



Araştırma Makalesi • Research Article

Recreation and Tourism: A Bibliometric Analysis Based on a Scopus Database

Rekreasyon ve Turizm: Scopus Veri Tabanına Dayalı Bibliyometrik Bir Analiz

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Abstract: The aim of the research is to reveal academic publications related to recreation and tourism in terms of bibliometric indicators. In this context, 553 publications published between 2021-1964 were reached as a result of the scan performed in the Scopus database on May 4, 2021. According to the findings, it has been determined that the studies on recreation and tourism generally tend to increase over the years and the most studies were published in 2019. Most of the publications are in the type of article and the most preferred language is English. The words "tourism" and "recreation" are the most used keywords. Although "Tourism Recreation Research" has the most publications, "Journal of Travel Research" is the most cited journal. Beside, Pickering C.M. (2007) is the most cited document. In addition, America is the country with the highest number of publications, cooperation, and citations and has played an important role in the development of this field.

Keywords: Recreation, Tourism, Bibliometry, Scopus, VOSviewer.

Öz: Araştırmanın amacı, rekreasyon ve turizm konulu akademik yayınları bibliyometrik göstergeler açısından ortaya koymaktır. Bu kapsamda 4 Mayıs 2021'de Scopus veri tabanında gerçekleştirilen tarama sonucunda 2021-1964 yılları arasında yayınlanmış 553 yayına ulaşılmıştır. Bulgulara göre, rekreasyon ve turizm konulu çalışmaların genel olarak yıllar itibarı ile artış eğiliminde olduğu ve en fazla çalışmanın 2019'da yayınlandığı tespit edilmiştir. Yayınların büyük bir çoğunluğu makale türündedir ve en fazla tercih edilen dil İngilizce'dir. "Tourism" ve "recreation" kelimeleri ise en fazla kullanılan anahtar kelimelerdir. "Tourism Recreation Research" en fazla yayına sahip olan dergi olmasına rağmen, "Journal of Travel Research" en fazla atıf alan dergidir. Ayrıca Pickering C.M. (2007) tarafından gerçekleştirilen çalışma en çok atıf yapılan dokümandır. Bunun yanında Amerika en fazla yayına, iş birliğine ve atıfa sahip ülke olup, bu alanın gelişmesinde önemli rol oynamıştır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Rekreasyon, Turizm, Bibliyometri, Scopus, VOSviewer

Introduction

Recreation and tourism are two basic phenomenons which increase the life quality of people, affect the individual satisfactions, can basically use the same source and can develop within the boundaries of each other. Mclean, Hurd and Rogers (2005) who divided the recreation as profit-making

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services and non-profit making services evaluated the tourism under the recreation's type of profit-making commercial enterprises. Thus, it is possible to say that there is a common life relation between the recreation and tourism. These two phenomena continuously supporting and developing each other are using the existing sources up to the end for feeding themselves (Özel, 2004). Increasingly nested use of the recreation and tourism concepts both combines the realized activities and complicates to make a distinction between these concepts. For this reason, the existing relation and interactions between tourism and recreation have become a research subject at an ever-increasing scale. The fact that both phenomena are performed at leisure time constitute the essential source of the relation between them. In this context, it is possible to say that recreation and tourism are two phenomena required to be discussed together and complementing each other (Akin & Taş, 2015). Also, the recreation and tourism are progressing in the field of education in an interconnected way in Turkey.

As a result of the discussions continued for long years, tourism has become a major in the education field. There are departments of Tourism Management, Tourism Guiding, Gastronomy and Culinary Arts and Recreation Management under the major of tourism. Once the Intercollegiate Board takes the branches and majors of associate professorship into consideration, the department of recreation management is one of the latest departments in the tourism major (Gözen, 2020). When Merriam (2013) evaluated the recreation education and training in Turkey, he concluded that the publications published in the recreation fields fall behind both USA and Europe. Indeed, Lapa, Köse and Günbayı (2018) noted that the studies related with the recreation field have started to increase as from 2011.

It can be said that an information confusion may be experienced in the studies since the study subjects related with the recreation field are new. Thus, it is required to clarify the information confusion related with the subject. At this point, bibliometric studies are of great importance. The bibliometry described as a review based on taking inventory is based on analyzing certain characteristics of the publications or documents and obtaining findings relative to scientific communication (Al & Coştur, 2007). Today, the bibliometric analysis is used in order to examine the publications and data about references and to view the developments realized in the concerned field. Thanks to the bibliometry, a detailed examination related with the field studied could be performed. Thus, a profile of that field is built up and it is contributed into its development. The number and importance of the study conducted through the bibliometric analysis in the tourism field have an ever-increasing scale. Because review is of importance in order to accurately understand the status quo and development of tourism and recreation fields and to solve the problems, as is the case with each scientific field. In this scope, the methods utilized in the recreation and tourism studies, concepts correlated with the recreation and tourism phenomena, how and which direction the developments experienced in the field are, could be reviewed. Such a kind of the review could only be performed with the bibliometric analysis. In this study, it is aimed to bibliometrically examine the studies published relative to the recreation and tourism concepts in database of Scopus in the VOSviewer program.

Recreation and Tourism Relation

The recreation and tourism phenomena are generally evaluated as the concepts corresponding with leisure time activities and correlating with each other. Recreation and tourism have emerged for the purpose of providing the needs of energy storage required for resting, having fun, preparing for working life and holding on to the life again, and meeting such needs. The importance of recreation and tourism activities appeared in the management of difficulties such as stress brought along the increasing urbanization, busy business life and industrialization. Hence, people are participating into touristic and recreative activities by pursuing goals of keeping away from stress, refreing oneself, establishing social relations and cultural interactions (Neyişçi, 2014). The recreation and tourism affect the satisfaction levels of people by increasing their life-quality. Thus, a common bond develops between the recreation and tourism. For this reason, the interaction and communication between the recreation and tourism have gained an ever-increasing scale and become a research subject (Karaküçük, 2008).

Once the related literature is examined, it is found out that the recreation and tourism are highly different concepts. *"The activities which will provide a personal satisfaction and people perform*

discretionally and voluntarily in a group or individually in independent and detached leisure times staying out of the time spared completely for working and compulsory needs for the purpose of reacquiring, protecting or maintaining the physical and mental health that is endangered or negatively affected from busy working load, routine life-style or negative environmental impacts and also, of enjoying and taking pleasure” are defined as the recreation (Karaküçük, 2008: 61). Turkish Language Association defined the recreation in a shorter expression saying *“activities which people participate voluntarily at leisure times for the purpose of entertainment and sports”* (Turkish Language Association/Türk Dil Kurumu, 2021). Kraus (1977) explained the recreation as *“activities or experiences which people participate voluntarily in order to resting, entertainin, refreshing, being satisfied individually at leisure times remained after the performance of the activities and obligations they must fulfill like work, task and assignment”* (as cited in Demirci Orel & Yavuz, 2003: 62). In tourism phenomenon, people need a certain purpose, money or time (Özgüç, 1984: 9). According to the definition made by World Tourism Organization (WTO); *“tourism is a set of events and relations arising from temporary accommodations of individuals provided that it will not be turned into a permanent stay and it will not engage in a revenue-generating activity”* (Sarı & Özüpek, 2011: 28). Kozak, Akoğlan and Kozak (1997: 3) made a highly extensive and generally-accepted definition and expressed the tourism as *“a whole of work and relations arising from the journeys of the people personally or collectively due to the reasons such as resting, entertainment, cruosity, sports, health, culture, gaining experience, visiting relatives, participating into congress and seminar, fulfilling the religious requirements, etc. provided that they will not settle and gain economic income out of the places where they are residing, working and meeting their usual requirements, and from demanding goods and services produced by the tourism enterprises by staying at least one night in the places they go”*.

Once the tourism definitions in the literature are examined, it is seen that it has expressions relating with both recreative activities and leisure time concepts in it. Indeed, spare time/leisure time expression is also used in definitions relating to the recreation concept. The opinions about the distinction points of leisure time, recreation and tourism concepts are still a matter of debate today, these concepts have not been clarified yet. Because the exacts lines seperating these concepts could not be completely identified yet (Butler, 2004; Poria, Butler & Airey, 2003). In this context, it can be said that tourism shares strong characteristic features and theoretical foundations with the concepts of leisure time and recreation (Swarbrooke, Sakal, Leckie & Pomfret, 2003). There are many definitions, analyses or assessments which evaluate the recreation into tourism or discuss the tourism within the scope of recreation in the related literature. However, these assessments are more related with the fact that from which perspective the tourism or recreation is looked at (Karaküçük & Akgül, 2016). Also, definitions, analyses or assessments may vary by their aim and context. However, the tourism and recreation are generally regarded as sub-sets of the leisure time concepts (Coppock, 1982; Herbert, 1988; Murphy, 1985). The concepts of recreation and tourism sharing the same fields and sources create socially and psychologically similar impacts on the participants by utilizing from the budgets of the similar consumers. Development in the recreation opportunities makes the region more attractive, provides more tourists to come and increase the revenue of the region (Karaküçük, 2008). Once the researchs conducted for the relation between the recreation and tourism are examined, it is seen that factors such as determination and planning of the recreation fields, construction of spatial structures and access to the recreative structures are at the forefront (Metin, Kesici & Kodaş, 2013).

The recreation and tourism evaluated as two important fields in making use of the free or leisure times mean two different actions which combine at the single source, but differentiate at the point of purpose (Kolcu, 1993; Özer, 2019). However, the recreation and tourism are overlapping with each other in terms of their features to share many activities of the same kind. Hazar (2003: 30), Karaküçük (2008: 211) and Koyuncu (2012: 30) summarized the similar points between the recreation and tourism as follows;

- Both phenomenon contain a physical and intellectual mobility,
- Both phenomenon are performed voluntarily at leisure times as a result of a motive,

- Both phenomenon may be performed individually or collectively,
- Both phenomenon may be valid for individuals at any age and of social structure,
- The high-quality recreative activities made for local people create a potential demand for services such as accommodation by increasing the interest for tourism generally,
- Conservation of local heritage, environmental development and restoration works are also evaluated as elements contributing into the tourism and recreation.
- Recreative businesses or places offer tourists opportunities of making use of the leisure times. Thus, the recreative activities having attraction and usefulness characteristics at the destination can increase the tourists' period of accommodation.
- Directing the local people to the recreative activities will provide the domestic tourism to revive within the scope of the touristic recreation.
- Recreative areas and activities performed here (amphitheatre, sports facilities, race tracks, picnic areas, concert halls, etc.) can be a circle of the touristic product.
- The human and natural factors (cultural values, man-made historical artifacts, etc.) both in tourism and recreation feature a source for these phenomenon.

Although nevertheless the tourism and recreation concepts are qualified as close and nested concepts, there are some differences between them. While the recreation contains short-term activities in terms of time, tourism is a set of activities appealing to longer leisure times. Whereas the obligation of leaving the place where anyone is living continuously is not sought in the recreational activities, any consumer is required to leave the place where he/she is living continuously for obtaining the touristic product (Öztürk, 2018). Apart from these, the differences between the tourism and recreation are explained as follows (Mieczkowski, 1990: 35);

- While recreation occurs completely in a leisure time process, tourism also occurs in working times.
- Recreation and tourism vary not only in semantic aspect, but also in practice. Purchasing recreational equipment through the income reserved for tourism may create discrepancies in the family budget.
- People must go out of their residential address for realizing the tourism phenomena. However, this case is not valid for the recreational activities.
- While tourism is further at the forefront with its economic and commercial impacts, recreation comes to the forefront as the social activities made for the local community. Therefore, the commercial aspect of the recreation is weaker.

Once the recreation and tourism are evaluated in terms of supply and demand, a set of differences is also observed. While the tourism supply is intended for the whole country, the supply in the recreational fields is generally intended for the resident population. From this point of view, the recreation is mostly evaluated as local. Also, while the tourism expenditures require purchasing actions on a large scale, the recreative activities are generally public-weighted or free of charge (Öztürk, 2018). The semantic relation and similarities between the tourism and recreation have also significantly affected the studies conducted in the related literature and it was concluded as a result of the examinations performed that the number of the studies conducted in regard to these two concepts is fewer compared with the other concepts (leisure time, outdoor recreation, sportive activities, etc.). For this reason, it is aimed to make a bibliometric analysis of the studies where the concepts of tourism and recreation are used together, in the study conducted.

Related Studies

Once the related literature is reviewed, it is noted that the bibliometric studies conducted in regard to the tourism phenomena have started to increase gradually (Aydın, 2014; Cevizkaya, Avcıkurt & İlsay, 2014; Çakıcı, Yıldırım & Karacaoğlu, 2013; Kaya, 2014; Karagöz & Yüncü, 2013; Özel & Kozak, 2012; Temizkan, Çiçek & Özdemir, 2015; Türktarhan & Kozak, 2012); the bibliometric studies carried out relating to the recreation are quite limited (Buzlu, 2015; Gözen, 2020; Lapa et al., 2018; Sever & Buzlu,

2015; Yeşilyurt & Yeşilyurt, 2013). In this study performed, it is aimed to make the bibliometric analysis of the studies discussing the recreation and tourism phenomenon together.

The recreation and tourism subject was a science and research subject in the Anglo-American geography in early periods of 20th century by focusing on the demographical and economic matters (Carlson, 1938; Cleveland, 1910; McMurray, 1930; O'Dell, 1935; Whitbeck, 1920). However, this study's subject was evaluated as a part of the geography in the previous times and it focused on the national parks, national forests. The first study conducted over the tourism and recreation in USA in 1930 is intended for how the tourism and recreation will contribute into the national economy (Crisler & Hunt, 1952). The subsequent studies are correlated with the seasonality problem and travelling motivations (Deasy & Griess, 1966; Ullman & Volk, 1961). The researches related with the tourism and recreation started to gain speed as from 1970's and they were conducted over the destination's recreational and touristic areas, source and land management, development and carrying capacity of the region the subject of this research areas by correlating the subject of this research areas with the geography and economy again (Mercer, 1970; Williams & Zelinsky, 1970; Wolfe, 1967). The tourism and recreation subject is currently discussed with the sustainable tourism and environmental management both in the international and national literature (Coccosis, 2004). However, the tourism and recreation subjects are examined by mainly correlating with leisure time participation, leisure time satisfaction and outdoor recreation in the national literature (Gözen, 2020; Lapa et al., 2018; Yersüren & Özel, 2020; Yeşilyurt & Yeşilyurt, 2013).

Metin et al. (2013) investigated the approaches of the academicians who conducted study related with the recreation in Turkey, onto the recreation concept. Attraction was drawn to the difference of opinion among the academicians over the concept by using the semi-structured interview technique. Metin et al. (2013) concluded that there is a difference of opinion among the academicians over the recreation concept and they do not a full sound grasp of some issues related with the recreation.

Yeşilyurt & Yeşilyurt (2013) examined the articles published in regard to the recreation and leisure time by conducting a bibliometric study. It was aimed within the scope of the study to determine which key words are frequently used in these articles and according to the result of the study, leisure time, leisure time restrictions, significant leisure time, disability, voluntary tourism, accessibility, life satisfaction, physical activity and parks are the most used key words.

Akın & Taş (2015) carried out a study for the purpose of finding out whether there is a relation between the recreation and tourism concepts or not, if so, to identify what kind of study, by taking the academician opinions into account. The study bears an aim for establishing the point of views of the academicians over the recreation and tourism concepts and relation between these two concepts. Within the scope of the study, totally 1202 question forms were sent to the academicians working in Colleges of Tourism Management and Hotel Management, Tourism Faculties, Faculties of Sports Sciences and College of Physical Education and Sports giving education at the level of undergraduate in Turkey via e-mail. 359 of 375 forms returned were analyzed. The analysis results show that there is a joint relation between two concepts, however both concepts are the subject of different disciplines.

Buzlu (2015) who conducted a research over the multi-disciplinary structure of the recreation field examined the dissertation over the recreation subjects being available on Proquest dissertation database with a bibliometric approach by using the this database. As a result of the research, it was concluded that most of the recreation activities are performed in outdoor and thus, it is in a close relation with the sports, tourism, psychology and sociology fields. In this context, it was supported that the recreation field is a multi-disciplinary field.

Another study examining the conceptual relation between the tourism and recreation was carried out by Öztürk (2018). Öztürk (2018) conducted a study for the purpose of exhibiting the relation among the leisure time, tourism and recreation concepts. In the study, a comparative analysis of the leisure time, tourism and recreation concepts was performed. Öztürk (2018) who assessed the tourism and recreation concepts each as a leisure time activity pointed out that the recreation and tourism are two concepts

complementing each other. Although these two concepts have different meanings, it was determined that they are used alternatively by some parties. Notwithstanding, the results of the study supported that the recreation and tourism concepts cannot be used alternatively or in the same meaning although they are in a close relation.

Lapa et al. (2018) systematically examined the 104 articles published in 16 journals related with the recreation field in TR Dizin Ulakbim and Dergipark. According to the study results, the publications related with the recreation have started to increase as from 2011. Also, it was presented in the published articles that the researchers cited the studies conducted as from 2005. Apart from all these, it was determined that the recreation subject is mostly studied with outdoor recreation, leisure time participation, leisure time satisfaction and leisure time valuation.

İskender (2019) referred to the relation between the recreation and leisure time concepts. After İskender (2019) discussed the recreation and leisure time concepts, he referred to the relation between the tourism and recreation and argued that from which aspects tourism is a recreative activity and from which aspects it is not a recreative activity. Also, the impacts of the recreative activities on the tourism were examined in the article.

Yersüren & Özel (2020) who conducted a bibliometric research over dissertations themed leisure time and recreation found out that 536 dissertations were written over leisure time and recreation by using “leisure time, free time and recreation” key words between 1987-2019. Also, most dissertations written in this field were prepared at a number of 68 dissertations in 2019. They noted that more than half of the dissertations (272 dissertations) written about the essential subject belonged to 2019 while 64 dissertations were written in 2018 (Yersüren & Özel, 2020).

Method

The recreation and tourism variables that are closely related with each other were discussed in the research. In this context, it was aimed to examine the studies discussing the recreation and tourism variables together with an integrative point of view between 2021-1964 and published in the international arena (article, paper, book, etc.) in terms of certain parameters and to make a bibliometric analysis. Thus, while determination of the status quo and developmental level of the studies themed recreation and tourism makes a significant contribution into the recreation and tourism fields on one hand, it will be a guide for the researchers being interested in this matter on the other hand.

A scanning was performed in Scopus database on May 4, 2021 for accessing data related with studies themed recreation and tourism. “‘Recreation’ and ‘tourism or hospitality or tourist or travel’” words were scanned together on the search page of the related database. It was accessed to totally 553 sources published between 2021-1964 as a result of the scanning. It was deemed appropriate to subject all accessed sources to the evaluation. The bibliometrical analyses intended the aim of the research were made.

The concept of bibliometry expresses the application of mathematical and statistical methods in order to analyse the documents from various aspects (Lawani, 1981). In the bibliometric researches, the findings make assessments intended the development level of science branch that is the subject of the research, document, authority, country, etc. over time possible, as well as presentation of the status quo of these elements (Pritchard, 1969). The bibliometry contributes into the literature from many aspects such as evaluation of the progress in development of the science, establishment of reliable scientific publication sources, creation of the academic foundation and evaluation of academic outputs. Also, while it provides objective criteria in order to evaluate the researches contributing into academic literature, it is used as an instrument for evaluating the scientific qualification and efficiency. Thus, the bibliometry is seen as an important instrument in many scientific fields aiming to progress (Martinez, Cobo, Herrera & Herrera-Viedma, 2015).

In the bibliometrical researches, international scientific citation indexes such as “Science Citation Index (SCI), Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) and Art&Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI)” constitute the most important data sources (Güzeller & Çeliker, 2017). “Scopus” and “Web of Science”

databases containing important indexes provide an important source of data for the bibliometrical researches (Aydinoğlu & Taşkın, 2018). Thus, Scopus database was preferred in acquisition of the research data.

“VOSviewer” program was used in order to make the bibliometrical analysis of the data accessed within the scope of the research and to visualize the results. VOSviewer is the scientific mapping program developed for visual presentation of the bibliometrical networks. VOSviewer program basically designed for analyzing the bibliometrical networks focuses on formal presentation of the networks (Van Eck & Waltman, 2017).

Each circle in the image presented by the VOSviewer program identifies an element found as a result of the filtering. The aforesaid element can represent variables such as author, document, source, authority, country, etc. Any circle being small or big is directly proportional with the frequency of the element in the image. The biggest circle is the element whose frequency is highest, that is, the element mostly repeating. The elements are presented in a single color and categorized into clusters in groups. Also, the lines on the map show the connections among the elements. The each emerging connection has a power. While a thin connection line shows the existence of a weak connection, in case of a thick line, it can be said that there is a stronger connection (Van Eck & Waltman, 2019).

The findings obtained from the Scopus database within the scope of the research are presented in tables and figures. Firstly, tables were created by using the statistical information presented in the database related with the distribution of studies by years, types of study, countries with highest number of publications, languages with the highest number of publications, sources with the highest number of publication, most cited studies and key words used most frequently. Then, the network analysis results obtained in regard to the key words, authors, countries, documents and sources being outstanding in the studies themed recreation and tourism were given by using the methods of “Co-authorship, Co-occurrence and Citation” in VOSviewer.

Findings

The findings obtained in regard to the recreation and tourism themed studies as a result of the research conducted were presented in tables and figures. In Table 1, distribution of the recreation and tourism-themed studies published between 2021-1964 was given.

Table 1. Number of Publications by Years

Year	Number of publications	Year	Number of publications	Year	Number of publications
2021	6	2011	23	2001	7
2020	32	2010	19	2000-1996	27
2019	34	2009	15	1995-1991	19
2018	33	2008	17	1990-1986	50
2017	17	2007	11	1985-1981	41
2016	22	2006	11	1980-1976	27
2015	26	2005	11	1975-1971	6
2014	20	2004	10	1970-1966	2
2013	18	2003	10	1965-1964	1
2012	29	2002	9	-	-
Total Publication					553

According to Table 1, it is seen that totally 553 publications were made in the recreation and tourism subject and the first publication was made in 1964. There is no study related with the subject in some years between 1973 and 1964. It was found out that the most publications were made in 2019, with 34 publications. Also, it is possible to say that the researches discussing the recreation and tourism together generally tend to increase and the researchers showed a great interest to this subject particularly between 2018 and 2020.

Table 2. Types of Publication

Type of Publication	Number of Publications
Article	421
Part of Book	42
Paper	37
Review	21
Book	12
Other (Editorial, Note etc.)	20

Distribution of the recreation and tourism-themed studies in the categories of article, part of book, paper, review, book and other (editorial, note, etc.) was detailed in Table 2. Accordingly, it is seen that a majority of the researches were in the article type (n=421). The studies performed in article type are followed by the studies conducted in type of part of book (n=42), paper (n=37), review (n=21) and book (n=12). Also, it is noted that 20 studies were performed in other types such as editorial, note, etc.

Table 3. Countries with the Highest Number of Publications

Country	Number of Publications
USA	119
UK	46
Australia	44
Canada	41
Poland	40
Russia	32
Taiwan	19
New Zellanda	16
Netherlands	12
Turkey	10

10 countries where most studies over the recreation and tourism subject were performed, are given in Table 3. It is seen that USA is the country with the highest number of publication with 119 studies among totally 58 different countries. It is followed by UK with 46 studies and Australia with 44 studies. Turkey is ranked tenth with 10 studies. 379 publications given in Table 3 represent about 68.5% of total number of publications. Thus, about 31.5% of the publications were made in other countries.

Table 4. Languages with the Highest Number of Publications

Language of Publication	Number of Publications
English	477
Russian	22
Polish	10
Deutsch	9
French	5
Spanish	5
Bulgarian	4
Japanese	3
Ukranian	3
Chinese	2

Once Table 4 was examined, it was found out that most publications were made in English, with 477 studies. Subsequently, 22 Russian studies and 10 Polish studies were made. Although Turkish studies were not given in the related table, it can be seen from the database that a Turkish study was published.

Table 5. Journal with the Highest Number of Publications

Name of Journal	Number of Publication
Tourism Recreation Research	18
Annals of Tourism Research	12
Journal of Travel Research	11
Journal of Leisure Research	10
Tourism Geographies	10
Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism	9
Journal of Sustainable Tourism	9
Leisure Sciences	8
Tourism Management	8
Sustainability Switzerland	7

In Table 5, distribution of the journals where most publications were made for recreation and tourism-themed studies. In this scope, “Tourism Recreation Research” is the journal publishing 18 studies with the highest number of publication. It is followed by “Annals Of Tourism Research” with 12 publications and “Journal Of Travel Research” with 11 publications.

Table 6. Most Cited Publications

Name of Publication	Author	Source	Publication year	Number of citations
Using Social Media to Quantify Nature-Based Tourism and Recreation	Wood, S.A., Guerry, A.D., Silver, J.M., Lacayo, M.	Scientific Reports	2013	306
The Geography of Tourism and Recreation	Hall, C.M., Page, S.J.	The Geography of Tourism and Recreation	1999	268
Tourism Climatology: Evaluating Environmental Information for Decision Making and Business Planning in The Recreation and Tourism Sector	De Freitas, C.R.	International Journal of Biometeorology	2003	256
Rural Residents' Attitudes Toward Recreation and Tourism Development	Allen, L.R., Hafer, H.R., Long, P.T., Perdue, R.R.	Journal of Travel Research	1993	247
Some Considerations of Tourism Location in Europe: The Peripheral Regions-Under-Developed Countries-Recreation Areas	Christaller, W.	Papers of the Regional Science Association	1964	236
Impacts of Recreation and Tourism on Plant Biodiversity and Vegetation in Protected Areas in Australia	Pickering, C.M., Hill, W.	Journal of Environmental Management	2007	217
Rush As a Key Motivation in Skilled Adventure Tourism: Resolving The Risk Recreation Paradox	Buckley, R.	Tourism Management	2012	180
Climate Change Vulnerability of The US Northeast Winter Recreation-Tourism Sector	Scott, D., Dawson, J., Jones, B.	Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change	2008	147
Tourism, Recreation and Climate Change	Michael Hall, C., Higham, J.	Tourism, Recreation and Climate Change	2005	132

Review of Studies on Environmental Impacts of Recreation and Tourism in Australia	Sun, D., Walsh, D.	Journal of Environmental Management	1998	111
Total Citation Number of Recreation and Tourism-Themed Studies				7192

Most cited 10 studies conducted over the recreation and tourism subject were detailed in Table 6 by taking the information such as “name of publication, author, source in which it is published, year of publication and number of citation” into consideration. Accordingly, the most cited publication is the article named “Using Social Media to Quantify Nature-Based Tourism and Recreation”, it was published in “Scientific Reports” journal in 2013 and it took 306 citations. It is followed by the study named “The Geography of Tourism and Recreation” conducted by Hall and Page (1999) and taking 268 citations. Also, once all studies performed in this regard are taken into consideration, it is found that total citation number is 7192.

Table 7. Most Used Key Words

Key Word	Frequency	Key Word	Frequency
Tourism	123	Recreational Facility	20
Recreation	88	Tourist Destination	20
Recreational Activity	78	Travel	19
Tourism Development	40	United States	19
Ecotourism	29	Sustainable Development	18
Outdoor Recreation	29	Travel Cost Method	18
Tourism Management	24	Australia	17
Recreational Development	22	Nature-based Tourism	15
Environmental Protection	20	Recreational Management	15
Human	20	Travel Behavior	15

In Table 7, 20 key words mostly used in the recreation and tourism-themed studies were given. Accordingly, “tourism” word is the most used key word, with 123 uses. It is followed by “recreation” with 88 uses, “recreational activity” with 78 uses and “tourism development” with 44 uses. In Figure 1, a network of the key words used in the recreation and tourism-themed studies is seen.

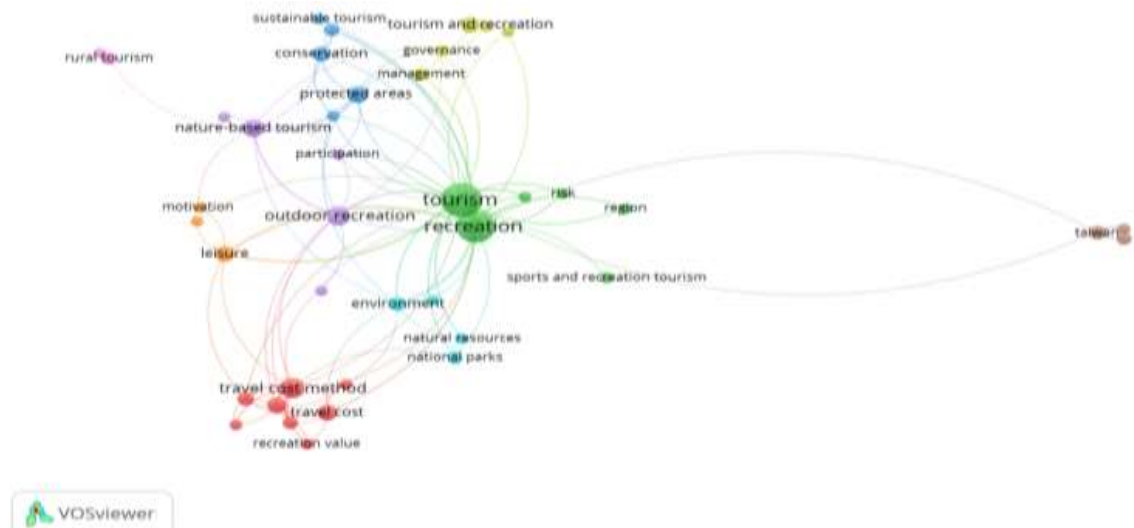


Figure 1. Network of Key Words for the Recreation and Tourism-Themed Studies

Totally 1077 key words were detected in the publication examined. Of these key words, 44 key words used at least for 3 times were reached. However, “assessment” word that was considered not to be related with the subject was removed from the list where there were 44 key words. According to the

Figure 1; it is seen that the most used key words are “tourism” and “recreation” given in green circles. Also, the key words used in the studies conducted in this field create 10 clusters. Each of these clusters can be seen in circles in different colors and at different sizes. Generally, it is possible to say that the same key words (“tourism” ve “recreation”) are frequently used in the recreation and tourism-themed studies and these words are directing this field.

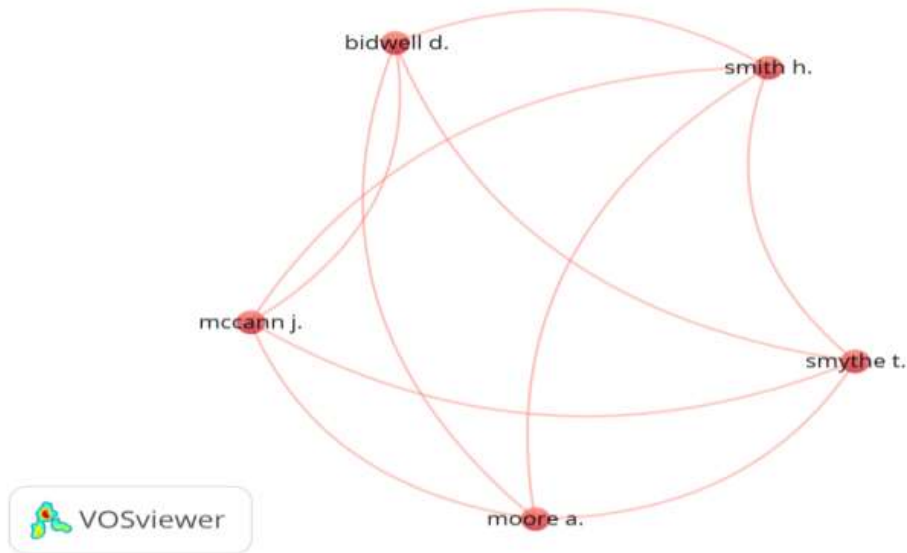


Figure 2. Network Map of Mostly Cooperating Authors

Once the minimum document number of the authors in VOSviewer program is determined as 3, 95 of total 1040 authors meet the threshold value. The network map of the five most cooperating authors is visualized in the Figure 2. A single cluster of the authors was obtained in the studies conducted over the recreation and tourism. This cluster is visualized in red color and the authors named “Bidwell D., Smith H., Smythe T., Moore A. and Mccann J” are presented in the cluster. Thus, it is possible to say that the names seen on the network map are the most cooperating authors in this field.

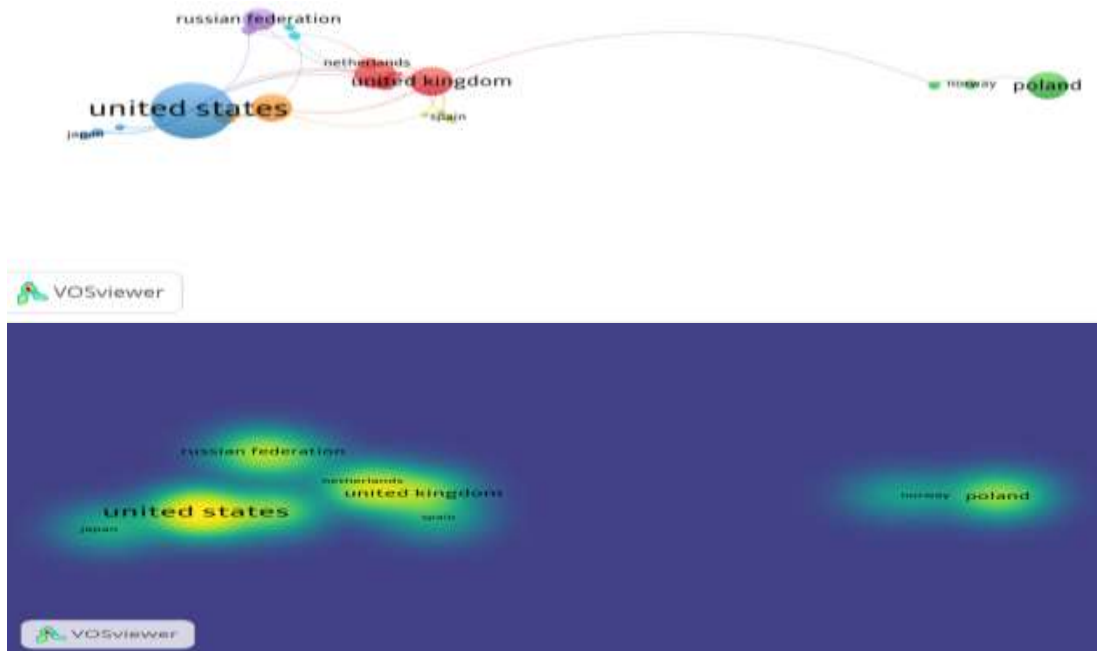


Figure 3. Network and Intensity Map of the Most Cooperating Countries

Once the minimum document number of the countries is determined as 3 in the VOSviewer program, 32 of total 70 countries meet the threshold value. The information about the most cooperating countries in the studies conducted over the recreation and tourism subject are given in 7 clusters in Figure 3. According to the Figure 3; “Australia, France, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand and UK” are present in the first cluster; “Czechia, Norway, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden” in the second cluster; “China, Japan, South Africa, South Korea and USA” in the third cluster; “Chilli, Italy, Portugal and Spain” in the fourth cluster; “Finland, Kazakhstan, Russia and Turkey” in the fifth cluster; “Austria, Germany and Switzerland” in the sixth cluster and “Canada and Taiwan” in the seventh cluster. According to the Figure 3, it can be seen that USA in the biggest blue circle is the most cooperating country.

Also, the intensity map of the countries pertaining to the number of studies conducted is given in the Figure 3. Once the intensity map is taken into consideration, the country approaching to the blue color is the country having less publication. In this line, it is understood that USA is located in a relatively central position in the recreation and tourism-themed studies. On the other hand, it is understood that UK and Russia are conducting more intense studies compared with the other countries.

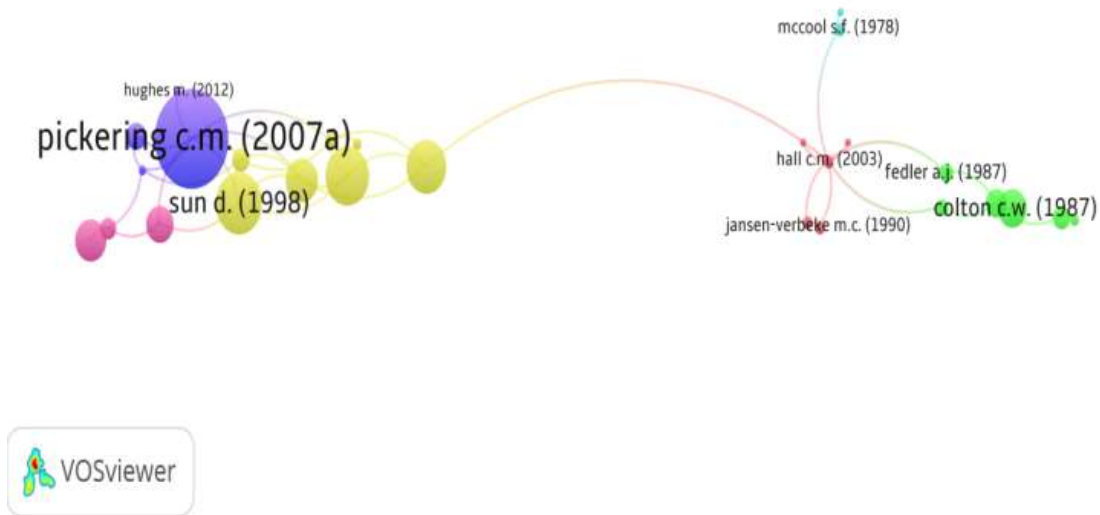


Figure 4. Network Map of the Most Cited Documents

Once the minimum citation number of the document is selected as at least 3 in VOSviewer program, 260 of the total 553 documents meet the threshold value. The network map of the most cited documents over the recreation and tourism-themed studies is given in the Figure 4. Accordingly, it is seen that the related documents are in 6 clusters. Each color in the map represents a different cluster. In this line, the most cited document took 217 citations and it was conducted by Pickering C.M. (2007a) shown in the biggest blue circle.

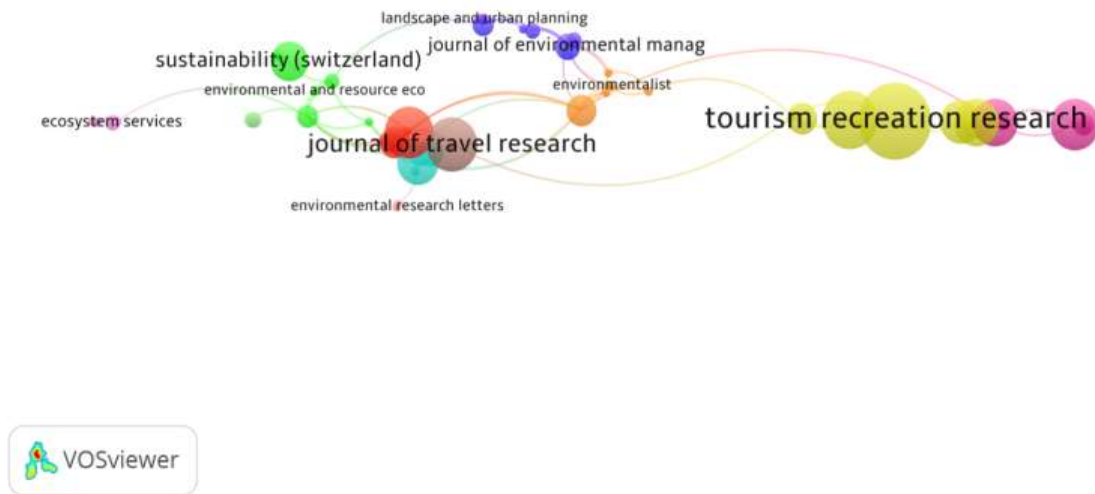


Figure 5. Network Map of the Most Cited Sources

Once the minimum document number is determined as 1 and minimum citation number as at least 5 in VOSviewer program, 132 of total 329 sources meet the threshold value. A network map of the most cited sources in the recreation and tourism-themed studies is given in Figure 5. It is seen in the map that the most cited sources are in 11 clusters and the clusters are visualized in different colors. According to the Figure 5, “Journal of Travel Research” journal shown in the biggest red circle has 11 documents, it is the most cited source with 484 citations. The reason why “Tourism Recreation Research” journal appears bigger in the map is that it has more (18 documents) documents. Although it has more documents, it remained limited with 73 citations.

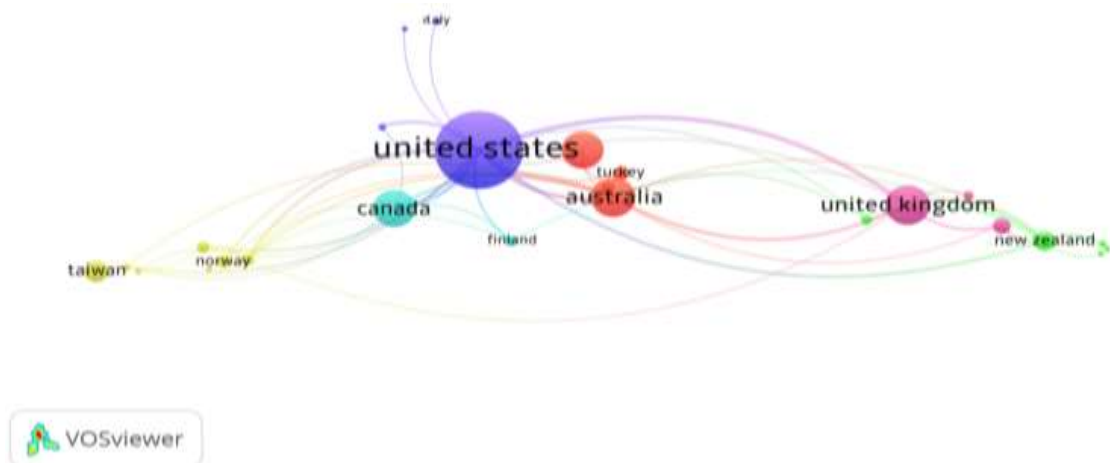


Figure 6. Network Map of the Most Cited Countries

Once the minimum document number of the country is determined as 1 and minimum citation number as 5 in VOSviewer program, 46 of total 70 countries meet the threshold value. A network map of the most cited countries in the recreation and tourism-themed studies is given in Figure 6. It is seen in the map that the most cited countries are in 6 clusters and the clusters are visualized in different colors. According to the Figure 6, it was found out that USA shown in the biggest blue circle is both the country with the highest number of documents and the most cited country with 119 documents and 2123 citations. Besides, USA is followed by Australia with 1094 citations, UK with 847 citations and Canada with 842 citations in regard to the citation number. With 38 citations, Turkey is ranked 21st in the list where 70 countries are listed.

Conclusion

This research aims to examine the recreation and tourism-themed studies within the framework of certain parameters and to make a bibliometric analysis. Thus, it was considered that the results obtained would make a great contribution into the related sciences that are in a close relation with each other at the point of presenting both the status quo and developmental course of the recreation and tourism-themed studies. In this context, a systematic and extensive scanning was performed on Scopus database for the purpose of determining the studies discussing the recreation and tourism subjects together. As a result of the scanning, totally 553 publications published between 2021-1964 were found. Although the number of the studies performed in this subject is much more between 2018 and 2020, it is possible to say that studies are in an increase trend by years. In other words, it is seen that the interests of the researchers for this subject are gradually increasing. These results acquired show similarity with the results of the study performed by Gözen (2020) over the recreation science. Such that, Gözen (2020) also states that the publications have displayed a significant increase as from 2010. Likewise, Lapa et al. (2018) states that the publications over the recreation field have started to increase as from 2011.

Once the type of the recreation and tourism-themed studies is examined, it is seen that the highest number of publications has been published in form of article. Although it is not as high as article, it was found that small numbers of publications were published in forms of part of book, paper, review, book, etc. It was examined which countries made greater contribution in the publications and it was determined that the number of USA-centered publications is higher than the others. It is standing out that Turkey is the tenth country in regard to the contribution with 10 publications. It was noted that a majority of the studies conducted in this subject were published in English.

According to the findings of the recreation and tourism-themed studies, it was found that the journal with the highest number of publication is "Tourism Recreation Research". Also, total number of citations made to the recreation and tourism-themed studies is 7192. It was found that the most cited study is the study named "Using Social Media to Quantify Nature-Based Tourism and Recreation" written by "Wood, S.A., Guerry, A.D., Silver, J.M., Lacayo, M." in 2013 and published in "Scientific Reports", with 306 citations.

Of the results obtained, another result is about the key words. In this regard, "tourism", "recreation", "recreational activity" "tourism development" words are the most used key words, respectively, within 1077 key words. In the network map accessed in regard to the key words, it can be seen that the tourism and recreation words are heavily used and these words direct the studies. Besides, it was found that the most cooperating authors in the recreation and tourism-themed studies are "Bidwell D., Smith H., Smythe T., Moore A. ve Mccann J." Also, according to the country cooperation results, it was determined that USA is in higher cooperation compared with other countries, as is in the publication matter. This finding obtained is supported by the results of the intensity map. In other words, it is possible to say that the recreation and tourism-themed studies are USA-centered and USA is guiding this field. Besides, UK and Russia are among the most cooperatig countries in this regard and making significant contributions. These results obtained show similarity with the results of the study conducted by Gözen (2020).

According to the citation analysis results of the recreation and tourism-themed studies, the most cited document which has the highest number of relation with others was published by Pickering C.M. (2007a). It was determined that the most cited source in this subject is the "Journal of Travel Research" journal. However, "Tourism Recreation Research" journal is heading in terms of the document number. Although it has more documents, it falls behind "Journal of Travel Research" journal in terms of citation. This case can be understood from the intensity of the network connections of the journals in network map with the others.

According to the citation analysis results obtained; it was found that again USA is the most cited country, as is in the highest number of publication and cooperation and it is followed by Australia, UK and Canada. However, although USA is the most cited country in this regard, Gözen (2020) states that

the publications originating from Czech and Slovakia have been frequently applied in regard to the citation in recent years.

The recreation and tourism-themed studies have been evaluated within the framework of certain parameters. The status quo and developmental course of the studies discussing the recreation and tourism subjects together up to the present day were generally presented. It is possible to day that these results presented at the end of the research provide the researchers important knowledge and will guide the studies to be conducted in this regard. Also, it can be seen that the subject is a subject drawing quite interest internationally and the interest has been gradually increasing in the recent years. However, it is seen that a limited number of countries provided significant contribution into this subject.

The results obtained reveal the close relationship between tourism and recreation departments. Beside, it is an important issue for the systematic development of tourism and recreation activities that tourism and recreation disciplines, which are intertwined with each other in terms of sector, should be handled more academically.

Publication of the studies to be conducted in this regard in journals scanned in databases such as Scopus and Web of Science may increase the interests of the researchers, authorities and countries into the international field. Also, repetition of the bibliometrical researches over the recreation and tourism-themed studies within the framework of different parameters and at certain intervals may give important knowledge and clues about the developmental course of the field and gaps in the field.

Disclosure Statements

1. Contribution rate statement of researchers: First author %50, Second author %50.
2. No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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