

- 17** opensecrets.org
The site is a guide to who gives money to which politician, and how much. Look to see who may be influencing your local politicians.
- 18** whois.com
Want to find out who owns the domain of a Web site? This is the place
- 19** census.gov
Real easy to use with tons of information, will be great for stories as the new census information from 2010 is released.
- 20** http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/State_Blue_Books
Many state Blue Books have employee salaries (which if you go to a public school, faculty salaries are found here) as well as other links in state governments. Five states don't have a Blue Book online – Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina and New Jersey.
- 21** www.familywatchdog.us
Know where the sex offenders are? This searchable database tells you where sex offenders live and work. There's also a nationwide search for sex offenders at www.nsopr.gov
- 22** ope.ed.gov/security
The campus security data analysis cutting tool is a site allowing you to see what crime is reported on all college campuses. This was put in place by the federal government in compliance of the Clery Act.
- 23** crimereports.com
Online crime mapping, using information from local police departments to detail robberies, burglaries, assaults, thefts and stolen vehicles.
- 24** flightaware.com
Shows track activity for any private or commercial flight. See scheduled, enroute, and recent flight activity for any airport in the country.

24 SITES YOU MUST SEE

WHAT'S ON THE WEB?

How to find the names, numbers and leads to turn ordinary stories into great ones.

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1 County property appraiser sites

Find the county the person you're looking for lives in, and search for "xxxxx county property appraiser"

2 whitepages.com

Online phone book to find numbers, but also allows you to do reverse phone and address lookup, as well as see who your subject's neighbors are.

3 archive.org

The wayback machine allows you to browse through more than 150 billion web pages archived from 1996 to a few months ago.

4 lexis-nexis.com

You should have access to this at your college for free. Can search database of all newspapers, corporate listings, as well as all sorts of court documents.

5 petersons.com

Contains demographics, financial aid, tuition, etc. for all colleges. Great for comparison stories and data about other colleges.

6 justia.com

Allows you for free to search for district court civil case filings by state, court, lawsuit type (eg patent law) or party name.

7 pacer.psc.uscourts.gov

Once you found a civil case, go to PACER to see the case. It's free to sign up, but costs 8 cents for every page viewed and downloaded. It allows users to obtain case and docket information from Federal Appellate, District and Bankruptcy courts, and the U.S. Party/Case Index.

8 guidestar.org

Want to find out the financial state of non-profits? IRS Form 990s are here, and are vital sources of info for foundations, etc. Great if you're at a private school.

9 brbpub.com/pubrecsites.asp

List of federal, state and local government agencies providing free online access to public record information

10 www.ope.ed.gov/athletics

The equity in athletics data analysis cutting tool allows you to see how athletics stacks up at every university in the country.

11 fedstats.gov

Listing of more than 100 agencies and directory of governmental statistical resources.

12 www.legistorm.com

Disseminates public documents and non-partisan information about your legislators.

13 statelocalgov.net

A directory of official state, county and city government Web sites

14 resourceshelf.com

A site where researchers share results of directed Web searches for resources and information. Archives go back eight years, tons of interesting finds from the invisible Web, which is information on the Internet that most search engines can't find.

15 docuticker.com

Selection of resources, reports and publications from government agencies, non-governmental organizations, think tanks and other public interest organizations.

16 robertniles.com

An Internet editor for several top newspapers, Robert Niles has created a database giving journalists an online tutorial on how to use math and data, and under the link Finding data on the Internet, has links to several good sites