

## **HOW TO START SEARCHING THE U.S. GOVERNMENT: WHERE TO START TO FIND BASIC INFORMATION. 2009 revisions**

By IRO Stephen Perry

- 1) <http://govengine.com>
- 2) <http://govspot.com> and <http://www.usa.gov/>
- 3) **OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT SEARCH ENGINE:** [www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov) and <http://america.gov>
- 4) Where to Find Free Government Information:  
[http://freegovinfo.info/find\\_government\\_information](http://freegovinfo.info/find_government_information)

### **Congressional Research Service Reports**

The Congressional Research Service, an arm of the Library of Congress, serves the legislative process by providing Congress with non-partisan and in-depth legislative research and analysis on a variety of topics. CRS produces or updates more than 3,000 studies and other publications each year, none of which are distributed to the public.

For more information about CRS and their reports, see [Stephen Young, CRS Reports, LLRX.com \(July 15, 2002\)](#).

**For one web site to CRS REPORTS, see:**

<http://www.law.umaryland.edu/marshall/crsreports/index.asp>

**Another Great site for CRS Reports is:**

<http://searchenginewatch.com/2236441>

- 5) The University of Michigan Government Documents Site:  
<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/index.html>
- 6) University of Chicago Law Library: Internet Links for U.S. Government by Subject: <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/law/subject.html> and: <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/law/uslaw.html>
- 7) Finding Congressional and U.S. Documents from the Past:  
<http://www.llrx.com/columns/reference44.htm>

- 8) U.S. Federal Government Agencies Data: (from Duke University Libraries)  
<http://library.duke.edu/research/subject/guides/uspupol/who-usgovernment.html>  
and: <http://www.law.duke.edu/lib/researchguides/government>
- 8) How to Effectively Locate Federal Information on the WWW (from the University of California San Diego)  
<http://gort.ucsd.edu/pcruse/universe/structure.html>
- 9) Agency Approach to Locating Government Information (from the University of California at Santa Barbara):  
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/ala/tutorials/agency.html>
- 10) UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO GOV BLOG:  
<http://cubgovpubs.blogspot.com/> Provides ongoing commentary on the latest government documents that have just been releases.
- 11) FREE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (with explanations):  
<http://freegovinfo.info/> Notice the tabs at the very top of the page for more useful information.
- 12) GOV BLOG FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY (extensively covers International Issues, has RSS feeds and covers hot button topics, such as emerging legislation, Immigration, etc.) :  
<http://sunsite3.berkeley.edu/govblog/> Really an excellent source of Information
- 13) U.S. Congress InfoPack: Embassy of South Africa  
<http://southafrica.usembassy.gov/infopack03.html>
- 14) Subject Guide to U.S. Government Documents: Maintained by Professional Librarians <http://www.browsetopics.gov/>
- 15) **Government Information Online** – Ask a Librarian  
<http://govtinfo.org/>

Sometimes the answers you need are only available in hard-to-find government publications, so if you don't have a government documents librarian right at hand, you can use this "free national online information service supported by nearly thirty public, academic, and state libraries throughout the United States.

Participating librarians specialize in finding government information sources of all kinds, and will try to answer your questions through chat or email."

16) U.S. MAPS by topic: <http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Maps.shtml>

17) Subject Guide to US Government Documents from Hamline University: [http://www.hamline.edu/bush/research/guides\\_govdocs/index.html](http://www.hamline.edu/bush/research/guides_govdocs/index.html)

18) **U.S. GOVERNMENT MANUAL** 2008-2009: Provides addresses and Phone numbers of US Government Agencies as well as descriptive information. <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/gmanual/index.html>

### **WEB SITES ON THE U.S. PRESIDENCY:**

American Presidents Project:

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/index.php>

Internet Public Library Site on the U.S. Presidency:

<http://www.ipl.org/div/potus/>

Inaugural Addresses of the U.S. Presidency:

<http://www.bartleby.com/124/>

The American Presidency Project of the Smithsonian:

[http://americanhistory.si.edu/presidency/5d\\_frame.html](http://americanhistory.si.edu/presidency/5d_frame.html)

### **WHERE TO FIND STATISTICS FOR THE U.S. BASIC SITES:**

**U.S. CENSUS BUREAU:** <http://www.census.gov>

**U.S CENSUS SUBJECTS A to Z:**

<http://www.census.gov/main/www/subjects.html> (A to Z SUBJECTS)

**U.S. CENSUS TIP SHEETS:**

[http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/tip\\_sheets/012774.html](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/tip_sheets/012774.html) and

**U.S. CENSUS NEWS ROOM:**

<http://www.census.gov/pubinfo/www/news/index.html>

**AMERICAN FACT FINDER, A PROJECT OF THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU AT:**

[http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?\\_lang=en](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en)

**CENSUS ATLAS OF THE UNITED STATES:**

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/censusatlas/>

**STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE UNITED STATES:**

<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>

**BASIC U.S. STATISTICS:** [www.fedstats.gov](http://www.fedstats.gov) and  
[www.statusa.gov](http://www.statusa.gov)

and for **ECONOMIC STATISTICS:**

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

**THE U.S. ECONOMY AT A GLANCE**

<http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm>

This Department of Labor site presents key economic statistics including: Unemployment Rate, Average Hourly Earnings, Consumer Price Index and much more

**CURRENT ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** (yearly report, on the U.S. Economy with statistics):

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/cea/pubs.html> (updated every year)

**COUNTY AND CITY DATABOOK FOR U.S. STATISTICS: 2007:**

<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/ccdb07.html>

(Population, Crime, Economics, Trade Data and all other statistics on the U.S.)

**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO LIBRARIES, BOULDER.** Statistical Guides: <http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/govpubs/subject/Statistics.htm>

Other major U.S. Statistics may be found at:

<http://www.statisticsresources.info>

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