60 Government Sites in 60 Minutes

Presented at SLA 2014
Vancouver, B.C.

by

Marie Kaddell, Sr. Information Professional Consultant, LexisNexis
@libraryfocus
http://www.governmentinfopro.com

and

Chris Vestal, Government Consultant, LexisNexis
@Guybrarian1

1. http://www.usa.gov/Contact/verify-social-media.shtml - USA.gov can help you verify US federal government social media accounts. You can look up accounts managed by federal agencies, elected officials, heads of agencies or members of the President’s Cabinet. Examples of types of accounts you can verify: Blip, Facebook, Flickr, Foursquare, Google+, LinkedIn, Meetup, Pinterest, Scribd, Slideshare, Storify, Tumblr, Twitter, Ustream, Vimeo, Youtube.

2. http://www.science.gov - Immerse yourself in science! Science.gov searches over 60 databases and over 2200 selected websites from 15 federal agencies covering 200 million pages of U.S. government science information including research and development. Also, find science trivia, and selected science websites by topic.

3. http://europa.eu/index_en.htm - Navigate the EU. Explore how the EU works, including facts and figures. Search by topic like economic and monetary affairs; foreign and security policy; and trade. Covers doing business, public procurement, EU law, official documents such as reports and studies; libraries and archives; open data and social account info.

4. http://www.operationwardiary.org/ - Operation War Diary is a crowdsourcing project that is an effort to reveal the story of the British Army on the Western Front during the First World War as shared in 1.5 million pages of unit war diaries. Operation War Diary brings together original First World War documents from the National Archives, the historical expertise of IWM with the public to create new ‘Citizen Historians’.

5. http://fedstats.gov/regional.html - Find International, State, County, & Local Area Statistics here. FEDSTATS covers statistics in areas such as agriculture, crime, demographic, economic, education, energy, environment, health, international, and labor.

insurgency, and the UN. Review U.S. National Strategy Documents, Iraq Collection, Military Policy Awareness Links by Country (MiPALs), Regional Policy Overviews (RPOs) and more.

7. [http://wwwn.cdc.gov sortablestats/](http://wwwn.cdc.gov sortablestats/) - CDC Health Indicator Sortable Stats provides sortable stats is an interactive data set comprised of behavioral risk factors and health indicators. This data set compiles state level data for the 50 states, DC, and U.S. territories from various published CDC and federal sources into a format that allows users to view, sort, and analyze data at state, regional, and national levels. There is a demographic view.

8. [http://www.govloop.com/](http://www.govloop.com/) - With 100K plus members, this is a social network for the government community. GovLoop has leaderboards and discussions; topics – like careers, human resources, technology; info on jobs and training; and resources like guides, research briefs, infographics, videos, and blogs. Also note the library groups on Govloop.

9. [http://www.census.gov/population/international/links/stat_int.html](http://www.census.gov/population/international/links/stat_int.html) - Find international stats with Census International Programs. You’ll find international statistical agency info here including a very detailed country list.


12. [https://www.youtube.com/user/USGovernment](https://www.youtube.com/user/USGovernment) – The USA.GOV channel on Youtube provides videos by topic – such as money & taxes, benefits & grants, business & economics. Featured channels pull together a number of government YouTube sites including DCC, HHS, LC, Treasury, Census, FEMA, NARA and more.

13. [http://india.gov.in/](http://india.gov.in/) is the National Portal for India. It provides information on topics like agriculture, defense, commerce, communication, and transportation. The My Government section includes information on the Constitution and Parliament, a Directory, and access to documents. You’ll also find information on egovernance, services, and citizen services on mobile.

14. [http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts) - FTC Scam Alerts allow you to browse scams by topic such as cars, charity, credit & loan, debt relief, energy, lottery & sweepstakes, work at home, and more. Most recent scam alerts are also available. Get scam alert by email or subscribe to RSS feed.

15. [http://www.data.gov/](http://www.data.gov/) - DATA.gov is home to U.S. Government open data. Access data, tools, and resources to conduct research, develop web and mobile applications, design data visualizations, and more. You can also browse by topics.


19. [http://www.ncsc.org/Topics/Media/Social-Media-and-the-Courts/Social-Media/Home.aspx](http://www.ncsc.org/Topics/Media/Social-Media-and-the-Courts/Social-Media/Home.aspx) - National Center for State Courts can provide you information about what state courts are doing with social media. It compiles information on how courts are currently using social media along with resources for those starting up. You’ll also find information on the impact of social media on the courts, juries, judicial ethics issues, as well as HR and policy issues. There is also a monthly e-newsletter about social media and the courts.

20. [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/datalab/](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/datalab/) - Explore a data lab with OECD. The OECD Data Lab is your chance to participate in shaping the future of how OECD data is presented online. Explore the data tools and visualizations. Topics include: agriculture, fisheries, education, employment, sustainable development, health industry, entrepreneurship, trade, tax, and much more. You’ll also find statistical references: [Glossary of Statistical Terms](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/datalab/), [Manuals and guidelines by topic](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/datalab/) for international methodological references in major statistical areas, and [Statistical sources](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/datalab/), a collection of national or international statistical institutions' websites.


27. **http://government.ae/en/web/guest/home** - The official portal of the United Arab Emirates. This site includes a calendar and interactive map; info on UAE governance, history, and economy; eServices, eGovernment forum, and eGovernment blog; all services for individuals, visitors, and businesses; as well as open data and social networking. Breaks out services by audience: visiting, doing business, living there. From this site you can pay your traffic fines, inquire about flight info, communicate with the prime minister, subscribe to their e-gov newsletter, and access their open data library.

28. **http://www.army.mil/media/socialmedia/** - The U.S. Army on Social Media. This site provides a consolidated registry and resource for Army presences on public social media sites. You can submit a link and search or browse.

29. **http://www.howto.gov/social-media** - Provides how to info for government on social media. Read new guidance on improving the accessibility of social media in government, check out the recommended baseline social media metrics for federal agencies, Register and track accounts, develop APIs, with the Social Media Registry, Find the latest federal-compatible Terms of Service agreements with social media providers, and check out webinars, registries, galleries, as well as Federal-Compatible Terms of Service Agreements.

30. **http://www.unesco.org/library/** - Explore the “intellectual” agency of the United Nations. Check out the UNESCO Library collections. Search and access books, documents, and articles since 1945. Explore special themes like the Works of Art Collection and Photobank. You’ll also find links to UNESCO TV, Playlists on YouTube, UNESCO on iTunes U. You can subscribe to UNESCO alerts.


32. **http://www.pinterest.com/librarysd/** - This is a good example of a state Government Pinterest boards. Particularly note the South Dakota libraries, authors, South Dakota places, South Dakota Notables, and Filmed in South Dakota boards.

33. **http://kids.usa.gov/** – Kids.gov is organized into three audiences: Grades K-5, Grades 6-8, and Educators. Each audience tab is divided into educational subjects like Arts, Math, and History. Within each subject, the websites are grouped as either government sites (Federal, state, military) or other resources (commercial, non-profit, educational). The sites listed under the other resources category are maintained by other public and private organizations. When users click on these links, they are leaving Kids.gov and are subject to the privacy and security policies of the owners/sponsors of the outside websites.
34. **http://www.weather.gov/** - Covering the sun to the seas, the National Weather Service provides local and regional forecasts, and emergency alerts for *severe storms*, *tornadoes*, *hurricanes*, *floods*, *extreme heat*, *winter storms*, *fire threats*, *tsunamis* and *solar flares*. From its *national centers* to its 122 *Weather Forecast Offices* and 13 *River Forecast Centers*, the National Weather Service is watching over the nation and your neighborhood.

35. **http://www.uspto.gov/patents/process/search/index.jsp** - Allows people to do limited free searching of patent and trademarks online and file applications for both as well.


37. **http://research.noaa.gov/InDepth/Features.aspx** - Blog posts that take an in-depth dive into NOAA’s research, written for nonscientists.

38. **http://www.consumerfinance.gov/complaintdatabase/** - Part of the CFPB mandate is to provide financial education materials. Their website has guides and calculators covering everything from student loans to credit cards to mortgages. They have material customized for students, service members and older Americans. There's also a database of consumer complaints against various financial companies that allow you to browse, filter, sort data, and even export and visualize them in different ways.

39. **http://www.un.org/en/** – UN website acts as their main portal to access a diverse range of resources.

40. **https://www.census.gov/cbdmap/** - Also brought to you by the Census Bureau, this interactive map allows you to explore Census data through a mashup of population and economic data.


42. **http://www.npr.org/sections/politics/** - NPR's politics coverage page, where you can read or listen to the latest stories in government/political news.

43. **http://www.nist.gov/** - NIST's website acts as a portal to news, scientific information, on topics ranging from materials science, building and fire research, chemistry and more.


45. **http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml** - American Fact Finder brings you fast access to Census data based on zipcode.
46. http://selectusa.commerce.gov/tools - SelectUSA was created at the federal level to showcase the United States as the world’s premier business location and to provide easy access to federal-level programs and services related to business investment. They have an extensive list of tools which include economic data, business statistics, and links to outside resources like a GIS mapping tool.


49. http://www.ariIingtoncemebetory.mil/GravesiteLocator/GravesiteLocator.aspx - Allows you to look up a gravesite, view a headstone, take a virtual tour, or see the latest events/funerals. Also has a great iPhone app!

50. http://www.usgs.gov/ - A portal to great earth science information, including landslide monitoring and earthquake data. Also allows users to find and order/download free topographic maps.


52. http://www.loc.gov/folklife/ - The American Folklife Center provides info on archives of ethnographic materials from the United States and around the world, encompassing millions of items of ethnographic and historical documentation recorded from the nineteenth century to the present. They also have a browsable collection of online archives.

53. http://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/default.htm - Economists at the Federal Reserve Board conduct innovative research on a broad range of topics in economics and finance. In addition to presenting their research to policymakers, Board economists share their research at academic conferences and publish it in peer-reviewed journals and other scholarly outlets.


55. http://www.imf.org/external/data.htm – A gateway to data, statistics, and reports from the IMF.

56. http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/go.html - Checklists for traveling internationally and information for travelers. Although compiled for US travelers, travel alerts here could be relevant to travelers from other countries as well.

57. http://international.loc.gov/intldl/intldlhome.html - The Library of Congress collects materials from all over the globe. Its collections of foreign-language materials are stunning in their scope and quality. For many areas of the world, such as China, Russia, and Latin America, its collections are the finest and most comprehensive research collections outside the country of origin. For several regions in the world, where preserving materials takes a back seat to more immediate
human needs, the collections are superior to what is available locally. Their goal is to have material from each country in the world.

58. http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Animals/WebCams/ - Take a virtual visit to the National Zoo!


60. http://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/default.htm - Economists at the Federal Reserve Board conduct innovative research on a broad range of topics in economics and finance. In addition to presenting their research to policymakers, Board economists share their research at academic conferences and publish it in peer-reviewed journals and other scholarly outlets.