Statistical Sources Everyone Should Know

Finding statistics can be tricky. You may not find data compiled exactly the way you want it. So, be creative—use, analyze and work with the statistics you do find. When using statistics, be mindful of who compiled and/or analyzed the data, which unit(s) is being measured, the period of time covered for particular data, and finally, the data’s relevance to your research.

Bureau of Justice Statistics  

BJS publishes a multitude of specialized statistical crime reports. General topics include law enforcement, corrections and capital punishment. Specific reports include Intimate Partner Violence, Jail and Jail Inmates, and Police Use of Force.

Community District Profiles  

Data on New York City’s 59 community districts’ population size; birth, death and infant mortality rates; land area and land uses; and levels of income support.

Infoshare  

Database of New York City demographics. Access to census data for New York City as a whole, by borough, by zip code, etc. Create a neighborhood profile, compare neighborhoods and/or boroughs, or create your own data set. Database available from the library’s homepage.

New York Police Department Crime Statistics  

NYPD’s Patrol Service Bureau’s statistics are available citywide, by borough, or by precinct.

New York State Statistical Yearbook  

Comprehensive reference to the five boroughs of New York City and the 57 counties in the rest of the State. Print format is in the library at Reference HA544 .A2.

Statistical Abstract of the United States  

Published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. A comprehensive statistical reference for quick facts and figures compiled from hundreds of sources. Access by topical sections or use the table index in back of book. References for sources of data are listed under tables. Most current print is at Reference Desk HA202.

Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics  

Published by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, data from this standard reference tool comes from more than 100 sources. The Sourcebook is organized into six topical sections, covering many aspects of criminal justice in the United States. Most current edition available in print at Reference Desk HV6787 .A27, older editions in Reference section.

Uniform Crime Reports (Crime in the United States)  


U.S. Census Bureau  

Comprehensive site for current and historical U.S. demographic data. Browse by topic or use American FactFinder or State & County Quick Facts to access data. Links to federal, state, and international statistical resources as well.

Beware of misinformation on the Internet. Follow reputable sources like the Library’s Subject Guides at guides.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/