

Help! I'm an Accidental Government Information Librarian: State Agency Databases Project

Daniel Cornwall, August 16, 2017

<http://godort.libguides.com/statedatabases>

Agenda

- What is the State Agency Databases Project?
- What sorts of questions can project guides answer?
- How much does this resource get used?
- How I can reuse project materials?
- How can I suggest new databases for the project?
- Q&A

What is the State Agency Databases Project?

- Project of ALA GODORT State and Local Documents Task Force
- Started in July 2007 on ALA Wiki, migrated to LibGuides 2016-2017
- Intended to provide freely reusable lists of links and annotations of public searchable databases produced by state agencies.
- 72 guides at <http://godort.libguides.com/statedatabases>
 - 51 state level guides (50 states plus DC)
 - 21 subject level guides (19 general, two single subject)

Example of State Guide: North Carolina

GODORT
GODORT / LibGuides / State Agency Databases Project / North Carolina State Agency Databases / Home

North Carolina State Agency Databases

A listing of publicly searchable databases produced by agencies of the State of North Carolina.

Search this Guide Search

Home

- Introduction
- About North Carolina
- Crime, Criminal Justice & Law Enforcement
- Earth & the Environment
- Education
- Government Finances & Contracts
- Health, Medicine & Safety
- History, People & Culture
- Laws, Legislative Materials, and Legal Issues
- Licensing
- Statistics, Data & Mapping/GIS
- Transportation
- Voting & Elections
- Empty Subjects - Can you help?

Introduction

This is an annotated list of databases produced by North Carolina State Agencies listed by database subject. It was last checked for broken links on 7/31/2017

Return to the [State Agency Databases Project](#) home page.

About North Carolina

- North Carolina Digital Collections**
Digital collections on a wide variety of topics produced by the North Carolina State Archives and North Carolina State Library. Collections include: Governor's papers (modern and historical), Family Records, Black Mountain College, Senate Audio, World War II Maps and Posters, and many others collections.
- North Carolina State Government Publications Collection**
Find full text current and historic publications produced by North Carolina state government.
- North Carolina State Government Website Archives**
Free and open access to North Carolina state agency web sites dating back to 1996 and state agency social media accounts back to 2012.


Crime, Criminal Justice & Law Enforcement

- Offender Public Information**
Search by name, gender, ethnic group, age range or ID number for public information on inmates, probationers or parolees since 1972. This system allows users to view and download any/all public information from the NC Department of Public Safety database for convicted offenders. Also includes information on inmate releases and escapees.
- Traffic Stop Reports**
Some statistics available include: Drivers and Passengers Searched by Sex, Race and Ethnicity; Enforcement Action Taken by Driver's Age; Initial Purpose of Traffic Stop by Driver's Age.

Earth & the Environment

- Air Quality Historical Data Summaries**
Custom data reports can be generated by the Division of Air Quality based on specific date ranges, pollutants, and statistical functions. Please note that it may take 3-5 business days, or more depending on complexity and data availability, to complete requests.
- CRONOS Database**
The NC CRONOS/ECONet Database, developed by the State Climate Office of North Carolina, enables the public to quickly and easily retrieve archived observations from 36,103 (13,329 active) weather sites and 14,502 water sites in and around North Carolina.
- CRONOS H2O Database**
The NC CRONOS H2O Database, developed by the State Climate Office of North Carolina, enables the public to quickly and easily retrieve archived water-related observations from 14502 water sites in North Carolina and the surrounding states.
- Environmental Education Resource Database**
This database searches after school programs, camps, citizen science resources, environmental education courses, conferences, consulting resources, contests, educational materials, field trips, grants, brochures, websites, professional development opportunities, programs and more for environmental education opportunities and resources on a variety of topics including agriculture, air, animals/wildlife, astronomy, conservation, consumer education, ecology, endangered species, energy, environmental health, environmental justice, gardening, composting, geology, outdoor skills, pollution, population,

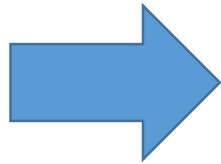
Librarian



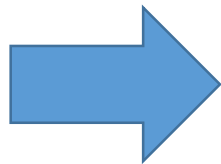
Jennifer Davison

Email Me

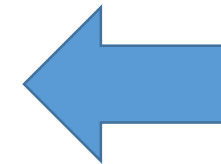
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Documents Specialist & Contact Info



Subject boxes of individual links



Example of Broad Subject Guide: Earth

GODORT / LibGuides / State Agency Databases Project / Earth & the Environment Sources in State Agency Databases / Home

Earth & the Environment Sources in State Agency Databases

Home

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[Alabama](#)

[Alaska](#)

[Arizona](#)

[Arkansas](#)

Introduction

The Document Specialists for the states listed below have indicated their state has one or more databases in this subject area. If a state is not listed below it means that no databases were identified.

If you

[Return](#)

New York

- [Environmental Conservation Databases](#)

Access to a variety of databases and maps. Contains the following specialized searches: Database of Environmental Remediation Sites and Spill Incidents; Current Ambient Air Quality Forecasts and Data; Oil and Gas Well Database; Searchable On-line Mining Database; DEC Permit Applications Search (DART); Water Well Contractor Search; Docket Management System; Certified Wastewater Facility Operators; Issued Title V Air Permits; Draft Title V Air Permits; Issued State Facility Air Permits; Draft State Facility Air Permits; and Breeding Bird Atlas Databases.

[Alaba](#)

North Carolina

- [Air Quality Historical Data Summaries](#)

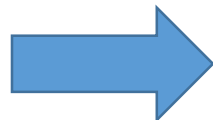
Custom data reports can be generated by the Division of Air Quality based on specific date ranges, pollutants, and statistical functions. Please note that it may take 3-5 business days, or more depending on complexity and data availability, to complete requests.

- [CRONOS Database](#)

The NC CRONOS/ECONet Database, developed by the State Climate Office of North Carolina, enables the public to quickly and easily retrieve archived observations from 36,103 (13,329 active) weather sites and 14,502 water sites in and around North Carolina.

- [CRONOS H2O Database](#)

Links auto-update whenever Jennifer updates "Earth" section in NC!



New links appear when Jennifer adds!

Example of Single Subject Guide: Prisoners



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Prisoner Locator Tools from State Agency Databases

Tools to locate people in state prisons.

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Introduction

This page links to inmate locators in a number of US States. Each locator is a little different. They can be searched in different ways and the amount of information about a particular prisoner can vary widely from state to state. Additionally some states place restrictions on how information from penal databases may be used.

Although not in scope for this project, we're listing the [federal Bureau of Prisons Inmate Locator](#) here in an effort to be as helpful as possible to people locating incarcerated friends and family.

If you know of other State produced inmate/prisoner locators that should be here, please use the Email Me button in the Documents Specialist box to send a suggestion.

[Return](#) to the main [State Agency Databases Project](#) home page.

Alabama

- [Alabama Inmate Search](#)

A database of individuals currently incarcerated in Alabama correctional facilities. Users can search by AIS (Alabama Institutional Serial) number or by first or last name. No more than 50 results will be displayed for any search.

Initially hand created, reuse of links allows for auto-updating when document specialists update these particular links.

BUT – No automatic notification of NEW links.

Over three dozen library staff involved in project



Susanne Caro



Sarah Causey



Kaitlin Connolly



Daniel Cornwall



Pam Crawford



Jennifer Davison



Beth Downing



Kathy Edwards

What sorts of questions can project guides answer?

- What does my state have on ...?
- What resources on ... do states have?
- How many states have a searchable database for?
- Naturally, all the questions that can be answered by searchable databases

How much does this resource get used?

- Project pages got visited 64 times a day between 1/1/2017 and 8/14/2017.
- Most popular state guide – WA (431 visits) [NC – 111 visits]
- Most popular subject guide - Prisoner Locator Tools (1091 visits)
- 25 guides visited at least once a day
- All but one guide visited at least once a week

How I can reuse project materials?

- Entire Guides
 - from within LibGuides

Create New Guide

Hover over **i** icons next to each label, and be sure to check out the right column boxes for useful tips.

Choose Layout or Reuse **i**

Copy content / layout from an existing guide

This will copy all content and layout from an existing guide into this guide you're creating. Make sure you first obtain permission from the original guide owner.

Local Guides Community Guides

North Carolina State Agency Databases

Note: The above list only shows guides where Guide Sharing is set to **Internal** or **Community**. When searching Community Guides you may provide a title keyword or a Guide URL.

Your Selected Template:

North Carolina State Agency Databases

by Jennifer Davison at LibGuides, GODORT

Last updated 2017-08-15 02:46:30

Do not reuse this guide

⚠ The owner of the selected guide will be notified you used their guide as a template, so please obtain permission from the guide owner before you continue!

i When copying a community guide, all assets except database assets are copied into your system. Replace any applicable database assets with assets from your own system.

How I can reuse project materials?

- Boxes (place anywhere) – Ask for box code. This iframe code will embed the NC Health, Medicine & Safety on your website:

```
<iframe id="s-lg-widget-frame-1502766952859"
width=""height="" scrolling="yes"
style="border: 1px solid #bbb; border-radius: 4px;"
src="//lgapi-us.libapps.com/widget_box.php?
site_id=6210&widget_type=8&output_format=2&widget_title=Health%2C+Medicine+%26amp%3B
+Safety&widget_height=&widget_width=&widget_embed_type=1&guide_id=597059&box_id=12832952&map_id
=15132151&content_only=0&config_id=1502766952859">
</iframe>
```

- Javascript also available. Direct requests for box code to danielcornwall@gmail.com

How can I suggest new databases for the project?

1. Make sure it meets the scope of the project
 - a) Is it produced by a state agency? (Public universities count!)
 - b) Is it an information resource where the end user varies input and gets different results based on the input?
2. Contact the documents specialist for the page with your suggestion. Contact for North Carolina is Jennifer Davison.
3. If you are unable to contact the documents specialist, email me at danielcornwall@gmail.com

Q&A

Contact Information

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Main project page: <http://godort.libguides.com/statedatabases>