

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON THE INTERNET:
A HIGHLY SELECTIVE LIST OF WEB SITES.
2009 revisions**

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General Government Guides

You can learn more about each government department and program by looking in **The U.S. Government Manual**, available through the GPO Web site at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/gmanual/browse-gm-04.html> and conveniently displayed in text and PDF formats by the National Archives and Records Administration.

Ben's Guide to US Government for Kids

Although it is designed for young people (you can select the age group) and teachers, this site is useful for all adults. It provides introductory information about the essentials of the U.S. Government with links to sites giving more detail. It is written in easy to understand English. This is particularly useful in countries where English might not be the primary language, or for contacts wanting easy-to-digest information on the structure of the US Government. Available at <http://bensguide.gpo.gov>

Subject Arrangement of Government Resources.

www.library.okstate.edu/govdocs/browsetopics/index.html

Virtual Reference Desk for the US Government (lists Documents published by Government Agency, by Subject and by Title:) <http://www.virtualref.com/govdocs/>

Selected Web Resources for the U.S. Government (Courtesy of the University of Arkansas' Libraries Home Page): <http://dante.uark.edu/govdocs/govdoclinks.asp> (also includes international sites.)

United States Maps divided by Topical Areas: <http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Maps.shtml>

U.S. Government maps – links by topic

IIP Internet Sites To Bookmark

AMERICA.GOV: <http://america.gov>

This is the principal gateway to State's Public Diplomacy overseas presence on the World Wide Web. Many officers choose to make this their default page: the page first seen when they open their Internet browser. It is the richest, deepest, and most current site produced by IIP for the public. Includes all issues of IIP produced **Electronic Journals** as well as the Washington File, and official statements.

GENERAL REFERENCE SITES:

Internet Public Library: <http://www.ipl.org> An excellent general reference source.

RefDesk: <http://refdesk.com> Well-organized series of links.

The Librarian's Index to the Internet: (designed and evaluated by librarians and other information professionals in all subject fields) <http://lii.org> (exhaustive list of subject categories; includes an internal search engine to the thousands of resources found on this Web Page.) Another very useful categorization of Internet resources is provided at: <http://www.wheretodoresearch.com> Many basic electronic reference sources are also listed at: <http://dante.uark.edu/eresources/weblisting.asp?Category=General+Reference>

CRS (Congressional Research Service) Reports. Authoritative, timely and exhaustively researched reports covering all topics. A valuable source of CRS late-breaking reports can be located through the impressive **Foreign Press Center Web Site**, an excellent source for official reports as well as transcripts and speeches of government officials and other policy experts. <http://www.fpc.state.gov>.

American College and Research Libraries Listing of Internet Resources in all Subject Areas.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/internetresources.cfm>

(Constantly updated)

Journalist's Internet Resources (<http://npc.press.org/library/resources.cfm>)

Emphasis on facts and statistics. Offers hundreds of authoritative links to other resources, from the National Press Center.

OTHER Online Sites and GOV SEARCH ENGINES:

Department of Home Land Security: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/> Includes latest Press Releases.

FedWorld Information Network <http://www.fedworld.gov/>. Searchable database of government information sorted by federal databases, information networks, and government reports.

FedForms: <http://www.fedforms.gov/> Your first step to federal forms. The Web Site is intended to help citizens gain access to existing Government information and services; U.S. law encourages Federal agencies to use a range of electronic alternatives and FedForms.gov is one component of this effort.

FirstGov <http://www.usa.gov/>. FirstGov is intended to be your first resource to find government information on the Internet, with topics ranging from business and economy to money and benefits to science and technology - and everything in between with links to 30 million web pages by topic.

□ See also the **Spanish Language** version of the First Gov Web Site at: <http://www.espanol.gov>

FREEGOV: http://freegovinfo.info/find_government_information

Links to current issues and newly found resources, also to podcasts, to presentations, to Government RSS feeds.

Govengine.com <http://govengine.com> A very powerful and precise search engine that limits its searching to .gov and .mil websites.

Google Uncle Sam: <http://www.google.com/ig/usgov> Google U.S. Government Search.

This is a newly introduced refinement of Google Uncle Sam; information about this new search product is at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/14/AR2006061402359.html>

GovSpot <http://govspot.com>

A well-organized portal to useful government information. See also the related <http://libraryspot.com>

GPO Access <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/> The Government Printing Office has responsibility for the electronic availability of a wide variety of USG information. This is a searchable site for the full-text of documents such as the **US Code, Code of Federal Regulations, the Federal Budget** and a wide variety of other resources.

Science.gov: <http://www.science.gov>

A portal to scientific information from agencies throughout the federal government.

Spanish Language Versions of US Government and International Web Sites: Información Gubernamental en Español

Federal Websites in Spanish/Los Sitios Web Federales en Español

<http://www.odl.state.ok.us/usinfo/topiclists/us-spanish.htm>

U.S. Government University of Michigan Government Documents Center.

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/government-documents-center/> A well-organized central clearinghouse for USG, foreign governments, and NGO documents. Includes congressional e-mails and all three branches of government,

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Congress: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/legislative.html>

Official, searchable publication databases authorized for dissemination to the public: it includes Bills, Hearings, Documents, the Congressional Record, and much more.

House of Representatives: <http://www.house.gov/> From here you can find individual Member's websites Also has daily schedules, committee assignments and biographies of all Members.

Senate: <http://www.senate.gov/> is similar to the House site, with access to Senators' websites, daily activities, and websites in individual committees such as the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations <http://foreign.senate.gov/>

A new redesign of this Web Site explains in detail US LAW AND LEGISLATION. Look at the Reference Desk of the www.senate.gov web site in particular.

Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet: <http://thomas.loc.gov>

Information from and about all legislation and activities of the 101st to 111th Congress, gathered together and maintained by the Library of Congress. Includes texts of all Bills, committee reports, and the Congressional Record, in an easy to use format.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The White House: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/>

Department of Defence: <http://www.defenselink.mil/> includes all branches of the military.

Department of State: <http://www.state.gov/>

Economic Data <http://stats.bls.gov/> Bureau of Labor Statistics.

See also <http://econdata.net> and

Economic Statistics (White House Economic Statistics Briefing Room):

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/esbr.html>

Library of Congress <http://www.loc.gov> The nation's library not only hosts Thomas but also offers a wide variety of useful information. See <http://memory.loc.gov> for digitized projects in a variety of areas.

JUDICIAL BRANCH

The Supreme Court: <http://www.supremecourtus.gov>

Judicial Branch Resources: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/judicial.html>

LEGAL PORTALS:

A very impressive legal portal with texts of U.S. Supreme Court decisions and U.S laws and legislation is provided by <http://findlaw.com>.

Cornell University's Legal Information Institute Web Site at <http://www.law.cornell.edu/> also provides detailed information on US laws and legislation and additionally offers hundreds of authoritative links to recent legal initiatives and legal findings.

INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES:

Community Development Gateway The Community Development Gateway at

<http://www.developmentgateway.org>

has substantial information on development projects around the world.

Multilateral Organizations and Commissions:

<http://directory.google.com/Top/Society/Government/Multilateral/Regional>

United Nations: <http://www.un.org>.

For information on UN initiatives, policy statements and other resources concerning HIV/AIDS, consult the UN's specific portal at: <http://www.unaids.org>

Yale University Law Library: Foreign and Comparative Legal Research Guide:

<http://www.law.yale.edu/library/10325.asp>

Many other additional Resources at: <http://tinyurl.com/6dfaxn>

By Stephen Perry (an extensive revision and update of Donna Switzer's previous USG handout)

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