

Accessing Library Databases

Library databases are containers of proprietary research articles and datasets that we subscribe to. Access them using your Brown username and password in one of three ways:

A-Z Database Page: a list of all our resources. Select a database, log in, and search within it. *This is the best approach for accessing statistical data.*

<https://libguides.brown.edu/az.php>

BruKnow: search for articles and books via the library's catalog.

<https://library.brown.edu/>

Google Scholar: log into your Brown email, search GS, and results link directly to many of our databases.

Library Article Databases access via Library's A-Z DBs

Academic Search Complete: broad database covering many subjects, a good place to start.

JSTOR: equally broad, covers a larger time span but not the most recent 5 years.

Library Dataset Databases access via Library's A-Z DBs

Statista: basic facts, statistics, and charts.

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research: large repository of social science data. Must create an account with your Brown email address for downloading.

Roper iPoll: summary and mirco polling data from many sources.

Gallup Analytics: summary polling data. Microdata extracts can be requested from the library *for research use only - not coursework.*

World Development Indicators: country-level socio-economic and demographics statistics.

EIU City Data: cost of living data for over 140 global cities.

PolicyMap: contemporary socio-economic and demographic web mapping database.

Social Explorer: historic and contemporary web mapping census database.

WRDS: large, advanced platform with many individual economic and financial database modules. Must register and create an account using your Brown credentials.

Public Websites

UNdata: country-level socio-economic and demographic data.

data.census.gov: main portal for contemporary US census summary data.

IPUMS: microdata and summary census datasets for the US and other countries. Register to use.

BLS Data Retrieval Tools: US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

FRED: from the St. Louis Fed, a large repository of US government summary data and charts.

National Center for Health Statistics: CDC clearinghouse for US public health data.

MIT Election Lab: repository of US election data.

Software

Proprietary software available for Brown students to download:
<https://www.brown.edu/information-technology/software/>

Stata: statistical package.

ArcGIS Pro: geographic information system.

Microsoft Office 365: cloud version, includes Excel.

Free and open source software:

R and Python: languages for statistical analysis, data science, and data processing.

QGIS: geographic information system.

OpenRefine: spreadsheet-like data cleaning application.

Brown Network Share for data storage: <https://ithelp.brown.edu/kb/articles/connecting-to-network-shares>

Help

UCLA Stata Modules: good supplement to Stata's official docs.

YouTube: search for screencast tutorials.

O'Reilly for Higher Education: library database of e-books for learning software and programming.

Library subject guides: resource tips from Brown librarians.

Email: SocSciLibrarians AT brown DOT edu
