

**Bureau of Economic Analysis.** Access: [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov).

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce, compiles and publishes statistics on U.S. national accounts and international transactions. The BEA Web site features both current and historical tables in these areas. In addition, users may access analytical working papers and the monthly journal *Survey of Current Business* with archives dating from 1994. The



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Bureau of Economic Analysis

BEA site is updated regularly. For example, on the day that the new federal budget was released, a link to a FY 2007 budget fact sheet was featured in the “Spotlight” section. Users interested in staying current may view a list of current releases and a release calendar or set up e-mail subscriptions to receive current releases from BEA. Historical researchers can access National Income and Product Accounts tables going back to the mid-20th century.

With a simple and clear layout, BEA’s site is easy to maneuver. Redesigned in 2003 to provide more user-friendly features, the site successfully provides tips for less experienced users through its FAQ sections.

Within each of the four broad sections—national, international, regional, and industry economic accounts—users may link to news releases, articles from *Survey of Current Business*, and statistical tables. Statistical topics include gross domestic product, personal income, balance of payments, trade, and direct investment. “Interactive tables” in HTML format, which may be converted into graphs, are ideal for use in papers or presentations.

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For the user who is less familiar with economics terminology, the FAQs linked to each of these four sections provide definitions, as well as discussions of current topics. “Spotlight” features current events and issues and their impact on the U.S. economy.

There is a good search engine for both basic and advanced searching, but it is less intuitive for users who want to try advanced searching. Users must execute a basic search first and then link to the advanced search screen.

The BEA site is an excellent resource for tracking and analyzing U.S. economic issues. Students and researchers who are interested in current U.S. economic information will find this site invaluable. It is also an excellent resource for historical data and analyses. With its user-friendly format and excellent help features, researchers will easily be able to navigate and find the indicators or analyses that they need. The BEA site is a recommended bookmark for any college or university reference librarian.—*Ann Flower, Monterey Institute of International Studies, aflower@miis.edu*

**ChildStats.gov.** Access: <http://www.childstats.gov/index.asp>.

ChildStats.gov provides a wealth of statistics and reports on children and families, including population and family characteristics, economic security, health, behavior and social environment, and education. The information comes from the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, which represents about 20 federal agencies and private partners working together to collect, analyze, and report data on issues related to children and families.

The biennial reports entitled “America’s Children: Key National Well-Being Indicators” provide the centerpiece of content for the site. These reports include numerous social, economic, and health indicators and background

measures, such as percentage of children living with both parents, mathematics and reading achievement, and rate of smoking among children. In addition, each issue presents special measures, such as asthma diagnosis or blood lead levels in children.

The convenient layout of the latest issue of “America’s Children” accommodates individual reading styles. The table of contents lines up on the left, links to statistical indicators sit on the right, and narrative text fills out the middle section, all without being too busy. Indicator charts present statistics in several ways, at different levels, and include Excel reports for downloading. Links to notes throughout the text and to additional data at the bottom of the pages ensure access to relevant information on or off the site. Every page also includes printer-friendly links to the reports, as well as a site search box that works tolerably well for keyword access to content.

Older issues of the “America’s Children” publications date back to 1998 on the site, although in the less convenient PDF. “Topic Contacts” leads to forum member agencies and even individual staff members with expertise in content areas covered by the



reports, such as school crime, adoptions, and fetal mortality.

Finally, “International” presents a mixed bag of reports and formats from relevant agencies in the United States and abroad including the World Health Organization, United Nations Children’s Fund, and Luxembourg Income Study. Users will find statistics on child and family characteristics across countries in the world, such as percentage of students who smoke daily or poverty rates for children by family type.

Students, educators, researchers, policy makers, and others interested in data on children and families will have a field day at this site. It provides an enormous amount of information and yet is easy to scan, search,

read and find statistics, text, and datasets for printing or downloading.—*Barbara Valentine, Lin eld College, bvalen@lin eld.edu*

**Women Working, 1870–1930.** Access: <http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/ww/>.

Launched in 2004 as the first project in Harvard University’s ambitious Open Collections Program, this site documents the many types of work done by women during a transformational period of American social and economic history. With the goal of increasing educational and research access to Harvard’s vast institutional repository of library and museum resources, the collection contains a truly impressive number of digitized images focusing on women who worked, whether in the home, the factory, the office, or the farm. Originally containing documents from 1870 to 1930, a second phase of the project was completed in September 2005, resulting in a site that now includes thousands of primary source materials dating from the early 1800s through the beginning of the Great Depression.

The documents, which include books, pamphlets, catalogs, letters, diaries, photographs, and magazines, were selected from nine Harvard libraries and the Fogg Art Museum. Contents range from an early handbook on needlework

for ladies to a government pamphlet on the employment of women in the vitreous enameling industry. The site provides an excellent description of the selection criteria used. Researchers and students alike should be pleased with the vast and unique contents in the collection.

The primary means of access to the collection is through powerful search and browse features. Documents and images can be searched by keyword terminology or phrasing, while the browsing capabilities allow a more selected access to items based on classification by genre or subject.

These topical searches provide access to resources based on location, name, organiza-  
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finally, director of fiscal and administrative services.

**Wayne Gossage**, library director, management consultant, entrepreneur, and executive recruiter in the New York metropolitan area from 1950 to 2003, has died. Gossage worked in public libraries in East Orange, New Jersey, and Levittown, New York, before serving as director of the Warner Library in Tarrytown NY (1955–1963); as assistant director of Teachers College Library, Columbia University (1963–67); and as director of Bank Street College of Education Library (1967–80). He served on several alumni and professional organizations, notably as an active member of the New York Library Association and ALA; trustee of the Harvard Library NYC (1978–2000); and Board advisor, Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Sciences (1988–2001). Beginning in 1983, he was the first executive search consultant for directors of public library systems and for university deans of libraries. In 1980, Wayne Gossage and Muriel Regan formed Gossage Regan Associates (now Gossage Sager Associates, Inc.) for library management consulting, which also was the first library personnel firm specializing in temporary services.

**John P. McGowan**, 79, retired university librarian at Northwestern University, has died. McGowan was known for leading Northwestern's library from a traditional repository of

books to a library of automation and information technology. In 1951, McGowan became a librarian in New York University's College of Engineering, and later joined Northwestern in 1956 as librarian of its Technological Institute. In 1959 he left Northwestern to become library director at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia; he returned to Northwestern in 1966 as associate university librarian. He was later promoted to university librarian in 1971, serving in that position until he retired in 1992. McGowan was the 1989 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. *ZZ*

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( *The power of persuasion, cont. from page 229*)

*News* 66, no. 8 (2005), 26 February 2006, [www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2005/september05/advocatingtoadvance.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2005/september05/advocatingtoadvance.htm).

3. Camila Alire, "President's Page: Message from Camila," ACRL, 2005. *American Library Association*. 1 March 2006, [www.ala.org/ala/acrl/presidentspage/presidentspageacrl.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/presidentspage/presidentspageacrl.htm). *ZZ*

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tion, date, or event. An additional means of access is through the teacher resource pages, where curricular material is provided for five well-designed thematic lesson plans that are designed to work with the digital collection while delving further into such issues as immigration, child labor, and domestic work. The homepage features a changing display of images and diary entries and related resources that include several of Harvard's digitization partners, such as the Library of Congress.

Women Working, 1800-1930, is an extensive, subject-based collection of unique and rare items that is well-designed, easily accessible, and thoroughly fascinating. In its depth, breadth, and design, which is as informative as it is educational, it is a model for other digital collections.—*Linda Frederiksen, Washington State University Vancouver, frederik@vancouver.wsu.edu* *ZZ*

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