

Retracted articles in Wikidata

Egon Willighagen 


Published February 16, 2025

Citation

Willighagen, E. (2025, February 16). Retracted articles in Wikidata. *Chem-bla-ics*. <https://doi.org/10.59350/w4zj3-mbw53>

Keywords

Wikidata, Wikipathways



The image shows a screenshot of a GitHub repository page. On the left, there is a dark sidebar with the text 'sparql-examples' in white, followed by 'A set of SPARQL examples that are used in different TGX resources' and 'View the Project on GitHub BIGCAT-UM/sparql-examples'. The main content area has a light background and is titled 'WikidataRetractions'. Below the title is a list of ten red links, each representing a SPARQL query related to retracted articles in Wikidata.

WikidataRetractions

- [Journals that cite retracted articles, sorted by citation count.@en](#)
- [List of 100 authors with the most retractions.@en](#)
- [List of Maastricht University authors with retracted articles.@en](#)
- [List of publishers with the most retractions.@en](#)
- [List of researchers at Maastricht University \(via the ROR identifier\) citin...@en](#)
- [List of the 100 most cited retracted articles.@en](#)
- [List of venues \(e.g. journals\) with the most retractions.@en](#)
- [Map with organizations with retracted articles.@en](#)
- [The number of articles citing retracted articles.@en](#)
- [The number of authors \(by P50\) citing retracted articles.@en](#)
- [Wikidata statements with a retracted paper as reference.@en](#)

Copyright

Copyright © Egon Willighagen 2025. Distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

chem-bla-ics

A good number of years ago, a colleague and I explored if we could get access to the [Retraction Watch Database](#), but we could not afford it. We have been using data on retractions for curate our databases, like [WikiPathways](#). A database should not contain knowledge based on (only) a retracted article. Wikidata, btw, has a small number (499) of statements supported by retracted articles. Similarly, it turns out that I am [citing retracted articles in two papers](#) (and a preprint of one of them).

[Wikidata](#) has a good number of retracted articles in their database ([some 21 thousand at the time of writing](#)). A lot of this data comes from CrossRef, that recently [acquired the Retraction Watch Database](#) (doi:10.13003/c23rw1d9)) and started providing the content as FAIR and Open data. With [a Bacting-based script](#) I am regularly updating Wikidata with annotations from CrossRef, giving a rich dataset in Wikidata around the queries. Over the past few years I have written various SPARQL queries to show the results which today I [collected under a single home](#):