



AMERICAN
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PsycINFO NEWS

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Introductory and Advanced Training Offered on Major Vendor Platforms



Have you ever wanted a more global understanding of the APA databases? Or how journals and books are evaluated and selected for inclusion in PsycINFO®? Or how a record in the APA databases is created? Have you wondered how to use the methodologies or tests and measures fields more effectively? How to leverage the online Thesaurus and keywords for the best search results? Understanding the metadata behind the APA databases will give you insights that will help you develop more efficient search strategies, provide better guidance to students, and add depth to your instructional programs.

APA has been delivering half-hour general web “train the trainer” sessions on the major vendor platforms since last fall including APA PsycNET®, EBSCOhost, ProQuest/CSA Illumina, OCLC, and OvidSP. The feedback we have received suggests that more complex

and in-depth training options should be offered as well. The current options include training for introductory and advanced programs for students, advanced training for subject specialists, recordings of webinars, and modular offerings.

Introductory Training

Introductory Training is intended primarily for undergraduate students or those who have not had a research methods class. It provides an overview of the APA research databases on the various platforms, demonstrating how to search, manage results, and make use of personal accounts within the institutional account. We demonstrate how to use the Thesaurus and some of the fields and limits.

Learning Objectives

- Understand PsycINFO content and how to get full text.
- Learn basic searching techniques to help complete class assignments.
- Find out how to use the *Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms*® and limits.
- Learn how to manage results and set up personal accounts.



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Introductory & Advanced Training

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Advanced Training

Advanced Training for librarians and instructors is a 1-hour PsycINFO webinar that details coverage and selection practices, the structure of the database, and annual updates and enhancements. We describe the structure of PsycINFO records, covering the elements of the bibliographic citation, controlled vocabulary and indexing, and value-added fields, such as author affiliation, grant/sponsorship, and tests and measures.

Learning Objectives

- Understand PsycINFO content and structure.
- Become familiar with PsycINFO record structure and indexing practices.
- Learn how to use field values and limits effectively.
- Know how to create precise search strategies and manage results.
- Gain additional knowledge of the databases that can be incorporated into your instructional sessions.

Documentation for the advanced user or instructor will be available for downloading prior to the session.

A series of advanced training sessions specifically for graduate students is in development and will become available this fall. Stay tuned for more information.

See www.apa.org/databases/training/webinars.html for the complete training schedule. To sign up, please email psycinfowebinars@apa.org.

Sixth Edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*

The sixth edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* was published on July 1 with a website providing tutorials, FAQs, and other resources at <http://www.apastyle.org/>.

What's new in the sixth edition of the *Publication Manual*? Much of the new content addresses advances in computer technology. Guidelines are provided for the creation, submission, and storage of supplemental data and referencing electronic sources and other online sources. The book has been reorganized to describe the writing process from idea to publication, the sample paper section has been moved to better exemplify manuscript structure and content, and discussions of function are followed by instruction on form. New examples throughout the book have been drawn from publications in education, business, and nursing. You can view chapter-by-chapter changes at <http://www.apastyle.org/manual/whats-new.aspx>.

Supplemental materials include full-color figures, tables, and other material referenced in the *Publication Manual* but not printed there. Find out about guidelines for unbiased language, style for metric units, displaying results such as radiological imaging data, and how to convert a thesis or dissertation into a journal article.

Three new resources for learning APA Style are also available on the APA website. If you are new to APA Style, you can view *The Basics of APA Style*, a tutorial that shows how to structure and format your work, recommends ways to reduce bias in language, identifies how to avoid charges of plagiarism, shows how to cite references in text, and provides selected reference examples. For individuals who are familiar with APA Style, the *What's New in the Sixth Edition* tutorial provides an overview of key changes. Finally, *Mastering the Sixth Edition* is an online course that provides two CE credits and is designed to give an in-depth understanding of the changes. These resources are available at <http://www.apastyle.org/learn/>.

Keep up with comments from APA Style users and APA Style experts by visiting the APA Style blog at <http://blog.apastyle.org/>!



APA Style

<http://blog.apastyle.org/>

How Can You Use APA Database Training Materials in Library Instruction?

It's that time again, the beginning of a new academic year! Undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty may need instruction or a refresher in how to use the resources available in your university library. Some of these patrons may be unfamiliar with how to access and search the online databases provided by your institution. We have many resources that can help, including training tutorials and videos, classroom materials and reference guides, and training webinars led by APA staff, links to which are available at the [PsycLIT® Search Help/Training Center](#). Let's take a closer look at some of what's available.

Tutorials: After receiving feedback from academic librarians about the need for short training tutorials that they can point students and faculty to, APA instructional staff has been creating just such material. Our tutorials—we currently have 32—are short, targeted, and available on most of the major vendor platforms. You can share them on a host of social networking sites. There are tutorials on many issues such as creating permalinks of custom searches, using the Thesaurus to build a more focused search strategy, creating customized RSS feeds, and finding peer-reviewed material.

■ **Sample Searches:** These can be used for self-paced learning, demonstrating strategy, and highlighting available content. Topics include how new graduates can cope with debt, how light therapy is used as a treatment for Seasonal Affective Disorder, and whether working at home increases job satisfaction.

■ **Videos:** We have over 30 videos on the PsycINFO YouTube™ channel, including many of our most popular tutorials. Topics cover searching for specific methodologies, locating literature reviews, finding tests and measures, and setting up personalized alerts. Now when a patron asks you how to set up customized RSS feeds in APA PsycNET, direct him or her to the video on that topic.



Classroom Instruction: PDF files can be downloaded and used as course material and handouts on database documentation. We provide a chart of the [Classification Codes](#), a [Field Guide](#), [Methodology Values](#), and [Record Structure for APA Databases](#). The Record Structure for APA Databases, an in-depth look at the fields, includes historical notes and search tips and is a lengthier document that can be used as the foundation for a workshop on searching PsycINFO.

- Interdisciplinary [Application Guides](#) can be a good starting point for APA database multidisciplinary content on research in human behavior. Students in business, marketing, neuroscience, nursing, and law can find research, including citations and search terms, of relevance to their field. We have application guides on subjects ranging from gerontology to military psychology to religion and spirituality.
- [Search Lessons](#) in PDF format teach students in such subjects as how to find tests and measures, how to use the methodology field, and how to best use the grant/sponsorship field.
- [Quick Reference Guides](#) are pocket-sized folding guides that cover the basics of searching on the major vendor platforms, including author and title searching, use of index terms and keywords, Boolean searching, and results management.

Webinar Training: APA instructional staff lead free training for students, faculty, and subject specialists, reference librarians, and instructional librarians.

If you have any comments or suggestions about library instructional materials you would like to have, please email us at psycinfo@apa.org. ■

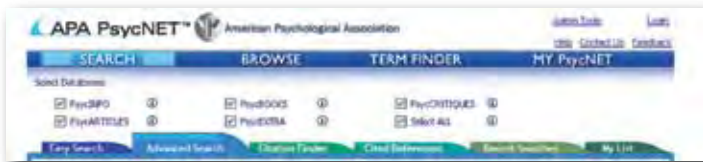
In Search Of: The Effects of Organizational Downsizing in an Economic Downturn on Remaining Employees—Survivor Syndrome

Situation:

The current economic recession is forcing more organizations to reduce personnel through downsizing, layoffs, or a reduction-in-force. Whatever it is called, organizations need to address the needs of both the released and the remaining employees. Remaining employees may experience what has been termed “survivor syndrome” and show a decrease in motivation and productivity, insecurity and lack of confidence, mistrust of management, and increased absenteeism. The emotions felt by both the laid-off and the surviving employees can be toxic to both individuals and the organization.

Build your search:

From the APA PsycNET platform, select the database or databases you would like to search for this topic.



We will use a Keyword search strategy to build this search. Selecting Keywords from the search fields available in APA PsycNET will search in the Title, Index Terms, and Keywords, or natural language, fields.

Think about all of the words or phrases that are used to describe layoffs, and enter them in the first Look For box using truncation (*), exact phrase (“”), and the OR Boolean operator:

downsiz* or layoff* or “workforce reduction” or
“reduction in force”



By selecting Keywords from the drop-down menu, you will search for natural language in the title and keywords, but you will also search the *Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms*. That means “downsiz*” will

look for all variant spellings (downsized, downsizing) in the natural language fields, but will also pick up documents that have been indexed with the Index Term Downsizing.

In the second Look For box, again use a free-text search strategy by entering a truncated form of “survivors”:

surviv*

and select Any Field from the drop-down menu using the AND Boolean operator. This will search for survival, survivor, and surviving. Because your first search box contains very specific terminology that is focused, there is no need to choose a field limit for the second concept.



You retrieve 162 results. To get some full-text articles quickly, you can click on the PsycARTICLES® tab:



Here are titles with links to PDFs and HTML of the articles:

Armstrong-Stassen, M. (2004). The influence of prior commitment on the reactions of layoff survivors to organizational downsizing. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology, 9*, 46-60. doi: 10.1037/1076-8998.9.1.46

Brockner, J., Wiesenfeld, B. M., Reed, T., Grover, S., & Martin, C. (1993). Interactive effect of job content and context on the reactions of layoff survivors. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 64*, 187-197. doi: 10.1037/0022-3514.64.2.187

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Brockner, J., Grover, S. L., & Blonder, M. D. (1988). Predictors of survivors' job involvement following layoffs: A field study. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 73, 436-442. doi: 10.1037/0021-9010.73.3.436

Grunberg, L., Moore, S. Y., & Greenberg, E. (2001). Differences in psychological and physical health among layoff survivors: The effect of layoff contact. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 6, 15-25. doi: 10.1037/1076-8998.6.1.15

Kalimo, R., Taris, T. W., & Schaufeli, W. B. (2003). The effects of past and anticipated future downsizing on survivor well-being: An equity perspective. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 8, 91-109. doi: 10.1037/1076-8998.8.2.91

Mark, M. M., & Mellor, S. (1991). Effect of self-relevance of an event on hindsight bias: The foreseeability of a layoff. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 76, 569-577. doi: 10.1037/0021-9010.76.4.569

PsycEXTRA® Results

If you are interested in seeing what is in the gray literature indexed in PsycEXTRA, you can click on the PsycEXTRA tab:



These results include conference abstracts, monographs, and fact sheets and provide links to full-text PDF documents.

Burke, Ronald (Not Available). Nursing staff survivor responses to hospital restructuring and downsizing.

Campbell, Fiona (1999). Downsizing in Britain: A survivor's perspective.

Schonberg, Sue E.; Lee, Sandra S. (2003). Survivor syndrome: Psychological interventions in downsizing. (1997). *Psychology at work: Downsizing survivors.* ■



You can find all of the training videos created by APA on the PsycINFO Training Videos Channel on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/PsycINFO>

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750 First Street, NE • Washington, DC 20002-4242

Telephone: 800.374.2722 • 202.336.5650
• Fax: 202.336.5633

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Web: www.apa.org/psycinfo

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Highlights From 2009 Summer Conferences

If you missed the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago or lacked the time to visit the exhibits, you may not be familiar with some of the products introduced by APA. Products that were highlighted included the APA Books E-Collections®, the new edition of the *APA Publication Manual* and related APA Style books, and new features available from the annual reload of the PsycINFO database on our APA PsycNET platform as well as on vendor platforms.

We presented a Lunch & Learn session on July 11th. The session demonstrated the new HTML design for PsycARTICLES on the APA PsycNET platform, summarized the new features in the annual PsycINFO Reload, and described the structure of APA database records. For more information on the 2009 reload, [click here](#)


Search demonstrations highlighted features of APA databases on APA PsycNET, CSA Illumina, EBSCOhost, OCLC, and OvidSP and included using keywords, index terms, and classification codes; searching the grant/sponsorship field; and narrowing the results. Participants also learned how to manage results with email alerts, RSS feeds, and permalinks.

Librarians, teachers, and students alike can take advantage of our training and support materials by visiting <http://www.apa.org/databases/training/>. We provide database documentation, search guides, video tutorials, and individualized webinars that will show how to find relevant literature in APA databases.

The Lunch & Learn presentation can be obtained from our Presentation Archive at <http://www.apa.org/librarians/presentations.html>.

On July 12th, our Librarian's Roundtable Breakfast was held. Nearly 50 people were able to attend the event and discussion. New products and features were discussed, including APA Books E-Collections, and the new APA Style products and blog. Participants were quite interested in the PsycINFO Advanced Training that began in early September and in the plans for a tests and measures database. If you haven't attended the roundtable in the past, we invite you to join us for the session at ALA Midwinter in Boston.

The 117th APA Annual Convention was held in Toronto from August 6-8. PsycINFO training staff offered an educational session on incorporating APA databases into the research process titled "The Search is On—Search Techniques Using APA PsycNET." The presentation focused on exploring data content through searches using the APA PsycNET platform. The audience included graduate students and faculty. They found the session useful and asked about longer hands-on sessions for future conventions.

The APA Convention presentation can be obtained from our Presentation Archive at <http://www.apa.org/librarians/presentations.html>. For additional information on any of the sessions mentioned in this article, please contact us at psycinfo@apa.org. 



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June 2009 Reload of PsycINFO Research Databases

The American Psychological Association is scheduled to reload its research databases and deliver them to vendors the end of June. Reloads have been an annual event since 2002, providing our customers with new features and enhancements such as new data fields, XML structural changes, corrections to existing data, updates to the controlled vocabulary, and other changes that supplement weekly releases and increase the overall utility of the databases.

Important Structural Changes

Each year we look for ways to enhance the researcher's experiences with our databases. PsycINFO is generally the starting point for any major search. In addition, the bibliographic database offers the most opportunity to add fields and provide new ways to retrieve content and discover new materials. Consequently, we focus our changes there. We look at trends in primary publishing as well as changes in the researchers' workflow to see how we can provide better pathways to the full text they need.

So, what goals did we have with the 2009 Reload?

Goal #1: Get Journal Content to Researchers More Quickly

As science moves faster and faster, there is an increased desire to make primary journal articles available as soon as possible. Therefore, many journals are releasing articles before they have gone through the entire publishing process. At one end of the spectrum, some are released as soon as they are accepted; at the other end, articles may be copy edited and approved by the author, but not fully composed. All publishers and authors have the same intent: get the content to other researchers quickly. However, if these early publication articles do not appear in PsycINFO when they are released, they may not be found—and the work to get them out early will be in vain.

We have therefore changed our processes and our record structure to accommodate them. As we reviewed the processes primary publishers are using, we found a wide range of approaches. Some consider these "pre-publication," whereas others consider them the first publication. Some describe them as "ahead-of-print," whereas other journals will never print the articles. PsycINFO eventually settled on the descriptor of "Text Posting." Initially, users will find only a few, but we will be adding more and more as we make arrangements with multiple publishers.

With these multiple presentations of the same article, researchers face another dilemma—how will they know which is the version of record? We have created a new field with two values to help with the problem.

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Read all of the details of the June 2009 Reload of PsycINFO Research Databases in Volume 28, Issue 3 of the **PsychINFO News:**

<http://www.apa.org/databases/pin/vol28no3.pdf>