

Internet resources for

# economics



Welcome to

## Internet resources for economics

This booklet gives a sample of the online resources you can find using *Intute* – a free Internet service designed to help students, lecturers and researchers find the best of the Web for their education and research.

*Intute* is created by university subject specialists, and offers over 130,000 links to academic content on the Web, as well as a suite of Internet training tutorials.

Lecturers can use *Intute* to guide their students to websites that are relevant to their courses, and help them develop Internet research skills for university work.

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If you like what you find in this booklet please visit our website, where you can access many more scholarly Internet resources:

**Intute: Economics**

[www.intute.ac.uk/socialsciences/economics/](http://www.intute.ac.uk/socialsciences/economics/)

Or try this online tutorial designed to help students develop their Internet research skills:

**Internet Economist**

[www.vts.intute.ac.uk/he/tutorial/economist](http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/he/tutorial/economist)

Details of more *Intute* services can be found at the end of this booklet.

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Your guide for this booklet is:

**intute: social sciences**

based at the Universities of Bristol and Birmingham (UK)

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Intute is a JISC service developed in collaboration with staff from universities, colleges and research institutions across the UK, pooling expertise to share nationally.



## Journals

*Most scholarly journals are available online, although there can be restrictions on accessing the full text of articles, depending on whether you have an active subscription.*

### Directory of Open Access Journals : Economics

<http://www.doaj.org/doi?func=subject&cpid=19>

The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) provides access to a collection of several thousand free full-text scholarly journals covering all areas of the sciences, social sciences and humanities. It is hosted by Lund University and is funded by the Open Society Institute - Budapest and SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition). It aims to increase the visibility and accessibility of open access scholarly journals. It is possible to search by journal title, browse by subject or search for individual articles within the database. The economics section features nearly 100 titles.

### JSTOR Economics Journals

<http://www.jstor.org/action/showJournals?selectDiscipline=43693394>

The JSTOR service provides access to archives of past issues of journals. The economics section lists nearly 100 academic titles with details of the years covered and whether there are links to current content. Coverage varies by title but the usual pattern is for all past editions to be available via JSTOR and more recent issues - say within the last five years - to require an active subscription. From the contents listings it is then possible to access individual articles, collect and export references and find related items within JSTOR and elsewhere - for example on Google Scholar. Users with an active subscription to JSTOR will have access to the full text of articles.

### Economics Journals on the Web

<http://www.oswego.edu/~economic/journals.htm>

Economics Journals on the Web is a listing of academic economics journals with links to their homepages, produced by John Kane of SUNY Oswego. The list contains several hundred journals and is arranged alphabetically by title. The list is regularly updated, with notations on changes to journal titles over the years. There are extra links for titles that have material available in JSTOR.



## Teaching and learning materials

*Tutorials, course syllabi and guides to teaching are among the teaching and learning materials that are freely available online to economics tutors.*

### The Handbook for Economics Lecturers

<http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/handbook/>

This is a collection of subject-specific guides aimed at those who teach economics in UK higher education. It is designed to remedy two problems in current teaching practice: a lack of information and too little time to implement new ideas. The Handbook is divided into four sections: Teaching, Assessment, Course Design and Evaluation. The content includes information on case studies, problem-based learning, VLEs and computer-assisted assessment. There is a focus on traditional practices such as lecturing and seminars as well as more innovative techniques. The Handbook was developed and published by the Economics Network.

### Internet Economist

<http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/he/tutorial/economist/>

Internet Economist is a free teach yourself tutorial on the Web, teaching Internet research skills for economics. The tutorial is aimed at students, lecturers and researchers who want to improve their knowledge of the best Internet resources for this subject. It takes around an hour to do and includes quizzes and interactive exercises. It was written by Martin Poulter of the Economics Network and is one of a set of tutorials within the Intute Virtual Training Suite.

### MIT OpenCourseWare Economics

<http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/Economics/>

MIT OpenCourseWare Economics is an example of how universities are making their learning materials freely available on the Internet. It is a collection of courseware produced by the Economics Department at MIT. Material is arranged by course title and covers the past 5 years. Topics taught by the department include, macro, micro and other introductory subjects, specific sectors such as energy economics, historical, statistical and multidisciplinary approaches to the subject. Materials include the syllabus, readings, assignments and exams associated with each module.

## Mailing lists, news and blogs

*Great for networking with like-minded people and keeping up to date.*

### Economics Roundtable

<http://www.rtable.net/index/rt/economics/recent/>

The Economics Roundtable is a compilation of over 120 leading commentators who publish blogs on economics or who cover economics within another blog. Professor William R. Parke of the University of North Carolina has set up this aggregator. The website presents short summaries of articles with the most recent ones at the top, enabling users to click through to the full text. Users can also go straight to any of the blog commentators featured by the site, using the comprehensive link list.

### NEP: New Economics Papers

<http://nep.repec.org/>

NEP: New Economics Papers is a collection of email lists for announcing the latest research working papers. Part of the RePEc service, the NEP site is arranged by JEL classification. One list provides announcements for all new economics papers whilst the rest cover subject specific categories within economics.

### JISCMail : Economics

<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/maillinglists/category/L1.htm>

JISCMail is an email distribution and management service for the UK higher and further education communities. It aims to encourage collaboration, research, networking and experience-sharing as well as enabling the academic community to stay on top of new developments and events. The lists are free to set up and use. The economics section details over 100 email discussion lists covering a full range of topics from agricultural economics to Time Series Modelling.

### The Economist

<http://www.economist.com/>

The Economist is a weekly publication that reports on politics, economics, business and technology, from a free market perspective. Established in 1843, the print edition is freely available online with a searchable archive. The website can be searched or browsed by section, subject or data bank. Economist.com also includes extra news analysis pieces, country briefings, backgrounders on key issues, plus email alerts. It also provides blogs, podcasts and audio updates for the print edition.

## Papers, reports and articles

*Many thousands of academic papers are published each year, but keeping track of them is made easier by using collections that draw them together.*

### RePEc (Research Papers in Economics)

<http://repec.org/>

RePEc is an extensive collection of working papers, journal articles and software components in economics. It is a collaborative effort by hundreds of volunteers in over 60 countries to enhance the dissemination of research in economics. There are over half a million items in the database and most of them are freely available online. Users can search or browse the database using the JEL classification.

### EconPapers

<http://econpapers.repec.org/>

EconPapers is the part of RePEc that collects working papers in economics available on the Internet. There are over 200,000 downloadable working papers drawn from many hundreds of series from academics working in institutions from around the world. There are also nearly 350,000 downloadable journal articles, as well as smaller collections of books, book chapters, and software items. The database is continually increasing in size. Users can search for items of interest using a large number of search options or monitor the list of the latest arrivals.

### VoxEU.org

<http://www.voxeu.org/>

VoxEU.org or VOX is a policy portal set up by the Centre for Economic Policy Research in conjunction with a number of European organisations. It offers topical scholarly comment on economic and political policies, with articles that are original and where the analytical level is higher than a newspaper article, but more accessible than a formal academic journal. It is possible to browse the site by topic, author or subject. The site also features an extensive range of audio interviews with economists or VOX Talks, where researchers talk about their work.



## Organisations

*A range of organisations exist to bring together academic economists. Here are some examples...*

### **The Economics Network**

<http://www.economicnetwork.ac.uk/>

The Economics Network of the Higher Education Academy is an initiative to promote high quality learning, teaching and assessment practices within the economics subject community. Their website contains many resources, including a software guide, a question bank, events diary, textbook guide, good practice showcase and learning / teaching materials. Their publications include the International Review of Economics Education and the Computers in Higher Education Economics Review.

### **Royal Economic Society**

<http://www.res.org.uk/>

The Royal Economic Society is a professional association that promotes the encouragement of the study of economic science in academic life, government service, banking, industry and public affairs. The website includes a conference diary, details about grants and fellowships; journals (The Economic Journal and the Econometrics Journal) and media briefings.

### **Scottish Economic Society**

<http://www.scotecsoc.org/>

The Scottish Economic Society provides a forum for discussion of Scottish economic issues, and promotes the study and teaching of economics in the widest sense, following the Scottish tradition of political economy inspired by Adam Smith. It publishes the Scottish Journal of Political Economy, holds annual lectures, offers studentships and hosts an annual conference.

### **American Economic Association (AEA)**

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/>

The AEA is the professional organisation for economics and economists in the USA. It was founded in 1885 and has approximately 20,000 individual members, with over 5000 institutional members. Detailed organizational information is available, as well as links to relevant publications (internal and external) and news items.

### **European Economic Association (EEA)**

<http://www.eeassoc.org/>

The aims of the EEA include: contributing to the development of economics as a science in Europe; improving communication between teachers; and fostering links between theory-oriented and policy-oriented economists, from all parts of Europe. EEA publishes two journals: Economic Policy and the Journal of the European Economic Association. It holds workshops and an annual congress.



### **History of Economics Society**

<http://historyofeconomics.org/>

The History of Economics Society aims to promote interest in and inquiry into the history of economics and to disseminate knowledge about the history of economics. The Society gathers for an annual conference and publishes the Journal of the History of Economic Thought. The site includes information on publications, forthcoming events, a directory of members and links to other sites of interest.

### **Econometric Society**

<http://www.econometricsociety.org/>

The Econometric Society takes a scientific approach to economics and aims for the “unification of the theoretical-quantitative and empirical-quantitative approach to economic problems”. The website gives details of its activities: publishing monographs, holding international meetings and publishing the academic journal *Econometrica*.

### **Economic History Society**

<http://www.ehs.org.uk/>

The Economic History Society aims to promote the study of economic and social history. The site provides contact details and membership information as well as details of the publications produced by the Society. These include the quarterly *Economic History Review*.

### **Game Theory Society**

<http://www.gametheorysociety.org/>

This website is principally useful for its regularly updated list of events in game theory - a list of conferences and other events either about game theory or related topics, containing a short description and a link to the website. The site also includes an archive of working papers from members.

### **Agricultural Economics Society (AES)**

<http://www.aes.ac.uk/>

The AES welcomes anyone with an interest in agricultural economics and produces regular online newsletters with news of conferences, meetings, new publications, and comments on agricultural policy. An annual conference is held. The Society publishes a journal, the *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, which appears three times a year.

### **Nobel Prize for Economics**

[http://nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/economics/](http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/economics/)

The Nobel Foundation website presents information about the Nobel Prizes, including the annual prize for Economics, the Nobel Laureates and their discoveries. It is updated every year to announce the prizes, and includes videos of the Nobel lectures.

## Research centres and programmes

*Most research centres now have websites. Here are some examples ...*

### **Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)**

<http://www.cepr.org/>

CEPR is a UK-based research institute, with interests in: financial economics; industrial organisation; international macroeconomics; international trade; labour economics; and public policy. The Centre disseminates the results of its research through meetings, conferences and discussion papers, on its website.

### **Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS)**

<http://www.ifs.org.uk/>

The IFS exists to provide "economic analysis independent of government, political party or any other vested interest." Research concentrates on the UK tax system. It hosts various centres including, the Centre for the Microeconomic Analysis of Fiscal Policy and the Centre for Microdata Methods and Practice. The site includes analyses of economic data relating to the UK Budget and Pre-Budget Reports.

### **Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER)**

<http://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/>

ISER is based at the University of Essex, and "specialises in the production and analysis of longitudinal data - evidence which tracks changes in the lives of the same individuals over time". It incorporates the Research Centre on Micro-Social Change (MISOC) and the United Kingdom Longitudinal Studies Centre (ULSC). The website includes details of their current research programme, and an extensive working paper / report series.

### **National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)**

<http://www.nber.org/>

NBER is an umbrella body with representatives from the U.S. research universities and major national economics organizations. Their working papers are browsable by JEL subject and date, with hundreds of papers on all aspects of economics. Datasets are also available including information on business cycles, recessions and consumer expenditure.

### **NIESR National Institute of Economic and Social Research**

<http://www.niesr.ac.uk/>

NIESR is a UK-based research organization focusing on economic modelling, macro analysis, the international economy, education, training and employment. They publish the National Institute Economic Review, a quarterly subscription journal, with summaries available online. NIESR also publishes a discussion paper series, and uses statistical projection techniques to produce monthly UK GDP estimates.

## Official bodies

*Government departments, agencies and related organisations provide key information for economic researchers.*

### Bank of England

<http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/>

The Bank of England website includes information about the history of the Bank, monetary policy in the UK, and the Bank's role in supervising banking and the financial system. It also contains press releases, bulletins, summaries of inflation reports, and a wealth of data and publications, such as the inflation report, quarterly bulletin, working paper series and economic datasets.

### Government Economic Service

<http://www.ges.gov.uk/>

The UK Government Economic Service is the UK's largest recruiter of economists with nearly 1500 professionals in more than 30 departments and agencies. The website contains recruitment information about work placements for economics students and careers for graduate economists. It details some of the activities that government economists get up to and provides more information on the practicalities of working as an economist in the UK government.

### HM Treasury

<http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/>

The HM Treasury website contains the full-text of HM Treasury publications, including press releases, ministers' speeches, economic data / tools, reports from a number of independent reviews and details of current consultations on financial legislation. It contains full details of the Budget from 1994 onwards, with information on Pre-Budget Reports and Comprehensive Spending Reviews.

### UK Statistics Authority

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>

The UK Statistics Authority came into being in 2008. It is an independent body operating as a non-ministerial Department, which is directly accountable to Parliament. Its role is to ensure the quality and comprehensiveness of UK official statistics. This includes overseeing the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and monitoring and reporting on the production of statistics. Its website includes press releases, codes of practice, guidelines and full text assessment reports. There is also a useful directory of links to press releases and publications issued by the ONS.

## International organisations

*A range of international bodies provide key information for economic researchers.*

### **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

<http://www.imf.org/>

The IMF's 184 member countries pledge to co-operate with one another to promote financial stability and maintain a productive world economic environment. The website includes working papers, data, statistics and press releases. Information is available by country, region or type. Key publications produced by the IMF include the World Economic Outlook and the Global Financial Stability Reports.

### **International Labour Organization (ILO)**

<http://www.ilo.org/>

The International Labour Organization is a UN agency that seeks the promotion of social justice and internationally recognised human and labour rights. The site includes details of legislation, current programmes, conferences, and information resources relating to labour standards, human rights and employment / work issues.

### **OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development)**

<http://www.oecd.org/>

The OECD is a forum for monitoring economic trends in its 30 member countries, the free-market democracies of North America, Western Europe and the Pacific. It produces extensive publications and statistics on issues such as trade, education, development and macroeconomics. Their country surveys are particularly widely read and information is available by topic or department, as well as by user type.

### **World Bank**

<http://www.worldbank.org/>

The World Bank Group aims to fight poverty and improve the living standards of people in the developing world. It is a development bank that provides loans, policy advice, technical assistance and knowledge sharing services to low and middle income countries to reduce poverty. This is a very large site, with many sub-sections.

### **World Trade Organization (WTO)**

<http://www.wto.org/>

The WTO has a remit to consider the legal and institutional foundation of the multilateral trading system and how governments frame and implement trade legislation and regulation. It has over 150 member countries. All trade topics are covered including: goods, services, intellectual property, environment, development, etc. News releases, legal texts and policy documents are available.

## Resource guides and directories

*Collections of links to economics websites.*

### **AEAweb**

<http://www.aeaweb.org/>

AEAweb draws together a number of Internet services provided by the American Economic Association (AEA), including their journals. Other services include the JEL (Journal of Economic Literature) classification system used to describe economics research papers, job openings for economists and papers from the AEA conference.

### **Econometrics Links**

<http://www.feweb.vu.nl/econometriclinks/>

Supporting the Econometrics Journal, this annotated site is updated monthly. It is divided into sections. The alphabetic list of econometrics journals is very extensive, and provides information about what is contained on the journal site (abstracts or full-text).

### **Economics Search Engine (ESE)**

<http://ese.rfe.org/>

The Economics Search Engine searches over 12,000 economics websites. Sites must be listed on the Resources for Economists (RFE) website, be home pages of economists from the RePEc Author Service or listed in the Economics Departments, Institutes and Research Centers in the World (EDIRC) directory, to be included.

### **EDIRC – Economics Departments, Institutes and Research Centers in the World**

<http://edirc.repec.org/>

EDIRC lists Economics Departments, Institutes and Research Centres around the world. Over 10,000 websites from 200 countries are listed by country / area, with a search function to complement the browsable interface. It forms part of the RePEc suite of Internet services run by economists.

### **Eldis**

<http://www.eldis.org/>

Eldis is a gateway to development information provided by the Institute of Development Studies. The site contains a large database of editorially selected and abstracted online documents, country profiles, subject guides, and news / event information on development issues. Users can sign up for email newsletters for the latest additions.

### **Resources for Economists (RFE)**

<http://rfe.org/>

Resources For Economists lists more than 2,000 websites and is updated on a monthly basis. Items are organised by type, such as data, mailing lists, Internet guides, scholarly communication, teaching resources etc. Users can search and browse by section – best accessed via the abridged table of contents.

## Statistics and datasets

*Repositories of research data and economic indicators are available online.*

### **Economics Data Sets available free on the Web**

[http://www.economicnetwork.ac.uk/links/data\\_free.htm](http://www.economicnetwork.ac.uk/links/data_free.htm)

John Sloman, Director of the Economics Network, produced this excellent guide. It lists some key websites for statistics, with links and notes on each. It covers UK statistics sources, such as the Bank of England, international economic statistics sources such as the European Central Bank, and lists market data / portal sites.

### **ESDS (Economic and Social Data Service)**

<http://www.esds.ac.uk/>

ESDS is a national data service that provides access and support for an extensive range of key economic and social data, both quantitative and qualitative. It includes: ESDS Government, large-scale UK government surveys such as the General Household Survey and the Labour Force Survey; ESDS International, a range of international datasets; ESDS Longitudinal, key UK longitudinal data collections including the BHPS and birth cohort studies; ESDS Qualidata, access and support for multimedia qualitative data sources.

### **Economic Data and Tools (HM Treasury)**

[http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/data\\_index.htm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/data_index.htm)

Part of the HM Treasury site, this page has links to: GDP deflators, weekly economic indicators, forecasts for the UK economy, public finances statistics, spending statistics and the Green Book on Appraisal and Evaluation in Central Government.

### **Bank of England Statistics**

<http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/>

This is a large range of monetary, banking and financial statistics from the Bank of England, including data on domestic and international banking. The Bank also publishes an Inflation Attitudes Survey and a Statistical Interactive Database, with a range of indicators that are searchable, browsable and ordered by table.

### **National Statistics : Time Series Data**

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/TSDIntro.asp>

This is a comprehensive free database of more than 40,000 time series from major National Statistics economic and socio-economic releases. Users can download complete releases or make a custom selection to view online. Datasets include: balance of payments, consumer price indices, Gross Domestic Product, productivity, retail sales, producers prices and UK output / income / expenditure.

# Use Intute to discover the best of the Web for education and research

## intute : social sciences

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- The **Intute database** provides access to thousands of high-quality Internet resources, selected and described by subject specialists, and covers all key areas of economics.
- The **Virtual Training Suite** offers free Internet training with a set of “teach-yourself” online tutorials, designed to help students develop their Internet research skills.
- Use **MyIntute** to set up email alerts about new Internet resources in your field, save your own personalised collection of Internet resources, or create reading lists of online resources for your students.
- **Working with Intute** – it’s easy to integrate Intute services into your own websites.
- **Suggest a site** – we welcome suggestions from the education sector for new sites for our database.
- We offer free **support materials** for universities and colleges, such as leaflets, worksheets, and presentations that can be adapted and used for teaching.
- The Social Science **conferences and events database** allows you to browse through professional development opportunities by subject.
- The **Intute: Social Sciences blog** features regular updates, news and links from the editors who produce our database.

Please  
tell us what you  
think of this booklet via:  
[www.intute.ac.uk/  
feedback.html](http://www.intute.ac.uk/feedback.html)

