How to Cite
U.S. Government Information Sources

Government information sources include acts (laws), hearings, reports, books, court proceedings, statistical tables, and more—published in any format. The following examples will help you format citations for some typically used types of government information, but you should consult the style manual of your choice (e.g., APA, Chicago, MLA) for specific instructions. Most of the examples below are excerpted from the following citation manuals, which are available in Reference and Government Documents.


LEGISLATIVE SOURCES

Statutes at Large—General Form
“Title of Law” (Public Law Number, Date of Passage). Title of the Session Laws, Volume, Chapter, Year, Pages (as appropriate). Source Information.

Examples:


U.S. Code or U.S. Code Annotated—General Form
“Section Heading,” Title Number Followed by Abbreviated Title of Code Followed by Section Number, Publication Date, Source Information.

Examples:


Hearings—General Form
Legislative Body. Title of Hearing, Date of Hearing following the word “Hearing,” (Document Number). Place of Publication: Publisher. Source Information.

Examples—Entire Hearing:


Examples—Testimony of a Witness at a Hearing

Committee Report—General Form
Legislative Body. Title. (Unique Identifying Numbers). Publishing Information. Source Information.

Examples:


Congressional Record—General Form
Volume Number followed by Cong. Rec., Page Number(s), (Date) (statement of . . .), Source Information.

Examples:


BOOK OR MONOGRAPH

General Form:

Examples:


TABLE IN STATISTICAL SOURCE

General Form:
“Title of Table,” Table Number, Page Number. In Title of Statistical Source. Publishing Information.

Example:

SUPREME COURT CASE

General Form:
Name of First Party v. Name of Second Party, Reporter Volume Number U.S. First Page of Case, Specific Page Referred to (Date of Decision).

Example:

Trina Magi, Bailey/Howe Library, University of Vermont, August 2006