

GUIDE TO FINDING U.S. GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS IN THE NEWSPAPER & CURRENT PERIODICAL ROOM

Government documents record the activities of the agencies, offices, bureaus and departments of the federal government. They include Congressional hearings, reports and documents; and the publications of presidential task forces and specially appointed commissions.

Government documents are a great source of information about all aspects of public policy, from business, communications, and defense to health, education, and social welfare. They also contain statistical information of all kinds.

The Library of Congress collects a wide variety of US Government Publications and the Serial & Government Publications Division has been considered a Federal Depository Library since 1979, keeping a ten-year collection of depository materials. Documents that are dated earlier than that might be found in the Library's general collections.

Helpful Online Resources (Also Available Off-Site)

Library of Congress Online Catalog: catalog.loc.gov

Search to locate holdings of U.S. Government documents in its Law Library and General Collections.

Law Library of Congress: law.gov

Access digitized editions of the Federal Register from 1936-1993 (volume 1-58) and Statutes at Large from 1789-1950. Project is ongoing so stay tuned for updates!

Congress.gov

Produced by the Library of Congress.

Search major legislation, bills, public laws, the Annals of Congress, the Congressional Record and Index.

Stay up-to-date with current activity in Congress, search committee reports and historical documents, and find out more about the legislation process.

govinfo : govinfo.gov

Created by the Government Publishing Office. Search resources by branch (Executive, Legislative, and Judicial), or browse by publication title. Access the educational resource designed for educators and students K-12: *Ben's Guide*.

Finding US Government Documents at the Library of Congress : loc.gov/rr/main/govdocsguide

Produced by the Library's Humanities and Social Sciences Division. A guide to locating hearings, reports, the Congressional Record and other government documents. Includes free resources to use outside the Library.

US Government Manual: usgovernmentmanual.gov

Official handbook of the Federal Government; information on legislative, judicial, and executive branches, 1994 – 2016.

MetaLib, a service of the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) : metalib.gpo.gov/

Search multiple U.S. Federal government databases, retrieving reports, articles, and citations while providing direct links to selected resources available online.

Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. SE Madison Building, LM-133
Washington, DC 20540-4760
(202) 707-5690
loc.gov/rr/news

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Selected Electronic Databases* (Available on-site only)

ProQuest Congressional—Provides comprehensive access to United States legislative information, including: hearings; reports; prints; documents; bills; laws; regulations; CRS Reports; and CIS Legislative Histories.

U.S. Congressional Serial Set—Contains all the Reports, Documents and Journals of the US Senate and House of Representatives from 1817 -1982.

HeinOnline —Contains the Federal Register from its inception in 1936, the Code of Federal Regulations, the Administrative Procedure Act, Code of Emergency Federal Regulations, the U.S. Government Manual and the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents.

American State Papers—Contains the legislative and executive documents of Congress during the period 1789 to 1838.

Leadership Library— Contains 14 Yellow Books, listing organizations and individuals in government, the mass media, business, and nonprofit

GPO Monthly Catalog — Congressional reports, hearings, debates, and records; judiciary materials; and documents issued by executive departments . 1976-Present.

Resources in the Reference Collection

Guide to U.S. Government publications. Call Number: Z1223.Z7 A574 2018 Edition

Ask to see the 3-volume set at the Reference Desk.

Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications. Call Number: Z1223. A18

A monthly list of all publications issued through the Government Printing Office, arranged by department and bureau. Ceased publication in December 2004.

Congressional Information Service (CIS). Publications of the United States Congress. Index to Congressional Publications and Legislative Histories. Call Number: KF49.C62

Comprehensive source for researching congressional reports and hearings. Beginning with 1970, the set provides access to the documents through a variety of indexes. The abstracts give detailed summaries of the reports and hearings, along with the SuDoc numbers needed to locate them on the shelves. For information prior to 1970, please consult:

CIS Congressional Committee Hearings Index. Call Number: KF40.C56

Indexes hearings from 1833-1969.

CIS Serial Set Index. Call Number: Z1223.Z9 C65

Indexes the Serial Set from 1789-1969. Contains documents from the US Senate and House of Representatives, executive branch, and select non-governmental organizations.

*This list includes selected databases only. For more information, visit the Library's Electronic Resources page and select Government Documents under the Resource Types (eresources.loc.gov). Additional guides to the U.S. government publications at the Library of Congress and links to the text of some U.S. government documents can be found on the N&CPR home page: loc.gov/rr/news.

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