

At the Click of a Mouse: APSR's Most Downloaded Articles

What are the most frequently read articles in political science? the most cited? the most influential? the best? No one knows, and probably no one ever will. Even the much-referenced *Social Science Citation Index* provides only a trace of any particular journal article's legacy. Even if all the citations are counted, what does that mean?

Stopping just short of claiming that this ranking signifies nothing at all, here are the Top 25 *American Political Science Review* articles as measured by the number of times each has been accessed via JSTOR (www.jstor.org). Qualifications of these rankings include: only individuals at institutions with JSTOR subscriptions (about 450 colleges, universities, and research centers at last count) could download articles during the reporting period, a majority of the downloads were most likely done by students getting supplementary course readings, and viewings and printings do not equal readings, understandings, or influencings.

Beginning this year, individual APSA members can subscribe to JSTOR for APSR-only access when they renew their Association memberships. Subscriptions cost \$25, and are primarily recommended for members at institutions that do not currently subscribe to JSTOR.

American Political Science Review Articles Most Frequently Downloaded from JSTOR, January 1997–June 1999

Rank	Article	Viewings	Printings
1	Graham T. Allison. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." 63(Sep.): 689–718.	1,055	713
2	Stephen Ansolabehere, Shanto Iyengar, Adam Simon, Nicholas Valentino. 1994. "Does Attack Advertising Demobilize the Electorate?" 88(Dec.): 829–38.	530	297
3	Sidney Verba, Kay Lehman Scholzman, Henry Brady, Norman H. Nie. 1993. "Citizen Activity: Who Participates? What Do They Say?" 87(Jun.): 303–18.	476	319
4	James G. March, Johan P. Olsen. 1984. "The New Institutionalism: Organizational Factors in Political Life." 78(Sep): 734–49.	395	400
5	Rogers M. Smith. 1993. "Beyond Tocqueville, Myrdal, and Hartz: The Multiple Traditions in America." 87(Sep.): 549–66.	525	249
6	Larry M. Bartels. 1993. "Messages Received: The Political Impact of Media Exposure." 87(Jun.): 267–85.	462	278
7	Benjamin I. Page, Robert Y. Shapiro, Glenn R. Dempsey. 1987. "What Moves Public Opinion?" 81(Mar.): 23–44.	478	260
8	Ross E. Burkhardt, Michael S. Lewis-Beck. 1994. "Comparative Democracy: The Economic Development Thesis." 88(Dec.): 903–10.	508	206
9	Benjamin I. Page, Robert Y. Shapiro. 1983. "Effects of Public Opinion on Policy." 77(Mar.): 175–90.	471	207
10	G. Bingham Powell Jr. 1986. "American Voter Turnout in Comparative Perspective." 80(Mar.): 17–43.	392	262
11	Seymour Martin Lipset. 1959. "Some Social Requisites of Democracy: Economic Development and Political Legitimacy." 53(Mar.): 69–105.	397	256
12	Michael W. Doyle. 1986. "Liberalism and World Politics." 80(4): 1151–69.	418	233
13	Mancur Olson. 1993. "Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development." 87(Sep.): 567–76.	390	250
14	Arend Lijphart. 1971. "Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method." 65(Sep.): 682–93.	346	270
15	Nelson W. Polsby. 1968. "The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives." 62(Mar.): 144–68.	324	279
16	Jonathan Bendor, Thomas H. Hammond. 1992. "Rethinking Allison's Models." 86(Jun.): 301–22.	344	254
17	Peter Bachrach, Morton S. Baratz. 1962. "Two Faces of Power." 56(Dec.): 947–52.	301	273
18	Tracey E. George, Lee Epstein. 1992. "On the Nature of Supreme Court Decision Making." 86(Jun.): 323–37.	347	206
19	Edward N. Muller, Mitchell A. Seligson. 1994. "Civic Culture and Democracy: The Question of Causal Relationships." 88(Sep.): 635–52.	341	191
20	Richard F. Fenno Jr. 1977. "U.S. House Members in Their Constituencies: An Exploration." 71(Sep.): 883–917.	337	179
21	Arthur H. Miller, Martin P. Wattenberg, Oksana Malanchuk. 1986. "Schematic Assessments of Presidential Candidates." 80(Jun.): 521–40.	274	221
22	William Mishler, Reginald S. Sheehan. 1993. "The Supreme Court as a Countermajoritarian Institution? The Impact of Public Opinion on Supreme Court Decisions." 87(Mar.): 87–101.	333	159
23	Aaron Wildavsky. 1987. "Choosing Preferences by Constructing Institutions: A Cultural Theory of Preference Formation." 81(Mar.): 3–22.	313	176
24	Anne Schneider, Helen Ingram. 1993. "Social Construction of Target Populations: Implications for Politics and Policy." 87(Jun.): 334–47.	278	208
25	Warren E. Miller, Donald E. Stokes. 1963. "Constituency Influence in Congress." 57(Mar.): 45–56.	256	225

Source: JSTOR (www.jstor.org).

Note: Ranking is by total viewings plus total printings.