HOW TO LOCATE STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Government agencies and business organizations offer extensive statistical information. In addition, newspapers and magazines often contain valuable statistics. Since statistical data vary greatly in quality, detail and reliability, you should always carefully evaluate your statistics in terms of:

✓ relevancy (do the statistics really say what you want them to say?),
✓ reliability (who compiled the statistics, and for what reason?), and
✓ recency (when were the data compiled?).

GENERAL DATA

✓ The World Almanac and Book of Facts [R 310 W927 latest issue in Ready Reference]
✓ Information Please Almanac [R 317.3 I42 latest issue in Ready Reference]

VERMONT

✓ State of Vermont Vital Statistics [R 317.43 A615v latest issue in Ready Reference]

UNITED STATES

✓ Statistical Abstract of the United States [R 317.3 U58s latest issue in Ready Reference]
✓ Also available online at [http://www.census.gov/statab/www/] in PDF (requires Adobe Acrobat Reader).
  o Brings together statistical information from a wide variety of U.S. government sources (some unpublished).
  o plots demographic and economic trends, and provides a detailed discussion of its statistical methodology.

FOREIGN NATIONS

✓ Statesman’s Yearbook [R 310 latest issue in Ready Reference]
✓ CIA’s World Factbook [R 310 W927u latest issue in Ready Reference]

SAMPLE TOPICAL STATISTICAL RESOURCES

✓ Business Statistics of the U.S. [R 338 B979s latest issue in Ready Reference]
✓ County & City Extra Annual Metro, City & County Data Book [R 317.3 C855g latest issue in Ready Reference]
✓ Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders [R 616.89075 D536 latest issue in Ready Reference]
✓ Digest of Educational Statistics [R370.21 D572 latest issue in Ready Reference]
✓ World’s Women Trends and Statistics [R 305.4 W927 latest issue in Ready Reference]