

Urban Studies: Planning, Policy, and Public Affairs

Welcome to the world of Urban Studies! This field is inter-disciplinary, incorporating aspects of sociology, history, architecture and design, environmental science, economics, statistics, and political science. Resources in this pathfinder include reference books, journals, websites, databases, and government sources.



Reference Books

<p><i>Congressional Districts in the 1990s: A Portrait of America</i> JK1341 .C64 1993 Statistical information on demography, housing patterns, race, etc. by location and voting district for all congressional districts in the United States.</p>	<p><i>Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America</i> E184.A1 G14 2000 A basic resource looking at ethnic population groups in urban areas including origin and history, culture, religion, politics, language, and more.</p>
<p><i>The Death and Life of Great American Cities</i> by Jane Jacobs HT167. J33 1961 Considered to be a classic in the field, this 1961 book (written years ahead of its time) clearly highlights major problems in American cities.</p>	<p><i>Geographical Information Systems</i> Edited by Paul A. Longley G70.212 .G46 1999 A general introduction to the principles, technical issues, management and applications of GIS technology; in easy-to-read color text.</p>
<p><i>Dictionary of Statistics and Methodology</i> by W. Paul Vogt HA17 .V64 2005 Includes non-technical explanations of statistical terms; very useful for beginning researchers.</p>	<p><i>The Handbook of Contemporary Urban Life</i> by David Street HT123 .H33 A documentation of the history of urbanization including essays on urban issues and lifestyles.</p>
<p><i>Edge City: Life on the New Frontier</i> by Joel Garreau HT334. U5 G37 1991 An examination of the expansion and "sprawl" of urban spaces into suburban office parks, housing developments, parking garages, and retail clusters.</p>	<p><i>Investigating the Social World</i> by Russell K. Schutt HN29 .S34 2004 A book on the practice of statistical research explaining the uses of data, analysis, surveys, etc.</p>
<p><i>The Encyclopedia of Chicago</i> F548.3. E53 2004 A comprehensive resource for any Chicago- or urban-history enthusiast; available in its entirety online at www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org.</p>	<p><i>Map Use and Analysis</i> by John Campbell GA151 .C25 2001 Introductory information covering the mapping process, including projection and measurement.</p>
<p><i>The Encyclopedia of Housing</i> edited by Willem Van Vliet HD7287 .E53 1998 Profiles housing types, economic factors, urban re-development, population, model cities, and more.</p>	<p><i>Research Centers Directory</i> AS29.5. R46 Descriptive listing of research centers worldwide organized by field of study; helpful to those doing research, or seeking employment information.</p>
<p><i>Encyclopedia of Policy Studies</i> edited by Stuart S. Nagel H97 .E6 1994 Covers the basic concepts involved in policy analysis and urban government policy; extremely thorough in its coverage of economic systems.</p>	<p><i>A Statistical Portrait of the United States</i> HA214. S84 1998 A combination of text, graphics, and charts covering the living arrangements, education, income, and population characteristics of the U.S.</p>
<p><i>Encyclopedia of Urban America: Cities and Suburbs</i> edited by Neil Larry Shumsky HT123 .E5 1998 Profiles of all things urban: people, places, concepts, products, traffic patterns, parks, skyscrapers, air pollution, gangs, and more.</p>	<p><i>Urban America: A Historical Bibliography</i> Timothy Crimmins and Neil Larry Shumsky, eds. HT123 .U725 1983 An extensive look at American urban history, the growth of cities, planning, and demography.</p>

Journals

<p>Annals of Regional Science Practical articles on the emerging interdisciplinary field of regional and urban studies.</p>	<p>Community Development Journal Covers a wide topical range including town planning and grass-roots community development.</p>	<p>Journal of Planning Literature Evaluates the current literature in the planning arena through reviews, abstracts, and bibliographies.</p>
<p>Urban Studies An analysis of changes in the urban landscape in both developed and developing countries worldwide.</p>	<p>Housing Studies An international journal covering fair housing, low income tax credit programs, and housing developments.</p>	<p>Environment and Urbanization Focuses on the inter-connection between the environment and urban ecology and sustainability.</p>
<p>Journal of Urban Affairs Documents various approaches to community problems for those studying the urban environment.</p>	<p>Journal of Urban Design A scholarly journal for architects and urban developers to discuss issues of diversity, use, and regeneration.</p>	<p>Economic Development Quarterly Provides a link between academics and practitioners working to create sustainable economic development.</p>
<p>Urban Affairs Review Published through the University of Illinois at Chicago, this journal examines development and policy in residential and community life.</p>	<p>Journal of Urban Planning & Development Applies civil engineering ideas to aspects of urban planning such as transportation and public utilities.</p>	

Websites

<p>Project for Public Spaces www.pps.org An organization dedicated to creating and sustaining public places, markets, civic centers, and mixed-use developments in order to strengthen communities.</p>	<p>KnowledgePlex www.knowledgeplex.com A site with information on economic revitalization, fair and affordable housing, and DataPlace, offering statistical data on metropolitan communities.</p>
<p>Cyberbia – The Planning Portal www.cyberbia.org An online community for planners containing user forums, a planning wiki, job postings, continuing education opportunities, and more.</p>	<p>Building Better Communities Network www.bettercommunities.org An information clearinghouse and networking site for community building, conflict resolution, good government, planning, design, and legal resources.</p>
<p>Planetizen – Planning and Development Network www.planetizen.org An information exchange for the planning community; contains news, commentary, book reviews, podcasts, job postings, and Top Ten lists of recent publications.</p>	<p>Congress for New Urbanism www.cnu.org An urban design movement aimed at reforming real estate development to ensure pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods, diverse housing, and job opportunities.</p>
<p>The Metropolitan Policy Program of the Brookings Institution www.brookings.edu/metro/ A large variety of reports and articles on contemporary urban issues, including an extensive “Cities and Suburbs” project.</p>	<p>University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs Resource Directory http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/upp/resource/resource-5.htm A list of organizations, U.S. Government sites, City/State Planning Organizations, Chicago-based community organizations, and other resource guides.</p>

Professional Organizations and Associations

<p style="text-align: center;">American Planning Association www.planning.org</p> <p>The world's largest association for professional practicing planners, the APA website contains useful information, including an online version of <i>Planning</i>, the organization's monthly magazine.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Center for Neighborhood Technology www.cnt.org</p> <p>A Chicago-based organization working to bring sustainable development to all neighborhoods regardless of economic status. Conducts research studies and supports programs such as I-Go cars.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Urban Land Institute www.uli.org</p> <p>A research group dedicated to studying land use and development to help promote responsible leadership and enhance the environment. The institute organizes lobbying efforts and educational programs.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Cyberhood www.thecyberhood.net</p> <p>An offshoot of the Urban Affairs Association, the Cyberhood seeks to unite urban planning students, scholars, and practitioners of color to transform and better understand inner city neighborhoods.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Urban Affairs Association www.udel.edu/uaa</p> <p>An association concerned with advising university urban affairs programs and creating dialogue between academic communities and planning professionals.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Planner's Network www.plannersnetwork.org</p> <p>A grassroots association of professionals who promote fundamental change in political and economic systems through interdisciplinary workshops and events.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The American Society for Public Administration www.aspanet.org</p> <p>Advocates for greater effectiveness in government, the ASPA aims to advance public administration, provide networking and professional development tools, and address key public service issues.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">International City/County Management Association www.icma.org</p> <p>The ICMA maintains a great online library and publishes a range of information resources about planning and municipal management, as well as professional development materials.</p>



Databases

<p style="text-align: center;">Academic Search Premier/EBSCO</p> <p>An easy-to-use platform/interface accessing a large number of planning-related journals.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JSTOR</p> <p>A great resource for statistics, population studies, geography, architecture, health policy, and planning.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">America: History and Life</p> <p>A database providing abstracts and some full-text sources on aspects of American history and culture including a number of resources on urban studies.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAIS International</p> <p>A clearinghouse that lists available full-text resources for a particular article; also lists prominent scholars in specific academic areas.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Applied Science and Technology Abstracts</p> <p>Extensive information on community development.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Social Sciences Abstracts</p> <p>An extremely thorough database with excellent urban studies abstracts and some options for full-text.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">County and City Databook</p> <p>Extensive statistical information for cities and counties throughout the United States.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Urban Studies & Planning: A SAGE Collection</p> <p>Full-Text access to many of the top urban planning and policy journals.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Info/Trac</p> <p>Search over 460,000 associations by name or acronym or choose "Expanded Academic ASAP" for articles.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sociological Abstracts</p> <p>Includes abstracts from peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings; each entry contains useful word descriptors to help narrow results.</p>

Government Publications

The United States government produces a wealth of information available for free. Statistical information, monthly and annual publications from all governmental department and agencies can be accessed via the Government Printing Office online catalog at: <http://catalog.gpo.gov/F>. A few examples of the types of publications available are listed below:

United States Summary Population and Housing Unit Counts
U.S. Census Bureau – 2000 Census of Population and Housing
SuDoc #: C 3.223/5: 2000

Available Online: <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/phc3-us-pt1.pdf>
<http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/phc3-us-pt2.pdf>

Lists the American population according to urban or rural designations, differentiates the current “urban definition” from one used 1950-1990, and ranks cities by population size, total number of housing units, land area inside and outside the metropolitan area, and changes in population size.

Urban Sprawl Modeling and Air Quality Monitoring: The Northeast Ohio Project
Environmental Protection Agency
SuDoc#: EP 1.104: UR

Available Online: <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS36255>

A handbook for designing urban growth models with an aim at reducing sprawl and monitoring air quality.

Cityscape: A Journal of Policy Development and Research
Published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research
SuDoc#: HH 1.75/2

Available Online: <http://www.huduser.org/periodicals/cityscape.html>

Explores a different topic related to urban policy every issue. Volume 4, Number 3 focused on “Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act”. Volume 4, Number 2 examined “Racially and Ethnically Diverse Urban Neighborhoods” based on level of segregation and the presence or absence of community organizations

Environmental Planning for Communities: A Guide to the Environmental Visioning Process Utilizing a Geographic Information System (GIS)
Environmental Protection Agency
SuDoc#: EP 11.8:V 82

Available Online: <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS35584>

A useful method for developing “green” communities.