Examples of Oligopolies

Baby Formula

Three companies—Abbott, Mead, and Nestle—account for the vast majority of formula sold in the U.S.

Abbott alone has more than 40% of the market

98% of the formula sold in the U.S. is made in the U.S. there is no foreign competition because the U.S. has a tariff and regulatory system effectively designed to keep foreign production out of the U.S market.

Film and Television

Film and television production in the U.S. is dominated by five media conglomerates: The Walt Disney Company, WarnerMedia, NBCUniversal, Sony, and Viacom.

Wireless Carriers

The combined market share of the four major wireless carrier companies in the U.S.—Sprint-Nextel, T-Mobile, Verizon, and AT&T—is over 98%.

Music Industry

The music industry is dominated by three major recording labels: Sony, Universal, and Warner

Domestic Airlines

With four major domestic airlines-American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Southwest Airlines, and United Airlines - flying about 80% of all domestic passengers in 2017

U.S. Car Manufacture

With three leading auto manufacturers in the United States: Ford, GM, and Stellantis (the new iteration of Chrysler through mergers).

Global Car Manufacture

Twelve key manufacturers: Toyota, Honda, Volkswagen, Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi, Daimler, Ford, GM, Stellantis, BMW, SAIC, Hyundai

Aircraft Manufacture

Ten key manufacturers: Lockheed Martin, Airbus, Boeing, Raytheon Technologies, Northrop Grumman, General Electric, Safran, Leonardo, Bombardier, and United Aircraft Corporation. Boeing and Airbus are the two biggest airplane manufacturers in the world. Together, they own nearly 90% of the market.

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Models of Oligopoly Behavior