Recommended Background sources for education

CQ Researcher
CQ Researcher is a political and social issue report published 44 times a year. Each issue is dedicated to a topic of current importance to health, environment, economy, government, etc.

Recommended Databases available

Academic Search
1984-present; indexes over 3,400 scholarly journals in the areas of business, social sciences, humanities, general academic, general science, education, and multi-cultural studies. Full-text is available for 2,000 journals starting with January 1985.

ERIC via EBSCOHost
1967-present. Source for information on all aspects of education for all age groups, including counseling, tests, and measurement. ERIC indexes journal articles, books, theses, curriculi, conference papers, standards and guidelines. To limit your results to more research focused publications, use the journal limit.

Professional Development Collection
1965-present; Full-text of more than 550 full text education journals, including more than 350 peer-reviewed titles.

PsycINFO with PsycARTICLES
1887-present (selected full text via PsycARTICLES 1987-present); provides citations to journal articles, book chapters, technical reports, dissertations, and other documents in the field of psychology and related disciplines, such as linguistics, law, business, and anthropology. PsycINFO covers the academic, research, and practice literature in psychology. It includes over one million citations and summaries and is updated monthly.

Sociological Abstracts
1963-present; provides citations and abstracts to journal articles, conference papers, books and dissertations in the field of sociology and related disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences. It covers over 1,700 publications, and is updated monthly.

Selecting Other Databases

There are hundreds of article databases available to UWM users. Use the recommended lists provide in the Databases by Subject/Major. Select a broad topic like Education or Sociology to find out which databases are best for your topic. Or, review the Open Access Databases page to see which resources are freely available.
**Suggested Research Strategies**

**Step 1:** Identify your research topic.

____________________________________________________________________________________

**Step 2:** Choose your keywords and use “and” as a combining term between your terms. Also identify some alternate terms that you can use, *(Example: “Urban Schools” AND Achievement)*

Now write a search phrase using your important terms:

_________________________ AND _______________________

**Use a Research Log System.**

Database: __________________________

Search Terms Used: __________________________ AND __________________________

Suggested subject headings or descriptors from the database: __________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

Was this search successful?

Combine the Boolean operators “AND” and “OR” into a single search. Use AND between different concepts and use OR between synonyms or related terms. Use (   ) around OR statements. Example: “Urban Schools” AND (Achievement OR Performance)

**Step 3:** Choose your Database or research tool. Start with a background source like CQ Researcher, look for some articles in general database and finish in a subject-specific database.

**Step 4:** Locate your sources.

If there is no full text, select the UWM Library Catalog Link and look for print copy in our library. Remember all print scholarly journals and magazines have a CALL NUMBER, which directs researchers to either current periodicals or the Stacks.

**Step 5:** Evaluate your results. Look for additional keywords found in your articles, books, and don’t forget to check the bibliographies from your articles

*Too few citations:* Change keywords or terminology; look at the terms the database is using for subjects.

*Too many citations:* Use the database, subject headings. Add additional keywords. Remember use AND between subjects