Teresa (Tea) | Semantic Scholar | 11           | 19        | 3       |                            |
| Abrahamson | Richa Teresa (Tea) | Dimensions       | 8            | 17        |         |                            |
| Benjamin   | Shoshana           | Web of Science   | 17           | 50        |         | 4 2 author profiles        |
| Benjamin   | Shoshana           | Google Scholar   | 17           | 66        | 6       |                            |
| Benjamin   | Shoshana           | OpenAlex         | 13           | 41        | 4       |                            |
| Benjamin   | Shoshana           | Semantic Scholar | 17           | 43        | 4       |                            |
| Benjamin   | Shoshana           | Dimensions       | 16           |           |         | couldn't get other metrics |
| Camacho    | Santino            | Web of Science   | 5            | 5         | 1       |                            |
| Camacho    | Santino            | Google Scholar   | 10           | 11        | 2       |                            |
| Camacho    | Santino            | OpenAlex         | 7            | 7         | 1       |                            |
| Camacho    | Santino            | Semantic Scholar | 7            | 4         | 1       |                            |
| Camacho    | Santino            | Dimensions       | 7            | 6         |         |                            |
| Cheng      | Yuan               | Web of Science   | 34           | 358       | 11      |                            |
| Cheng      | Yuan               | Google Scholar   | 38           | 594       | 15      |                            |
| Cheng      | Yuan               | OpenAlex         | 39           | 428       | 13      |                            |

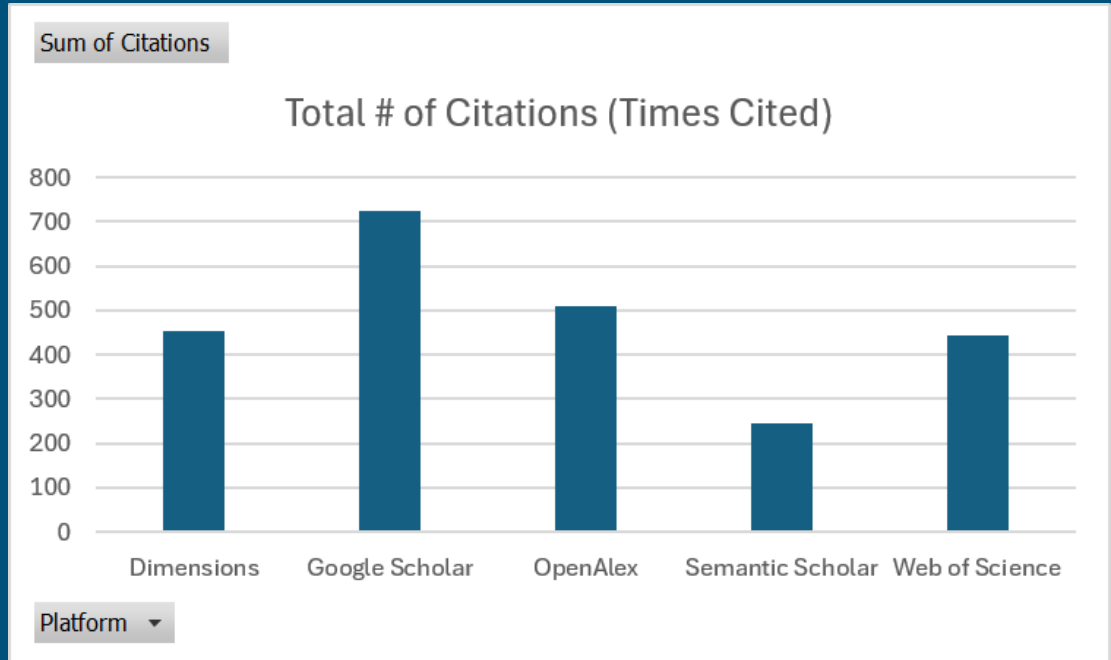
# Number of Publications

- Highest number of publications
  - Google Scholar
  - Open Alex
- Lowest
  - Semantic Scholar



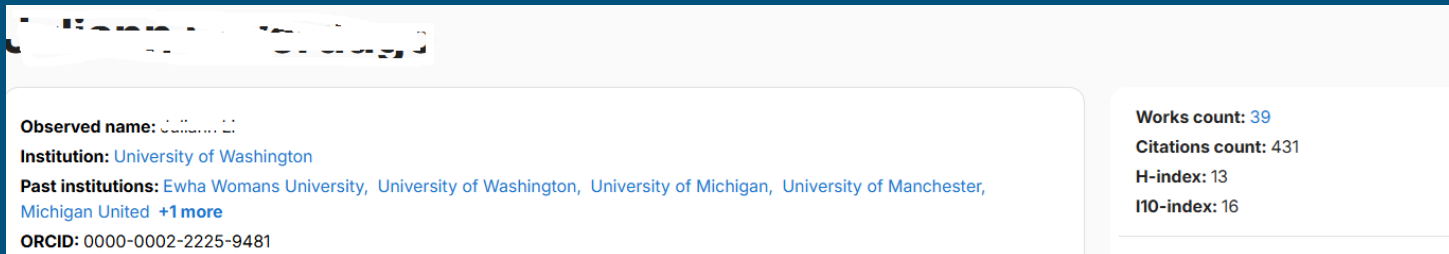
# Number of Citations

- Larger differences when looking at Times Cited
- Highest
  - Google Scholar
- Lowest
  - Semantic Scholar



# OpenAlex

- Large open access database
- Use the API to download datasets
- Interdisciplinary
- Free to access



The screenshot shows a portion of an OpenAlex profile page. The header area is partially visible with the text "OpenAlex" and "Profile". Below this, the profile information is organized into two main sections. The left section contains the following details: "Observed name: William M.", "Institution: University of Washington", "Past institutions: Ewha Womans University, University of Washington, University of Michigan, University of Manchester, Michigan United +1 more", and "ORCID: 0000-0002-2225-9481". The right section displays citation metrics: "Works count: 39", "Citations count: 431", "H-index: 13", and "I10-index: 16".

**Observed name:** William M.  
**Institution:** University of Washington  
**Past institutions:** Ewha Womans University, University of Washington, University of Michigan, University of Manchester, Michigan United +1 more  
**ORCID:** 0000-0002-2225-9481

**Works count:** 39  
**Citations count:** 431  
**H-index:** 13  
**I10-index:** 16

# Web of Science

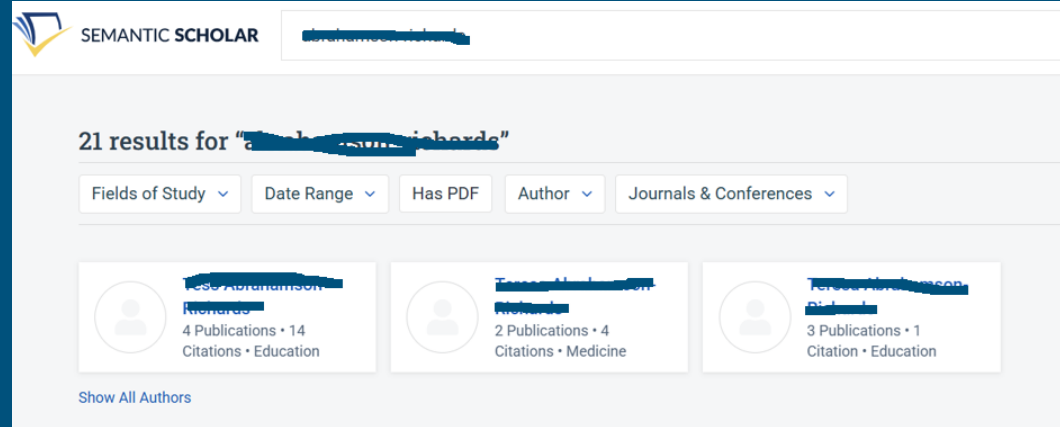
- Includes sum of times cited without self-citations
  - Useful for promotion documentation
- Download a citation report
  - Analyze the publications by year and by subject
- Easy to use but requires a subscription
- Web of Science Core Collection

## Web of Science Core Collection metrics

|                                              |                                           |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 3                                            | 11                                        |
| H-Index                                      | Publications                              |
| 31                                           | 31                                        |
| Sum of Times Cited                           | Citing Articles                           |
| 29                                           | 29                                        |
| Sum of Times Cited<br>without self-citations | Citing Articles<br>without self-citations |
| 0                                            | 0                                         |
| Sum of Times Cited by<br>Patents             | Citing Patents                            |
| 0                                            | 0                                         |
| Sum of Times Cited by<br>Policy              | Citing Policy Documents                   |

# Semantic Scholar

- Multiple algorithmically generated author profiles.
- More of a focus on science and medicine, less social sciences content



# Dimensions

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- Limited free version
- Requires a paid subscription to get access to all content
- Collect the number of publications and times cited

## Network

Co-authors - 20



This section is available with a subscription.

To schedule a demo or request a quote for your organization, please [get in touch](#).

Funded by - 1

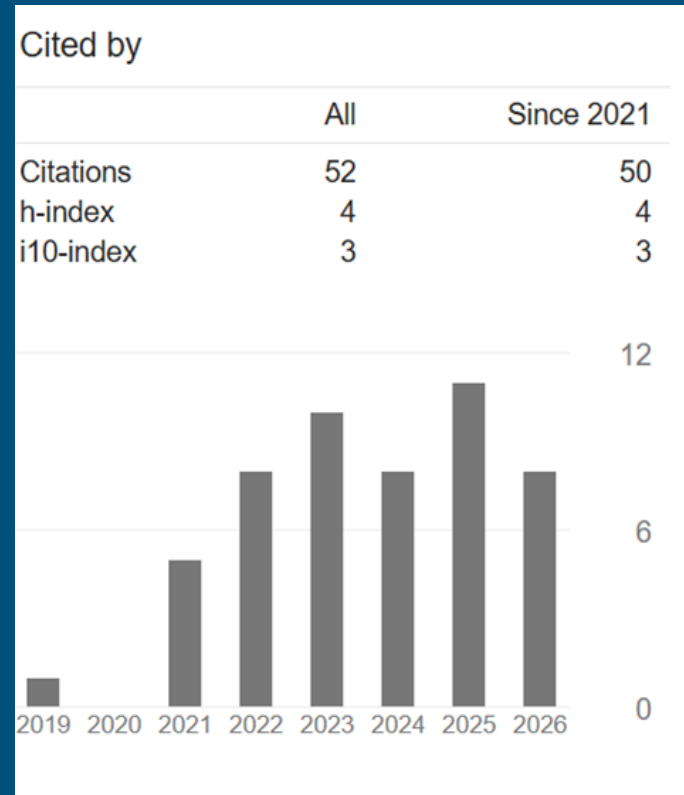


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# Google Scholar

- Author's have to create an author profile in order to track metrics
- Criticized for not vetting journals and including predatory journals
- Citations can be duplicates



# Author Profiles

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- An author profile makes it easier for people to find a researcher and their work
- Claim and maintain author profiles
- Register for an ORCID
  - Persistent identifier tied to an author
  - Institutional affiliations

# Challenges

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- Accuracy of the data
- Claiming author profiles vs. algorithmically generated author profiles
- Finding a researcher and their connected author profile
- Dispersed information



"World's Largest Ball of Yarn" by KirkOls is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

# Key Takeaways & Future Research

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- Important to have an author claim their profile and their work
  - Make it easier to keep track of a researchers work
- There is not one platform that has all publications
- This was an illustrative sample set and I plan on doing future research
  - Downloading datasets
  - Comparing more authors
  - Checking which publications are in what database

# References

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# Contact Me

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Leah DeSantis, MLIS

Email: [desa3413@uw.edu](mailto:desa3413@uw.edu)

Library Guide: <https://guides.lib.uw.edu/hsl/leah>

University of Washington [Health Sciences Library](#)

Questions?