

Datasheet of Urban Dictionary dataset.

Urban Dictionary is a crowdsourced online dictionary operating under the motto "Define Your World." Database is oriented for English language with 42.4% of visitors [1], and therefore contributors, from USA. On the web there are versions of Urban Dictionary in other languages (German, Russian, Portuguese, etc)[2].

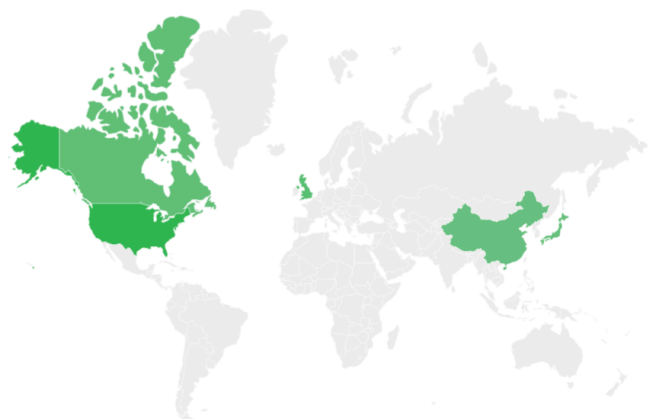







Figure 1. Urban Dictionary webpage visitors by country

Table 1. Geography of urbandictionary.com visitors

Country	Percent of Visitors	Rank in Country
 United States	42.4%	232
 United Kingdom	6.4%	220
 Canada	4.4%	231
 Japan	3.4%	1,251
 China	3.1%	2,130

Sites that are related to urbandictionary.com shown in the Table 2 below.

Table 2. Similar Websites by audience overlap

1. dictionary.com
2. merriam-webster.com
3. thefreedictionary.com
4. wiktionary.org
5. cambridge.org

Dataset description

Urban Dictionary has a unique database of slang or cultural words and phrases with definitions. In the context of Urban Dictionary, "definitions" include not only literal definitions, but also descriptions. As such, "to define" a word or phrase on Urban

Dictionary does not necessarily entail providing a strict definition; merely a description of some aspect of the word or phrase could suffice for inclusion in the dictionary. Words or phrases on Urban Dictionary may have multiple definitions, usage examples, and **tags**.

Quality control

By default, each definition is accepted or rejected based on the number of "Publish" or "Don't Publish" votes it receives from volunteer editors. The editors are not bound by any criteria for the approval or rejection of definitions. Editors previously needed a valid email address, but it is no longer required, as three options are provided for new words: "Add It!," "Keep Out!," and "I Can't Decide." However, a **Facebook** or **Gmail** account is required to post a new definition. [3] Editors are not allowed to edit entries for spelling, wording or punctuation.

Issues with content

One objection about content is that the very name "Urban Dictionary" misleadingly implies that urbanites in different cities share a common vocabulary. A more serious objection is that definitions can be trumped up for the sole purpose of embarrassing people.

Although the explicit nature of many definitions on the site has led to objections, the site contains many non-explicit definitions.

Application

As of 2013, Urban Dictionary has been used in several court cases to define slang terms that are not found in dictionaries. Urban Dictionary was also used in a District Court complaint where a man posted a threat on a gun exchange Facebook page. [4]

In the United States, some state **Departments of Motor Vehicles** refer to Urban Dictionary in determining if certain license plates are appropriate or not. For example, a man in Las Vegas was allowed to keep "HOE" as his license plate after managing to convince the state, with the use of Urban Dictionary, that it meant "TAHOE", as in **the vehicle** made by **Chevrolet**, since that was already taken. [5]

Dictionary API makes it possible to create games, bots and AI, conduct research and learn. [6] **IBM** had programmed **Watson** to use Urban Dictionary. After having all the words and definitions incorporated into Watson, it began responding to researchers' questions with profanity, leading the programmers to remove it from its memory and adding an additional filter to prevent it from swearing in the future. [7]

API access

UrbanDictionary is free to use and does not have official API. Unofficial 'secret' API is available on **market.mashape.com**. [8]

API response in a JSON file format can be parsed differently depending on the data use case. Example of API usage can be found in the following GitHub repository: **<https://github.com/xoxoaseka/xoxoaseka.github.io>** and tested here **<https://xoxoaseka.github.io>**. [9]

References

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