

# SELECTED RESOURCES

## Economic Indicators

### Acronyms

- **BEA** – Bureau of Economic Analysis – within the U.S. Dept. of Commerce
- **BLS** – Bureau of Labor Statistics – within the U.S. Dept. of Labor
- **FRED** -- Federal Reserve Economic Data -- free economic database from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
- **FRASER** -- Federal Reserve Archival System for Economic Research – developed by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
- **GDP** – Gross Domestic Product
- **NBER** - National Bureau of Economic Research - is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization
- **NIPA** - National Income and Product Account. Used in BEA tables.

### Definitions

- **Sources:**
  - BEA – glossary:** <http://www.bea.gov/glossary/glossary.cfm>
  - Census Bureau – definitions** - <http://www.census.gov/main/www/glossary.html>
  - Federal Reserve – glossary** : <http://www.federalreserveeducation.org/glossary/>
- **Gross Domestic Product** definition [from the BEA] - The market value of goods and services produced by labor and property in the United States, regardless of nationality; GDP replaced gross national product (GNP) as the primary measure of U.S. production in 1991
- **Recession definitions**
  - **Recession [from the BEA]** “In general usage, the word recession connotes a marked slippage in economic activity. While gross domestic product (GDP) is the broadest measure of economic activity, the often-cited identification of a recession with two consecutive quarters of negative GDP growth is not an official designation. The designation of a recession is the province of a committee of experts at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a private non-profit research organization that focuses on understanding the U.S. economy.”  
[http://www.bea.gov/faq/index.cfm?faq\\_id=485](http://www.bea.gov/faq/index.cfm?faq_id=485)
  - **Recession. From the NBER**, the FAQ page: a “recession—the way we use the word—is a period of diminishing activity rather than diminished activity. We identify a month when the economy reached a peak of activity and a later month when the economy reached a trough. The time in between is a recession, a period when economic activity is contracting.”  
[http://www.nber.org/cycles/recessions\\_faq.html](http://www.nber.org/cycles/recessions_faq.html)

The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) determines when a recession starts and stops. From the BEA re a recession: “In general usage, the word recession connotes a marked slippage

in economic activity. The designation of a recession is the province of a committee of experts at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a private non-profit research organization that focuses on understanding the U.S. economy.”

- **Business Cycle Expansion and Contractions**

**Business cycles. From the NBER** (Public Information Office, National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc.) <http://nber.org/cycles.html>

Contractions (recessions) start at the peak of a business cycle and end at the trough.

The NBER does not define a recession in terms of two consecutive quarters of decline in real GDP. Rather, a recession is a significant decline in economic activity spread across the economy, lasting more than a few months, normally visible in real GDP, real income, employment, industrial production, and wholesale-retail sales. For more information, see the latest announcement from the NBER's Business Cycle Dating Committee, dated 9/20/10.

The determination that the last expansion began in June 2009 is the most recent decision of the Business Cycle Dating Committee of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

From the FAQ page of NBER, a “recession—the way we use the word—is a period of diminishing activity rather than diminished activity. We identify a month when the economy reached a peak of activity and a later month when the economy reached a trough. The time in between is a recession, a period when economic activity is contracting. The following period is an expansion. As of September 2010, when we decided that a trough had occurred in June 2009, the economy was still weak, with lingering high unemployment, but had expanded considerably from its trough 15 months earlier.”

About the end of a recession – answer from the FAQ: “The committee does not make real-time judgments, but waits for the availability of all relevant data and for the completion of early data revisions. The committee then looks back on history and determines in what month the economy reached bottom and began to expand again.”

FAQ is directly at: [http://www.nber.org/cycles/recessions\\_faq.html](http://www.nber.org/cycles/recessions_faq.html)

- **Coincident Index**

- *What a New Set of Indexes Tells Us About State and National Business Cycles* by Theodore M. Crone Business Review Q1 2006 p.11-24

[http://www.philadelphiafed.org/research-and-data/publications/business-review/2006/q1/Q1\\_06\\_NewIndexes.pdf](http://www.philadelphiafed.org/research-and-data/publications/business-review/2006/q1/Q1_06_NewIndexes.pdf)

Many people are interested in comparing the pattern of economic growth in their state with growth in other states or in the nation. Although the National Bureau of Economic Research sets dates for peaks and troughs of national business cycles, we lack official dates for turning points in state economies. Some states have suffered recessions when the nation did not, and some avoided recessions during some national downturns. In this article, Ted Crone presents information on a recently constructed set of coincident indexes for the 50 states.

- Atlanta Fed says this index is: the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia produces a monthly coincident index for each of the 50 states. The coincident indexes combine four state-level indicators to summarize current economic conditions in a single statistic. The four state-level variables in each coincident index are nonfarm payroll employment, average hours worked in manufacturing, the unemployment rate, and wage and salary disbursements deflated by the consumer price index (U.S. city average). The trend for each state's index is set to the trend of its gross domestic product (GDP), so long-term growth in the state's index matches long-term growth in its GDP. A dynamic single-factor model is used to create the state indexes.

- **Employment definition. From the BLS Current Employment Statistics Survey (CES)**

Employment is the total number of persons on establishment payrolls employed full or part time who received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th day of the month. Temporary and intermittent employees are included, as are any workers who are on paid sick leave, on paid holiday, or who work during only part of the specified pay period. A striking worker who only works a small portion of the survey period, and is paid, would be included as employed under the CES definitions. Persons on the payroll of more than one establishment are counted in each establishment. Data *exclude* proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family or volunteer workers, farm workers, and domestic workers. Persons on layoff the entire pay period, on leave without pay, on strike for the entire period or who have not yet reported for work are not counted as employed. Government employment covers only civilian workers.

<http://www.bls.gov/sae/790faq2.htm#Ques3> State and Metro Area Employment, Hours, & Earnings [=SAE]

- **Unemployment definition (BLS)**

How the Government Measures Unemployment - [http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps\\_htgm.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps_htgm.htm), or the pdf version: [http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps\\_htgm.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps_htgm.pdf)

Explains “actively looking for work”, definition of “unemployed”...

Also, the BLS issues a “Handbook of Methods” which explains, in more detail, concepts and terms. Website for the Handbook is at: <http://www.bls.gov/pub/hom/> . Last updated 1997.

Chapter 1 includes unemployment/employment – at: <http://www.bls.gov/pub/hom/pdf/homch1.pdf>

- **Seasonally Adjusting Data**

- **Definition and explanation - from the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas:**

Many data series such as employment, home sales and retail sales exhibit seasonal patterns—that is, they have large predictable changes around the same time of year. For example, the summer school break or improved weather in the spring can affect retail sales, showing an increase every year. While seasonal patterns are important, to understand the underlying growth in the data it is often useful to seasonally adjust the data and thus remove the normal seasonal changes. In seasonally adjusting data, the process formally estimates the normal growth or decline for each of the months or quarters of the year and subtracts these movements from the series. To make sure the annual growth in the series is not altered the adjustments over any 12-month or four-quarter period sum to zero.

One problem with interpreting data over time is that many data series exhibit movements that recur every year in the same month or quarter. For example, housing permits increase every spring when the weather improves, while toy sales usually peak in December. This dynamic makes it hard for economists to interpret the underlying trend in some data series. For instance, were sales better this December or was it just the usual holiday runup? Economists want to know if sales were better than the normal seasonal increase. To understand what the data are really saying about economic growth, statisticians and economists remove such predictable fluctuations—or seasonality—from the data. Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, at: <http://www.dallasfed.org/research/basics/seasonally.cfm>

➤ **Definition and explanation – from the Bureau of Labor Statistics:**

Over the course of a year, the size of a state's employment level undergoes sharp fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the statistics from month-to-month. These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other nonseasonal movements in the series. In evaluating changes in seasonally adjusted series, it is important to note that seasonal adjustment is merely an approximation based on past experience. Seasonally adjusted estimates have a broader margin of possible error than the original data on which they are based, because they are subject to not only to sampling and other errors but are also affected by the uncertainties of the seasonal adjustment process itself. Employment data are seasonally adjusted with a procedure called X-12-ARIMA. State major industry division employment are available electronically via the Internet and are published monthly in Employment and Earnings. Each state seasonally adjusts its data at the beginning of each year and the data is released in March. Currently, States seasonally adjust data through the supersector (total nonfarm, construction, manufacturing, etc.). Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), at: <http://www.bls.gov/sae/790faq2.htm#Ques2>

• **Real GDP ; Nominal GDP ; “Chained” ; “Constant”**

**“GDP in current dollars”** – *actual* prices of the goods and services bought and sold in each period. This is **“nominal GDP”** .

The GDP in **“chained dollars”** eliminates the effects of rising or declining prices from a base period, and is referred to as **“real GDP”**. “Real GDP” (also “GDP in **chained dollars**”).

To correct for any bias in calculations due to using the prices of the individual items in year 1 or in year 2, the prices of both years are “chained”. “Real GDP” data are the most important measures of the rate of change in percentage terms. Thus, **“real GDP” is the most comprehensive and widely accepted indicator of economic growth.**

**Source:** *Tracking America’s Economy*, by Norman Frumkin (p. 79-82).

Price fluctuations distort the data. Example: retail sales are measured in dollars. So, changes in price levels over time tend to distort reported figures. Economists are interested in tracking actual sales, independent of price movements. This enables them to make sensible comparisons across time periods. The solution: remove price effects from the data. \$20 will buy less retail output today than it did 20 years ago. But for data collectors, a \$20 purchase gets added to total sales in the same manner today as it did 20 years ago. Separating out the price effect leaves researchers with a clearer picture of what’s really happening to sales levels relative to any time period. The

object then becomes to remove any part of the variable's change that is attributable to price movements, arriving at a **real, or inflation-adjusted**, indicator. **Source:** Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas: Deflating Nominal Values to Real Values - <http://www.dallasfed.org/research/basics/nominal.cfm>

- **Definition/explanation of GDP :**

The National Bureau of Economic Research designed two different measures of national output. "The product side is calculated by summing the expenditures of the basic participants in the economic system: households, businesses, governments, and the foreign sector ... the four expenditure components ... are personal expenditures, domestic private investment, government purchases, and net exports." "On the income side of the accounts, the two basic factors of production are labor and property. The labor component consists of employee compensation and proprietor's income, while the property segment is derived from corporate profits, rental income, and net interest income."

**Source:** *Business Information: How to Find It, How to Use It*, by Michael Lavin (page 331).

## **Federal Resources**

- **Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)**

- <http://www.bea.gov/>

Along with the Census Bureau, part of the Economics and Statistics Administration of the Dept. of Commerce.

- Bearfacts <http://www.bea.gov/regional/bearfacts/>

- **State Bearfacts** <http://bea.gov/regional/bearfacts/statebf.cfm>

- **Regional Economic Accounts.** The BEA regional economic accounts provide statistics about: **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** for states and metropolitan areas. **Personal Income** for states, counties, metropolitan areas, micropolitan areas, metropolitan divisions and combined statistical areas, and BEA economic areas. <http://www.bea.gov/regional/index.htm>

- **Survey of Current Business**- monthly. Many NIPA tables, plus links to BEA website for other data - [http://www.bea.gov/scb/date\\_guide.asp](http://www.bea.gov/scb/date_guide.asp) - or, via FRASER, at: <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/>

- **Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)**

An independent statistical agency within the U.S. Dept. of Labor. It is responsible for measuring labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy.

- **Economy at a Glance - By state:** <http://www.bls.gov/eag/>

- Geographic information, products by state <http://www.bls.gov/#>

- **FRASER** <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/> and click on top row tab Data & Statistics. The monthly *Economic Indicators* (from 1948 onward) and *Survey of Current Business* (from 1921 onward) are in pdf format. If select tab "All Tables, Charts, and Articles", can search by subject for the data.

- **FRED** <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/m> Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED) is an online database consisting of more than 55,000 economic data time series from 45 national, international,

public, and private sources. The Research Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis created and maintains FRED.

- **Regional Economic Conditions (RECON)** from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.  
<http://www2.fdic.gov/recon/>  
RECON provides economic information at the state, MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area), and county levels. Quarterly. Although focused on analysis of risks facing financial institutions, it does have information useful for the consumer. Limited data. For a review of RECON, see Regional Economic Conditions (RECON), by R. I. Saltz (*Choice*, vol. 49, issue 9, May 2012, p.1626).
- **Economic Indicators** <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/> - (select “Data & Statistics”), or, via the GPO database FDsys (directly, at: <http://www.gpo.gov/economicindicators> ). Alternately, from the FDsys main page ( <http://www.fdsys.gov> ), select this collection. Permanent URL is: <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS1458>  
Available from April 1995 forward, this monthly publication is prepared by the Council of Economic Advisers for the Joint Economic Committee. It provides economic information on gross domestic product, income, employment, production, new construction, prices, money and credit, security markets, Federal finance, and international statistics. The pdf issue is good for charts; GPO access includes ability to download tables (Excel®).  
Economic Indicators back to 1948 are available, in pdf format, through FRASER, the Federal Reserve Archival System for Economic Research. <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/>
- **Census Bureau**
  - **Economic Indicators** main page (for the 13 major indicators it produces):  
<http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/briefroom/BriefRm>  
New Residential Construction  
New Residential Sales
  - **State and County QuickFacts** – <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html>  
Key data for states, counties, & selected cities. From the Census Bureau. 2006-2011 information
- **Dept. of Commerce** [note: ESA and Census Bureau are part of Dept.]
  - **Principal Federal Economic Indicators** – 12 key indicators, released by the Economics & Statistics Administration (ESA) within the Dept. of Commerce. ESA releases these indicators, collected by its constituent bureaus: the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)  
<http://www.esa.doc.gov/about-economic-indicators>
  - **Survey of Current Business** – issued monthly. Many NIPA tables, plus links to BEA website for other data. [http://www.bea.gov/scb/date\\_guide.asp](http://www.bea.gov/scb/date_guide.asp) - or, via FRASER, at: or, via FRASER, at: <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/>
- **HUD (Dept. of Housing and Urban Development)** – Office of Policy Development and Research. “Market at a Glance”, for counties and metropolitan areas: <http://www.huduser.org/portal/> .

Quarterly, the U.S. Housing Market Conditions is released. Overviews by region. Text and charts. “Download Data” option (lower right) for national figures and for selected states. Also, a Housing Scorecard has snapshot of national data, including foreclosures and short sales:

<http://www.huduser.org/portal/periodicals/ushmc.html>

- **Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) House Price Index** (select tab) : <http://www.fhfa.gov/> , and Housing Market Indicators - 50 listed, with links, also on the FHFA website: <http://www.fhfa.gov/Default.aspx?Page=66>
- *Statistical Abstract of the United States* (2012 edition) - <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/> [note: Bernan is to issue a “new” edition; LexisNexis is to have an online product]

## **News Releases**

- **Economic Indicators Briefing Room** (U.S. Census Bureau) – 13 key indicators <http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/briefroom/BriefRm> -- another tab is to the year’s release schedule (Economic Indicator Calendar), directly at: <http://www.census.gov/briefrm/calendar-listview.html>
- **Principal Federal Economic Indicators** – 12 key indicators, released by the Economics & Statistics Administration (ESA) within the Dept. of Commerce. ESA releases these indicators, collected by its constituent bureaus: the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) <http://www.esa.doc.gov/about-economic-indicators>
- **Personal Income and Spending** -- released monthly (end of the month) for the prior month - <http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/national/pi/pinewsrelease.htm> -from the BEA
- **BEA (Bureau of Economic Analysis) News Releases** - Gross Domestic Product by State, Gross Domestic Product by Metropolitan Area, State Personal Income <http://www.bea.gov/regional/index.htm>
- **News Releases** – BLS “calendar” -- for the current month, select in upper right “release calendar” For a list, by name, with date, for the year, select the “Economic Releases” tab, then “Schedule for News Releases”, then “Current Year” <http://www.bls.gov/bls/newsrels.htm>

## **Federal Reserve**

- **Federal Reserve structure** <http://www.federalreserve.gov/pubs/frseries/frseri2.htm>
  - **Federal Reserve Meetings**. Must meet 4 times in Washington. Since 1981, 8 have been held each year, at intervals of 5-8 weeks. Attendance at meetings is restricted (confidential in nature).
  - Board of Governors is 7 members.

- **Reports**. Federal Reserve staff prepare written reports and oral reports. After reports committee members turn to policy. Twice a year the Board of Governors submits a written report to Congress on the state of the economy and monetary policy. The Chairman is called to testify on this report.
- **Speeches** – Can gain insight into the Chairman’s opinions. Example: Ben Bernanke, to the Economic Club of Indiana, Oct.1, 2012: “Five Questions about the Federal Reserve and Monetary Policy” – at: <http://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/speech/bernanke20121001a.htm>
- **Monetary policy** is made by the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC).
  - “The term "monetary policy" refers to the actions undertaken by a central bank, such as the Federal Reserve, to influence the availability and cost of money and credit to help promote national economic goals...”
  - Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco – About the Fed (re monetary policy): [http://www.frbsf.org/what-is-the-fed/monetary\\_policy.html](http://www.frbsf.org/what-is-the-fed/monetary_policy.html)
- **Federal Reserve System: Purposes & functions:** <http://www.federalreserve.gov/pf/pf.htm> (146 pages)  
The Federal Reserve is the central bank of the United States. It was founded by Congress in 1913 to provide the nation with a safer, more flexible, and more stable monetary and financial system. Over the years, its role in banking and the economy has expanded.
- **Federal Reserve’s duties** fall into four general areas:
  - Conducting the nation’s monetary policy by influencing the monetary and credit conditions in the economy in pursuit of maximum employment, stable prices, and moderate long-term interest rates
  - Supervising and regulating banking institutions to ensure the safety and soundness of the nation’s banking and financial system and to protect the credit rights of consumers
  - Maintaining the stability of the financial system and containing systemic risk that may arise in financial markets
  - Providing financial services to depository institutions, the U.S. government, and foreign official institutions, including playing a major role in operating the nation’s payments system

Video about its responsibilities (13 mins.): [http://www.stlouisfed.org/education\\_resources/in-plain-english-video/](http://www.stlouisfed.org/education_resources/in-plain-english-video/)
- **Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC)**
  - The FOMC is charged under law with overseeing open market operations, the principal tool of national monetary policy. These operations affect the amount of Federal Reserve balances available to depository institutions, thereby influencing overall monetary and credit conditions.
  - **The Structure of the FOMC** <http://www.federalreserve.gov/pf/pf.htm>

**Membership of FOMC.** The FOMC is 12 members. 7 of the Board of Governors, the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, plus 4 of the remaining 11 Reserve Bank presidents. Nonvoting Reserve Bank presidents attend the meetings of the Committee and contribute to the

Committee's assessment of the economy and policy options.  
<http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/fomc.htm>

**FOMC Meetings.** The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meets Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meets 7 or 8 times a year (monetary policy). At these meetings, the Committee reviews economic and financial conditions, determines the appropriate stance of monetary policy, and assesses the risks to its long-run goals of price stability and sustainable economic growth. <http://www.federalreserve.gov/pubs/frseries/frseri2.htm>

- **Beige Book** -- several pages per District, plus a National Summary
  - Each Federal Reserve Bank gathers anecdotal information on current economic conditions in its District through reports from Bank and Branch directors and interviews with key business contacts, economists, market experts, and other sources. The Beige Book summarizes this information by District and sector. Released 8 times a year, 2 weeks before the FOMC meeting.  
<http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/beigebook/default.htm> (link is to current year – select “view archive” for prior years). In pdf or HTML
  - Beige Book Archive. <http://www.minneapolisfed.org/bb/> - from the Minneapolis Fed- in html only, but useful if you are only looking for a particular district
- **Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta** - 6<sup>th</sup> District – <http://www.frbatlanta.org/>
  - **REIN (Regional Economic Information Network)**. From this is link to EconSouth and to the Beige Book and to the Regional Data report [right frame] <http://www.frbatlanta.org/rein/>
  - **EconSouth** (quarterly periodical) <http://www.frbatlanta.org/pubs/econsouth/?d=1&s=ad>
  - **Economic & Financial Highlights**. This weekly digest of economic and financial statistics provides charts and brief descriptions of data releases. It focuses on different data series from week to week. <http://www.frbatlanta.org/research/highlights/>
- **Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond** – <http://www.richmondfed.org/>
  - **Snapshot**. [http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/index.cfm) "Research" tab (left column) - "Regional Economy" - "Reports and Economic Indicators" - "Snapshot". *Snapshot* is a monthly update of the Fifth District economy, published by the Regional Economics section of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. *Snapshot* includes timely analysis of labor market, household, and housing market conditions at both the state and metro area level. September Snapshot contains July data and MSA.
  - **Fifth District Economic Indicators** - Updated monthly, these charts provide state-level information on industries, labor markets, income, and housing in the Fifth District. Includes tabs for North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia. [http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/fifth\\_district\\_economic\\_indicators/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/fifth_district_economic_indicators/index.cfm)

- **Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.**

- **Regional Profile:** The Fourth Federal Reserve District (Ohio, western Pennsylvania, eastern Kentucky, and the northern panhandle of West Virginia).

- [http://www.clevelandfed.org/Our\\_Region/Regional\\_Profile/index.cfm](http://www.clevelandfed.org/Our_Region/Regional_Profile/index.cfm)

- Metropolitan Statistical Areas: An overview of the 16 Metropolitan Statistical Areas, or "MSAs," of the Fourth Federal Reserve District.

- Population: Population statistics and trends since 1970.

- Income: Distribution of income per capita and in comparison with national averages.

- Industry: The mix of major industries in the Fourth District, as well as a count of Fortune 500 companies whose headquarters reside here, and the distribution of their earnings.

- Banking: An overview of major bank holding companies and their assets in the Fourth District.

- **Regional Data. By State and by MSA.** Download Data Set.

- <http://www.clevelandfed.org/research/data/regional/charts/chartsdata.cfm>

- Employment, Payroll Survey

- Unemployment Rate

- Real Output U.S. and States

- Homeownership Rates

- Per Capita Personal Income

- **Federal Reserve Bank of New York**

- Household Debt and Credit** – issued quarterly, at: <http://www.newyorkfed.org/householdcredit/>

- Note: report formerly known as “Credit Conditions”

- **FRED** – Federal Reserve Economic Data - <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2> - 55,000 economic time series from 45 sources. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

- **FRASER** -- Federal Reserve Archival System for Economic Research. Preserves and provides easy access to the history of the Federal Reserve System through digitization of documents related to the U.S. financial system. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/>

## **Consumers**

### **Surveys**

- **University of Michigan** - Survey of Consumers (with Thomson Reuters). free, but requires registration <http://www.sca.isr.umich.edu> . From the surveys, there are several indexes. One, the Index of Consumer Expectations, is part of the Index of Leading Indicators.

- **FRED Federal Reserve of St. Louis. University of Michigan - Consumer Sentiment**, can download; 1978-Jan 2012 to current (delayed 6 months, at request of source)

- <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/UMCSENT/>

- Survey of consumers (old name, for many years)

- historical data also

- Nov. 1952 – Nov. 1977, also in FRED

- <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/UMCSENT1?cid=32457>

## **Prices**

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/> The Consumer Price Indexes (CPI) program produces monthly data on changes in the prices paid by urban consumers for a representative basket of goods and services.  
The format of the tables contained in the CPI news release changed beginning with this CPI news release for March, 2012. <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/mockups.htm>

## **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**

- **GDP -- State**  
Released annually, in June, by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The 2012 news release is at: [http://bea.gov/newsreleases/regional/gdp\\_state/2012/gsp0612.htm](http://bea.gov/newsreleases/regional/gdp_state/2012/gsp0612.htm) . Also has regional maps. BEA webpage for regional data, which includes GDP by state and metro area, is at: <http://bea.gov/regional/index.htm>

## **Housing**

- **House Price Index** (select tab) - Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA): <http://www.fhfa.gov/>
- **Housing Market Indicators** - 50 listed, with links – on the FHFA website: <http://www.fhfa.gov/Default.aspx?Page=66>
- **National Association of Realtors®** - <http://www.realtor.org/>  
monthly, issues: Housing statistics, at: <http://www.realtor.org/research-and-statistics/housing-statistics>  
- Existing Home Sales (on or near the 25th of each month). Home Price Monitor also available, at: <http://www.realtor.org/reports/home-price-monitor>  
NAR definition of a sale: “completed transactions” = *closings* from multiple listing services. Sales figures include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops. NOTE: “Existing homes” are at least one year old.
- **Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** – Office of Policy Development and Research. “Market at a Glance”, for counties and metropolitan areas: <http://www.huduser.org/portal/> .  
Quarterly, the **U.S. Housing Market Conditions** is released. Overviews by region. Text and charts. “Download Data” option (lower right) for national figures and for selected states. Also, a Housing Scorecard has snapshot of national data, including foreclosures and short sales: <http://www.huduser.org/portal/periodicals/ushmc.html>
- **Household Debt and Credit** – issued quarterly, at: <http://www.newyorkfed.org/householdcredit/>

- **Census Bureau** has two series –
  - **New Home Sales** - <http://www.census.gov/construction/nrs/> - on *new* single-family home *sales*, which are based on contracts or the acceptance of a deposit.
  - **New Residential Construction** (also known as “Housing Starts”) : <http://www.census.gov/construction/nrc/>
- **S&P/Case-Shiller Home Price Indices** (from Standard & Poor’s) - <http://us.spindices.com/> Monthly. For the southeast, Atlanta, Charlotte, Miami, and Tampa are featured for free. Also a national figure is released. For a fee, S&P refers to Fiserv for data for many more cities and for zip codes.
- **CoreLogic** – National Foreclosure Report. Monthly. Registration required. Select from list at: <http://www.corelogic.com/about-us/research.aspx>
- **Mortgage Bankers Association** - National Delinquency Survey. Subscription (\$\$\$). The 2012 Statistical Abstract had data from this survey. <http://mortgagebankers.org/ResearchandForecasts/ProductsandSurveys/NationalDelinquencySurvey.htm>

## Unemployment

- **Unemployment. FRED.** Historical (1976) to current, by state: via FRED – chart; can download monthly data into Excel. Seasonally Adjusted and Non-seasonally adjusted (for each state, we chose “seasonally”): <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/tags/series?t=unemployment&at=state&ob=pv&od=desc>
- **Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)** issues the “Current Population Survey” monthly; the official measure of the labor force for the nation. The BLS also uses data from several sources to arrive at an unemployment rate.  
Note: the BLS also issues “Current Employment Statistics” - based on “establishments”. It surveys about 141,000 businesses and government agencies. This latter series does NOT include farm workers nor self-employed persons.
- **Economy at a Glance.** BLS. <http://www.bls.gov/bls/unemployment.htm>

## Commercial Sources

- **Conference Board** - <http://www.conference-board.org/>
  - **Business Cycle Indicators**, issues monthly (subscription)  
Latest press release of selected indexes of its indicators are on website for free. Indexes include: Consumer Confidence Index®(CCI), The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®(LEI), The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™ ETI),

- Conference Board members are from major corporations world-wide. The Conference Board is a global, independent business membership and research association
- **National Association of Realtors®** - <http://www.realtor.org/> monthly, issues: Housing statistics, at: <http://www.realtor.org/research-and-statistics/housing-statistics> - Existing Home Sales (on or near the 25th of each month). Home Price Monitor also available, at: <http://www.realtor.org/reports/home-price-monitor>
- **S&P/Case-Shiller** – issues a monthly index for house prices. For the southeast, Atlanta, Charlotte, Miami, and Tampa are featured for free. Also a national figure is released. For a fee, S&P refers to Fiserv for data for many more cities and for zip codes. <http://us.spindices.com/>
- **CoreLogic** – National Foreclosure Report. Monthly. Registration required. Select from list at: <http://www.corelogic.com/about-us/research.aspx>

## **Newspapers**

- **Wall Street Journal ; Washington Post; New York Times** – detailed coverage of the economy Essential, core subscriptions for all libraries

Note: online access to the *Wall Street Journal* is exclusive to these databases: **ProQuest News & Newspapers ; ABI/Inform Complete ; Factiva**. Online access to the *Washington Post* is via **LexisNexis Academic ; ProQuest News & Newspapers ; Factiva**.

- Local newspapers are useful, but typically the reports are from wire services. Nationally-syndicated columns appear weekly.
- **Washington Post** has interactive map, “Unemployment Rate by County” -- <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/nation/unemployment-by-county/> Note: dates are from July 2011-May 2012

## **Mobile**

- With EconWise, a new mobile publications app, from the St. Louis Fed. The free app can be used to browse the most recent publications, and filter by publication name or by level of expertise. The available materials range from the most accessible to the most technical. Users can read content immediately, save it for later, share their favorites by email or by posting directly to Twitter or Facebook accounts. EconWise is available via the Apple app store or directly from <http://research.stlouisfed.org/apps/econwise/>
- America’s Economy app provides real-time updates for 16 key economic indicators released from the U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Bureau of Economic Analysis. <http://www.census.gov/mobile/>

## K-12 Sources

- **Economic Bootcamp: Classroom Resources.** Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. This three-day workshop trained high school economics teachers in course-specific content and is designed for teachers with little or no economics experience.  
<http://www.dallasfed.org/educate/classroom.cfm?tab=0##dallastabs>

- **Classroom Economist:** Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Middle school and high school.

Features video and PowerPoint content designed to clarify and enhance teacher understanding of core economic and Federal Reserve topics. This content provides lesson demonstrations and resource ideas to help teachers bring the economic topics to life in the classroom. Covers gross domestic product, unemployment, monetary policy, fractional reserve banking, what is money, inflation.

Web site includes Resources for Teachers - educational programs and resources for educators and students in grades 6 through 12. The Atlanta Fed's workshops, onsite tours, classroom curricula, and other tools provide both teachers and students applicable classroom knowledge about the Federal Reserve System and related concepts of economics and personal finance. Lessons & activities; teacher workshops.

- **Elementary School Economics.** Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
  - **Piggy Bank Primer: Saving and Budgeting.** 33 pages. Teacher's guide 16 pgs. Through a story and activities, the student book introduces students to economic concepts such as saving, spending, budgeting, wants, goods, services and opportunity cost.  
[http://www.stlouisfed.org/education\\_resources/piggy-bank-primer-saving-and-budgeting/](http://www.stlouisfed.org/education_resources/piggy-bank-primer-saving-and-budgeting/)
  - **Piggy Bank Primer: 25 Cents Worth of History.** 35 pgs. Student activity book, designed for students ages 8-10 who take a close look at nickels and quarters. Other topics include the Federal Reserve, the U.S. Mint and the history and resources of Eighth District states.  
[http://www.stlouisfed.org/education\\_resources/piggy-bank-primer-twenty-five-cents-of-history/](http://www.stlouisfed.org/education_resources/piggy-bank-primer-twenty-five-cents-of-history/)
- **High School Economics.** Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
  - **Economic Lowdown Podcast Series:** is a podcast series produced by the Economic Education department of the St. Louis Fed for high school students. 11 Episodes: Opportunity cost, Factors of production, Self-interest, Inflation, Unemployment, Demand, Supply, Market Equilibrium, Functions of Money, Labor Market, Externalities  
[http://www.stlouisfed.org/education\\_resources/middle-school/](http://www.stlouisfed.org/education_resources/middle-school/)
  - **Economic Lowdown Video Companion Series:** is a podcast series produced by the Economic Education department of the St. Louis Fed for high school students. 3 Episodes: Supply, Demand, Equilibrium.  
[http://www.stlouisfed.org/education\\_resources/economic-lowdown-video-companion-series/](http://www.stlouisfed.org/education_resources/economic-lowdown-video-companion-series/)

➤ **Other economics education resources:**

[http://www.stlouisfed.org/education\\_resources/highschool/](http://www.stlouisfed.org/education_resources/highschool/)

FRED in the Classroom: Debt and Deficit (pdf, 12 pgs).

FRED in the Classroom: Employment and the Labor Force (pdf, 18 pgs).

FRED in the Classroom: Measures of Inflation (pdf, 18 pgs).

Great Depression Crossword (play online).

Great Depression Word Search (play online).

In Plain English Video (learn about the Federal Reserve).

In Plain English Web Site (learn about the Federal Reserve).

No Frills Money Skills (video; 2 Episodes: Growing money, Ways to save).

Personal Finance 101 Chats.

Personal Finance 101-Financial Forms Explained.

Personal Finance Flash Cards (play online).

- **Federal Reserve Kids' Page** – <http://www.federalreserve.gov/kids/>

- **Teacher Professional Development.** Series of online professional development programs from the Federal Reserve Banks of Atlanta and St. Louis

## **Georgia Tech Library Guides**

- **Georgia Tech Library Government Information Research Guide**, compiled by Patricia Kenly  
<http://libguides.gatech.edu/government>

➤ The Georgia COMO 2012 “Taking the Pulse of the South’s Economy” presentation slides, as well as this “Selected Resources” guide, will be available on the main page by 10/12/12.

- **Georgia and Atlanta Business Research Guide**, compiled by Patricia Kenly  
<http://libguides.gatech.edu/gabusiness>

---

## **By State**

### **Alabama**

- Alabama Assoc. of Realtors <http://www.alabamarealtors.com> - quarterly magazine has summary of:
- Alabama Residential Report – monthly <http://acre.cba.ua.edu/page.php?id=38> From the Alabama Center for Real Estate, at the Univ. of Alabama’s Culverhouse College of Commerce (ACRE) at: <http://acre.cba.ua.edu/> . Other Reports include historical housing statistics by area (also monthly) ; New Construction, Affordability Index, Economic, Alabama Real Estate Confidence Index).

- Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, Labor Market Information Division. Employment statistics, occupational statistics, quarterly employment and wages, employment security statistical bulletin, unemployment statistics, workforce development <http://www2.dir.state.al.us/> (alternative URLs are <http://dir.alabama.gov/lmi> or <http://www2.dir.alabama.gov/> ). 2012 Labor Market Information User's Guide <http://www2.dir.state.al.us/Information/LMIUsersGuide.pdf>
- Alabama State Data Center, University of Alabama <http://cber.cba.ua.edu/asdc/>
- Alabama economic development organizations (list of organizations) [http://commerce.alabama.gov/content/ourpartners/PartnerLinks/partnerlinks\\_ecodev.aspx](http://commerce.alabama.gov/content/ourpartners/PartnerLinks/partnerlinks_ecodev.aspx)
- Alabama - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-al.html>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/ALUR>

## Arkansas

- Arkansas Realtors® Assoc. – Publications—Housing Market Reports-- <http://www.arkansasrealtors.com/>
- University of Arkansas. Center for Business and Economic Research at the Sam M. Walton College of Business. <http://cber.uark.edu/437.asp> Left column: Current Data; Publications & Special Studies.  
Current Data - Economic Data: Arkansas Economic Data (GDP, Labor Force, Unemployment Rate, Employment by Sector); Metropolitan Economic Data Current Data; Publications; Research Tabs for News; Research.
- Arkansas Employment Security Department, labor market information, <http://www.discoverarkansas.net/cgi/databrowsing/?PAGEID=4>
- Arkansas Economic Development Commission. Profiles <http://www.arkansassiteselection.com/aedc/Home.aspx>
- Arkansas - economics departments, institutes and research centers(Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-ar.html>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/ARUR>

## Florida

- Florida Realtors® - <http://www.floridarealtors.org/> - its Research Market Watch – Residential Activity (detailed monthly report), and Residential Price Index are free for statewide data, and metro area profiles (from the National Association of Realtors®) at: <http://www.floridarealtors.org/Research/index.cfm>
- Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR), University of Florida  
Select tab for “Data” (County Data Sheets, Consumer Confidence, Economic Databank) – or, for “Analysis” (Indicators) - <http://www.bebr.ufl.edu/>
- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. Select tab for Labor Market Information, <http://www.floridajobs.org/labor-market-information>
- Office of Economic & Demographic Research, Florida Legislature - <http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/>  
- From the left frame, Long-range Financial Outlook ; Economy . From Economy, there are monthly presentation slides of “Florida: an Economic Overview”, at: <http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/presentations/index.cfm#economic>

- Florida - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-fl.html>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/FLUR>

## Georgia

- Georgia Association of Realtors® - <http://www.garealtor.com/> - for a short time after an announcement, statewide report available. That report does not include the Atlanta area.
- Atlanta Board of Realtors® - <http://www.abr.org/> - Select “Resources”, or see the Board’s monthly Market Brief at: <http://www.abr.org/Resource-Center/abr-market-brief.aspx>
- Georgia and Atlanta Business Subject Guide. Compiled by Patricia Kenly <http://libguides.gatech.edu/gabusiness>
- Selig Center for Economic Growth <http://www.terry.uga.edu/selig/>
  - *Georgia Statistical Abstract* (biennial) – print, CD-ROM only
  - *Georgia Economic Outlook* (annual) - <http://www.terry.uga.edu/selig/outlook.html>
  - Housing Permits – by county (monthly) - <http://www.terry.uga.edu/selig/housing/>
  - Note: *Georgia Business and Economic Conditions* (quarterly) – latest online is 2009; also, archive back to 1999, at: <http://www.terry.uga.edu/selig/publications/gbec.html>
- [Georgia Statistics System](http://www.georgiastats.uga.edu/) - Detailed demographic profiles of counties; county-by-county analysis; city population (2000; and estimates for 2005 and 2008). The profiles from Georgia County Guide. Library has 1981-85, 1987-99, and 2004. From University of Georgia's Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development. <http://www.georgiastats.uga.edu/>
- [Economic Development](http://www.georgia.org/) <http://www.georgia.org/>
- [Georgia Association of Regional Commissions](http://garc.ga.gov/main.php?Home-7) <http://garc.ga.gov/main.php?Home-7>
- Local government (listings of official websites from georgia.gov) <http://georgia.gov/municipality-list>
- [Atlanta Regional Commission](http://www.atlantaregional.com/) - Regional planning agency for the 10-county Atlanta area (Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties), as well as the City of Atlanta. <http://www.atlantaregional.com/>
- Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta - 6<sup>th</sup> District. REIN (Regional Economic Information Network) <http://www.frbatlanta.org/rein/>. EconSouth (quarterly periodical) <http://www.frbatlanta.org/pubs/econsouth/?d=1&s=ad> Economic & Financial Highlights. <http://www.frbatlanta.org/research/highlights/>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/GAUR>

## Kentucky

- Kentucky Assoc. of Realtors® - <http://www.kar.com/> -- Media Center—Housing Statistics
- At the University of Kentucky: Center for Business and Economic Research, at: <http://cber.uky.edu/>  
University of Kentucky, Gatton College of Business and Economics, Center for Business and Economic Research <http://cber.uky.edu/> Tabs for Publications (research reports, annual report)

- Cabinet for Economic Development "Data Center" tab (Community Profiles, Kentucky Business Reports, Searchable Databases) <http://www.thinkkentucky.com/>
- Labor Market Information. Labor market statistics [http://workforce.ky.gov/labor\\_info.htm](http://workforce.ky.gov/labor_info.htm)
- Kentucky State Data Center <http://ksdc.louisville.edu/>
- Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. 4<sup>th</sup> District (eastern Kentucky and the northern panhandle of West Virginia). Our Region tab: Regional Profile; State and MSA data. [http://www.clevelandfed.org/our\\_region/index.cfm](http://www.clevelandfed.org/our_region/index.cfm)
- Kentucky - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-ky.html>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/KYUR>

## Louisiana

- Louisiana Realtors® Assoc. - <http://www.larealtors.org/> -- Research—Trends Report. Quarterly. Latest is free, at: <http://www.larealtors.org/research/trends.asp>
- Louisiana State University, Center for Business and Economic Research. Economic Data (Historical Annual Data, Current Monthly Reports). <http://www.lsus.edu/offices-and-services/center-for-business-and-economic-research>
- University of Louisiana at Monroe, Regional Economic Data FactBook <http://cba.ulm.edu/cber/factbook.html>
- Louisiana Economic Development. LED News, key industries <http://www.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com>
- Louisiana Workforce Commission, Labor Market Information <http://lwc.laworks.net/sites/lmi/Pages/default.aspx>
- Greater Bossier Economic Development Foundation. <http://www.gbedf.org/home/>
- Louisiana - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-la.html>
- Census State Data Center [http://louisiana.gov/Explore/Demographics\\_and\\_Geography/](http://louisiana.gov/Explore/Demographics_and_Geography/)
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/LAUR>

## Mississippi

- Mississippi Assoc. of Realtors® - <http://msrealtors.org/> -- “MAR News” – upper right – then “Housing Statistics” – note says to contact a local Board of Realtors.—link is to the list, but no housing stats on their websites
- Mississippi Department of Employment Security. Labor Market Information (LMI Publications, Occupational Wages, Data Maps, Workforce Information Database, Occupational Projections, MS Green Jobs) <http://www.mdes.ms.gov/Home/LMI/index.html>
- Mississippi Economic Policy Center <http://mepconline.com/index.php>
- Mississippi - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-ms.html>
- Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning. Economics tab (economics indicators) <http://www.mississippi.edu/urc/economics.html>
- Mississippi State Data Center <http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/sdc/>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/MSUR>

## North Carolina

- North Carolina Assoc. of Realtors® - <http://www.ncrealtors.org/> -- “About NCAR” tab—Market Statistics (left frame) - [http://www.ncrealtors.org/market\\_statistics.cfm](http://www.ncrealtors.org/market_statistics.cfm) - 2010 to present (2-3 month lag), plus year-end stats 1998-2011
- North Carolina Dept. of Commerce, Div. of Employment Security (new name) at: <https://www.ncesc.com/default.aspx> - From the left frame, “Labor Market Information” is directly at: <http://www.ncesc1.com/lmi/default.asp> --Workforce Info. - Employed,Unemployed & Unemployment Rate
- N.C. Dept. of Labor - <http://www.nclabor.com/> - OSHA - “New Construction and Building Permit Data- NCDOL discontinued collecting this data in 2001. This information may be obtained from the U.S. Census Web site.”
- North Carolina Department of Commerce. Research & Publications. AccessNC (economic data and site information ), Industry & Economy (economic reports, industry studies, workforce analysis). Jobs & Investment Report <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-nc.html>
- Office of State Budget and Management. Data Websites By Topic (Government and Finance; Employment, Income, Business and Industry) [http://data.osbm.state.nc.us/pls/pbis/dyn\\_osbmweb\\_libdatalinks.show?p\\_arg\\_names=context&p\\_arg\\_values=facts](http://data.osbm.state.nc.us/pls/pbis/dyn_osbmweb_libdatalinks.show?p_arg_names=context&p_arg_values=facts)
- North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security. Labor Market Information <https://www.ncesc1.com/LMI/default.asp>
- LINC Log Into North Carolina <http://linc.state.nc.us/>
- NC Census Lookup [http://www.osbm.state.nc.us/ncosbm/facts\\_and\\_figures/socioeconomic\\_data/census\\_lookup.shtm](http://www.osbm.state.nc.us/ncosbm/facts_and_figures/socioeconomic_data/census_lookup.shtm)
- State Library of North Carolina. Statistics Sites by Subject <http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ghl/resources/statistics.html#economics>
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond – [http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/index.cfm) *Snapshot* is a monthly update of the Fifth District economy. The Fifth District Economic Indicators provide state-level information on industries, labor markets, income. [http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/fifth\\_district\\_economic\\_indicators/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/fifth_district_economic_indicators/index.cfm)
- North Carolina - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-nc.html>
- North Carolina State Data Center Statistical Resources [http://sdc.state.nc.us/frame\\_start\\_links.html](http://sdc.state.nc.us/frame_start_links.html)
- University of North Carolina Wilmington, William Madison Randall Library, State Data Center [http://library.uncw.edu/eresources/state\\_data\\_center](http://library.uncw.edu/eresources/state_data_center)
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/NCUR>

## South Carolina

- South Carolina Assoc. of Realtors® - <https://www.screaltors.org/> -- members only
- Univ. of S. Carolina has a: SC Center for Real Estate, at: <http://www.moore.sc.edu/facultyandresearch/researchcenters/scenterforrealestate.aspx>

- South Carolina Dept. of Employment and Workforce - <http://www.sces.org/> --upper left, in “Agency Info” box – LMI [for Labor Market Information] , or directly at: <http://jobs.scworks.org/analyzer/default.asp> – titled: scworkforceinfo.com - also from the site, the monthly S.C. Economic Outlook from the Dept. of Commerce – another option: LMI Data Map – great listing of where to find data for S.C... also from [www.scworkforceinfo.com](http://www.scworkforceinfo.com)
- SCDASH. South Carolina Economic Data Clearinghouse <http://www.scdash.com/aboutscdash.aspx> , or University of South Carolina, Columbia, Darla Moore School of Business, Division of Research. Right column - "Economic Indicators" <http://www.moore.sc.edu/facultyandresearch/researchcenters/divisionofresearch.aspx>
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond – [http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/index.cfm) *Snapshot* is a monthly update of the Fifth District economy. The Fifth District Economic Indicators provide state-level information on industries, labor markets, income. [http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/fifth\\_district\\_economic\\_indicators/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/fifth_district_economic_indicators/index.cfm)
- South Carolina - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-sc.html>
- South Carolina Department of Commerce, Data & Resources <http://sccommerce.com/data-resources>
- State Data Center [http://www.sccommunityprofiles.org/data\\_center.php](http://www.sccommunityprofiles.org/data_center.php)
- South Carolina, Office of Research and Statistics <http://ors.sc.gov/default.htm>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/SCUR>

## Tennessee

- Tennessee Assoc. of Realtors® - <http://www.tarnet.com/> -- members only though
- Univ. of Tenn. – Center for Business & Economic Research - <http://bus.utk.edu/cber/> - CBER Economic Forecasts - - issued annually; a report to the Governor – also link on this page to the 2 x/yr: Tenn. Bus. and Economic Outlook – both at: <http://cber.bus.utk.edu/tefslist.htm> - Publications page has these too (link from left frame) is at: <http://cber.bus.utk.edu/cberpubs.htm> - also notes that its Tenn. Stat. Abs. ceased in 2003; see: TNDATA Web, at: <http://tndata.utk.edu/>
- University of Tennessee Knoxville, Center for Business & Economic Research, College of Business Administration. Left column - Research, Economic Report to the Governor, TNDATA Web time series data, TN State Data Center, Data and Maps, Publications <http://cber.bus.utk.edu/> State Data Center University of Tennessee Knoxville <http://cber.bus.utk.edu/tnsdc/sdcmain.htm>
- Department of Labor and Workforce Development <http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/> Labor Market Information Home Page is <http://www.jobs4tn.gov/analyzer/default.asp>?
- Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development, Research Publications <http://www.state.tn.us/ecd/research/index.html>
- Tennessee - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-tn.html>
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/TNUR>

## Virginia

- Virginia Assoc. of Realtors® - <http://www.varealtor.com/> --Research & Statistics—Home Sales Reports, or directly at: <http://www.varealtor.com/homesales>
- Virginia Workforce Connection - <http://www.vawc.virginia.gov/analyzer/default.asp> (from the Virginia. Employment Commission?) has Labor Market Information.—Select “Labor Force Data” . Monthly, but July latest. Also has map (similar to the one we found) with mouseover. An easy drill-down to get data.
- VaStat. University of Virginia, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. Center for Economic and Policy Studies. Browse by Topic (Employment/Income, VA Local and Regional Profiles, Industry, Economy) <http://www.coopercenter.org/econ/VASTAT/> Note: many links to Federal websites. Virginia Economic Indicators, link from here, has delayed release.
- State Data Center <http://www.census.gov/sdc/vasdc.html>
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond – Snapshot.  
[http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/index.cfm) *Snapshot* is a monthly update of the Fifth District economy. The Fifth District Economic Indicators provide state-level information on industries, labor markets, income, and housing in the Fifth District. Includes tabs for North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia.  
[http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/fifth\\_district\\_economic\\_indicators/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/fifth_district_economic_indicators/index.cfm)
- Virginia - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-va.html>
- Virginia Economic Development Partnership. Resource Center tab (top row)  
<http://www.yesvirginia.org/> .
- Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED:<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/VAUR>

## West Virginia

- West Virginia Assoc. of Realtors® - <http://www.wvrealtors.com/home.shtml> (no statistics)
- University of West Virginia – Bureau of Business & Economic Research - <http://be.wvu.edu/bber/> , part of the College of Business & Economics – on the left frame is: Employment and Earnings, or directly at: <http://be.wvu.edu/demographics/employment.htm> --then, select “W.Va. Labor Force Statistics by County” [other selections are not up-to-date, but do go back to 2000 for annual data] -- Site also indicates Workforce West Virginia – Research, Information and Analysis  
<http://workforcewv.org/lmi/datarel/drcntylf.htm> (specific chart) -- Workforce W.Va.Labor Market Information page is at: <http://workforcewv.org/lmi/>
- Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. 4<sup>th</sup> District (eastern Kentucky and the northern panhandle of West Virginia). Our Region tab: Regional Profile; State and MSA data.  
[http://www.clevelandfed.org/our\\_region/index.cfm](http://www.clevelandfed.org/our_region/index.cfm)
- Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond –  
[http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/index.cfm) *Snapshot* is a monthly update of the Fifth District economy. The Fifth District Economic Indicators provide state-level information on industries, labor markets, income, and housing in the Fifth District. Includes tabs for North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.  
[http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional\\_economy/reports/fifth\\_district\\_economic\\_indicators/index.cfm](http://www.richmondfed.org/research/regional_economy/reports/fifth_district_economic_indicators/index.cfm)

- State Data Center <http://www.census.gov/sdc/wvsdc.html>
- West Virginia - economics departments, institutes and research centers (Economics Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) <http://edirc.repec.org/usa-wv.html> Unemployment (from 1976 onward) via FRED: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/WVUR>

## **Selected Bibliography**

- *The basic business library : core resources and services*. Forte, Eric J., and Michael R. Oppenheim. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Libraries Unlimited, 2012
- *Ben Bernanke's Fed*. Harris, Ethan S. Boston, Mass. : Harvard Business Press, c2008.
- *Business information : how to find it, how to use it*. Lavin, Michael. 3rd Edition. Phoenix, Ariz.: Oryx Press, 2002
- *The Federal Reserve System: Purposes & Functions*. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 2005. [http://www.federalreserve.gov/pf/pdf/pf\\_complete.pdf](http://www.federalreserve.gov/pf/pdf/pf_complete.pdf)
- *Guide to Economic Indicators: Making Sense of Economics*. 7th Edition. Economist Newspaper Limited. Hoboken, N.J. : Wiley, 2011
- *Guide to Economic Indicators*. Frumkin, Norman. 4th Edition. Armonk, N.Y.: M. E. Sharpe, 2006
- *Handbook of United States economic and financial indicators*. O'Hara, Frederick M. Revised Edition. Westport, Conn. : Greenwood Press, 2000
- *Handbook of U.S. labor statistics : employment, earnings, prices, productivity, and other labor data*. Ryan, Mary Meghan. 15th Edition. Lanham, Md.: Bernan, 2012
- *The secrets of economic indicators : hidden clues to future economic trends and investment opportunities*. Baumohl, Bernard. 3rd Edition. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: FT Press, 2013
- *Statistical Abstract of the United States 2012* - <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>
- *Tracking America's economy*. Frumkin, Norman. 4th Edition. Armonk, N.Y. : M.E. Sharpe, 2004.

*This bibliography of selected resources, compiled by Patricia Kenly and Bette Finn, will be available on the Government Information Research Guide (at: <http://libguides.gatech.edu/government>) by 10/12/12.*