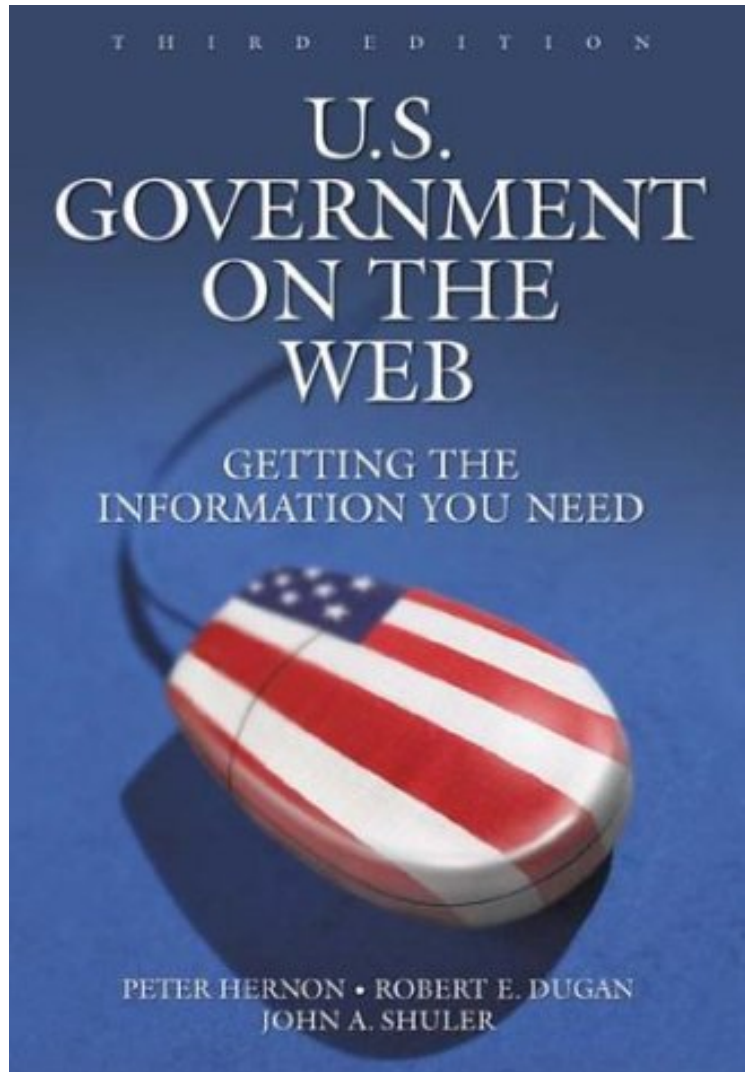


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## U.S. Government on the Web: Getting the Information You Need, 3rd Edition

*Peter Heron, Robert E. Dugan, John A. Shuler*  
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The definitive guide to U.S. government information on the Web has been expanded and updated with the latest

information from the current administration, including material on the Department of Homeland Security, the Patriot Act, and the E-Government Act of 2002. Peter Herson, one of the country's foremost authorities on government information, and his colleagues provide additional Web sites and offer valuable strategies for effectively accessing and using government information online. More than a mere directory of Web sites, this authoritative work serves as a cardinal pointer through the government's labyrinthine structure and the myriad information resources available to the public, giving users a clearer understanding of U.S. government agencies and their online publications and services. An essential and regularly updated reference, this guide is a reliable roadmap to a vast and diverse field of important information.

From School Library Journal This book identifies quick and useful paths to inexpensive and reliable information for students and teachers. The use of blue for URLs and section headings improves the appearance of this new edition and makes it very user-friendly. It includes the Bush administration and the 107th Congress, a detailed analysis of policies regarding e-government, expanded coverage of the Freedom of Information Act and examples of Web sites devoted to it, and statistics on specific topics. The question about why a print source is needed to navigate the Web is answered with methods for conducting a search that will have the best chance for locating information to meet a specific need. The author reminds us that we may miss valuable content by not differentiating between a report and a hearing. "Search Engines: Negotiating the Information Maze" presents the "why" of using government sources as well as a discussion of general search engines and Internet portals. "Web Pages for the Nation's Youth" will be of special interest. This broad heading includes aeronautics, alcohol and drugs, art, coping with natural disasters, energy and the environment, maps, geography and earth sciences, museums, social studies, transportation, and wildlife in captivity. The book concludes with an overview of Web-browser hardware and software. Mary Lankford, Texas Education Agency, Austin Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal The authors, all librarians, have produced a comprehensive guide on U.S. government information on the World Wide Web, covering the expected ground quite competently (Congress, GPO Access, statistical sources, the presidency, and major agencies) and including excellent discussions of geographic information, the courts, and sites recommended for children, parents, and educators. Each URL cited in the text is highlighted in bright blue, and each chapter is accompanied by a web site guide. Although a commendable effort, this compares unfavorably to other printed guides in several respects, particularly Greg Notess's *Government Information on the Internet* (Bernan, 1997) and Evan James's *Government on the Net* (LJ 8/98), both of which cover nonfederal government sources and describe nongovernment information providers in greater depth. While this reviewer prefers to use web gateways such as the Federal Web Locator over consulting a printed guide, this is recommended as a quick reference to libraries wanting detailed descriptions and analyses of federal web sites, the guide's strong point. The authors promise a related web site will provide updated URLs between print editions of this book. A Patrick Ragains, Univ. of Nevada, Reno Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. "In view of the importance, complexity and sheer volume of the federal government's output, U.S. Government on the Web is a much-needed publication. As a reference librarian with limited knowledge of government sources, I look forward to consulting this guide often. It is especially recommended for college and university libraries." -E-STREAMS "An excellent source, not only for learning more about government information, but also for learning how to use special search tools and locate government Web sites. Educators, parents, and students will find this a valuable resource." -MultiMedia Schools " of previous edition: If you're looking for a comprehensive guide to U.S. government resources on the Internet--this is it. More than just a collection of URLs, this volume teaches readers how to appraise resources, approach research, and solve problems." -Colorado Libraries "An excellent source, not only for learning more about government information, but also for learning how to use special search tools and locate government Web sites. Educators, parents, and students will find this a valuable resource." -MultiMedia Schools " of previous edition: If you're looking for a comprehensive guide to U.S. government resources on the Internet--this is it. More than just a collection of URLs, this volume teaches readers how to appraise resources, approach research, and solve problems." -Colorado Libraries "In view of the importance, complexity and sheer volume of the federal government's output, U.S. Government on the Web is a much-needed publication. As a reference librarian with limited knowledge of government sources, I look forward to consulting this guide often. It is especially recommended for college and university libraries." -E-STREAMS