

CCL-EAR COMMITTEE REVIEW
RAND, STATISTA, STATISTICAL ABSTRACT ONLINE & DATA and STATISTICS
COMPARISON
2013

In Fall, 2013 selected members of the Council of Chief Librarians, Electronic Access and Resources Committee (CCL-EAR) undertook a comparative study of four statistical databases:

- RAND California (Rand Corp.)
- Statista (Statista Inc.)
- Statistical Abstract of the United States (Proquest)
- Data and Statistics (USA.gov) - <http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Reference-Shelf/Data.shtml>

The review focused on quality and quantity of statistical data, subject coverage, search options, customer service, and cost as well as options for customization and mobile apps.

The chart below summarizes our findings on our major review criteria. The following criteria were examined and rated on a four- point scale (1=Poor; 2= Fair; 3=Good; 4=Excellent). A short summary and analysis of each database will follow.

CRITERIA	RAND California	Statista¹	Statistical Abstract of the United States	Data and Statistics²
Overall Rating (consider functionality and value to the California Community Colleges as a whole)	<u>4</u> RAND provides quality and up-to-date statistics in a variety of areas. Its strengths are its ability to standardize data from a variety of sources and to customize the data into line and column graphs.	<u>4</u> Statista offers quality, current and popular statistics on a broad spectrum. The intuitive search interface and the ability to customize the data earned high marks from the reviewers.	<u>2</u> Statistical Abstract of the U.S. provides quality data and citation options for its data. However, its weak search interface and inability to customize the data make it a less desirable choice for a statistics database.	<u>3</u> Data and Statistics operates much like a search engine that redirects users to data found on different U.S. government websites. Although it is free and the most ADA compliant, its inconsistent search interface and lack of customization of the data make it a less desirable choice for a statistics database.
Content/Coverage	<u>4</u> Business and economics, Community, Education, Energy and environment, Government finance, Health and socioeconomic, Population and demographics. Includes California and U.S. statistics.	<u>4</u> Business and economics, Community, Education, Energy and environment, Health and socioeconomic, Population and demographics. Includes international statistics.	<u>4</u> Business and economics, Community, Education, Energy and environment, Health and socioeconomic, Population and demographics. Includes international statistics.	<u>4</u> Business and economics, Community, Education, Energy and environment, Government finance, Health and socioeconomic, Population and demographics, and Geospatial (space-based) data. Includes U.S. Statistics.
Source of data (statistical content)	<u>3</u> U.S. federal and state agencies, and intergovernmental	<u>4</u> U.S. and foreign government agencies, private organizations	<u>3</u> U.S. federal and state agencies, private organizations, and	<u>2</u> U.S. government agencies.

CRITERIA	RAND California	Statista ¹	Statistical Abstract of the United States	Data and Statistics ²
	organizations.	including market researchers, trade organizations, and intergovernmental organizations	major intergovernmental organizations.	
Currency (retrospective/current)	<u>4</u> Coverage from 1913 (incomplete data) through 2013.	<u>3</u> Coverage from 1960 through 2013.	<u>3</u> Coverage from 1960 through 2012.	<u>4</u> Coverage from 1913 through 2013.
Search Interface (consider functionality and ease of use)	<u>3.5</u> Guided subject search and the ability to generate custom tables or graphs based on multiple criteria (categories, demographics, dates, etc.) Search Options: Guided subject search leads to easy fill-in boxes with both a list of available index terms, and suggested subject terms. Only drawback is users have to re-do guided searches if they want to modify the original search because the terms aren't saved in the browser's history. The keyword search only searches category titles and doesn't give related term for the search. For example, searching "alternative energy" doesn't suggest the category "Wind" or "Alternative Fuel Vehicles." There is no spell check in the keyword search.	<u>4</u> Simple search functionality (automatically "AND" all the search terms in a search) and the ability to search in two databases (Statistics, or Studies & Reports). Users can download their search results into Excel, Power Point and JPG formats. Search Options: Extended search provides option for Boolean searching (OR, NOT) and exact phrase searching (quotation marks). Ability to sort results by relevancy, publication date, and popularity. Ability to limit results by publication date, geographical area (North America, Europe, or United Kingdom), the number of results retrieved (10, 20, 50, or 100), and subjects (administration & social services, retail & trade, technology & telecommunication, etc.)	<u>1</u> A basic search box with the option to do a limited advanced search. There is no auto-complete or suggestion for possible search terms. Users can download their search results into Excel and PDF. Search Options: Option to limit by date, source, and geographical area at the result list. Ability to sort results by relevancy and table number.	<u>1</u> Appears user friendly with selected links but due to the number of agencies it links out to and the many data interfaces and reports available, it is difficult to create a data set or find info. Search Options: Only suggested links to data sets/reports and a search box for <u>all</u> of USA.gov.

CRITERIA	RAND California	Statista ¹	Statistical Abstract of the United States	Data and Statistics ²
Citation Options	<u>No</u> No citation options.	<u>No</u> No citation options.	<u>Yes</u> APA and MLA from results list in pop-up abstract. Citations are not completely formatted (e.g. hanging indent, italics)	<u>No</u> No citation options.
Accessibility of Service (ADA compliant?)	<u>No</u> No text only version available. No Accessibility compliance statement provided.	<u>Yes</u> Graphs automatically generate a textual interpretation of the information for text to speech readers. No Accessibility compliance statement provided.	<u>Yes</u> No text only version available. Accessibility compliance statement provided in trial (http://www.proquest.com/en-US/site/accessibility.shtml).	<u>Yes</u> Includes “alt tags” on images and closed captions and transcripts for audiovisual materials. Accessibility compliance statement provided (http://www.usa.gov/About/Important-Notices.shtml).
Customizations (is it possible to customize the search interface/search results?)	<u>Yes</u> No customization of search interface but users may request special runs or data analysis for any of the databases contained on this web site at extra cost.	<u>Yes</u> No customization of search interface but users may ask questions and receive answers from an in-house team through Statistics Q&A for free.	<u>No</u> No customization of search interface or search results.	<u>No</u> No customization of search interface or search results.
Mobile Options	<u>No</u> Accessible with mobile devices but no specific mobile designed site or app.	<u>No</u> Accessible with mobile devices but no specific mobile designed site or app.	<u>No</u> Accessible with mobile devices but no specific mobile designed site or app.	<u>No</u> Accessible with mobile devices but no specific mobile designed site or app.
Customer Service (what types of customer and technical support are available for end user and library administrator?)	<u>2</u> On the Contact Us page questions can be sent through online form, email or phone. No technical information/requirements listed. There is a video on the landing page (without closed-captioning) that gives a general overview of the database. This video should be	<u>2</u> Database has a link to Help/FAQs at the bottom of the page. No navigation help is provided. FAQ content is primarily introducing database content and features.	<u>2</u> On the Help Page, there is no specific technical information/support on the database. Questions and feedback are sent to an email address. There is information for users on how to browse, search, and tabular presentation.	<u>2</u> On the Contact Us page technical and reference questions can be done through chat, e-mail, phone or mail. No technical information/requirements listed.

CRITERIA	RAND California	Statista ¹	Statistical Abstract of the United States	Data and Statistics ²
	<p>linked in the Help page for users that do not enter the database through the landing page, for example, a specific link from an instructor.</p> <p>It is not clear how updated interface will reflect usage statistics.</p> <p>Vendor states that there are webinars available but it wasn't verified.</p>			
Cost (if cost is available, does it seem reasonable in terms of comparable products?)	<u>4</u> Based on FTE.	<u>3</u> Based on FTE.	<u>2</u> Based on FTE.	<u>4</u> Free.

1. Reviewers didn't receive vendor questionnaire from Statista.

2. Reviewers didn't request a trial and vendor questionnaire from Data and Statistics (USA.gov) as it is a free web site.

RAND California

RAND California is a branch of the RAND Corporation, a public policy research organization with headquarters in Santa Monica. It contains 160 databases on California and many cover all 50 states since 1913 (incomplete data) to present. Databases cover the following categories: Business and Economics, Community, Education, Energy and Environment, Government Finance, Health and Socioeconomic, and Population and Demographics.

Because the database pulls from other data sources, RAND has attempted to standardize results so that data from various sources are output in the same format. Output can be grids, tables, graphs, CSV, Excel, print and shared via social networking sites. These options make it possible to share custom created graphs or tables in a variety of formats.

User support is minimal on the website. There is, however, information to contact the company through an online form, email or telephone. There are no technical information/requirements needed to use the website as all the information is presented in basic web formatting. There is a video on the landing page (without closed-captioning) that gives a general overview of the database.

The database does not offer citation, mobile app or mobile view options. The company has not provided an accessibility statement nor is there information regarding accessibility on the website.

Summary Review

The standardization of the variety of data sources in RAND is its strength. Drilling down through the subject/sections is more effective than using the keyword search because of the lack of suggested or related search terms when using the search box. Because users can create their own custom graphs and tables based on the criteria they choose, it's highly customizable to course content, which requires statistics and their visual presentation. The cost of the database is reasonable and RAND California users may request special runs or data analysis for any of the databases at extra cost. It is unclear how the updated interface will reflect usage statistics.

Images of RAND California

Figure 1 Categories covered in RAND California

Available Sections	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Population & Demographics
Population estimates, projections, immigration, births, deaths, population density.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Health Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business & Economics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crimes, Prisons & Courts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Labor Force, Employment & Earnings
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment, Resources & Weather
<input type="checkbox"/>	K-12 Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Higher Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income, Expenditure, Wealth & Poverty
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Insurance & Human Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation & Travel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	State & Local Government

Figure 2 Keyword search on "alternative energy" retrieved no results

Population & Demographics	Health & Health Care	Business & Economics	Crimes, Prisons & Courts	Labor Force, Employment & Earnings	Energy	More >>
Search Results For "alternative energy"						
No records found						

Figure 3 Selecting the category *Energy* found subjects related to “alternative energy” under *Renewable Energy*

Population & Demographics	Health & Health Care	Business & Economics	Crimes, Prisons & Courts	Labor Force, Employment & Earnings	Energy
---------------------------	----------------------	----------------------	--------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------

RAND California Energy Statistics contains the following categories and databases:

Energy Prices

- ▶ Branded and Unbranded Gasoline Prices (CA only)
- ▶ Average Electricity Retail Prices (50 States)
- ▶ Energy Inflation Rates (50 States)

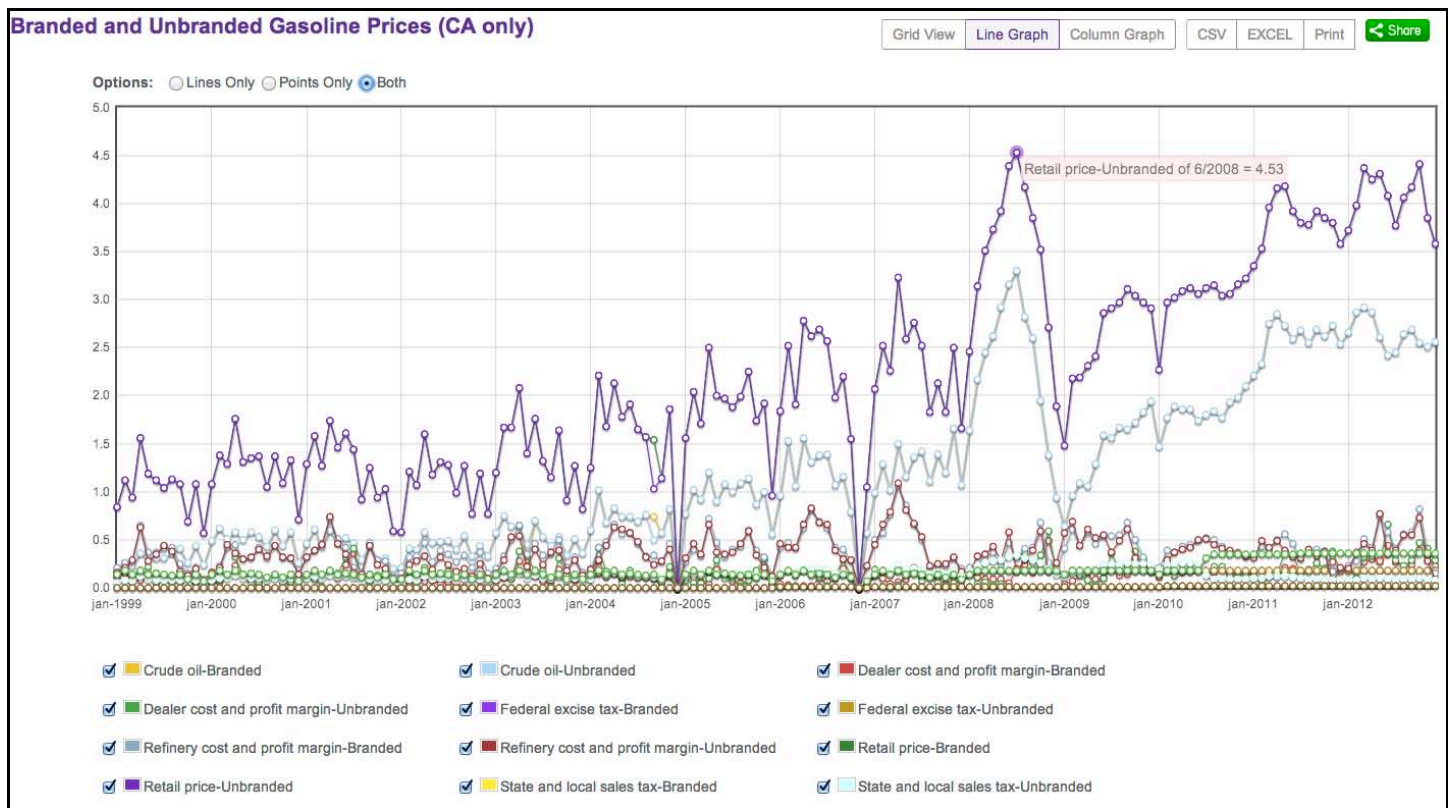
Energy Production & Consumption

- ▶ Electricity Consumption by County (CA only)
- ▶ Electricity Consumption by Utility (CA only)
- ▶ Natural Gas Consumption by County (CA only)
- ▶ Natural Gas Consumption by Planning Area and Sector (CA only)
- ▶ Natural Gas Consumption by Sector and Utility Type (CA only)
- ▶ Natural Gas Consumption by Utility (CA only)
- ▶ Natural Gas Sources (CA only)
- ▶ Oil Supply to California Refineries (CA only)
- ▶ Crude Oil Imports by Country (50 States)
- ▶ Electricity Generation (50 States)
- ▶ Energy Consumption, Expenditures, & Prices by Industry Sector (50 States)
- ▶ Retail Gasoline Deliveries (50 States)
- ▶ Shale Gas Production and Reserves (50 States)

Renewable Energy

- ▶ Alternative Fuel Vehicles (50 States)
- ▶ Installed Wind Power (50 States)

Figure 4 Lines and Points Graph with hover-over point to show specific data



Statista

Statista is a statistics portal with data and market research reports collected from over 18,000 sources. The market research reports, also known as Statista Dossiers, provide a comprehensive overview of all key facts on a particular topic. In addition to providing statistics across disciplines, Statista highlights statistics in two categories: media and telecommunication, and economy and society in a "Chart of the Day." The former features the latest statistics in media, Internet, telecommunications, and consumer electronics industries, and the latter features current statistics on the economy, politics, sports, and entertainment in the U.S. and abroad.

Statista has an attractive interface and searching is simple. Users can search by keywords and auto-complete helps users select the appropriate keywords and phrases. Users can sort results by relevancy, publication date, and popularity. Users can also customize the statistics in Excel, Power Point and JPG formats.

Statista does not offer citation options or a mobile app. Approximately 10% of the database is available for free in Statista but a paid account is required to access the entire database. The market research reports are available for free for Corporate Account users. For non-Corporate Account users, they cost \$200 for each dossier. According to the vendor, academic institutions have access to the same resources as corporate institutions.

Summary Review

Statista offers statistics on a wide range of topics. The focus of the statistics seems to be driven by market research. As a result, most of the statistics available are on current and popular topics, such as European financial crisis, online shopping, and social media. Its content could be useful for community college students researching current topics and trends. The attractive search interface and the ability to download statistics into Excel, Power Point and JPG formats are another bonus.

Images of Statista

Figure 5 Categories covered in Statista

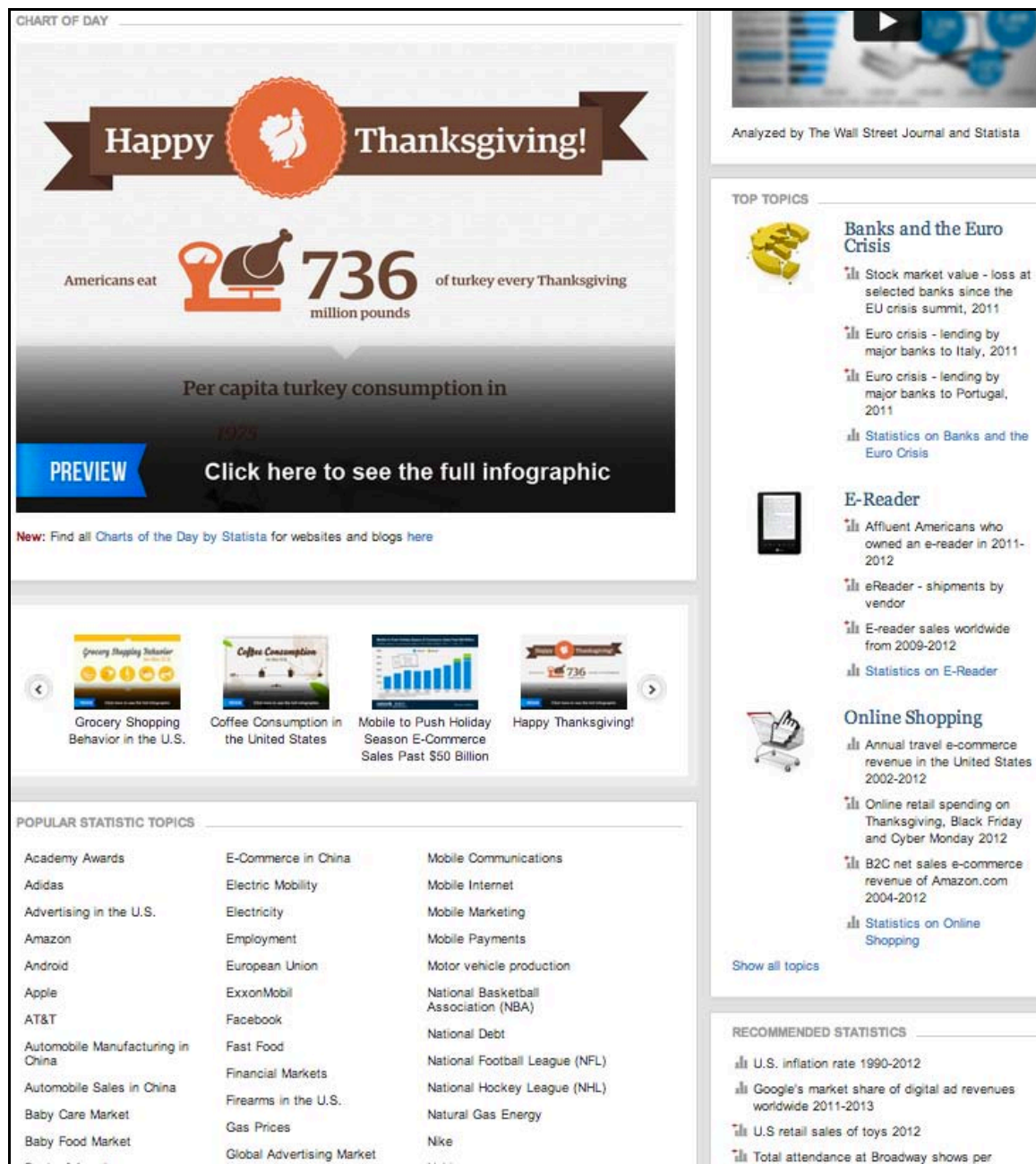


Figure 6 Search results with options to sort and limit results and an explanation of Extended Search in Statista

DESCRIPTION OF EXTENDED SEARCH

Find results...	Symbol	Examples	Results
with this exact word or phrase	" "	"health care"	Search results will contain hits with the exact phrase "health care" only. The separated terms "health" and "care" would not suffice for this search.
with any of these words		hotel motel	Search results contain "hotel" OR "motel" but not necessarily both words.
without a specific word	!	pets !dog	Results contain only the word "pet" but not the word "dog".

Please note: If you enter more than one term the search will only provide results that contain all of these words. This includes partial phrases of a word (e. g. "bank" will find "banking"). For further information please consult the information available [in the FAQ](#).

☐ normal (incl. word fragments)
 ☐ high (only identical words)
 [info](#)

STATISTICS

Results by type: ☒ **Statistics (143)** ☐ Studies & Reports (7) ☐ Sources

Back [1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#) | [6](#) | [7](#) | [8](#) More

- Global smartphone sales 2009-2012, by OS**
Global smartphone sales from 2009 to 2012, by operating system (in millions)
- Global smartphone sales to end users 2007-2012**
Number of smartphones sold to end users worldwide from 2007 to 2012 (in million units)
- Global smartphone sales Q1 2009-Q3 2013, by operating system**
Global smartphone sales to end users from 1st quarter 2009 to 3rd quarter 2013, by operating system (in million units)
- Smartphones: sales by operating system**
Projected sales of smartphones worldwide from 2010 to 2015 by operating system (in millions units)
- Global mobile phone sales per quarter 2008-2013, by vendor**
Global mobile phone sales to end users from 1st quarter 2008 to 3rd quarter 2013, by vendor (in million units)

STUDIES & REPORTS

Mass market smartphones to rule
 Nomura Holdings | October 2011 | 24 Pages

SORT BY

☒ Relevance
 ☐ Date of publication
 ☐ Popularity

DATE OF PUBLICATION

☒ all
 ☐ last month (10)
 ☐ 2013 (38)
 [show more](#)

REGION

☒ all
 ☐ North-America only (25)
 ☐ Europe only (13)
 ☐ others (1)
 [show more](#)

STRUCTURE

☒ all
 ☐ time series (116)
 [show more](#)

PRICE

☒ all
 ☐ free (88)
 ☐ fee-based (55)

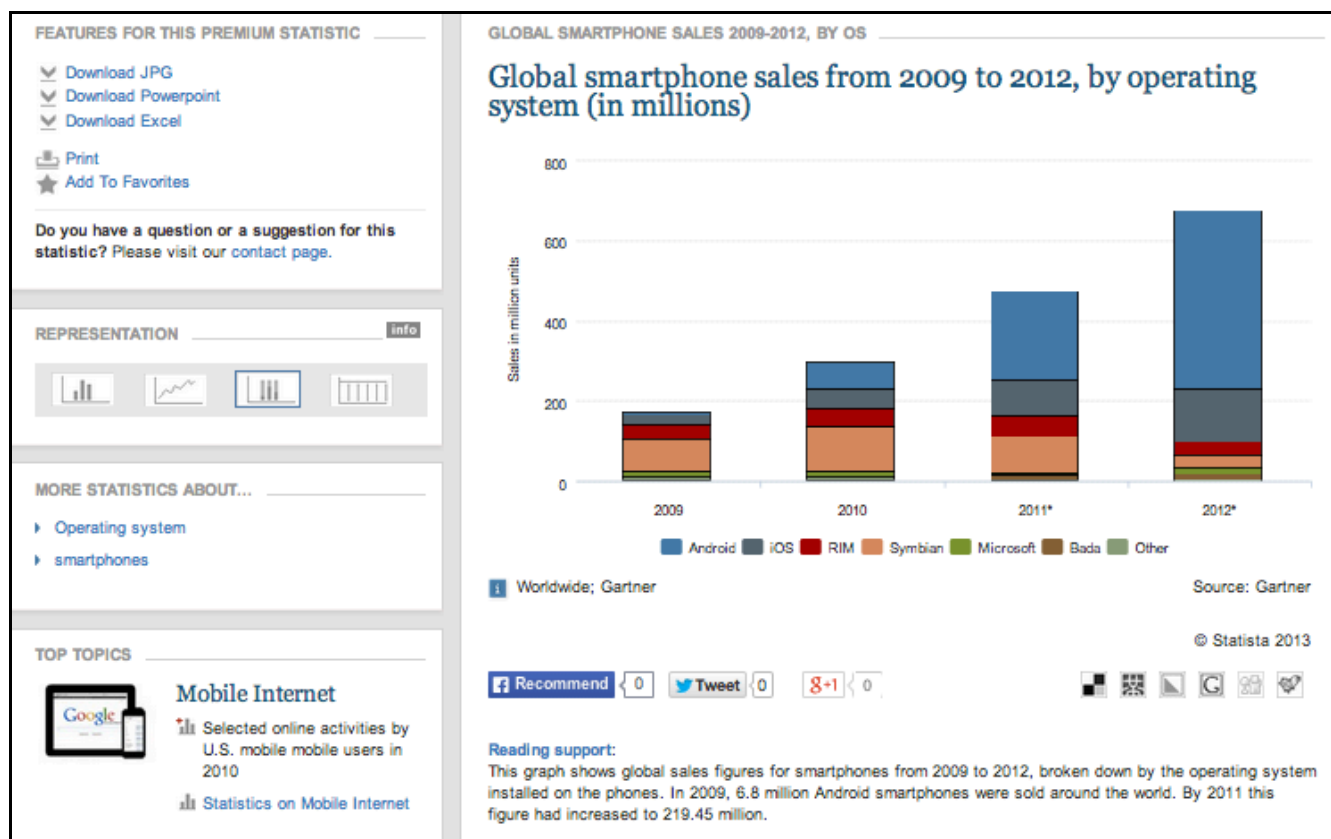
NUMBER OF RESULTS

☐ 10
 ☒ 20
 ☐ 50
 ☐ 100

SEARCH RESULTS IN CATEGORIES

☒ all
 ☐ Technology & Telecommunication
 ☐ Internet

Figure 7 Result page with options to download the data in Statista



Statistical Abstract of the United States

In 2011 when the U.S. Census Bureau announced that they would no longer be producing the annual Statistical Abstract, Proquest stepped in and is now responsible for updating and releasing the publication in an online format. This database is a comprehensive collection of statistics on the social, political and economic conditions of the United States and includes over 600,000 published tables a year. It provides access to statistical information produced by U.S. Federal agencies, states, private organizations, and major intergovernmental organizations. Those familiar with the print version of the Statistical Abstract will see that the chapters are preserved in the online version. Users can browse through chapters or use a basic or advanced search to find statistics. Limiters/filters such as data source, geography (by country, by region, state, or city in the U.S.), demographics, and subject are available to help narrow down results.

Some of the historical statistical material in the database is available for free at the U.S. Census Bureau (http://www.census.gov/prod/www/statistical_abstract.html) without the Proquest interface. The information in this website includes PDF and/or HTML versions of the Statistical Abstract from 1878-2012 but there is no ability to create or customize searches.

In the Proquest interface, data is standardized and provided in several formats. Initial data results are given in an HTML table (similar to the printed version). Users can also download the data into an Excel file or a PDF document. Excel files could be used to create graphs, as they are not provided in the database. Additional data and data context is provided in the downloaded Excel and PDF documents. Citations in MLA and APA are available as well as permanent URL's that can be used for embedding in content management systems.

Help is provided using an extensive [LibGuide](#) produced by Proquest. This detailed LibGuide provides directions on browsing, searching, emailing, printing and information on updating tables.

A mobile app or mobile view option is not available for the database. An accessibility statement is available.

Summary Review

The quantity of data available in this database is its strong point. Statistical data is provided for all areas of the United States with multiple demographic breakdowns. The options to export the data into an Excel file or review the extended data in a PDF format are useful features. The main deterrent is that the data is presented in canned reports and users are unable to customize their own data searches. Also lacking is the visual presentation. Aside from the colorful front page the graphs and data charts are provided in black and white. The sheer amount of data and the lack of customization can make finding specific information difficult and may frustrate users.

Images of Statistical Abstract

Figure 8 Categories, also known as “chapters,” covered and a simple search box

ProQuest | Statistical Abstract of the U.S. (Online Edition) Related Subscriptions Guide Help

Print Checked Items Go

Go

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Sec. 1. Population
- Sec. 2. Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces
- Sec. 3. Health and Nutrition
- Sec. 4. Education
- Sec. 5. Law Enforcement, Courts, and Prisons
- Sec. 6. Geography and Environment
- Sec. 7. Elections
- Sec. 8. State and Local Government Finances and Employment
- Sec. 9. Federal Government Finances and Employment
- Sec. 10. National Security and Veterans Affairs
- Sec. 11. Social Insurance and Human Services
- Sec. 12. Labor Force, Employment, and Earnings
- Sec. 13. Income, Expenditures, Poverty and Wealth
- Sec. 14. Prices
- Sec. 15. Business Enterprise
- Sec. 16. Science and Technology
- Sec. 17. Agriculture
- Sec. 18. Forestry, Fishing, and Mining
- Sec. 19. Energy and Utilities
- Sec. 20. Construction and Housing
- Sec. 21. Manufactures
- Sec. 22. Wholesale and Retail Trade
- Sec. 23. Transportation
- Sec. 24. Information and Communications
- Sec. 25. Banking, Finance and Insurance
- Sec. 26. Arts, Recreation and Travel

The ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the United States is the authoritative and comprehensive summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic conditions of the United States.

Figure 9 Search results with options to limit results in Statistical Abstract

TABLE OF CONTENTS ▼

Applied filters: none ⓘ

Date covered: 1959 – 2020

Apply

Source

Countries, Regions and States

- US - By Region [5]
- US - By State [8]
- US - Total US [75]

Breakdown by

- by race [36]
- by sex [33]
- by age [20]
- by education [10]
- by state [10]
- by region [4]
- by occupation [3]
- by income [2]
- by federal [1]
- by foreign [1]
- by individual [1]
- by marital [1]
- by urban [1]

Subject (sort: alphabetically | frequency)

- Elementary and secondary education [37]
- White Americans [37]
- Educational enrollment [35]
- Men [33]
- Hispanic Americans [32]
- Women [29]
- Higher education [27]
- Black students [22]

Section 4: Education: ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the U.S. 2013 88 tables listed

Education: ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the U.S. 2013 Published: 2013, Source: ProQuest (Commercial Publishers), Record Number: C7095-1.4

ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the US, data on education, 2013 annual data compilation

DOWNLOAD: PDF Section

TABLES

☐
[Table 224: School Enrollment: 1980 To 2020 \[By Grade Or Level, Public And Private, Selected Years, As Of Fall\]](#)
Source: National Center for Education Statistics. Last Updated: Dec. 2012

☐
[Table 225: School Expenditures By Type Of Control And Level Of Instruction In Current And Constant \(2011 To 2012\) Dollars: 1980 To 2012 \[Elementary And Secondary Schools, And Higher Education, Selected School Years\]](#)
Source: National Center for Education Statistics. Last Updated: Jul. 2013

☐
[Table 226: School Enrollment, Faculty, Graduates, And Finances--Projections: 2012 To 2018 \[Elementary And Secondary Schools, And Higher Education; As Of Fall\]](#)
Source: National Center for Education Statistics. Last Updated: May 2013

☐
[Table 227: Federal Funds For Education And Related Programs: 2005 To 2012 \[By Level, Agency, And Program; Selected Fiscal Years Ending September\]](#)
Source: National Center for Education Statistics. Last Updated: May 2013

☐
[Table 228: School Enrollment By Age: 1970 To 2011 \[Selected Years, As Of October\]](#)
Source: Bureau of Census. Last Updated: May 2013

☐
[Table 229: School Enrollment By Race, Hispanic Origin, And Age: 2000 To 2011 \[Selected Years, As Of October\]](#)
Source: Bureau of Census. Last Updated: Jun. 2013

☐
[Table 230: Enrollment In Public And Private Schools: 1970 To 2011 \[By Instructional Level, Selected Years, As Of October\]](#)
Source: Bureau of Census. Last Updated: Aug. 2013

☐
[Table 231: School Enrollment By Sex And Level: 1970 To 2011 \[Selected Years, As Of October\]](#)
Source: Bureau of Census. Last Updated: Mar. 2013

Figure 10 Example of a Table in Prices chapter with download and citation options

Table 736: Purchasing Power Of The Dollar: 1950 To 2012 [Producer And Consumer Prices, Selected Years]

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. Last Updated: Jun. 2013

DOWNLOAD: [XLS](#) [Source document PDF](#)

Table 736. Purchasing Power of the Dollar: 1950 to 2012
[Indexes: PPI, 1982 = \$1.00; CPI, 1982-84 = \$1.00. Producer prices prior to 1961, and consumer prices prior to 1964, exclude Alaska and Hawaii. Producer prices based on finished goods index. Obtained by dividing the average price index for the 1982 = 100, PPI; 1982-84 = 100, CPI base periods (100.0) by the price index for a given period and expressing the result in dollars and cents. Annual figures are based on average of monthly data]

Year	Annual average as measured by—		Year	Annual average as measured by—	
	Producer prices	Consumer prices		Producer prices	Consumer prices
1950.....	3.546	4.149	1983.....	0.984	1.004
1951.....	3.289	3.717	1984.....	0.964	0.962
1952.....	3.279	3.731	1985.....	0.955	0.929
1953.....	3.195	3.676	1986.....	0.969	0.912
1954.....	3.077	3.559	1987.....	0.949	0.880
1955.....	3.012	3.460	1988.....	0.926	0.845
1956.....	3.021	3.436	1989.....	0.880	0.806
1957.....	2.994	3.378	1990.....	0.839	0.765
1958.....	2.994	3.344	1991.....	0.822	0.734
1959.....	2.985	3.311	1992.....	0.812	0.713
1960.....	2.994	3.268	1993.....	0.802	0.692
1961.....	2.985	3.226	1994.....	0.797	0.675
1962.....	2.933	3.175	1995.....	0.782	0.656
1963.....	2.841	3.086	1996.....	0.762	0.637
1964.....	2.809	2.994	1997.....	0.759	0.623
1965.....	2.732	2.874	1998.....	0.765	0.613
1966.....	2.632	2.725	1999.....	0.752	0.600
1967.....	2.545	2.577	2000.....	0.725	0.581
1968.....	2.469	2.469	2001.....	0.711	0.565
1969.....	2.392	2.392	2002.....	0.720	0.556
1970.....	2.193	2.252	2003.....	0.698	0.543
1971.....	1.901	2.028	2004.....	0.673	0.529
1972.....	1.718	1.859	2005.....	0.642	0.512
1973.....	1.645	1.757	2006.....	0.623	0.496
1974.....	1.546	1.650	2007.....	0.600	0.482
1975.....	1.433	1.534	2008.....	0.565	0.464
1976.....	1.289	1.377	2009.....	0.580	0.466
1977.....	1.136	1.214	2010.....	0.556	0.459
1978.....	1.041	1.100	2011.....	0.525	0.445
1979.....	1.000	1.036	2012.....	0.515	0.436

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, "CPI Databases," <<http://www.bls.gov/cpi/#data>>, accessed May 2013; and "PPI Databases," <<http://www.bls.gov/ppi/#data>>, accessed May 2013.

INDEX TERMS:
Consumer Price Index (CPI), Producer Price Index (PPI)

PUBLICATION:
Statistical Abstract of the US: 2013: Table 736: Purchasing Power Of The Dollar: 1950 To 2012 [Producer And Consumer Prices, Selected Years]

SOURCE:
Bureau of Labor Statistics
• <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/#data/>
• <http://www.bls.gov/ppi/#data>

DURABLE URL:
<http://statab.conquestsystems.com/sa/abstract.html?table-no=736&acc-no=C7095-1.14&year=2013&z=6641F56E65BDC6DAFD1F7F052753AE50E43C6744>

CITATION:
APA:
Bureau of Labor Statistics (2013). Table 736: Purchasing Power Of The Dollar: 1950 To 2012 [Producer And Consumer Prices, Selected Years], In ProQuest, ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the United States:2013. Retrieved from <http://statab.conquestsystems.com/sa/abstract.html?table-no=736&acc-no=C7095-1.14&year=2013&z=6641F56E65BDC6DAFD1F7F052753AE50E43C6744>
MLA:
Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Table 736: Purchasing Power Of The Dollar: 1950 To 2012 [Producer And Consumer Prices, Selected Years]." ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the United States:2013. Ed.

Data and Statistics

USA.gov is the official web portal for the U.S. government. The website claims that it “makes it easy ... to get U.S. government information and services on the web.” To focus on statistics, the reviewers decided to analyze Data and Statistics (<http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Reference-Shelf/Data.shtml>), a page within USA.gov. Data and Statistics covers the following categories: business and economics, community, education, energy and environment, government finance,

health and socioeconomic, and population and demographic. It also includes geospatial (space-based) data. Some of the data collected dates back to 1913.

At first glance, the search interface seems user-friendly. However, it's complicated to generate a report/data set because the links are linked to various government agencies with different interfaces and reports. Users can search by the subject area mentioned above, or use the search box on the homepage. However, that search box is misleading as it searches all of USA.gov.

As this is a free web portal, there is no option to customize the "look" of the webpage as you normally would with a paid database. There is a link to chat or email a librarian on the landing page. Users can also call or mail their question(s) to USA.gov.

Data and Statistics does not offer citation options or a mobile app. Data is linked from other government sites; each with their own interface. A quick sampling of five sources had no citation options. There is an accessibility statement on the webpage. "Alt tags" are available on images, and closed-captioned and transcripts are available for audiovisual material.

Summary Review

Data and Statistics offers a wealth of information collected by U.S. government agencies. It is updated quite frequently (as of October 21, 2013, the webpage was reviewed and updated on October 18, 2013). As it's directing users to data on different government websites, the format of how the information is presented is not consistent. The drawback is users are not able to customize the data they retrieved. However, since it is a free resource, it is worthwhile to keep it handy, especially when looking for official government data.

Images of Data and Statistics

Figure 11 Categories covered and a simple search box in Data and Statistics

The screenshot shows the USA.gov website interface. At the top left is the USA.gov logo with the tagline "Government Made Easy". To the right is a search bar containing the text "population in california" and a "SEARCH" button. Further right are social media links for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and a Blog, along with the phone number "1-800-FED-INFO (333-4636)". Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "Services", "Blog", "Topics", "Government Agencies", and "Contact Government". The main content area is titled "Data and Statistics" and includes a sub-header "Find data and statistics by topic. Search for data by format, agency, and more at Data.gov." Below this is a "Featured Sites" section with links to "Data.gov", "USASpending.gov - Where Americans Can See Where Their Money Goes", and "Trending Now on USA.gov". To the right of the featured sites is a "Share:" section with icons for Facebook, Twitter, and E-mail. Below the share section is a "On This Page" section with a grid of links: "General Government", "Business and Economics", "Defense and International Relations", "Environment, Energy, and Agriculture", "Family, Home, and Community", "Geospatial Data", "Health and Nutrition", "Jobs and Education", "Public Safety and Law", "Science and Technology", "Travel, Transportation, and Recreation". At the bottom left is a "GET HELP FINDING DATA AND STATISTICS" section with a question mark icon and text stating "Government information librarians are experts at finding information from government agencies." and a link to "Ask a Government Information Librarian - Chat or e-mail with a librarian for free." At the bottom right is a "General Government" section with links to "Budget of the U.S. Government" and "Census Data".

Figure 12 Search results of "population in California" using the search box from the homepage



[Services](#)[Blog](#)[Topics](#)[Government Agencies](#)[Contact Government](#)



Search

About 6,830,000 results • [Advanced Search](#)

All Government Sites[Images](#)[FAQs](#)[Videos](#)[Mobile Apps](#)[USA.gov Blog](#)

California QuickFacts from the US Census Bureau
quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/.../06000.html
People QuickFacts **California** USA; **Population**, 2012 estimate : 38,041,430:
313,914,040: **Population**, 2010 (April 1) estimates base : 37,253,956; 308,747,508

Los Angeles County QuickFacts from the US Census Bureau
quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/.../06037.html
People QuickFacts Los Angeles County **California**; **Population**, 2012 estimate :
9,962,789: 38,041,430: **Population**, 2010 (April 1) estimates base : 9,818,605

Videos of 'population in california' by USA.gov



[Race To Save the White...](#)
3/12/2009

Figure 13 Clicking on the first link in Figure 12 links to State & County Quick Facts page from the U.S. Census Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce

United States[™]
Census
Bureau

People | Business | Geography | Data | Research | Newsroom

State & County QuickFacts

Select a State | USA QuickFacts | What's New | FAQ

California counties- [selection map](#) | California cities- [place search](#) | [More California data sets](#) | [Share this page](#)

Select a county | Go | Select a city | Go

California

Want more? [Browse data sets for California](#)

People QuickFacts	California	USA
Population, 2012 estimate	38,041,430	313,914,040
Population, 2010 (April 1) estimates base	37,253,956	308,747,508
Population, percent change, April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012	2.1%	1.7%
Population, 2010	37,253,956	308,745,538
Persons under 5 years, percent, 2012	6.7%	6.4%
Persons under 18 years, percent, 2012	24.3%	23.5%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, 2012	12.1%	13.7%
Female persons, percent, 2012	50.3%	50.8%
White alone, percent, 2012 (a)	73.7%	77.9%
Black or African American alone, percent, 2012 (a)	6.6%	13.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent, 2012 (a)	1.7%	1.2%
Asian alone, percent, 2012 (a)	13.9%	5.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, 2012 (a)	0.5%	0.2%
Two or More Races, percent, 2012	3.6%	2.4%
Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2012 (b)	38.2%	16.9%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2012	39.4%	63.0%
Living in same house 1 year & over, percent, 2007-2011	84.2%	84.6%
Foreign born persons, percent, 2007-2011	27.2%	12.8%
Language other than English spoken at home, percent age 5+, 2007-2011	43.2%	20.3%
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25+, 2007-2011	80.8%	85.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25+, 2007-2011	30.2%	28.2%
Veterans, 2007-2011	1,997,566	22,215,303
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2007-2011	27.0	25.4

Reviews

Gordon, L. C. "Statista." *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* 49.12 (2012): 2257. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 2 Nov. 2013.

Tench, Rob. "Statistical Abstract of the United States 2013." *Library Journal*. New York: Media Source 138.5 (2013): 128. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. 2 Nov. 2013.