

Home Page

Logo



URL

<http://ucsd.libguides.com/c.php?g=90905&p=586378>

Subjects

Government Information – United States – Web Directories  
 Electronic Government Information – United States – Directories  
 United States – Government Information – Web Directories

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

UC San Diego Library

## Brief History

UCSD became a selective depository library for the 53rd California Congressional District in 1963. As a Federal Depository Library, they provide free access to and reference service for publications issued by the federal government.

## Scope and Coverage

U.S. Government Information covers government information websites links, Digitized Documents & Archived Born-Digital Documents, and Indexes to pre-1976 Government Publications. It also covers Directories, Branches of US govt., Subjects like Education, Sciences et.al, Statistical data, Election Documents, and Call numbers list/Agency List.

## Kind of Information

U.S. Government Information is a guide to information resources by and about the federal government of U.S. In the **homepage**, there are key tools to locate Government Information. Resources tagged with a blue lock symbol are available remotely only to UC San Diego affiliates. After selecting a resource, users are directed to the homepage of the resource. Each key tool has a brief description about it.

### Catalog of U.S. Government Publications

Lists and describes federal publications (1976- ) and provides direct links to those that are available online. Search by authoring agency, title, subject, and general keyword. (See *below* for indexes to pre-1976 documents.)

### FDsys

Presents online versions of major U.S. government publications, such as: the Congressional Record, congressional publications of all kinds, the Federal Register, Code of Federal Regulations, Supreme Court decisions, executive branch documents and more.

### Google

You know you're going to use it, so use it efficiently: add **site:.gov** (site colon dot gov) to your keywords to limit searching to governmental websites.

### Govspeak: A Guide to U.S. Government Acronyms & Abbreviations

Lists acronyms and abbreviations commonly used by the United States federal government. Each is defined and links to the home page (or best alternative) of the identified entity.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP). At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Basic, Advanced, Expert, Browse, New Titles, Help, About, FDLP Login, and Metalib. Below the menu is a search bar and a "Customize and control Google" link. The main heading is "CATALOG OF U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (CGP)". Underneath, there are sections for "Catalogs to Search:" (Congressional Serial Set, Congressional Publications, Historic Shelflist, Electronic Titles, FDLP Web Archive, Gov eBooks, Serials) and "My Options:" (Bookshelf, Results List, Preferences, Previous Searches). A welcome message reads: "Welcome to the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)! The CGP is the finding tool for federal publications that includes descriptive information for historical and current publications as well as direct links to the full document, when available. Users can search by authoring agency, title, subject, and general keywords, or click on 'Advanced Search' for more options. The catalog offers you the option to find a nearby Federal Depository Library that has a particular publication or that can provide expert assistance in finding and using related U.S. government information. Click on the title of interest from your search results list. Then click on the Locate in a Library link within the displayed record. Also try our federated search engine Metalib to retrieve reports, articles and citations by simultaneously searching across multiple U.S. Federal Government databases." At the bottom, there is a search bar with a "Preferences - Advanced Search - FDLP Sign In" link, an example keyword "wildlife 'environmental impact statement' NOT draft", a "Keyword(s):" dropdown menu set to "Any", and a "Catalogs:" dropdown menu set to "National Bibliography of U.S. Government Publications".

Collections of Digitized Documents & Archived Born-Digital Documents have the

same type of links and a brief description about it. Even same pattern is used in every page and sub-page that gives information about the govt. Indexes to pre-1976 Government Publications gives links to go to the UCSD Library catalog, which provides call number and location information for these print resources.

**Directory** provides access to Directories of Federal Offices & Officials, Cabinet Members, Agency News, information about Cabinet Level Positions, and Nomination Tracker. **The Branch** page has sub-pages like Executive Branch Resources, Judicial Branch Resources and Legislative Branch Resources. Under these branches there are links that gives access to the information. **Subjects** that give access to govt. information are shown below. Users can select a particular subject to know about govt. information related to it.



Major publications of the federal government can be accessed through **title**. This list includes titles that comprise the FDLP's "Basic Collection" and "Essential Titles for Public Use in Paper or Other Tangible Format," as well as titles frequently used for general reference assistance. **Stats/Data** gives access to information about Statistical Agencies & Portals, Publications etc. Users can browse US Govt. documents through call numbers or agency list.

### *Special Features*

- ❖ Links with its' parent organization UC San Diego and its library.

### *Arrangement Pattern*

All the information is arranged categorically. Under a category, sub-categories or sub-pages are arranged alphabetically.



**Remarks**

UCSD currently receives 53% of the publications distributed through the Federal Depository Library Program, creating an interdisciplinary social science collection with an emphasis on U.S. demographics, public policy and legislation. These items come in various formats, including print volumes, microfiche, CD/DVD, and online. Most of the government documents are located in the west wing of the main floor of Geisel Library. Some documents are currently housed offsite at the library annex, but may be requested for delivery to Geisel Library.

**Comparable Tools**

- GOV Spot ( <http://www.govspot.com/>)
- United States Government information Online ( <http://libraryguides.law.pace.edu/govinfo>)

**Date of Access**

3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2017