



American and International Government Publications on the Web

Firstgov.gov, www.firstgov.gov, the "US Government's Official Web Portal", is an excellent starting point for country level research. This site functions in much the same way as <http://canada.gc.ca>.

U.S. Federal Legislation: Documents from the three main branches of the U.S. Federal Government- Legislative Branch, Executive Branch, and Judicial Branch- can be found at www.gpoaccess.gov. The Government Printing Office offers a good overview of these branches, which are similar to our Statutes of Canada, Consolidated Regulations and the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Federal Register, <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/index.html>, is a legal newspaper published daily by the NARA (National Archives and Records Administration). Like *Canada Gazette Pts. I & II*, it is the official publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations.

United States statistics: Unlike Canada, the U.S. has no central statistical agency (i.e. Statistics Canada). Statistics, therefore, emanate from different agencies and departments.

FedStats, www.fedstats.gov, is a gateway to statistics from over 100 Federal agencies.

The U.S. Census, www.census.gov, is conducted every 10 years (latest 2000). A key resource on the Census website is the **American Factfinder,**

<http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?lang=en>, a portal to population, housing economic and geographic data.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis, www.bea.gov, provides data on the U.S. economy and relevant GDP and economic accounts data. A convenient resource on this site is 'Overview of the U.S. Economy' for information on trade, investment, etc.

United Nations: The six major systems within the UN are: General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Trusteeship Council, International Court of Justice, and The Secretariat. Each of these includes sub-organizations. Various UN 'Programmes' and 'Funds' include UNICEF (UN Children's Fund) and WFP, (World Food Programme). Several autonomous organizations work under the Economic and Social Council including: ILO (International Labour Organization), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and WHO (World Health Organization).

The primary portal for UN information is www.un.org. The UN Documentation Centre is sub-divided into the six systems listed above.

UNBISnet (United Nations Bibliographic Information System) is the main index for UN documents providing access to three main resources: 1) the Online Catalogue of the United Nations, 2) Voting Records for the General Assembly and for the Security Council, 3) Index to speeches-1983 onward. Note: Not all documents are full-text.

The UN Official Document System (ODS), provides access to full-text electronic versions of UN documents (coverage back to 1993) and resolutions (back to 1946).

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/> provides both PDF and PowerPoint guides on how to search UN databases.

European Union Publications & Statistics: The main European Union homepage is <http://europa.eu.int/>. It is categorized into four main groupings: 1) Activities, 2) Institutions, 3) Documents, and 4) Services. Under Documents, you may search or browse EU publications by word, author, thesaurus or theme.

European Union Statistics: EU statistics are located under Services. Thematic data are presented in folders, organizing and subdividing the information.

The World Bank Group: This encompasses five institutions: IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development), IDA (International Development Association), IFC (International Financial Corporation), MIGA (Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency), and ICSID (The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes). The term 'World Bank' refers specifically to the first two.

All the institutions play a distinct role in the mission to fight poverty and improve living standards for people in the developing world. The main World Bank home page is www.worldbank.org. Under 'Publications' are four sections: Online bookstore, Documents & Reports, Archives and Libraries. Documents & Reports is a collection of 15,000 free publications issued by the World Bank Group.

World Bank data and statistics are available under 'Data and Research' from the World Bank home page. There is also a menu containing links to related databases: Education, Gender, Health, Nutrition & Population, Development Gateway Data and Statistics, and Country Statistical Information.

