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## ECONOMICS 226 ECONOMIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

Professor Atack  
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All titles in this guide are located in the Central Library. The Reference collection, Reference Reading Room, Media Services, and Government Information Services are on the 4<sup>th</sup> (main) floor. Periodicals are located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor.

### FINDING BOOKS

ACORN, the Library's online catalog, provides location and availability information for books, periodicals, and other items owned by Vanderbilt's nine libraries. **Most U.S. government documents published after July 1976 are in ACORN (earlier documents are not).** [www.acorn.library.vanderbilt.edu](http://www.acorn.library.vanderbilt.edu)

**SUBJECT SEARCH:** To find books on a place, select 'SUBJECT keyword' in Basic Search and enter the place name and the keyword(s) describing your economic concept. Use "and" (without quotes) between keywords to narrow your search and retrieve **only** records containing all of the terms. Or, try the same search using 'TITLE keyword'.

**Example:** California and history (SUBJECT keyword)

**Example:** California and history and agriculture (SUBJECT keyword)

To search a set of words as a phrase, enclose the words in **single quotes**.

**Example:** 'New York' and 'land reform' and history (SUBJECT keyword)

**STATISTICS SEARCH:** To find statistics on a place, select 'SUBJECT keyword' in Basic Search.

**Example:** Hawaii and statistics (SUBJECT keyword)

**Example:** Hawaii and statistics and wages (SUBJECT keyword)

(Tip: When you find a title of interest, click on a subject heading link in the ACORN record to find more books related to your topic.)

### DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS -- BACKGROUND INFORMATION & ECONOMIC CONCEPTS

*The American Economy: A Historical Encyclopedia.*

Ref HC 102 .A66 2003

*Dictionary of United States Economic History.*

Ref HC 102 .O57 1992

*Encyclopedia of American Economic History: Studies of the Principal Movements and Ideas.*

Ref HC 103 .E52

Covers historiography, chronological periods, economic growth, business cycles, transportation, slavery, urbanization, immigration, and women. If you do not find a separate article on your subject, consult the index in vol. 3 to see if your subject is covered within a major article.

*Encyclopedia of Tariffs and Trade in U.S. History.*

Ref HF 1705 .E53 2003

*Encyclopedia of the Industrial Revolution in America.*

Ref HC 105 .O45 2002

*The Federal Reserve System: An Encyclopedia.*

Ref HG 2563 .H235 2005

*Gale Encyclopedia of U. S. Economic History.*

Ref HC 102 .G35 1999

*Harvard Guide to American History.*

Ref Reading Rm, Bookcase 1, Z 1236 .F77 1974

Vol. 1 covers research methods and lists books and some articles, including biographies and personal records; comprehensive and area histories; and histories of special subjects, including cultural, economic, and social.

Vol. 2 is arranged chronologically from the colonial period through the twentieth century. Economic history is in vol. 1, pp. 381-434. See also the appropriate time periods in vol. 2. Names and subject indexes.

*The New Palgrave: a Dictionary of Economics.*

Ref HB 61 .N49 2002

*The Oxford Encyclopedia of Economic History.*

Ref HC 15 .O94 2003

## BIBLIOGRAPHIES

To find a bibliography on a topic in ACORN, select 'SUBJECT keyword' and search the topic and the keyword 'bibliography'. Or try the same search using 'TITLE keyword'.

Example: Tennessee and bibliography (TITLE keyword)

*A Bibliography of Tennessee history, 1973-1996.*

Ref Z 1337 .B53 1999

*Tennessee History: A Bibliography.*

Ref Z 1337 .S55

## PERIODICAL INDEXES

[Online] indicates that the resource can be accessed at: [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb.shtml](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb.shtml)

*America: History and Life, 1964 -.* [Online]

Provides citations and abstracts of literature on the history of the U. S. and Canada from prehistory to the present. Indexes over 1,700 journals published worldwide.

*EconLit, 1969 -.* [Online]

*EconLit* is a comprehensive, indexed bibliography with selected abstracts of literature on economics from over 400 major economic journals compiled from the American Economic Association's *Journal of Economic Literature* and the *Index of Economic Articles in Journals and Collective Volumes*.

*Index of Economic Journals, 1886- 1965.* Ref Reading Rm, Bookcase 4, Z7164 .E2 I48.

Provides indexing to economic articles from 1886 to 1965.

*Readers' Guide Retrospective, 1890- 1982.* [Online]

Provides indexing to U.S. periodicals from 1890 to 1982.

*Poole's Plus. (Nineteenth Century Masterfile).* [Online]

Indexes newspapers, periodicals, government documents and more. The subject, author and title indexes are published prior to 1925. Includes *Poole's Index to Periodical Literature, 1802-1906*.

## NEWSPAPERS

[Online] indicates that the resource can be accessed at: [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb.shtml](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb.shtml)

*Chicago Tribune, 1849- 1985. Archive.* [Online]

*LexisNexis Academic, 1973- .* [Online]

Indexes fulltext newspaper articles. To limit search to state or regional newspapers, click (1) the Sources tab; (2) change All Countries to the United States next to 'Filter by'; (3) click on the folder called 'News'; (4) select a state or region; (5) click the OK –Continue button.

*National Newspaper Index, 1980- .* [Online]

Index to *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post*.

*New York Times, 1851- 2003. Archive.* [Online]

*Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728- 1800. Archive.* [Online]

Published in Philadelphia from 1728 through 1800. Provides a first hand view of colonial America, the American Revolution and the New Republic, and offers important social, political and cultural perspectives of each of the periods.

*Poole's Plus, or Nineteenth Century Masterfile.* [Online]

Includes newspapers.

*Wall Street Journal Index, 1955- 2005.* Ref Reading Rm, AI21 .N45.

Arranged chronologically under various subject headings.

*Washington Post, 1877- 1989. Archive.* [Online]

*Tennessean Index, May 1995 - Oct 2001.* [Online]

**Note:** Back issues of some U.S. newspapers are available on microfilm in Media Services. However, indexes are often available only for major newspapers such as *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. For a list of newspapers on microfilm, please see [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/central/newspapers.htm](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/central/newspapers.htm)

## STATISTICS

[Online] indicates that the resource can be accessed at: [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb.shtml](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb.shtml)

### **Historical Statistics of the United States: Earliest Times to the Present. Millennial Ed. [Online]**

This is the revised and expanded edition of *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970*, Bicentennial edition. "The standard source for historical statistics about the social, political, and economic aspects of the United States...." It brings together statistics from many sources and makes them available here, and refers users to the original sources for greater detail. The *Statistical Abstract of the United States* (below) contains similar data from 1970 to the present.

**Current paper in Govt Information Services, Reference, HA202 .H57 2006.**

### **Monthly Labor Review. U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Washington, D.C.: U.S. GPO, 1915 -. [Online]**

Statistics on employment and unemployment, earnings, strikes, CPI, productivity, and international comparisons.

**Online access from 1981 at: [stats.bls.gov/opub/mlr/mlrhome.htm](http://stats.bls.gov/opub/mlr/mlrhome.htm)**

**Paper from 1915 on 6<sup>th</sup> floor, HD 8051 .A78; current issues in Periodicals Reading Rm.**

### **Statistical Abstract of the United States: The National Data Book (SAUS). Washington, D.C. : U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1879 -. [Online]**

The basic annual U.S. statistical handbook with almost 1,600 tables, of social, economic, and political statistics. Use the source notes at the bottom of each table to lead you to other statistical publications on your topic. You can find information for earlier years by looking in older editions of SAUS or by looking in **Historical Statistics of the United States: Earliest Times to the Present**.

**Online access at [www.census.gov/compendia/statab/](http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/)**

**Paper for the current year in Ref Reading Rm, Bookcase 1, HA 202; also in Govt Information Services, Reference, call number: C/2(2) C3.134.**

## CENSUS INFORMATION

### **STARTING RESOURCES**

#### ***Census of Population & Housing* [also called *Decennial Census*], 1790- .**

This census is taken every ten years to track a community's growth over time.

**Online access at: [factfinder.census.gov](http://factfinder.census.gov) ; Paper in Govt Information/ Media Services.**

#### ***Historical Census Browser. Geostat Center: Collections. University of Virginia Library*, 1790 -1960.**

Data drawn directly from historical volumes of the U.S. Census of Population and Housing. Includes general population, economy, manufacturing & employment, and more.

**Online access at: [fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/](http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/)**

#### ***Historical Census Reports. Census of Population and Housing*, 1790 -2000.**

PDFs of Census reports from the first to the latest U.S. decennial census.

**Online access at: [www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/index.htm](http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/index.htm)**

#### ***National Historical Geographic Information System (NHGIS)* [1790 -2000]**

Aggregate census data and GIS-compatible boundary files for the United States between 1790 and 2000.

**Online access at: [www.nhgis.org/](http://www.nhgis.org/)**

### **STATE CENSUS RESOURCES**

#### ***State Censuses: microfiche collection : based on State censuses, an annotated bibliography of censuses of population taken after the year 1790 by states and territories of the United States prepared by Henry Dubester.***

The *State Censuses* are more detailed than the federal censuses. The first year of particular censuses vary by states covered. The earliest census included is 1635. States are arranged in alphabetical order, then in chronological order. **Media Services, Microfiche 232**

## U.S. CENSUS RESOURCES

**County Business Patterns.** Washington : U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 1948-.

County Business Patterns provides annual subnational economic data by industry. The series is useful for studying the economic activity of small areas; analyzing economic changes over time; and for data between economic censuses.

**Online access from 1993 at:** [www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/view/cbpview.html](http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/view/cbpview.html) ;

**Older data in paper from 1948 in the Annex. Please request via Acorn.**

**Economic Census, 1810–2002.**

“The Economic Census profiles American business every 5 years, from the national to the local level.” The earliest data focus on manufacturing. Over time it has broadened to include other industries. The most recent data are from 2002 and released online.

**Online access from 1992 at:** [www.census.gov/econ/census02](http://www.census.gov/econ/census02) ;

**Older data available in paper in Govt Information/ Media Services.**

Indexed in *LexisNexis Statistical* . Click ‘Search Tables Research Edition’.

United States. Bureau of Labor. ***The History and Growth of the United States Census***, Prepared for the Senate Committee on the Census, by Carroll D. Wright, assisted by W. C. Hunt. Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1900. 967 pp. (GOVT CENSUS C/3 Y 4.C 33/2:H 62 – held in GOVT office)  
Provides information about the questions asked in each census, 1790-1900.

United States. Bureau of the Census. ***A Century Of Population Growth from the First Census of the United States to the Twelfth, 1790-1900***. Washington, Govt. Print. Off., 1909. 303 pp. (GOVT CENSUS C/3 C 3.2:P 81 – held in GOVT office)  
Gives basic pre-1790 state census results, shows county changes 1790-1900 for each state, and provides other historical information, much of it broken down by county.

## **STATE AND LOCAL LIBRARIES AND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES**

The following web sites provide contact information for the libraries, archives, and historical societies in your state, county, or town. There may also be a description of the materials in the collections.

**Public Libraries in the U.S.**                      [lists.webjunction.org/libweb/Public\\_main.html](http://lists.webjunction.org/libweb/Public_main.html)

**U.S. State and Local Historical & Genealogical Societies**  
[www.usgennet.org/socadmin](http://www.usgennet.org/socadmin)

**U.S. State Libraries & Archives**              [http://www.publiclibraries.com/state\\_library.htm](http://www.publiclibraries.com/state_library.htm)

## **OTHER STATE AND LOCAL INFORMATION**

**State Blue Books**                              [http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/State\\_Blue\\_Books](http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/State_Blue_Books)

**State Statistical Abstracts**                      [http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/st\\_abstracts.html](http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/st_abstracts.html)

**Find a County**  
[http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=Find\\_a\\_County&Template=/cfiles/counties/usamap.cfm](http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=Find_a_County&Template=/cfiles/counties/usamap.cfm)

## **CITING SOURCES**

**Citing Sources**                                      [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/research/Citing.shtml](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/research/Citing.shtml)

**Style Guides for Writing**  
    **APA Style Guide**                                      [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/central/ref/rr\\_styleguides.shtml](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/central/ref/rr_styleguides.shtml)  
    **The Chicago Manual of Style**                      [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb/shtml](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/artdb/shtml)  
    **Ref Reading Rm, Bookcase 1, BF76.7 .P83 2001**

**REFERENCE HELP**

Reference Desk                      322 -2407

Reference Email via AskUs        [www.library.vanderbilt.edu/askus/](http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/askus/)

Prepared by Sue Widmer and Larry Romans, Central Library, January 2008.