



Internet Tools for Research Table of Contents

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Internet Tools for Research

This is a list of sources compiled by the Editorial Library at the L.A. Times for newsroom and library users. Some are tutorial in nature, some are good for long-range research, and some will get you quick answers for breaking news.

As of March 2005 all links were active, and all sites have either been used or recommended by an L.A. Times staffer. A primary Internet skill is evaluating a website and verifying authenticity before using material or information from that site. The tools in the Search Engines section of this handout should help you develop that skill.

1. Search Engines

- Good guides to search engines and Internet searching are:

Search Engine Watch , Web Searching Tips

<http://www.searchenginewatch.com/facts/index.html>

Bare Bones 101, A Basic Tutorial On Searching the Web

<http://www.sc.edu/beaufort/library/pages/bones/bones.shtml>

The Virtual Chase

<http://www.virtualchase.com/>

“Since Summer 1996, The Virtual Chase has assisted legal professionals conducting research on the Internet. It began as a means by which to disseminate articles and teaching aids to law librarians and other instructors of Internet research. Now it offers more than 600 pages of information pertaining to resources and research strategies. Designed especially for lawyers and other experienced legal researchers. The law firm, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP, sponsors this site.”

Look especially at Internet Research Guides <http://www.virtualchase.com/sitemap.shtml - ir>

Things You Didn't Know Google Does

<http://www.sreetips.com/google.html>

From Sree Sreenivasan's SREETIPS.COM, a guide to the tools that Google provides from its site. Extensive list including calculations and conversions, locating phone numbers and addresses, translation to other languages, and more.

- These services have a *whois* feature that lets you know who owns a name or domain:

Geektools

<http://www.geektools.com/whois.php>

Easiest to use lookup tool. Search by name or web address for registered owner of website. Can also give you other sites registered to same owner.

Smart WhoIs

<http://swhois.net>

Network Solutions

http://www.networksolutions.com/cgi_bin/whois/whois

Has a dot.com directory, a Whois Lookup, and a domain name search capability.

Register.com

<http://www.register.com/>

Use the Whois function to check ownership of a domain name.

BetterWhois.com

<http://www.betterwhois.com>

Search all domain registrars.

TrueWhois

<http://www.truewhois.com>

- **Tools for evaluating websites:**

Consumer WebWatch

<http://www.consumerwebwatch.org/>

“Consumer WebWatch is a grant-funded project of Consumers Union, the non-profit publisher of *Consumer Reports* magazine and *ConsumerReports.org*. Through research, the promotion of guidelines for best practices and other analytical means, we seek to improve the credibility of online information. “

Snopes.com

<http://www.snopes.com>

Urban legends reference page, created and maintained by Barbara and David Mikkelson. Seeks out and investigates common fallacies, misinformation, old wives' tales, strange news stories, rumors, celebrity gossip, and similar items.

Urban Legends

<http://www.urbanlegends.about.com>

From David Emery who maintains this site:

"On this site we'll debunk, deconstruct and discuss the most popular tall tales and hoaxes in circulation. I'm pleased to have you join me in what promises to be an entertaining, ever-enlightening exploration of the folklife of the digital age."

PC Magazine's "Top 101 Most Incredibly Useful Sites"

<http://www.pcmag.com/category2/0,4148,7488,00.asp>

Fall 2004 edition, the staff of PC Magazine has evaluated and chosen these websites. Lots of advertising, but lots of choices.

2. Sources for Reporters

Black Book Online

<http://www.crimetime.com/online.html>

Site claims you must be a private investigator, or in the legal, insurance, collection, journalistic or law enforcement professions to use the site but there is no registration procedure. All sites searched are public information but this groups them nicely by category.

Center for Investigative Reporting

<http://www.muckraker.org/>

“CIR conducts in-depth investigations of hidden or complex topics that impact public life, for broadcast or print in the media. CIR sponsors workshops on investigative techniques for other journalists and university students. CIR publishes how-to manuals such as *Raising Hell: A Citizens Guide to the Fine Art of Investigations*. CIR also operates a nationally recognized internship program for journalism students, attracting more than 150 applicants every year. CIR is a nonprofit educational organization. CIR relies on the charitable contributions from private individuals and foundations believing in the importance of independent investigative reporting.”

Cyberjournalist.net

<http://www.cyberjournalist.net/>

CyberJournalist.net is a news and resource site that focuses on how the Internet, convergence and new technologies are changing the media. The site offers tips, news and commentary about online journalism, digital storytelling, converged news operations and using the Internet as a reporting tool. Sponsored by American Press Institute.

Free Public Records

<http://www.searchsystems.net>

Many are free, but check the \$ for fee-based. Nationwide coverage, or state by state, and some foreign. Some misleading, such as Free – Credit Reports which tells you how to apply for your own free credit report.

IRE--Investigative Reporters and Editors

<http://www.ire.org/>

Investigative Reporters and Editors, Inc. is a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of investigative reporting within the field of journalism. IRE was formed in 1975 with the intent of creating a networking tool and a forum in which journalists from across the country could raise questions and exchange ideas. (Student memberships are available for \$25.00)

IRE's link to public records on the internet

<http://www.ire.org/training/nettour/#public>

Moving Ideas

<http://www.movingideas.org/>

The Electronic Policy Network

“News and Resources from more than 120 Research and Advocacy Organizations”

Look at the “Link Library” in particular for advocacy, research, public interest, international relations, education, and public policy websites.

On the Media

<http://www.onthemedias.org>

National Public Radio show. Listen online or read transcripts. Coverage of media news of every stripe. *On the Media* is funded by The Bydale Foundation, The Ford Foundation, The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The John and Annamaria Phillips Foundation and the Overbrook Foundation. Also supported by, [The New School University](#).

Profnet's Experts Database

<http://www.profnet.com>

Searchable list of academics

Public Records Research System * see pay sites below

Rainbow Sourcebook Search

http://spj.org/diversity_search.asp

From the Society for Professional Journalists, a list of experts in a variety of areas of expertise. Narrow search by state, language spoken, ‘minority voice.’

Reporter's Committee For the Freedom of the Press

<http://www.rcfp.org/>

This site includes a guide book on how to use the Federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Topics include which agencies are covered, what records are available, and how to ask for them. There is a sample FOIA letter, an appeal letter and the full text of the Federal FOI Act. The First Amendment Handbook can be found on this site. Look at the other available publications.

Romenesko

<http://www.poynter.org/column.asp?id=45>

Your daily fix of media industry news, commentary, and memos by Jim Romenesko, sponsored by Poynter.

Tapping Official's Secrets

<http://www.rcfp.org/tapping/index.cgi>

This “is a complete compendium of information on every state's open records and open meetings laws. Each state's section is arranged according to a standard outline, making it easy to compare laws in various states. “

Published by **The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.**

Fee-based public records databases

Accurint

<http://www.accurint.com/>

Accurint (accurate intelligence) uses a name, past address, phone number or Social Security Number to obtain the current name, address and phone number of targeted subjects. Provides social security number where available. Uses a proprietary compilation of data sources and association algorithms.

Pricing schedule is at <http://www.accurint.com/price2.html>

Factiva.com

<http://www.factiva.com>

Database of over 8,500 international publications. Individual subscriptions are available at:

\$69 Annual Subscription Fee

\$9.95 Monthly Fee per Track folder

\$2.95 per article viewed

USSearch

<http://www.ussearch.com>

Provides, for a fee, a combination of proprietary and public records – people locating, background checks, real estate reports, criminal record check, etc.

Pricing schedule is at <http://www.ussearch.com/consumer/commerce/allproducts.jsp>

Lexis-Nexis. com

<http://www.lexisnexis.com>

Access to news, business, and public records for U.S. and worldwide.

“LexisNexis is available in a wide variety of pricing and subscription options to fit your needs, including a monthly flat rate, hourly access charges, and per-transaction rates. You may charge your search costs under two different credit card plans: **Pay As You Go** [articles are \$3 each] or **Purchase By Day or Week**. Special plans are available for federal, state, and local government offices, agencies, and courts.”

****Public Record Research System (PRRS)***

<http://www.brbpub.com/default.asp>

PRRS is a public record searching tool: find access procedures, fees, online services to more than 26,000 entities. Search by ZIP Code Free or by 100,000+ places/cities/burbs, etc.

Quarterly Subscription: \$39.00 (includes 2 users), Annual Subscription: \$119.00 (includes 2 users). Free demos.

Note: there is a section of this website with links to free information. The links list is updated weekly. These are Federal government, state, county and city websites.

3. Business

Bloomberg

<http://www.bloomberg.com/>

Complete financial source: news, wires, business calculators, business and money information. Many free resources, some require registration. Some material available to subscribers only.

Business Wire

<http://www.businesswire.com/>

Source for full-text breaking news releases, multimedia and regulatory filings for companies and groups throughout the world. Access to Business Wire headlines for 30 days, free registration required to read full-text. Allows you to set up e-mail alerts for selected industries, subjects, geographies.

CNN Financial Network

<http://cnnfn.cnn.com/index.html>

Includes the Knight-Ridder Financial News; provides news features, market reports, investment information and other financial services.

Economagic

<http://www.economagic.com/>

Economagic provides access to free, easily available economic time series data. Site includes GDP, CPI, unemployment rate, state personal income and more. Sources include Census Bureau, Dept. of Commerce and Labor Dept.

Federal Reserve Board

<http://www.federalreserve.gov/>

Link to press releases, information about current economic conditions (the Beige Book—look at the site map to find), monetary policy, consumer issues and more.

The Motley Fool

<http://www.fool.com/index.htm>

Personal finance and investment information.

OSHA: Standard Industrial Classification Codes

<http://www.osha.gov/oshstats/sicser.html>

This page allows the user to search the 1987 version SIC manual *by keyword*, to access descriptive information for a *specified 4-digit SIC*, and to examine the manual structure. Also allows lookup by code number.

U.S. Census Bureau: NAICS

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html>

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) has replaced the U.S. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. “NAICS will reshape the way we view our changing economy. NAICS was developed jointly by the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to provide new comparability in statistics about business activity across North America.”

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

<http://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/webusers.htm>

The main EDGAR search page.

Search for a specific company in "Search Companies and Filings" which allows you to retrieve real-time filings for a specific company and to find key company information. Or look at “Latest Filings.” Here you'll find the most recent filings the EDGAR system has received - from **all** SEC filers, including individuals and companies, paper filers and electronic filers. The list on this page features real-time filings from a broad range of companies and individuals for the current official filing date .

<http://www.edgarindex.com>

EDGAR's free SEC filing deirectory and RSS alert service. Free listings and alerts of SEC Filings in several catagories: IPOs, Quarterly and Annual Reports, and Insider Trading Filings. Users can subscribe to free RSS alert feeds for each category.

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (Search EDGAR database)

<http://www.sec.gov/cgi-bin/srch-edgar>

The archive of historical EDGAR documents. This search allows you to enter complex queries to retrieve all but the most recent day's EDGAR filings (from **1994** through **2005**).

4. California

California Home Page

<http://www.ca.gov/>

California Business Search

<http://www.ss.ca.gov/business/corp/corporate.htm>

Corporation and corporate records lookup from the CA Sec. of State.

California Governor's Home Page

<http://www.governor.ca.gov/>

California Legislative Information

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

Bills, laws and codes, information on legislators.

California State agencies, boards, commissions, departments, divisions, and entities

http://www.ca.gov/state/portal/myca_homepage.jsp

[Click on Quick Hits, State Agency Index in right-hand frame.]

California State Government Servers

http://www.ca.gov/state/portal/myca_search_adv.jsp

Search the portal site as well as all of the major agencies under the state of California.

Ed - Data

<http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/welcome.asp>

Fiscal, demographic and performance data on California's K-12 schools. Includes links to other education information resources.

Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

<http://www.scag.ca.gov/index.htm>

"As the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Association of Governments is mandated by the federal government to research and draw up plans for transportation, growth management, hazardous waste management, and air quality. Additional mandates exist at the state level. " The SCAG site offers geodata, census data, maps, interactive atlas for Southern California.

5. Counties

Los Angeles County

<http://lacounty.info>

Orange County

<http://www.oc.ca.gov/>

State and Local Government on the Internet

<http://www.statelocalgov.net>

Links to all counties and cities in any state that have websites. Search by State, Topic (Legislature, Education, Libraries, etc.), or Local Government.

6. Demographics

Census

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

Search the Census bureau for any topic covered by census, population estimates, economic census, press releases. Also Interactive Internet Tools for data access including TIGER maps, U.S. Gazetteer, and DataFerrett -- a tool and data librarian that searches and retrieves data across federal, state, and local surveys, executes customized variable recoding, creates complex tabulations and business graphics.

Census – American FactFinder

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

American FactFinder displays the results of a census or survey in the following table and map formats (not all formats are available for all programs): Quick tables, geographic comparison tables, ranking tables, detailed tables, reference maps and thematic maps.

Census State Data Centers

<http://www.census.gov/sdc/http://www/>

The SDCs are official sources of demographic, economic, and social statistics produced by the Census Bureau. These data are made available by the Census Bureau to the SDCs at no charge (fees may be charged for customized products). The SDCs make these data accessible to state, regional, local and tribal governments, and non-governmental data users at no charge or on a cost-recovery or reimbursable basis as appropriate.

California Department of Finance

<http://www.dof.ca.gov/>

The State's Demographic Research Unit has earned a national reputation for its program. The Unit is designated to represent the State in national programs relating to population statistics: National Governor's Association Population Task Force, Federal-State Cooperative Program for Population Projections and Estimates, and the State Census Data Center Program.

California demographic research data files, reports and estimates. Immigration and migration data.

California Department of Health Services, Office of Vital Records

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/hisp/chs/default.htm>

Vital statistics data tables and population data tables for California

Social Security Death Index (Simple search interface through Ancestry.com)

<http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/vital/ssdi/main.htm>

7. Disasters & Weather

AccuWeather.com - Storms

<http://www.accuweather.com/>

Local weather and forecasts for 15 days. See maps of selected areas, states or weather conditions.

Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters

<http://www.cred.be/>

Collaborates with World Health Organization and United Nations. Goal is to promote research and provide information to the international community. Database searchable by country of disaster or disaster type. Statistics on costs, deaths.

The Disaster Center

<http://www.disastercenter.com/>

A combination commercial and public service site, the owner has an agenda. There are links to information on all kinds of disasters, but the weather links are exhaustive. There are updates on the latest weather storms across the country and a vast number of links to weather and geology sites.

Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA)

<http://www.fema.gov>

Link to sites on any kind of natural disaster: flood, fire, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, nuclear power plant emergency. Disaster related maps. Search for information on specific types of disasters.

NGDC Natural Hazards Databases

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/seg/hazard/hazards.shtml>

From the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). View photos and data for earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes. Located at the National Geophysical Data Center.

ReliefWeb

<http://www.reliefweb.int/w/rwb.nsf>

ReliefWeb is a project of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Provides updated information about relief efforts in response to natural disasters underway in areas throughout the globe

USGS (U.S. Geological Survey)

<http://www.usgs.gov/>

Information on earthquakes, floods, landslides, volcanoes, hurricanes, and any natural disaster affecting the United States. USGS is a bureau of the Department of the Interior.

xtreme Disasters - Discovery.com

<http://dsc.discovery.com/guides/planetearth/disasters.html>

From the Discovery Channel, find an overview about the study of disasters such as comet impacts, hurricanes and earthquakes.

8. Education

America's Best Colleges

http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/rankings/rankindex_brief.php

U.S. News college rankings, plus College Step-by-Step, and web-exclusive rankings that highlight a variety of lifestyle categories. \$14.95 for online edition.

The Association of American Colleges and Universities

<http://www.aacu-edu.org/about/>

The Association of American Colleges and Universities is the leading national association devoted to advancing and strengthening undergraduate liberal education. Publications on women's education, international initiatives, diversity, more.

California Department of Education

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/>

School directory, curriculum and standards resources, student and school data (dropout rates, academic performance index, English learners, etc. in spreadsheet format), education budgets and other fiscal reports.

Chronicle of Higher Education

<http://chronicle.com/chronicle/>

To access the contents of the journal a subscription is needed, but you can browse the table of contents for current and past issues and there is a section that has education weblinks. Check the Site Map for other free sections. One year, 49 issues, \$82.50; six-month, 24 issues, \$45.

Database of U.S. Department of Education Publications in ERIC

<http://www.ed.gov/about/pubs/intro/pubdb.html>

Find any publication produced or funded by the U.S. Department of Education since its creation in 1980 which appears in ERIC, the world's largest bibliographic database of education literature. The database currently lists 28,422 publications entered into the ERIC database through July 2004.

Ed-Data

<http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/welcome.asp>

"Each profile and report at the state, county, district and school level has a wealth of data covering such areas as students, staffing, finances, and performance rankings. The information is updated annually after the California Department of Education certifies and releases it. A glossary gives you quick access to helpful definitions. "

U.S. Universities by State

<http://www.utexas.edu/world/univ/state/>

From the University of Texas, Austin, a list and weblinks, by state, of accredited U.S. universities, plus other links to educational associations.

United States Department of Education

<http://www.ed.gov/>

Information in five categories: grants and contracts, financial aid for students, education resources, research and statistics, and policy. Also, Education Statistics -- statistical publications, fast facts, survey and program areas, and an Encyclopedia of ED Stats produced by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) to report the condition and progress of education. Performance reports on Dep't. of Education programs and initiatives.

9. Entertainment

Movies

ACNielsen EDI

<http://www.entda>

"ACNielsen EDI collects data from approximately 32,000 screens in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain and France on a daily basis. Services run the gamut from daily box office reports to customized research; from real-time on-line queries to electronic data interchange. In addition, ACNielsen EDI maintains a historical motion picture database unparalleled in its depth, breadth and precision." Much is premium content but many free features.

Box Office Guru

<http://www.boxofficeguru.com/>

Comprehensive box office data on motion pictures released between 1989 and the present. Some of the databases are manually updated on a weekly basis, others of archival nature are slower. Over 2,000 films are contained in this database and can be browsed alphabetically. All figures are in US Dollars. Author cites EDI and Exhibitor Relations as data sources.

E! Online

<http://www.eonline.com>

E! Online provides original up-to-the-minute entertainment news, information, gossip, reviews, live event coverage. Award, box office, and ratings info for movies and tv.

The Internet Movie Database

<http://www.uk.imdb.com/>

Links to information on almost every aspect of movies, moviemaking, celebrities, and industry news. Grosses, release dates, cast and crew, special sections for video/DVD and independent movies.

The Numbers

<http://www.the-numbers.com/>

For movies—release dates, numbers of theaters, grosses, percent changes over the release period. Non-commercial site (some of proceeds from advertising are donated to charity), compiled unofficially, but recognized by journalists as valid.

Variety.com

<http://www.variety.com/>

Some info available from Variety without subscription; free 30-day trial; free online access for print subscribers. Awards info, some reports and obits free.

Theater

IBDB (Internet Broadway Database)

<http://www.ibdb.com>

“Archive is the official database for Broadway theatre information. IBDB provides records of productions from the beginnings of New York theatre until today. Details include pertinent people involved as well as interesting facts and production statistics. Get a list of every production of *Hamlet* on Broadway or a list of your favorite actor's credits. Find out what played at a particular theatre or what shows opened in a specified Broadway season.”

London Theatre Guide

<http://www.londontheatre.co.uk/index.html>

News, reviews, seating plans for theatres. Search by theatre, by production, or cast member.

“This guide was created in August 1995 to provide a reliable source of information pertaining to London Theatre on the Internet. The objective of the guide is to be as comprehensive as possible for West End theatre listings.”

New York Theatre Guide

<http://www.newyorktheatreguide.com/>

Companion guide to London Theatre Guide. Same format.

“This guide was launched in October 2003 to provide a simple and easy source of information pertaining to New York Theatre. The objective of the guide is to provide a simple, fast loading theatre web site to easily find what's on Broadway theatre. Off Broadway theatre productions are listed if we have received a press release from the theatre.”

The Tony Awards

http://www.tonyawards.com/en_US/index.html

Celebrities

Dead People Server

<http://www.deadpeople.info>

An unofficial website that lists ‘interesting celebrities’ who have died. The site owner does some research but doesn’t guarantee accuracy. A place to start.

Star Seeker

<http://starseeker.com>

"Here is one of the largest repositories of celebrity information on the Internet, with movie and tv credits, official sites, fan sites, and biographical data for the famous and not-so-famous. As one of the largest celebrity sites on the Web, many links are for pages which are not listed in the major search engines such as Yahoo."

Who's Alive and Who's Dead

<http://www.whosaliveandwhosdead.com/>

"The site that helps you keep track of which famous people have died and which are still alive!" A personal project, double-check data but a good place to start.

Academies & Guilds & Awards

Academy Awards Official Site

<http://www.oscar.com/>

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

<http://www.ampas.org/>

Academy of Television Arts and Sciences

<http://www.emmys.org/>

The American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA)

<http://www.aftra.org/aftra/aftra.htm>

American Film Institute

<http://www.afi.com>

Emmy Online

<http://www.emmyonline.org/>

Golden Globes

<http://www.goldenglobes.org/>

Hollywood Foreign Press Association

Grammy Awards

<http://grammy.com/>

The Recording Academy

International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE)

http://www.iatse-intl.org/index_html.html

Motion Picture Association of America

<http://www.mpaa.org/home.htm>

Screen Actors Guild

<http://www.sag.com/>

The Tony Awards Online

<http://www.tonys.org/>

10. Health & Medicine

American Board of Medical Specialties

<http://www.abms.org/newsearch.asp>

Locator for finding certified doctors by name or by specialty. Free registration required.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

<http://www.acog.org>

The professional association for ob-gyns; issue policy statements on such issues as air travel during pregnancy, many other women's health issues; publishes a journal. Use the "Find an OB/GYN" tool without being a member.

American Medical Association

<http://www.ama-assn.org/>

The AMA is a professional association of physicians and medical students dedicated to the health of America.

Doctor Finder <http://www.ama-assn.org/aps/amahg.htm> provides information on virtually every licensed physician in the United States.

The American Academy of Pediatrics

<http://www.aap.org>

Professional association for pediatricians; publishes a journal.

The American College of Sports Medicine

<http://www.acsm.org>

Professional group for exercise physiologists.

The American Council on Exercise

<http://www.acefitness.org>

A San Diego based organization that certifies fitness instructors and commissions exercise research.

The American Diabetes Assn.

<http://www.diabetes.org>

Sections on advocacy and legal resources, and state legislation (the Assoc. advocates stem cell research).

American Dietetic Assn

<http://www.eatright.org>

Registered dietitians organization. Have many media spokespersons for interviews.

The American Dental Assn.

<http://www.ada.org>

Includes directory of members for public use.

American Public Health Assn.

<http://www.apha.org>

Annual meeting, publishes journal. The American Public Health Association, the oldest organization of public health professionals, represents more than 50,000 members from over 50 public health occupations. Congressional voting record on health issues available to purchase (\$5.00).

American Psychological Association

<http://www.apa.org>

Database of full-text articles from journals published by the American Psychological Association, allows purchase by article (\$11.95). Reports and press releases available to non-members.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov>

Information on diseases, travelers' health, many statistics; plus, their publication, MMWR, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

Clinical Trials information

http://www.cato.com/biotech/bio-phar.html#Clinical_Trials

From the Biotechnology Information Directory hosted by Cato Research.

Consumer Healthcare Products Assn.

<http://www.chpa-info.org>

Formerly the Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers' Assn. The trade association for manufacturers and distributors of over-the-counter drugs.

DoctorDirectory.com

<http://www.doctordirectory.com/>

DoctorDirectory.com offers access to a listing of the doctor's name, specialty, address, telephone number, certification, and all education info. Virtually every practicing physician in the U.S. is listed. Search here also (by State) for Health Plans, Hospitals, and Medical Schools.

The Food and Drug Administration

<http://www.fda.gov>

The International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association

<http://www.ihrsa.org>

The association for health club owners.

National Institutes of Health

<http://www.nih.gov>

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America

<http://www.phrma.org>

The trade association for prescription drug manufacturers.

United States Department of Agriculture

<http://www.usda.gov>

Including the Human Nutrition Information Center.

USDA Economics, Statistics and Market Information Center

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/>

Contains nearly 300 reports and datasets from the economics agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These materials cover U.S. and international agriculture and related topics. Most reports are text files that contain time-sensitive information. Most data sets are in spreadsheet format and include time-series data that are updated yearly.

11. International pages

CIA World Factbook

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

Provides information on the geography, people, government, economy, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues of the world's countries.

Country Reports on Human Rights Practices

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/>

The Country Reports on Human Rights Practices are submitted annually by the U.S. Department of State to the U.S. Congress. The reports cover internationally recognized individual, civil, political, and worker rights, as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Electronic Embassy Website

<http://www.embassy.org>

Information on each of the embassies (address, phone) in Washington D.C., with links to each country's profile from Country Watch.

EmbassyWorld

<http://embassyworld.com>

List of embassies world-wide, both 'in' and 'of' a country. Also links to homepages, or an information page, of most countries.

Foreign Consular Offices in the United States

Fall/Winter 1999

http://www.state.gov/http://www/travel/consular_offices/fco_index.html

(Hasn't been updated but most addresses and phone numbers are still good.)

Governments on the www

<http://www.gksoft.com/govt/>

Comprehensive database of governmental institutions on the World Wide Web: parliaments, ministries, offices, law courts, embassies, city councils, public broadcasting corporations, central banks, multi-governmental institutions, etc. Includes all political parties.

Human Rights Watch

<http://www.hrw.org/> (Spanish language version available)

Human Rights Watch is an independent, non-governmental organization, supported by contributions from private foundations worldwide. Dedicated to protecting the human rights of people around the world.

Human Rights World Report

<http://www.hrw.org/wr2k1/>

International Statistics

http://www.census.gov/main/http://www/stat_int.html

From the United States Census Bureau

The Latin American Network Information Center (LANIC)

<http://lanic.utexas.edu/>

LANIC is affiliated with the Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) at the University of Texas at Austin. Receives funding from several foundations. Links to topical sites in Spanish language as well as Latin American newspapers, magazines, and journals.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

<http://www.oecd.org/home/>

The OECD groups 30 member countries sharing a commitment to democratic government and the market economy. With active relationships with some 70 other countries, NGOs and civil society, it has a global reach. Best known for its publications and its statistics, its work covers economic and social issues from macroeconomics, to trade, education, development and science and innovation.

United Nations

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

United States, State Department: Background Notes

http://www.state.gov/http://www/background_notes/index.html

Background Notes provide information on geographic entities and international organizations and are updated periodically

12. Legal ,Criminal & Court Sources

Criminal

Federal Bureau of Prisons Inmate Locator

<http://www.bop.gov/iloc2/LocateInmate.jsp>

Locate a federal inmate. Includes all inmates since 1982,

United States Department of Justice Prison and Parole Information

<http://www.usdoj.gov/prisoninfo.htm>

Includes Federal Bureau of Prisons Inmate Locator and links to Corrections.com which searches state and county databases.

U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

General

FindLaw—Legal news

<http://news.findlaw.com/>

Current legal news in categories of Business, Civil Rights, Crime, Environment, Immigration, more.

‘Lectric Law Library

<http://lectlaw.com>

An entertaining way to learn about the law.

Law Library Resource Exchange

<http://www.llrx.com/>

Web-based journal with search capabilities. Excellent for finding articles relating to legal research online and on the internet. Written by law librarians primarily for the legal community.

Martindale-Hubbell Lawyer Locator

<http://www.martindale.com/xp/Martindale/home.xml>

Law and legal personnel locator, also current articles on legal issues. Free registration required for some publications.

The Virtual Chase: Legal Research on the Internet

<http://www.virtualchase.com/>

From Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP, more than 600 pages of information pertaining to resources and research strategies. Designed especially for lawyers and other experienced legal researchers.

Federal

Code of Federal Regulations

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html>

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government. It is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. Each volume of the CFR is updated once each calendar year and is issued on a quarterly basis

The Federal Judiciary Homepage

<http://www.uscourts.gov/>

Explanations of U.S. court system; link to PACER (Public Access Service) registration; news releases.

Supreme Court of the United States

<http://www.supremecourtus.gov/>

Search Supreme Court files and Supreme Court docket files. View the calendar, read argument transcripts.

U. S. Courts

<http://www.uscourts.gov/courtsofappeals.html>

Links to courts for all 12 regions and the Federal Circuit.

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

<http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/>

The Ninth Circuit encompasses the Western United States and includes California.

Opinions appear on the website as they are released.

State

California Courts

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/>

Links to every county court system in California. For many courts you are able to search cases online. Some require case numbers but some are accessible by name or date. Also links to the Federal government and courts, and state and federal legislatures.

California Laws

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html>

California Law consists of 29 codes, covering various subject areas, the [State Constitution](#) and [Statutes](#). Information presented reflects laws currently in effect. All California Codes have been updated to include the 2004 Statutes.

California State Bar Association

<http://www.calbar.org>

Information, news, publications, and current member lookup

State and Local Government on the Net

<http://www.statelocalgov.net/>

Websites of thousands of state agencies and city and county governments

County

California Courts: Other Websites

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/otherwebsites.htm>

Links to county trial courts in California

Municipal

Los Angeles City Charter, Rules, and Codes

<http://www.ci.la.ca.us/lacity102.htm>

Municipal codes

<http://www.municode.com>

Click on Free Resources, Online codes

State and Local Government on the Net

<http://www.statelocalgov.net/>

Websites of thousands of state agencies and city and county governments. Only pages that are controlled and managed by state and local government agencies are included.

13. Libraries & Books

@LA Libraries

<http://www.at-la.com/@la-lib.htm>

Cultural and research centers as well as libraries in the Los Angeles, Southern California area.

Amazon.com

<http://www.amazon.com>

Commerical website, good for publication dates and information, author verification. Now includes a new feature that creates a reference library of sorts, including about 33 million pages from more than 120,000 books. This is a great resource for journalists searching for information.

Internet Public Library

<http://www.ipl.org/reading/books>

Has 16,000 electronic books searchable/browsable by author, title, or Dewey class number.

Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov>

Includes the online catalog for the Library's extensive collection of materials, the American Memory project, and links to current exhibitions at the Library's Gallery.

Los Angeles County Law Library

<http://lalaw.lib.ca.us/>

Other Law Libraries

<http://www.law.ucla.edu/Library/ResearchTools/otherlib.html>

From the UCLA library, a list of addresses and telephone numbers of law libraries in Southern California.

****Los Angeles Public Library (Get a library card!)***

<http://www.lapl.org>

Search the catalog of the Los Angeles Public Library system, as well as the California Index which includes a fiction index, menu collection, and photo collection related to California history. You can also search online databases in Health, Science & Technology, Business, Company Information, and Government Documents, to name a few.

On-Line Books Page

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/index.html>

More than 13,000 texts. Some copyrighted works w/ permission. Free searching and reading. Hosted by the University of Pennsylvania.

Project Gutenberg

<http://www.gutenberg.net/>

A library of electronically stored books, mostly classics, that can be downloaded for free. No texts still in copyright. 3,481 titles as of May, 2001.

Southern California Libraries on the Internet

<http://home.earthlink.net/~jsmog/library0.html>

List of public, academic, and special libraries in Southern California with links to any that have websites. and information about the collections. You can also find the Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems.

United States Copyright Office

<http://www.copyright.gov/records/>

Contains records of registrations and ownership documents since 1978. Information on how to investigate copyright status of a work.

14. National & State pages

National

FedStats

<http://www.fedstats.gov>

The gateway to statistics from over 100 U.S. Federal agencies. Link to either stats directly or to statistical agencies. Access official statistics collected and published by more than 100 Federal agencies without having to know in advance which agency produces them.

Library of Congress

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/>

Search the catalog of the Library of Congress, link to the Thomas legislative information system, or link to the Copyright Office.

Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC)

<http://trac.syr.edu/>

Is a data gathering, data research and data distribution organization associated with Syracuse University. The purpose is to provide comprehensive information about federal staffing, spending, and the enforcement activities of the federal government. TRAC FOIAs the records, and analyzes the data.

Available at no charge are [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#), the [Internal Revenue Service](#), the [Drug Enforcement Administration](#), the [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms](#), the [Immigration and Naturalization Service](#), and the [U.S. Customs Service](#). A subscription module provides advanced features.

U.S. Legislation

<http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Congress, bills, Congressional Record and Committee information.

U.S. Gov Info/ Resources

<http://usgovinfo.about.com/cs/agencies/index.htm>

From *About.com*, a federal government web site index, list of the President's cabinet agencies, acronyms and abbreviations, each branch of the government and which agencies are affiliated, alphabetical list (with links) to U.S. government websites.

University of Michigan Documents Center

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Documents.center/>

"The Documents Center is a central reference and referral point for government information, whether local, state, federal, foreign or international. Its web pages are a reference and instructional tool for government, political science, statistical data, and news."

State

State and Local Government on the Internet

<http://www.piperinfo.com/state/index.cfm>

Links to the websites of 50 states plus U.S. territories and Tribal Governments.

Vital Records

<http://vitalrec.com/usmap.html>

How to order, and pricing for, vital records from any state.

15. Newspaper, Magazine, TV, & Radio sites

American Journalism Review

<http://www.ajr.org/index.asp>

Links to newspapers, magazines, radio and tv sites as well as AJR publication itself (current issue and archives for one year). Also sections on journalism awards, tools for journalists, and dictionaries, style guides and general tips on writing.

Assignment Editor: The Newsroom Homepage

<http://www.assignmenteditor.com>

A 'megapage' with links to all major papers, magazines, tv news sites, plus many other subject categories. Some subscription content (\$50.00 annual, \$5.00 one month) but much is free.

El Directorio Amarillo de Mexico

<http://www.yellow.com.mx/indexs.html>

News, newswires, other directories (Spanish language version)

Kidon Media Link

<http://www.kidon.com/media-link/index.shtml>

A comprehensive, independent directory of news organizations from around the world . Includes all media. Links are sorted by continent and then country.

Military City

<http://www.militarycity.com>

Army Times, Navy Times, Air Force Times, Marine Times. Some articles can be viewed free, most require subscription.

mx ch@nnel

<http://www.trace-sc.com/news.htm>

News and media links, other directories (Spanish language version)

Newspapers.com

<http://www.newspapers.com/>

Tens of thousands of sites. Newspapers in the U.S., newspapers by country, college and university publications, business and religious publications. (Spanish language papers available.)

16. Phone Directories & Locators

555-1212

<http://www.555-1212.com>

Subscription service. Reverse directories, zip codes, area codes, celebrity-find, and e-mail directories.

AnyWho

<http://www.anywho.com/>

Yellow pages, white pages, reverse lookup.

Internet Directory Assistance (IDA)

<http://www.whitaker.com/intelink.htm>

International listing of internet directories (however, few for Latin America, South America, of Mexico)

Switchboard

<http://www.switchboard.com>

“Switchboard makes it easy for users to narrow their search to include only those businesses that are conveniently located and offer the specific products and services they are looking for.”

Does include ‘featured sites’ (paid) at the top of the list, but gives mileage from center of specified city or zip, links to a map and driving directions, shows businesses by category that are nearby. Links to

Dun & Bradstreet reports that you must purchase. Offers reverse-lookup by phone number, area code and zip code locators and a web search engine.

United States Postal Service, Zip Code Lookup

<http://www.usps.gov/ncsc/>

Yahoo People Search

<http://people.yahoo.com/>

17. Politics & Elections

National

The Center for Public Integrity

<http://www.publicintegrity.org/about/about.aspx>

“The Center for Public Integrity is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, tax-exempt organization that conducts investigative research and reporting on public policy issues in the United States and around the world. “ Sections on 527 organizations (political non-profits) include filings, quick searches for contributions by donor, recipient, and amounts of money.

Excerpts from their “Buying of the President 2004” book. During election campaigns includes full profiles of presidential and vice-presidential candidates with financial disclosure statements and personal finance information.

The Center for Responsive Politics

<http://www.opensecrets.org/about/index.asp>

The Center for Responsive Politics (opensecrets.org) is a non-partisan, non-profit research group based in Washington, D.C. that tracks money in politics, and its effect on elections and public policy. The Center conducts computer-based research on campaign finance issues for the news media, academics, activists, and the public at large. Top 100 donors in American politics, soft money donor search, lobbyists, advocacy groups, 527 committees, more.

Dwight L. Morris & Associates (formerly Campaign Study Group)

<http://campaignstudygroup.com/>

This is a for-profit consulting firm specializing in campaign finance research, public opinion analysis, and computer-assisted reporting applications.

Federal Election Commission (FEC)

<http://www.fec.gov/finance/images.htm>

“We currently scan all paper reports received at the Federal Election Commission. This includes reports filed by Campaigns for the House of Representatives and for President, along with reports by political party committees and political action committees who participate in Federal elections.

Note that presently campaigns for the Senate file their reports with the Secretary of the Senate --not with the FEC -- so these reports are not available here. Reports of the National Party Senatorial Campaign Committees are, however, included in the system.”

State

California Secretary of State

These sites allow downloading of files into Excel spreadsheets for analysis.

<http://cal-access.ss.ca.gov/campaign/>

Cal-Access provides financial information supplied by state candidates, donors, lobbyists, and others.

“Who contributes and how much to the campaigns of candidates for Governor, other statewide offices, and the State Legislature? Who finances campaigns for and against state ballot propositions? Who pays for all those political ads on radio and television and for those political ads crammed into your mailbox at election time? “ more...

<http://cal-access.ss.ca.gov/lobbying/>

“Who are California’s lobbyists? Who hires these lobbyists? And, how much money is changing hands?”

California Voter Foundation

<http://www.calvoter.org/>

A non-profit, non-partisan organization promoting the ‘responsible use of technology to improve the democratic process.’ The site includes *The California Online Voter Guide*, “a clearinghouse of election information and web site links produced by the California Voter Foundation for every statewide election since 1994.” Campaign contribution data, plus maps of voting districts, contact information for state legislators, and *The Archive of Campaign Promises* --information about campaign promises made by California candidates who are elected to public office.

Civil Justice Association of California

<http://www.cjac.org/index.cfm>

Lists and analyses of campaign contributions and spending.

“The Civil Justice Association of California is a coalition of citizens, taxpayers, businesses, local governments, professionals, manufacturers, financial institutions, insurers, and medical organizations. Founded in 1979 as the Association for California Tort Reform, we are dedicated to improving California's civil liability system.”

Local

Los Angeles City Ethics Commission

<http://ethics.lacity.org/>

Campaign contributions for city offices. Search by contributor or candidate (only name and city of contributors, plus amount donated, are available. No street address or phone numbers).

City of Los Angeles Elections

<http://www.lacity.org/CLK/ELECTION/>

Information for voters. Election data for the city including past election results (1996 – present), registered voters by district, registration and turnout statistics, ballot measure calendar, election code.

18. Technology

CNET Networks Inc.

<http://www.cnet.com/>

“CNET Networks Inc., is a leading provider of technology information on the Web. Our eighth annual Technology Buying Guide combines the insight and recommendations of the BusinessWeek staff with rigorous product testing provided by CNET's crew. We think the two teams complement one another and will make our joint effort an even more valuable.” Provides editors’ pick Top 100 tech products, product reviews, cell phone radiation chart, find bandwidth calculations by area code, hotspot zones for wireless use.

ClickZ Stats (formerly CyberAtlas)

<http://www.clickz.com/stats/>

“ClickZ Stats is the Web marketer's guide to online facts, Internet research, trends, and analysis. The site provides readers with valuable statistics and Web marketing information, enabling them to understand their business environment, and allowing for more informed business decisions. ClickZ Stats gathers online research from the best data resources to provide a complete review of the latest surveys and technologies available.”

Check the **Toolbox** for facts like these: “The number of U.S. at-home broadband users increased 36 percent in 2004, accounting for 55 percent of the total U.S. at-home users by the end of December, according to the latest data from [Nielsen/NetRatings](#). “ Or, “Nearly 1 billion people, about 15 percent of the world's population, will be using the Internet by 2005, [International Data Corp.](#) (IDC) found, and their use will fuel more than \$5 trillion in Internet

commerce. That represents a staggering 70 percent compound annual growth rate when compared to Internet spending of \$354 billion in 2000.”

TechWeb

<http://www.techweb.com/media/aboutus/>

“TechWeb.com adds its own IT reporting to the best-of-breed news and information from InformationWeek, InternetWeek, Network Computing, Network Magazine, Optimize Magazine, The Open Enterprise, and the Financial Technology Network, thus creating the complete online resource for technology managers.” News stories on tech subjects.

ZDNet

<http://news.zdnet.com/>

News, blogs, white papers, downloads and reviews. Everything tech.

Online style guides for citing electronic resources

Bedford/St. Martins

<http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/citex.html>

Has a resource page for citing works according to MLA, APA, CBE, and the Chicago Styles.

Harvard University

<http://www.library.uq.edu.au/training/citation/harvard.html>

Maintains a resource page for citing electronic sources, including class lectures, conference papers, personal interviews, and information gathered from information databases.

Purdue University

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_docelectric.html

Has a class outline on the methods used when citing electronic resources, according to the MLA format.

Columbia University Libraries

http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/help/howto/citing_er.html

Maintains an online and print bibliography of guides for citing electronic resources.

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Los Angeles Times, Editorial Library

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