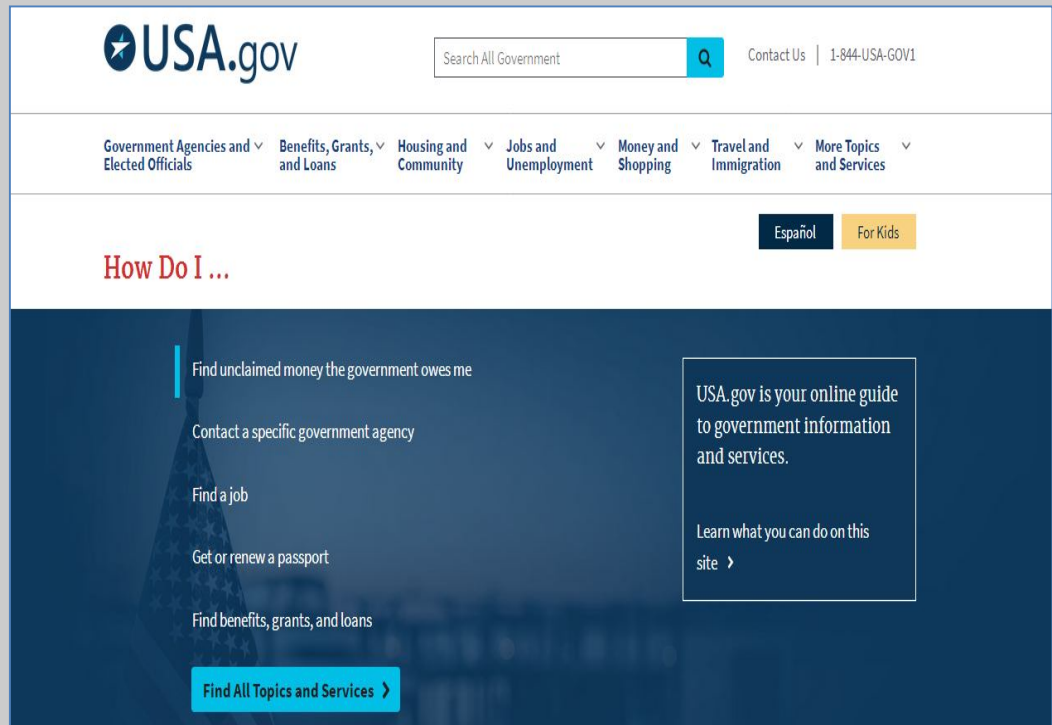


Home Page



Logo



URL

https://www.usa.gov/

Subjects

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

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

United States

Brief History

USA.gov began in 2000 when Internet entrepreneur Eric Brewer, whose early research in parallel computing was funded by the U.S. Department of Defense, offered to donate a powerful search engine to the government. That donation helped accelerate the government's earlier work to create a government-wide portal. In June 2000, President Clinton announced the gift from the Federal Search Foundation; a nonprofit organization co-founded by Brewer and fellow entrepreneur David Binetti, and instructed that the portal be launched in 90 days.

FirstGov.gov was launched 87 days later on September 22, 2000, during the first-ever webcast originating from the White House Oval Office. GSA and 22 Federal agencies funded the initiative in 2001 and 2002. Since 2002, USA.gov has received an annual appropriation from the U.S. Congress.

The name FirstGov.gov was changed in 2007 to USA.gov, in response to user suggestions and telephone surveys.

On July 2, 2010, USA.gov revamped the website to improve user access to citizen services through new mobile applications for on-the-go instant access; public engagement platforms; and the fastest, most comprehensive search function for government information.

Scope and Coverage

USA.gov links to every federal agency and to state, local, and tribal governments, and is the most comprehensive site in—and about—the U.S. government. While the primary target audience of USA.gov is the American public, about 25 percent of USA.gov's visitors come from outside the United States.

USA.gov is part of the Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies in the General Services Administration (GSA), and includes the Spanish-language web portal to U.S. government services, GobiernoUSA.gov (formerly espanol.gov). The portals, which are funded by U.S. taxpayers and are offered as a public service, are a member of the Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies' family of websites that also includes Publications. Like USA.gov, Kids.gov, and HowTo.gov (formerly WebContent.gov).USA.gov offers an index of more than 10,000 links to official government information.

Kind of Information

USA.gov is the official web portal of the United States federal government. It is designed to improve the public interaction with the U.S. government by quickly directing website visitors to the services or information they are seeking, and by inviting the public to share ideas to improve government. USA.Gov creates and organizes timely, needed government information and services and makes them accessible to the public anytime, anywhere, via their channel of choice.

There is several of information that can be accessed from this site. They are described below. The nature of this site gives a perfect idea about the kind of information presented here.

US Government Services and Information: The services and information are sub-divided into different sub-categories of information. They are given

Government Agencies and Elected Officials: Find contact information for federal, state, and local government agencies; government-related programs; and elected officials.

[A-Z Index of U.S. Government Agencies:](#) Find contact information for federal government departments and agencies, and government-sponsored enterprises.

[Contact Government by Topic:](#) Find contact information for government programs, listed by topic.

[Branches of Government:](#) Learn more about the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the U.S. government.

[State, Local, and Tribal Governments:](#) Find contact information for state, local, and tribal governments.

[Contact Government by Topic:](#) Find contact information for government programs, listed by topic.

[Contact Elected Officials:](#) Find contact information for federal, state, and local government officials.

<p>About Us Learn more about the history and mission of the website USA.gov.</p>	<p>Contact USA.gov Contact us about any government question you have. Phone and Chat are available weekdays between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM Eastern Time except federal holidays. E-mail anytime.</p>	<p>For Developers Software developers and researchers can use these APIs and data feeds to help people find useful government information.</p>
<p>For Media and Partners Partnering with us is easy. Find all the ways we can work together.</p>	<p>Free Commercial Downloads We provide links so you can get the free software needed to view some documents or to access audio and visual files on our website.</p>	<p>Linking Policy Find out how the team at USA.gov chooses what web pages it should link to.</p>
<p>Linking to USA.gov Feel free to link to pages on USA.gov from your website. Here's how to do it.</p>	<p>Privacy, Security, and Accessibility Policies USA.gov doesn't collect personal information when you visit our web site unless you choose to provide that information.</p>	<p>RSS Feeds Subscribe to RSS feeds from USA.gov.</p>
<p>USAGov Bilingual Style Guide Find out how we use best practices from our bilingual Style Guide to create digital content for USAGov.</p>	<p>Website Notices We want you to have an easy time using USA.gov, but some parts of the experience are out of our control. Learn more about it.</p>	

Government Benefits, Grants, and Loans: Learn about government programs that provide financial help for individuals and organizations.

Disasters and Emergencies: Learn how to prepare for and recover from disasters and emergencies.

Jobs and Unemployment: Find out how and where to look for a new job or career; get help if you are unemployed, and more.

Money and Shopping: Learn about consumer issues, taxes, unclaimed money, buying from the government, and more.

Earth and the Environment: Find government information on energy, green technology, pollution, wildlife, and more.

Health: Find health resources from the government.

Laws and Legal Issues: Learn how to report a crime, locate a federal inmate, research common U.S. laws, and file a complaint against the government.

Travel and Immigration: Learn about visiting, traveling within, and moving to the United States.

Business: Find help with starting, growing, and funding a business.

Education: Find government information on education including primary, secondary, and higher education.

Housing and Community: Get information and services to help with finding and keeping a home.

Military and Veterans: Learn more about help for veterans and service members, joining the military, and more.

Voting and Elections: Find answers to common questions about voting in the United States.

Special Features

- ❖ USA.gov offers live chat in English, where service representatives can answer website visitors' questions about federal agencies, programs, benefits, or services.
- ❖ USA.gov's performance dashboards allow the public to take a closer look into the details of government performance by tracking tax dollars, proposed agency rules, federal information technology investments, Medicare fraud prevention efforts, and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds
- ❖ USA.gov offers RSS feeds to help the public stay up to date on useful government information.
- ❖ USA.gov uses Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, and YouTube to distribute timely official U.S. government information and emergency information, announce official government events and observances, share official government photos

and videos, and gather feedback from the public.

- ❖ A URL shortening service, go.USA.gov, is available to users that have a .gov email address (only .gov URLs may be submitted for shortening through this service). The service will generate a random following go.USA.gov/ which redirects the user to the longer .gov URL stored in the system.
- ❖ There are some mobile apps gallery features in the USA.gov, like....Department of State's America.gov mobile and U.S. embassy locator, FBI Most Wanted List, NASA app, USA.gov Mobile etc.
- ❖ A part of USA.gov, **GobiernoUSA.gov** pulls together all of the U.S. government's Spanish-language websites and makes them easily accessible to the public in one central location. The site, which was developed by Spanish speakers, represents an outreach effort to some 43 million Americans who report speaking Spanish at home.

Arrangement Pattern

Services and information are arranged alphabetically. Under each service, there are some sub-services. Sub-services are also arranged alphabetically. Each sub-service is arranged also alphabetically.

The screenshot shows the USA.gov homepage with a search bar and navigation menu. On the right side, there is a section titled "A-Z Index of U.S. Government Departments and Agencies" which features a grid of letters from A to Z. Below the grid, there are links for "AbilityOne Commission" and "Access Board".

Remarks

USA.gov helps visitors find federal information in several ways. Additionally, USA.gov invites the public to share feedback on apps they would find useful by using government information available on Data.gov and USAspending.gov, and to share ideas to improve government through public dialogues and government contests.

Comparable Tools

- Data.Gov(<https://www.data.gov/>)
- Foreign Government Resources on the Web (<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~graceyor/govdocs/foreign.html>)
- Governments on the WWW (<http://www.gksoft.com/govt/>)
- GOV Spot (<http://www.govspot.com/>)

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