

→ Fast Facts

→ Google historical news archive

Google is expanding its online news archive to include approximately 100 digitized newspaper back issues and make them available online. The project is using similar technology to Google Books to scan microfilm and paper, allowing users to view copies of the original full-page newspapers. Links to related stories from other newspapers, as well as a timeline, will also be presented in the new service. The complete title list is not yet available, but will include the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, among others.

Punit Soni, *Bringing history online, one newspaper at a time*. Official Google Blog, September 8, 2008, googleblog.blogspot.com/2008/09/bringing-history-online-one-newspaper.html. Accessed September 15, 2008

→ E-Docs disappearing

Many United States government officials are violating federal requirements for preserving electronic records, knowingly or unknowingly. According to a story in the *New York Times*, countless federal records are being lost to posterity because federal employees, grappling with a staggering growth in electronic records, do not regularly preserve the documents they create on government computers, send by e-mail and post on the Web. It is unknown what will become of the Web sites, e-mails, and other electronic documents under the control of the current presidential administration.

Robert Pear, *In Digital Age, Federal Files Blip Into Oblivion*, *The New York Times*, September 12, 2008, www.nytimes.com/2008/09/13/us/13records.html?_r=1&oref=slogin. Accessed September 15, 2008

→ E-patients

About 80 percent of Internet users go online for health information. People with broadband Internet access at home are twice as likely to use the Internet for health information as those with dial-up access. E-patients who feel they have serious health problems are more likely to go online in search of health information. For example, 75 percent of e-patients with a chronic condition report their last health-related search affected a decision about how to treat an illness or condition, compared with 55 percent of other e-patients.

Susannah Fox, *The Engaged E-patient Population*, Pew Internet & American Life Project, August 26, 2008, www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Health_Aug08.pdf. Accessed October 3, 2008

→ Academic Libraries: 2006

The *Academic Libraries: 2006 First Look* report summarizes services, staff, collections, and expenditures of academic libraries in two- and four-year, degree-granting postsecondary institutions in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The nation's 3,600 academic libraries held 1 billion books; serial back issues; and other paper materials, including government documents at the end of FY 2006. There were 144.1 million circulation transactions from their general collections. Two hundred and twenty-one academic libraries held 1 million or more books, serial back issues, and documents. During the same time period, academic libraries expenditures totaled \$6.2 billion.

B. Holton, L. Hardesty, and P. O. Shea (2008), *Academic Libraries: 2006* (NCES 2008-337), National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C., nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2008337, released July 8, 2008. Accessed July 30, 2008

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