

From the sidelines to the archived web: What are the most annoying football phrases in the UK?

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Football Clichés

- Clichés have been a longstanding part of football
- In recent years linguistics of football has become an area of interest for academic study
- It is also the subject of some popular books
- Increase in media time to discuss football has led to an increase in the use of clichés in commentary
- This increase in use has also led to a dislike for this type of commentary and resulted in lots of most annoying phrases lists online through mainstream media and online forums

Data Collection

- Reviewed the lists on the first page of a Google search
- Conducted a survey from my social media accounts

| Men's phrases reviewed | Women's phrases reviewed | Total number |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 343 | 123 | 466 |

Most annoying phrases in football

| Men's Phrases | Number of appearances | Women's Phrases | Number of appearances |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Variants of comparing to players like Messi, Ronaldo etc.* | 5 | Boring | 5 |
| 110 per cent | 4 | Lesbians | 4 |
| He's hit it too well | 4 | Slow | 4 |
| It's a game of two halves | 4 | Ladies football | 4 |
| It could be a cricket score | 4 | Women's football | 4 |

* For the purpose of this review only a comparison to Ronaldo was used as he spent some of his career in the English Premier League and is more popular than Messi on the archived web: https://www.webarchive.org.uk/shine/graph?query=%22Cristiano+Ronaldo%22%2C+%22Lionel+Messi%22&year_start=1996&year_end=2013&action=update

Women's experience in football

“virtually replicates their more general experience – that they have been treated as not only different to men but also inferior in many respects”

Ann Bourke, Women's Football in the Republic of Ireland, p. 163 (2003)

Most annoying phrases in football

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Shine

Warning! This is a research prototype for a web archive search service, and may be taken down at any time. x

Welcome

Welcome to SHINE, our prototype historical search engine.

About SHINE

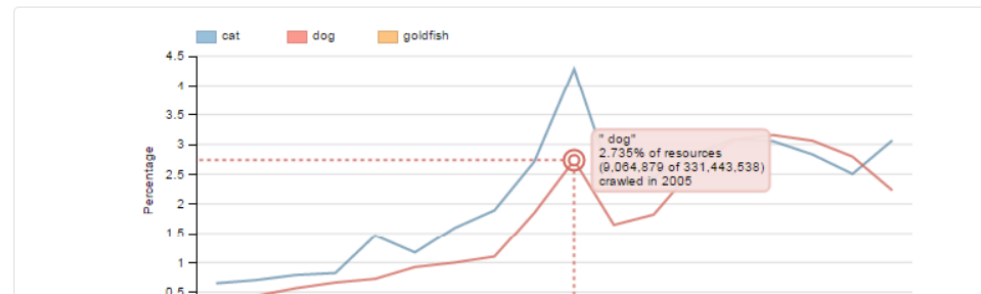
This tool has been developed as part of the [Big UK Data Arts and Humanities project](#) funded by the AHRC. Read more about the project on our [blog](#).

The data was acquired by JISC from the [Internet Archive](#) (IA) and includes all .uk websites in the IA web collection crawled between around 1996 until April 2013 ([you can read more details about this dataset here](#)). The collection comprises over 3.5 billion items (urls, images and other documents) and has been full-text indexed by the UK Web Archive. *Every word of every website in the collection can be searched for and analysed.*

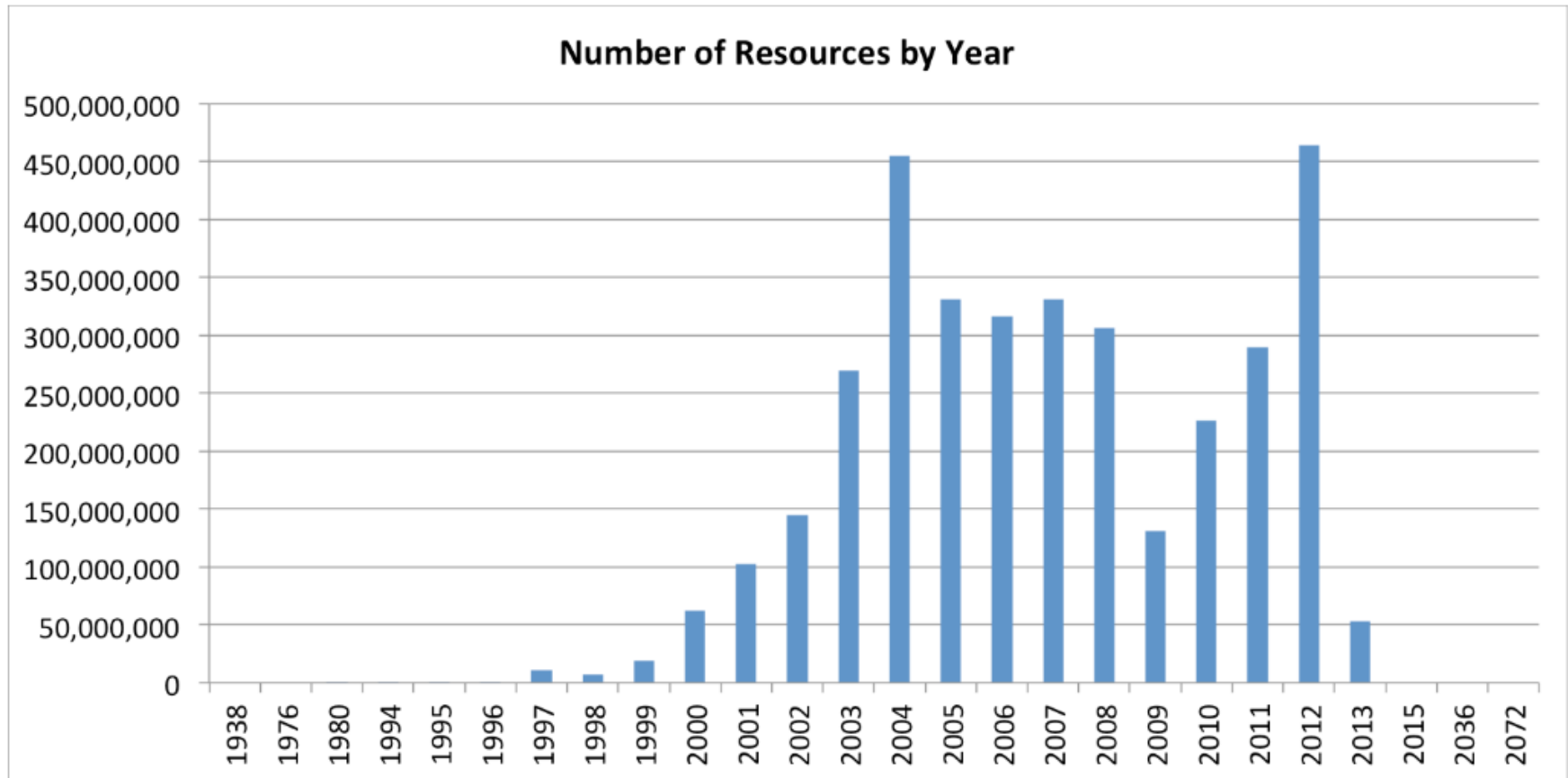
What can I do?

Trend analysis

Use '[trends](#)' to analyse the number of pages a word or phrase appears in the collection over a given period (within 1996-2013). Comparisons can be drawn by adding several words or phrases separated by a comma. E.g. [cat, dog, goldfish](#)

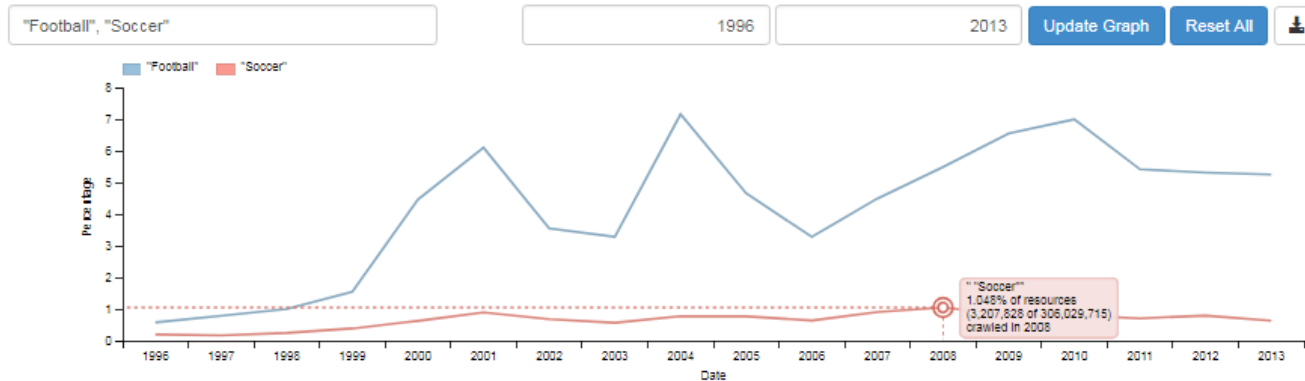


JISC UK Web Domain Dataset (1996-2013)



.uk resources archived by the Internet Archive 1996 to April 2013

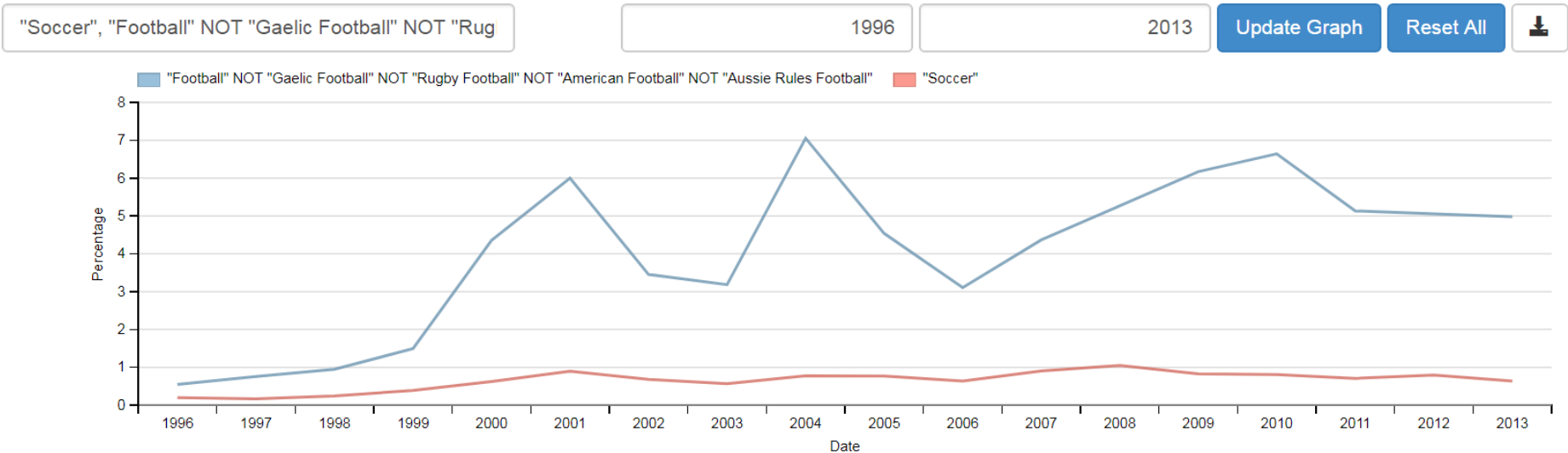
“Football”, “Soccer”



Found 100 samples matching ' "Soccer"' from 2008.

| Matching Text | Link |
|--|--|
| charger 3.75 psp - fifa soccer 22.99 (22.50 For 100+) psp - sandisk 1 gig mem cards 55.99 Comp... | wholesalepages.co.uk |
| striking payments in hong kong. Your soccer is interdependent to me. Decide on your goals and talk them | glendassprigofofeather.co.uk |
| Photo Album > If you have any interesting photos then send them by n SOCCKER SQUAD Trophy winners- pictures Ajax - Picture from the early days... | centralajax.co.uk |
| keygen, evaluation soccer 5 forum, free download of bmp studio, driver hp 1315 descargar, dre... | thegrieve.co.uk |
| dog CLIP, safe n sec torrent, warcraft dota maps for win98, new star soccer decode, acdsee 7.0 free | thegrieve.co.uk |
| Home About Facilities Virtual Tour Corporate Branches News Main Nev Soccer Resort UK 5's | goalsfootball.co.uk |
| © Goals Soccer Centres plc. 2005 Privacy Policy Corporate Site Map Website de... | |
| Goals Soccer Centres - The home of 5 a side football | |
| of Free DVDs Free tickets to upcoming music gigs Free Theatre Ticket: Soccer 2 Plug n | uk-freestuff.co.uk |
| « Polyphonic Ringtones » News » Popular » Alternative » Anthems » C Soccer » Spanish » St. Nicholas » Swedish » Turkish » TV & Movie » Valen... | absolutelyringtones.co.uk |
| Betting School Bettinginf Soccerstats Punters Lounge Sports Punter Soccer Punter UK Betting Systems | expertbettingadvice.co.uk |
| Soccer Programmes & Events Directory Of Sport Sport & Leisure In Omagh... | omagh.gov.uk |
| - Soccer - Softball - Speleology - Squash - Strength_Sports - Table_... | gifts-occasions-4u.co.uk |
| soccer 2008 wii wii bowling for columbine dvd pro bowling for columbine (s... | ciao.co.uk |
| Home Create Account Get Started Now! Player Support Help Spo Soccer Auto Racing Golf Boxing | sports-betting-lines.co.uk |
| Futures Soccer - General - | |
| History Events Odds Scores Teams Players Informations Sports. Hocke Soccer Football Boxing Formula One | |
| - NBA Hockey - NHL NFL Football MLB Baseball Basketball NHL Soccer Auto Racing Golf Tennis | |

"Soccer", "Football" NOT "Gaelic Football" NOT "Rugby Football" NOT "American Football" NOT "Aussie Rules Football"



A and B side by side

A = 15,843,947

B = 15,048,344

2010 Total = 226,639,215

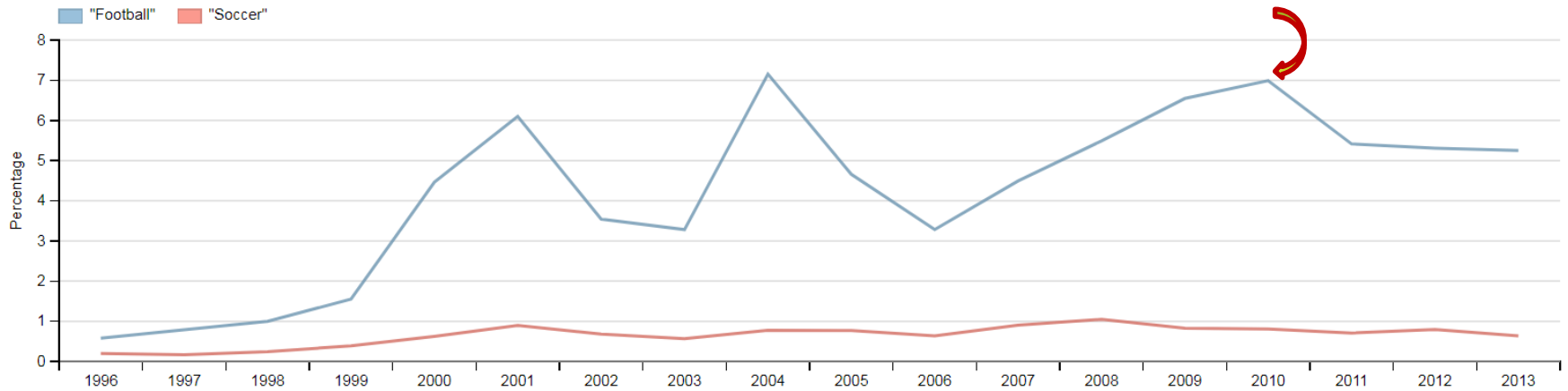
"Football", "Soccer"

1996

2013

Update Graph

Reset All



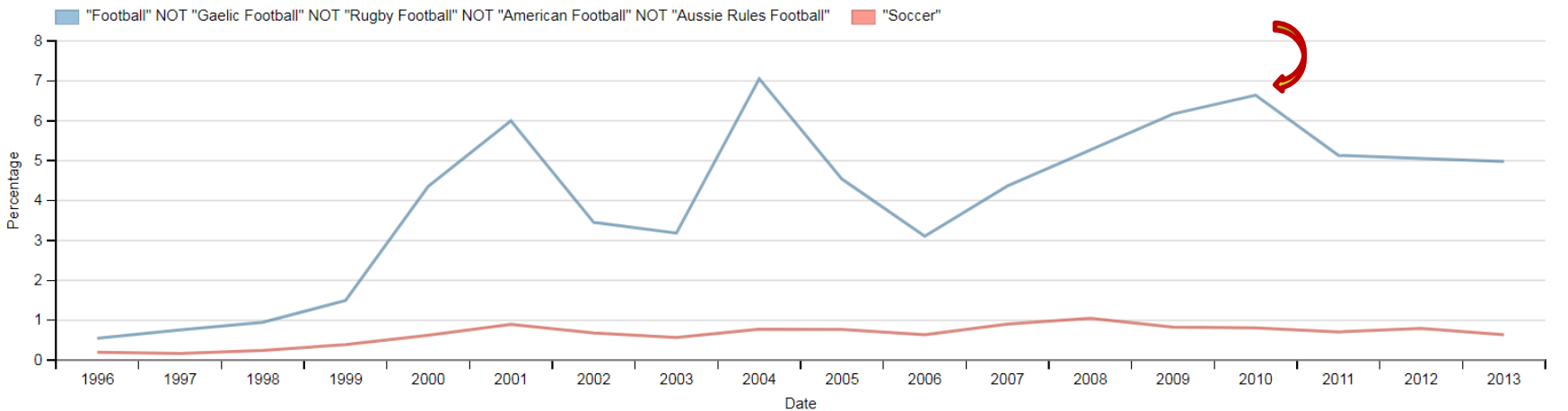
"Soccer", "Football" NOT "Gaelic Football" NOT "Rug"

1996

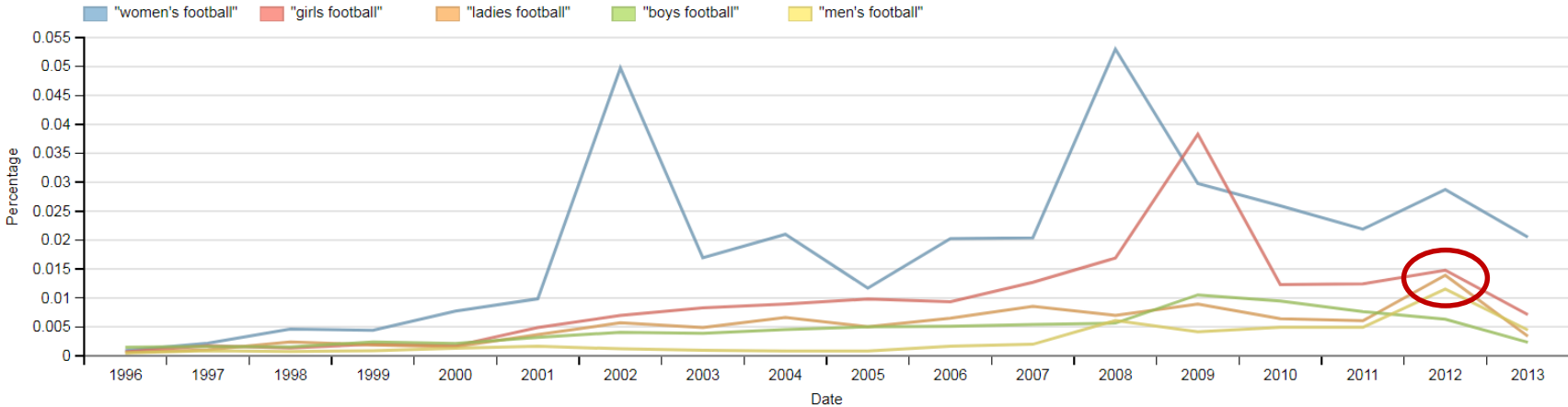
2013

Update Graph

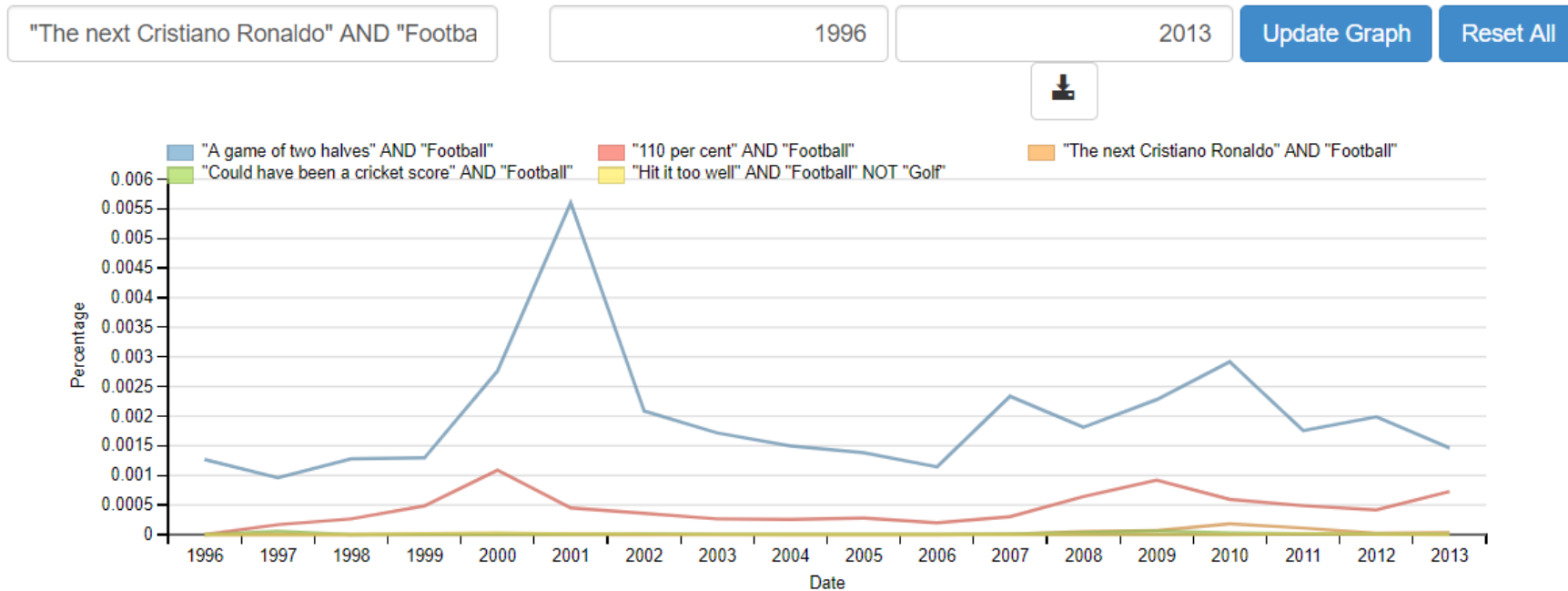
Reset All



"women's football", "ladies football", "girls football", "boys football", "men's football"

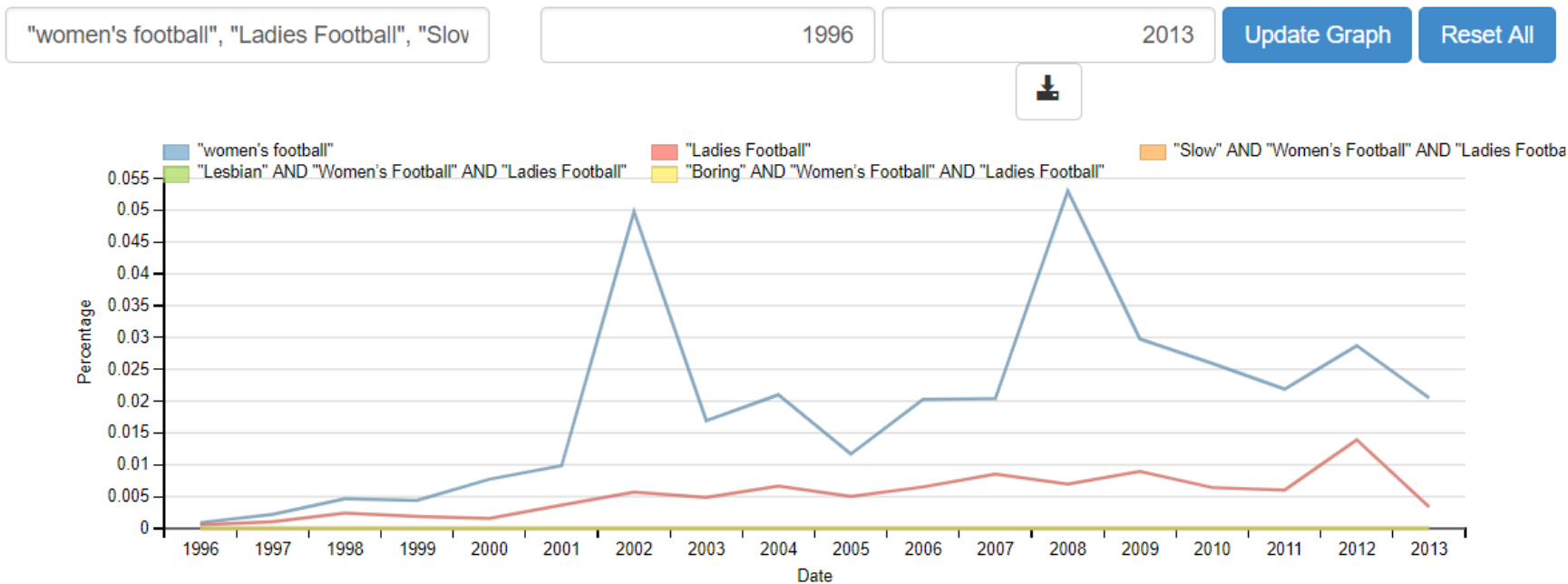


What are the most annoying football phrases on the UK archived web space?



"A game of two halves" AND "Football"

What are the most annoying football phrases on the UK archived web space?



"women's football"

What are the most annoying football phrases on the UK archived web space?



“A game of two halves”



“Women's football”

Main Issues

- Duplication
- A single host that spikes results
- Some phrases either too generic or too unique
- Football is a designated tab on many websites which can skew relevant results returned if the phrase is used outside of football.

However

- This dataset can still give us a general overview of how popular certain terms are over this period in time.
- As long as the search parameters are clearly outlined then the results to a search query should be seen as valid.

Useful Links

webarchive.org.uk

webarchive.org.uk/blog

webarchive.org.uk/videos

webarchive.org.uk/shine

data.webarchive.org.uk/opendata



web-archivist@bl.uk
[@UKWebArchive](https://twitter.com/UKWebArchive)

helena.byrne@bl.uk
[@HBee2015](https://twitter.com/HBee2015)