

Politics and Government in the United States Resource Guide

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This guide provides selected information resources on United States politics and government. Included are Mildred F. Sawyer Library's databases and government, academic, commercial and association websites. Also, a brief list of print resources is provided. For specific book and periodical titles, check the [Suffolk University Library Catalog](#).

Library Databases:

The Sawyer Library subscription periodical indexes and full-text resources are available to current Suffolk University students and faculty.

[Political Science Complete](#)

Provides full text for over 385 publications, and indexing for over 800 journals. Includes more than 165 full-text reference books and monographs and over 27,000 full text conference papers, including those of the International Political Science Association.

[CQ Press Political Reference Suite](#)

CQ Press Political Reference Suite offers the [CQ Almanac](#) which provides annual analysis of legislation and policy in the U.S. Congress from 1945 through 2006. The [Historic Documents Series](#), includes primary documents and analysis (updated yearly since 1972) covering presidential speeches, international agreements, and Supreme Court decisions, U.S. governmental reports, and more. The Suite also includes [Congress and the Nation](#), which covers actions of the U.S. Congress from 1945-2004, including key votes. The [Political Handbook of the World](#) is described as "the most authoritative resource for political information on more than 200 countries," and [Politics in America](#), offers profiles and assessments of every member of Congress. The [Supreme Court Yearbook](#) covers essential information of the U.S. Supreme Court and is updated yearly since 1989. In addition, the [Washington Information Directory](#) offers the "essential guide to key contacts at government agencies and national organizations." [Vital Statistics on American Politics](#) provides data on social and economic policy, Congress, the Executive branch, elections, the media, and more.

[CQ Researcher](#)

Published by CQ Press, CQ Researcher provides 12,000-word reports 44 times a year, covering a single theme in each issue. Each report offers in-depth, non-biased coverage of political and social issues in fields, such as health, international affairs, education, the environment, technology, and the U.S. economy.

[CQ Weekly](#)

Provides in-depth coverage of the U.S. Congress, including status of bills, votes, amendments, and committee activity. Searchable by topic, keyword, or date.

[CQ Congress Collection](#)

Provides historical analysis of members of Congress, their voting behavior, interest groups, and their interactions in creating public policy. Also, includes organizational history, the legislative process, and public policy decision-making, and biographical information.

[LEXIS/NEXIS Academic](#)

Provides full-text searching of newspapers, trade journals, wire services, and transcripts of broadcasts. Business, legal, medical, and reference sections are included. Newspaper coverage generally starts in the late eighties or early nineties.

[HeinOnline](#)

This is an image-based, comprehensive, searchable database that provides all material from its inception, including the *Federal Register*, all U.S. treaties and agreements, every published U.S.

Supreme Court decision, a Legal Classics Library, and over 650 law review journals.

[Sage Journals Online](#)

Sage Journals Online consists of PDF online content to ALL the academic journals published by the scholarly publisher, Sage, back to 1999. This is approximately 450 peer-reviewed journals covering various fields, including political science.

[Academic Search Complete](#)

Indexes, abstracts, and provides full-text to over 5,990 periodicals, including more than 5,030 peer-reviewed journals in nearly every academic field.

[JSTOR](#)

A full-text collection of back issues of core scholarly journals, covering specific subject areas, including political science. Years covered generally begin with volume I and continue to the most recent five years.

[LEXIS/NEXIS Statistical](#)

LexisNexis Statistical provides access to statistics produced by the U.S. government, international intergovernmental organizations, professional and trade organizations, commercial publishers, independent research organizations, state government agencies, and universities.

[EconLit](#)

The American Economic Association's electronic bibliographic database which provides citations and abstracts from over 450 economic journal articles, dissertations, books, and working papers.

[Academic OneFile](#) (InfoTrac)

Academic OneFile is Gale's major source for peer-reviewed, full-text articles. It provides extensive coverage in all academic subjects and offers millions of articles in both PDF and HTML full-text.

[Project Muse](#)

Provides full-text of 110 scholarly journals of the Johns Hopkins University Press and its publishing partners. Some political science journals are included.

[Roper Center for Public Opinion Research](#)

The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research is a leading archive of social science data, which specializes in data from public opinion surveys. This data includes iPOLL, "a comprehensive database of 500,000 questions and answers asked in the US since 1935".

[Polling the Nations](#)

A compilation of surveys conducted by over 700 polling organizations in the U.S. and in other countries.

[International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Science](#)

Searchable encyclopedia covering the social and behavioral sciences. Topics covered include political systems, political behavior, political parties, reform, and much more.

[Oxford Reference Online Premium](#)

Provides online access to Oxford's reference publications, including *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics*, *A Dictionary of Political Biography*, and *The Oxford Guide to the United States Government*.

[Oxford Journals Online](#)

Provides online access to most Oxford journals. Includes nearly 20 political science journals.

[Primary Sources in U.S. History](#)

Includes federal legislation, court decisions, speeches, and manuscripts in the fields of African American Studies and Women's Studies.

[Wall Street Journal](#)

Provides abstracts and full-text articles and includes backfiles prior to 1986.

Selected Websites:

Political Science

[American Political Science Association](#). APSANet.

<http://www.apsanet.org>

Homepage and links for the American Political Science Association.

[Academic Info. Political Science Portals](#)

<http://www.academicinfo.net/poliscimeta.html>

Maintained by Mike Madden, Academic Info's mission is to develop a subject directory which covers each academic discipline. Provides comprehensive, quality links by topic, country/region, and type.

[University of Michigan. Government Documents. Political Science](#)

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/government-documents-center/explore/browse/political-science/254/search/>

The University of Michigan's Documents Center's web pages are clustered by broad subject area. The Political Science pages include collections by type and broad subject, such as Indexes, United States Politics and Elections, Think Tanks, International Relations, Methodology, and Theory.

[University of Michigan. Government Documents. Political Science. Statistics](#)

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/government-documents-center/explore/browse/statistics+political-science/941/search/>

From the University of Michigan Documents Center, this site serves as a guide to web pages that

provide data on all aspects of Political Science, including elections and campaign finances.

[The Brookings Institution. U.S. Politics](#)

<http://www.brookings.edu/topics/u-s--politics.aspx>

The Brookings Institution is a nonprofit public policy organization whose mission is to conduct quality, independent research and to provide recommendations for public policy. Current projects and research are found [here](#). For a list of other centers for policy development, see this list from Harvard's [Kennedy School of Government](#).

[Richard Kimber's Political Science Resources](#)

<http://www.psr.keele.ac.uk/>

This website is a gateway to resources in politics and government. Covers data sources, journal links, theory, parties, area studies, and international relations. Although the site's focus is worldwide, it provides extensive U.S. links.

Congressional Information

[A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates 1774-1873.](#)

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html>

Includes the *Journals of the Continental Congress*, debates from the Constitutional Convention, *Statutes at Large*, the *Congressional Globe*, *Annals of Congress*, *American State Papers*, and more.

[Biographical Directory of the U.S. Congress 1774-present](#)

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/biosearch/biosearch.asp>

Provided by the U.S. Congress.

[GPO Access](#)

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

Provides the following Congressional databases and more:

- [Congressional Bills 103rd Congress](#) (1993-94) - present
- [Congressional Documents 104th Congress](#) (1995-96) - present
- [Congressional Hearings 104th Congress](#) (1995-96) - present
- [Congressional Reports 104th Congress](#) (1995-96) - present
- [Congressional Record](#) volume 140 (1994) - present

[Thomas](#)

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

The Library of Congress provides the Thomas Legislative Information Service. Thomas includes full-text of bills and [public laws](#) from the 93rd Congress to the present Congress; the [Congressional Record](#) from the 101st Congress to the present Congress; [Committee Reports](#) from the 104th Congress to the present Congress; and selected government links.

[U.S. Senate](#)

<http://www.senate.gov>

[U.S. House of Representatives](#)

<http://www.house.gov>

Presidential Information

[Potus: Presidents of the U.S.](#)

<http://www.ipl.org/div/potus/>

Links to biographical information about presidents. (Part of the Internet Public Library)

[The American Presidency Project](#)

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>

The American Presidency Project was established in 1999 as a collaboration between John Woolley and Gerhard Peters at the University of California, Santa Barbara. It currently holds over 76,100 documents related to the study of the Presidency, including public papers, radio addresses, addresses to Congress, State of Union Addresses, and more. Material covered begins in the eighteenth century and continues forward.

[Public Papers of the President of the United States](#)

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/pubpapers/search.html>

Contains public speeches and statements of the Presidents.

[Federal Register](#)

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

Includes executive orders and proclamations as they become effective (from 1994+).

[Code of Federal Regulations, Title 3](#)

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/cfrassemble.cgi?title=200303>

The annual cumulation of the text of Executive Orders and Proclamations.

[Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents](#)

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

Contains transcripts of official Presidential statements since 1993.

[Geostat Center. US Presidential Election Maps: 1860-1996](#)

<http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/elections/maps/>

Data for election maps were made available by the Inter-university Consortium for Political Social Research. Includes electoral distribution and popular vote percentages.

[White House](#)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov>

Includes searchable speeches, documents, and policies.

[The Living Room Candidate](#)

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

Maintained by the Museum of the Moving Image, this site offers short clips of Presidential campaign commercials from 1952-2008.

Judicial Information

[Federal Judicial Center](#)

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

The education and research agency for the Federal Courts. Provides a Federal Judges Biographical Database, containing service records of all judges of the U.S. District Courts, the U.S. Circuit Courts, the U.S. Courts of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court since 1789. Includes texts of landmark legislation and other full-text publications.

[Federal Judiciary U.S. Courts](#)

<http://www.uscourts.gov>

The official website of the Federal Judiciary. This site provides general information on federal courts plus links to U.S. Supreme Court cases, U.S. Courts of Appeals, U.S. District Courts, and U.S. Bankruptcy Courts.

[FindLaw](#)

<http://www.findlaw.com>

FindLaw is one of the better free legal resources on the web. Now owned by WestGroup, this site provides a subject guide to internet legal resources and keyword searchable federal case law. U.S. Supreme Court opinions are available from volume 150 of the U.S. Reports (1893) to the present. Findlaw also provides links to state legal resources - state constitutions, codes, court rules, and state supreme court and appeals decisions. [LawCrawler](#) is the FindLaw legal web and database search engine.

[National Center for State Courts \(NCSC\)](#)

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

Contains links to numerous state and local court sites. Provides state court statistics and some full-text research publications. Includes [CourTopics](#) or guides containing overviews, research, FAQ's, and best practices. [Digital Archive](#) offers searchable full-text reports.

[Bureau of Justice Statistics \(BJS\)](#)

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

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the primary source for criminal justice statistics. It's mission is to collect, analyze, and publish information on crime, criminal offenders, victims, and the operation of justice systems at all levels. Data is available in varied formats: PDF, spreadsheets,

HTML, and/or text.

[National Criminal Justice Reference Service](http://www.ncjrs.org/)

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

NCJRS provides statistics on crime, criminal courts, police, and prisons. See also the [U.S. Federal Sentencing Guidelines](http://www.ussc.gov/guidelin.htm), provided by the United States Sentencing Commission. (<http://www.ussc.gov/guidelin.htm>)

[Supreme Court of the United States](http://www.supremecourtus.gov/index.html)

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

Includes recent slip opinions, court rules, and in-chamber opinions.

Federal Information

[Government Web Resources](http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/extgovd.html)

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/extgovd.html>

The Serial and Government Publications Division of the Library of Congress maintains this page of links to federal, state, university, and news resources in the area of government. Subject areas include Government Information of Broad Scope, U.S. Federal Government Information, U.S. State Government Information, U.S. Politics, and International Information.

[Federal Election Commission](http://www.fec.gov)

<http://www.fec.gov>

Administers and enforces the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA). Includes the text of a 20-year report which covers history, issues, costs, and continuing debate. Provides election results, news, and filing information. See [Pacronyms](#), for an alphabetical list of acronyms and common names of federal political action committees (PACs). See also the [Campaign Finance Reports and Data](#) for texts of various financial disclosure reports for 1993-present.

[FedWorld](http://www.fedworld.gov)

<http://www.fedworld.gov>

A gateway to federal government information, managed by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS)

[University of Michigan. Government Documents. Federal Government](http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/federal.html)

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/federal.html>

The University of Michigan provides full-text documents from the various departments of the federal government. Resources are extensive and are arranged by broad topic for department.

[National Archives and Records Administration](http://www.archives.gov/)

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

An independent federal agency that houses and manages original documents and records from

America's past. Includes Presidential, Congressional, and Judicial material. Offers keyword [searching](#) in "electronic records archives," basic laws and authorities, publications, and more.

[U.S. Electoral College](#)

<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/>

The people of the United States vote for the electors who then vote for the President (Electoral College). The Federal Register Office coordinates the functions of the Electoral College on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, the States, and Congress. This website provides a description of the functions and responsibilities of the Electoral College, historical election results from 1789, teaching resources, and more.

[InfoUSA: Elections](#)

http://usinfo.org/enus/government/govt_elections.html

This website offers information on official U.S. policies and political processes, and includes links to sites covering topics such as the election process, congressional and gubernatorial races, parties, issues, polls and predictions, and voting.

[United States Government Manual](#)

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

Provides comprehensive information on the legislative, judicial, and executive branches.

[U.S. Census Bureau](#)

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

Includes press releases of current demographic, economic, and housing trends; historic income and poverty data; national population projections; access to the Census 2000 data, and more.

[Voting and Registration](#) site offers congressional and presidential election data from the Current Population Survey (CPS).

[United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions](#)

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/plumbok/2008/index.html>

The "Plum Book" (updated every four years) provides the policy positions of the Legislative and Executive branches and the various departments within the US government. Reports for 2008 are available in PDF format. Includes a link to the earlier "November 1996 Plum Book."

[CyberCemetery](#)

<http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/>

The University of North Texas Libraries in partnership with the U.S. Government Printing Office created this website in order to provide access to publications from defunct U.S. government agencies and commissions. Sites are arranged by title and category.

[Avalon Project at Yale University](#)

<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/default.asp>

Contains important historic U.S. documents in law, history, and diplomacy, including treaties,

international agreements, trials, significant presidential papers, and more.

Public Opinion

[The Gallup Poll](#)

<http://www.gallop.com>

Provides current news in the area of public opinion.

[Harris Interactive](#)

http://www.harrisinteractive.com/harris_poll/

Provides searchable polling reports from 1998 to present.

[The Pew Research Center for People and the Press](#)

<http://people-press.org>

Provides polls on politics and the media. Survey reports from 1999 to present are searchable by topic and year.

[The Polling Report](#)

<http://www.pollingreport.com>

Provides the results of recent surveys on political, business, and other current issues by polling organizations like Harris, Princeton, and Gallup. Keyword search and browsing functions are available from any page in the website except the homepage.

[American National Election Studies \(ANES\)](#)

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

The University of Michigan provides this site which includes tables and graphs that show public opinion and electoral behavior in American politics since 1948. Data is downloadable, but much of the files require specific software packages to view.

[Roper Center for Public Opinion Research](#)

<http://www.ropercenter.uconn.edu/>

Includes some freely available polls on U.S. Presidential elections and a limited selection of topics from the Roper Center archives and databases, including the U.S. economy and the National Science Foundation surveys. Much of the website material is confined to paying members, but Suffolk University faculty and studnets may access this material through the [Roper Center](#) database.

[European Commission: Public Opinion Analysis](#)

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

This is the website for the Public Opinion Analysis division of the European Commission. The division produces surveys and studies concerning European Union citizenship. Browse or keyword search studies covering issues, such as health, culture, technology, or environment.

[Odum Institute Public Opinion Poll Question Database](#)

http://www.irss.unc.edu/data_archive/pollsearch.html

The Howard W. Odum Institute for Research in Social Science at the University of North Carolina maintains a searchable database consisting of data from the Louis Harris & Associates Polls, state polls, North Carolina polls, and international polls.

[Kaiser Polls](#)

<http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls>

The [Kaiser Spotlight](#) provides tracking information, trends reporting, and analysis of public opinion about health care topics. [Health Poll Search](#), an extensive archive of polls and surveys focusing on public attitudes about health and social policy issues, is a collaboration between the Kaiser Family Foundation and The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research at the University of Connecticut. The archive is searchable by keyword, topics, and polling organizations.

[Public-Agenda Online](#)

<http://www.publicagenda.com>

Public Agenda is a nonpartisan, nonprofit public opinion research and citizen education organization that aims to help leaders understand public opinion on policy issues and to educate citizens regarding critical issues. Issues, such as crime, health care, immigration, and illegal drugs are discussed. Full-text of recent research studies are included.

Politics and Elections

[Center for Responsive Politics. Opensecrets.org](#)

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

The Center for Responsive Politics, 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 research on campaign finance issues for the news media, academics, activists, and the public at large. The website offers campaign finance data for members of Congress, political parties, Congressional committees, and the White House.

[Congress.org](#)

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

Allows the user to identify her state and federal representatives via zip code. This is a nonprofit site, run by Capital Advantage. Congressional voting records are included on selected legislation.

[Dave Leip's Atlas of U.S. Presidential Elections](#)

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

Provides detailed information on national election results for U.S. Presidential candidates from 1789-2000.

[OpenCongress](#)

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

"OpenCongress brings together official government data with news articles, blog coverage, and public comments" in order to provide the true story about what's happening in Congress. A joint project of the Sunlight Foundation and the Participatory Politics Foundation, it is a free, open-source, non-profit, and non-partisan web resource. Links to bills, committees, congressmen, voting records, and news.

[American National Election Studies](#)

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

The American National Election Studies (ANES) produces data on voting, public opinion, and political participation. ANES conducts national surveys of the American electorate in election years and carries out research, creating time-series, pilot studies, and other data collections. Much of the data is available for downloading.

[Democratic National Committee](#)

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

Website of the U.S. Democratic Party.

[League of Women Voters of the United States](#)

<http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home>

This is a link to the homepage of the national headquarters for the League of Women Voters and a good source of unbiased information about candidates.

[National Political Index](#)

<http://www.politicalindex.com>

A commercial site that provides an index of political information for voters, lobbyists, politicians, and researchers. Links to a wide variety of internet sites. Includes dead links.

[Politics1](#)

<http://www.politics1.com>

A nonpartisan site dedicated to informing the American electorate. This site is rich with information, including links to the Presidency, the states, the parties, and the issues. Provides an extensive directory of the U.S. [political parties](#).

[Project Vote Smart](#)

<http://www.vote-smart.org>

Allows the user to locate representatives via zip code. Includes biographies, voting records, campaign finance statistics, and more for state and federal legislative representatives.

[Women in Politics](#)

<http://www.ipu.org/bdf-e/BDFsearch.asp>

The Inter-Parliamentary Union in Geneva, Switzerland provides this database of references to materials related to women's participation in government. Entries include citation information and abstracts, but no full-text. The books, documents, and articles cited may come from a general

commercial publisher or a variety of organizations, from the Central American Parliament to UNIFEM. Search by group and subject heading, or do a free-text search.

[Republican Party](http://www.rnc.org)

<http://www.rnc.org>

Website of the U.S. Republican Party.

[Hoover Institution Public Policy Inquiry: Campaign Finance](http://www.campaignfinancesite.org/)

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

Includes the history of campaign reform, Supreme Court cases, reform legislation, and news and links to PACs and individual contributors.

State and Local Information

[National Conference of State Legislatures \(NCSL\)](http://www.ncsl.org/)

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

The NCSL is a bipartisan organization that provides research, technical assistance and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on significant state issues. This website offers the full-text of some research reports, articles, and news.

[National Governors Association](http://www.nga.org)

<http://www.nga.org>

Site of the National Governors Association of the 50 states. Provides policy positions, best practices, papers, news, staff directories, and more.

[Public-Agenda Online](http://www.publicagenda.com)

<http://www.publicagenda.com>

Public Agenda is a nonpartisan, nonprofit public opinion research and citizen education organization that aims to help leaders understand public opinion on policy issues and to educate citizens regarding critical issues. Issues, such as crime, health care, immigration, and illegal drugs are discussed. Full-text of recent research studies are included.

[Open Government Guide](http://www.rcfp.org/ogg/index.ph)

<http://www.rcfp.org/ogg/index.ph>

"A complete compendium of information on every state's open records and open meetings laws." State information includes an outline for searching citizen rights to open records and open meetings.

[State and Local Governments on the Net](http://www.statelocalgov.net/index.cfm)

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

A huge directory of links to state and local resources on the web. Provides links to state offices, boards and commissions. Includes links to city resources.

[Stateline.org](http://www.stateline.org)

<http://www.stateline.org>

Reports daily developments in state government. Topics covered include education, taxes, healthcare, welfare reform, land use, and election reform. Provides downloadable state statistics and State-of-the-State speeches.

[U.S. Conference of Mayors](http://www.usmayors.org/USCM/home.asp)

<http://www.usmayors.org/USCM/home.asp>

This website provides the text of recent conference reports, news, and mayors database. Maintains a "best practices" database and texts of Conference Resolutions from 1997 to present.

Massachusetts Information

[Commonwealth of Massachusetts](http://www.mass.gov/portal/index.jsp)

<http://www.mass.gov/portal/index.jsp>

The official Massachusetts website provides a wealth of information on the state government, including links to agencies, the legislature, the courts, and the governors office. Some useful links are listed below.

[Secretary of the Commonwealth. Elections Division.](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/ele/)

<http://www.state.ma.us/sec/ele/>

Provides voter registration information, as well as data summaries of election results from 2002 to the present.

[Statutes. General Laws of Massachusetts](http://www.state.ma.us/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm)

<http://www.state.ma.us/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm>

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provides a searchable unofficial version of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

[Session Laws](http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/seslaws.htm)

<http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/seslaws.htm>

Session laws of the *Massachusetts Acts and Resolves* are available and keyword searchable from 1997 to the present.

[The Text of Senate Bills](http://www.state.ma.us/legis/billsrch.htm)

<http://www.state.ma.us/legis/billsrch.htm>

The text of Senate and House bills are also posted (daily) and are searchable by key word and bill number.

[The Text of House Bills](http://www.state.ma.us/legis/hbillsrch.htm)

<http://www.state.ma.us/legis/hbillsrch.htm>

The text of Senate and House bills are also posted (daily) and are searchable by key word and bill number.

[City of Boston](#)

<http://www.ci.boston.ma.us>

Provides information about the Mayor's Office, city services, and City Council.

[Massachusetts Municipal Association](#)

<http://www.mma.org>

The MMA is "the voice of cities and towns in Massachusetts." News topics in the form of Municipal Headlines and Issues are provided. Especially useful are the municipal profiles of individual cities and towns in the Commonwealth.

Selected Printed Sources:

Elections and Political Parties

[American Presidential Campaigns and Elections](#) (3 vols.)

REF JK1965 .A57 2003

Provides 62 comprehensive essays with related documents on presidential elections. Includes election returns, short biographies, and campaign documents. Each article is signed and includes a bibliography.

[Congressional Quarterly Almanac](#) (Annual)

REF JK1 .C66

Provides detailed articles on elections and votes for Congressional and Gubernatorial candidates. Selected roll call votes are included. Available online through [CQ Political Reference Suite](#).

[Congressional Quarterly's Guide to U.S. Elections](#) 3rd ed.

REF JK1967 .C62 1994

Covers party conventions and ballots and data from Presidential, Congressional, and gubernatorial elections.

[Congressional Districts in the 2000s](#)

REF. JK1341 .C65 2003

Covers distribution and redistribution of political power in the U.S. House of Representatives. Includes text descriptions for each district, a variety of data, and maps. Covers the economic and political forces that shape each district.

[Elections A To Z](#)

REF JK1976 .M57 1999

A guide to current issues in the history and terminology regarding attaining elected office.

[Encyclopedia of American Parties, Campaigns, and Elections](#)

REF JK9. B56 1999

Explains terms, figures, parties, and important legal cases. Contains descriptions of presidential elections since 1788. Also available online through [Greenwood Press](#) and [Gale Virtual Reference](#).

[Encyclopedia of the Democratic Party](#) (2 vols.)

REF JK2312 .E55 1997

Provides the history of the Democratic Party. Includes historical platforms and a biographical section.

[Encyclopedia of the Republican Party](#) (2 vols.)

REF JK2352.E56 1997

Chronicles the history of the Republican Party. Includes historical platforms and a biographical section.

[Encyclopedia of Third Parties in America](#) (3 vols.)

REF JK2261 .E474 2000

Describes third parties and candidates in U.S. history.

[How to Research Elections](#)

REF JF1001 .M37 2000

Covers secondary and primary sources and finding tools for studying elections. Includes descriptions of internet sites and online databases.

[Political Parties and Elections in the United States: an Encyclopedia](#)

REF JK2261 .P633 1991

Covers the history and operation of political parties, elections, and significant personalities in the electoral process.

[Vital Statistics on American Politics](#)

Provides historical voting data, federal court case data, campaign and PAC spending, social policy statistics, and economic data. Also available online through [CQ Press Reference Suite](#).

Election Statistics

[America Votes; a Handbook of Contemporary Election Statistics](#) (biennial)

REF JK1967 .A8

State entries provide votes for President, Governor, and Senator. Congressional district data and county level data for recent Congressional elections are also included.

[America at the Polls : a Handbook of American Presidential Election Statistics](#)

REF JK524 .A73 1994 (2 vols.)

Provides state and county data from 1920 through 2004.

[American National Election Studies Data Sourcebook, 1952-1986](#)

REF JK1967 .M54 1989

Covers detailed data on the national electorate. Includes social characteristics, party identification, voting behavior, voter turnout, positions on public policy issues, and attitudes toward Congress.

[Massachusetts Election Statistics](#)

REF JK3193. E4 2004

Includes state primary and general election results, plus enrollment, registration, and turnout information for all communities in the state.

[Presidential Elections](#)

REF JK524 .P6783 1789-2004

Provides data from presidential elections. Includes brief biographies of candidates.

[Source Book of American Presidential Campaign and Election Statistics, 1948-1968](#)

REF JK524 .R83

Includes convention data, voting statistics, presidential campaign staffs, campaign itineraries, and third party voting.

Directories

[Biographical Directory of the United States Executive Branch, 1774-1989](#)

REF E176 .B578 1990

Contains biographies of cabinet heads, presidents, vice- presidents and presidents of the Continental Congress.

[Massachusetts Political Almanac](#) (biennial)

REF DESK JK3130 .A6

A comprehensive directory of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Massachusetts government. Includes profiles and contact information. To access the website, contact reference librarians for login and password.

[Municipal Year Book](#)

REF JS342 .A2I52

Includes official municipal data on salary, personnel, and expenditures. Includes county information, as well. Annual.

[Official Congressional Directory](#) (biennial)

REF JK1011 .U58

Published by the U.S. Senate and the Government Printing Office, this directory covers biographical and contact information for members of Congress.

[Public Interest Group Profiles](#)

REF JK1118 .P79 2006-2007

Describes the most influential public interest groups. Profiles are arranged by subject.

Dictionaries, Encyclopedias and Handbooks

[Almanac of American Politics](#) (biennial)

REF JK1012 .A44

Includes listings for senators, representatives, and governors and provides elections results by state and district.

[Almanac of Women and Minorities in American Politics 2002](#)

REF HQ1236.5 .U6 M3779 2001

Includes information on women and minorities in the U.S. Congress, the Judiciary, and in state offices.

[Black's Law Dictionary](#) 9th ed.

REF DESK KF156 .B53 2009.

Standard authority for legal definitions.

[Blackwell Dictionary of Political Science: a user's guide to its terms](#)

REF JA61 .B43 1999

Provides definitions of major terms and concepts and includes suggested readings. Also, provides a section of short biographies. Available online at [Credo Reference](#).

[Book of the States](#)

REF JK2403 .B62 2009

Produced by the Council of State Governments, this publication provides a wide array of information and statistics for every aspect of state government- from campaign finance to education and healthcare.

[Dorsey Dictionary of American Government and Politics](#)

REF JK9. .S42 1988

Covers terms and concepts on American, national, state, and local government and politics. Includes Supreme Court cases, biographical profiles, laws, slang, scholarly journals, and professional associations.

[Encyclopedia of American Political History](#)

REF E183 .E48 2001

Provides detailed articles on major issues and developments in American history, including important political events. Includes bibliographies.

[Encyclopedia of Governmental Advisory Organizations 2002](#)

REF JK468 .C7 E5

Comprehensive guide to the permanent ad hoc advisory committees that report to the President, Congress, and other U.S. departments and agencies.

[Historical Statistics of the United States: earliest times to the present](#)

REF HA202 .H57 2006 (6 vols.)

Covers broad areas, including economy, labor, and government. [Online Millennial version](#) provides historical data online, which is downloadable and customizable.

[Encyclopedia of Massachusetts](#)

REF F64. E53 1999

Covers basic state geography and history and provides directory information for state services.

[Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Public Policy](#) (2 vols.)

REF. JK9 .E526 2003

Provides comprehensive articles covering theory, issues, and concepts. Articles are signed and include bibliographies.

[Encyclopedia of the United States Congress](#) (4 vols.)

REF JK1067 .E63 1995

Detailed essays on major cases, laws, historical issues, and individuals.

[Encyclopedia of Women in American Politics](#)

REF HQ1236.5 .U6 E53 1999

Covers persons, events, concepts, and issues in over 700 entries, written by 50 scholars. All entries have bibliographies.

[Historical Guide to the U.S. Government](#)

REF JK9 .H57 1998

Describes the history of the U.S. government's departments and agencies.

[Macmillan Dictionary of Political Quotations](#)

REF PN6084 .P6E54 1993

Quotations are organized by content areas. Criteria for selection is based on character of the speaker, use of analogies or metaphors, controversy, humor, irony, inspiration, and more.

[State Legislative Sourcebook](#)

REF JK2495 .S689 2009

Provides contact information, including websites, for state legislatures, lobbyists, officials, local news sources, and more.

[United States Government Manual](#)

REF JK421 .A3

Provides comprehensive information on the legislative, judicial and executive branches of the federal government. Annual. Also available online at [GPOAccess](#).

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