**Resource Guide for Students and Faculty**

**Chapter 1**

Using available “Quick Facts” from the U.S. Census (<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts>), you can find a large amount of data about *cities, counties, states, and the nation*. You can compare statistics across communities on

Size of Population

Age/Sex Demographics

Race & Hispanic (Latinx) Origin

Population Characteristics

Housing Characteristics

Families & Living Arrangements

Computer & Internet Usage

Education

Health

Economy

Transportation

Income & Poverty

Businesses

**Chapter 2**

Using the U.S. Census Data website <https://www.census.gov/data>, you can find data on *metropolitan areas* across the U.S. and compare these statistics on a wide range of demographic and economic factors.

Median Household Income

Median Family Income

Population by race and ethnicity

Foreign Born Population

Income & Poverty

Family Living Arrangements

**Chapter 4**

Using [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com), you can view roadmaps and identify the major routes used by commuters traveling by automobile in every metropolitan region in the U.S. One can identify interstate highways that run between cities as well as interstate highways that run directly through them. This can be important for understanding how highway networks can affect the growth of individual suburbs and towns surrounding a central city. Using the website for the Chamber of Commerce in each major city, one can identify the key industries in the community and develop a notion of what drives the economic strength of the region. An example is that for Detroit, Michigan; <https://www.detroitchamber.com>.

Many of these city chamber websites provide basic data on a large range of data related to the economy of the city and region.

**Chapter 6**

Using data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website <https://www.bls.gov/web/metro/ssamatab1.txt> one can find data on local employment and unemployment rates including data on employment by industry and changes in the level of employment unemployment over time for metropolitan areas.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Web page at <https://www.bls.gov/emp/chart-unemployment-earnings-education.htm> provides unemployment rates by educational level for the U.S. as a whole. The website <https://ssti.org/blog/useful-stats-educational-attainment-metropolitan-area>.htm provides data on educational attainment for each U.S. metro area.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Web site <http://www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm> provides data on occupations for each metropolitan area. This includes data on occupational wage estimates.

**Chapter 7**

One of the main sources of data about municipal governments is the U.S. Census Bureau’s Census of Governments.

<https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2017/econ/gov-finances/summary-tables.html>

Using data from this source one can examine the major sources of local government revenue in each city and metropolitan area. Also available are data on intergovernmental revenue received by the municipalities from their state governments?

This data source also provides data on state and local government expenditures by government function.

**Chapter 8**

Using <https://ssti.org/blog/useful-stats-educational-attainment-metropolitan-area-2007-2017>.html one can find out how educational attainment has changed between 2007 and 2017 across metro areas.

**Chapter 10**

Data on traffic congestion for U.S. cities can be found in the Texas Transportation Institute’s Urban Mobility Report, available at <http://mobility.tamu.edu>.

**Chapter 12**

Comprehensive crime data for U.S. cities can be found in the following website: <http://www.city-data.com/crime>.

**Chapter 13**

The data set <https://www.governing.com/news/headlines/gov-study-ranks-metro-areas-by-sprawl.html> provides data on urban sprawl for metropolitan areas. This includes data on residential and employment density and diversity of land use.

**Chapter 14**

To access data on housing including owner-occupied vs. rental and housing vacancy rates by city and metropolitan area, one can use <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/socds.html>.

**Chapter 15**

You can access data on CO2 emissions by city using <https://data.cdp.net/Emissions/2016-Citywide-Emissions-Map/iqbu-zjaj>.

For data on renewable energy sources for individual cities one can use: <https://data.cdp.net/Renewable-Energy/2015-Renewable-Energy-in-Cities->

USA/qqp5-vmdm.

**Chapter 16**

StatsAmerica has a powerful tool that identifies what individual cities and towns are doing to promote economic development. These statistics can be found at:

<http://www.statsamerica.org/innovation/sitemap.html>.

**Chapter 17**

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis provides a rich set of data on metropolitan area employment statistics and data on metro area Gross Domestic Product. These statistics can be found at [https://www.bea.gov/data/employment/employment-county-metro-and-other-areas](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bea.gov%2Fdata%2Femployment%2Femployment-county-metro-and-other-areas&data=04%7C01%7Cb.bluestone%40northeastern.edu%7C3314daaf67654e0ba4fa08d931c18673%7Ca8eec281aaa34daeac9b9a398b9215e7%7C0%7C0%7C637595529522406730%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=YRHs%2FIDbbjU4gylQkgy5l0aSzkCqrbXN%2B1hbMN3nJTs%3D&reserved=0) and [https://apps.bea.gov/iTable/iTable.cfm?reqid=99&step=1&acrdn=7](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fapps.bea.gov%2FiTable%2FiTable.cfm%3Freqid%3D99%26step%3D1%26acrdn%3D7&data=04%7C01%7Cb.bluestone%40northeastern.edu%7C3314daaf67654e0ba4fa08d931c18673%7Ca8eec281aaa34daeac9b9a398b9215e7%7C0%7C0%7C637595529522416723%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=nWyw2z6BXEOHgVH2Ad%2F9ihOX1W79PIxQzn8xLWl%2BOPM%3D&reserved=0)