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Useful Government Information Resources for Public Librarians

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Useful Government Information Resources for Public Librarians

Indiana Library Federation Kokomo-Howard County Public Library April 30, 2010

Ask a Librarian-Government Information Online (GIO) http://131.193.153.128/

This is a nationwide service sponsored by the U.S. Government Printing Office and many federal depository libraries. Librarians participating in this chat and email service will answer users government information inquiries or direct them to appropriate government agencies or professionals for more expert assistance. Examples of recent questions include:

"How Many Pages Long is the U.S. Tax Code as of today 3/31/10, if someone were to print it out on standard size paper? I have heard estimates ranging from 10,000 to over 16,000."

"I would like to find a longitudinal data set of school participation in the National School Lunch Program. Can you help?"

"I am trying to locate a list of all individuals that have been conferred the title of "Career Ambassador" from the United States. I know this is typically an executive order that began in the 50s and was formalized in 1980 by the Foreign Service Act."

"Is there any requirements on overhaul of engines and propellers in order to sell an aircraft in the USA or overseas?"

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) www.nass.usda.gov/ This is the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's statistical branch and it provides a wide variety of statistics on agricultural products and services. Highlights include the annually published *Agricultural Statistics* and the *Census of Agriculture*
www.agcensus.usda.gov/ published every five years for years ending in 2 and 7 which provides detailed statistics on U.S. agriculture down to the county and congressional district level. Provides links to state agricultural statistics as well.

Energy Information Administration (EIA) <u>www.eia.doe.gov/</u> This is the U.S. Dept. of Energy's statistical branch and provides numerous statistics and analytical products on energy products and services including petroleum, natural gas, coal, electricity, ethanol, nuclear, and renewable and alternative fuels. Provides forecasts of energy trends and developments and information on U.S. state and foreign country energy products, services, and policies. Sample publications include *Annual Energy Outlook, International Outlook,* and *Emissions Inventory Report*.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) <u>www.bls.gov/</u> Serves as the U.S. Dept. of Labor's statistical branch and provides numerous statistics on consumer prices, producer prices, consumer expenditures, unemployment rates, and career information. Sample publications include *Monthly Labor Review, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Occupational Outlook Quarterly*, and *Career Guide to Industries*. Site also provides links to regional BLS offices (i.e. Chicago) which provide additional information on regional economic conditions in states such as Indiana.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) www.bts.gov/ Serves as the U.S. Dept. of Transportation's statistical branch and provides statistical and analytical reports on transportation sectors such as aviation, freight, commodity flow, passengers, and some international transportation data. Sample publications include State Transportation Statistics, National Transportation Statistics, Condition of U.S. Highway Bridges 1990-2008, and the National Transportation Library http://ntl.bts.gov/ which contains a variety of reports on transportation policy issues.

Department of Defense (DOD) <u>www.defense.gov/</u> Provides access to a wide variety of information resources and statistics produced by the Defense Department and its multiple offices, U.S. armed services branches, and U.S. professional military educational institutions such as the U.S. Army War College. Examples of available information resources include department and armed service branches congressional budget requests, news releases, *Nuclear Posture Review Report*, *Report on Progress Toward Stability and Security in Afghanistan*, *Measuring Stability and Security in Iraq, Annual Report to Congress: Military*

Power of the People's Republic in China, and Department of Defense Biological Safety and Security Program.

Congressional Budget Office (CBO) www.cbo.gov/ This congressional support agency advises Congress on the federal budget and budgetary implications of specific federal programs. Its website will contain correspondence between CBO officials and members of Congress, information about how this office carries out its work and conducts budget cost estimates, and the text of many of its reports including those dealing with the recently enacted health care law. Examples of CBO reports and presentations include Losing a Job During a Recession, The Effects of Health Reform on the Federal Budget, Report on the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), Federal Climate Change Programs: Funding History and Policy Issues, The Impact of Ethanol Use on Food Prices and Greenhouse-Gas Emissions, The Long-Term Outlook for the U.S. Navy's Fleet, and Using Pricing to Reduce Traffic Congestion.

Presented by:

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