

**Boston College**  
***Econometric Methods***  
**Term Paper Resources**

**Term Paper Resources**

- 1) How to write a term paper
  - a) Tomas Dvorak: [http://minerva.union.edu/dvorakt/43/sample\\_paper.htm](http://minerva.union.edu/dvorakt/43/sample_paper.htm)
  - b) Donald N. McCloskey, *The Writing of Economics*, Macmillan, 1987
  - c) Donald N. McCloskey, *Economical Writing*, *Economic Inquiry*, April 1985 ([http://www.deirdremccloskey.com/docs/pdf/Article\\_86.pdf](http://www.deirdremccloskey.com/docs/pdf/Article_86.pdf) )
- 2) @ Boston College:
  - a) Library:
    - i) Databases: <http://databases.bc.edu/V/?func=find-db-1>
    - ii) e journals: [http://metaquest.bc.edu:4000/sfx\\_local/az](http://metaquest.bc.edu:4000/sfx_local/az)
    - iii) Bloomberg terminal: <http://libguides.bc.edu/Bloomberg>
    - iv) Barbara Mento:
      - (1) <http://libguides.bc.edu/profile.php?uid=293>
      - (2) <http://libguides.bc.edu/economics>
  - b) Economics department:
    - i) <http://fmwww.bc.edu/ec-p/data/ecfindata.php>
    - ii) SUNY Oswego: <http://www.oswego.edu/~economic/data.htm>
    - iii) Steven Lehrer's webpage: <http://post.queensu.ca/~lehrers/econlink.htm>
    - iv) Williams College: <http://econ.williams.edu/students/online-resources>
- 3) The Press and the Web
  - a) The press: Forbes, BusinessWeek, WSJ, Barrons, NYTimes, TheEconomist, Science, LexisNexis, etc etc
  - b) Google Scholar: <http://scholar.google.com/>
    - i) ... access through the BC internet makes lots available
- 4) Journals ... there are zillions, but to name a few:
  - a) American Economic Review
  - b) Journal of Political Economy
  - c) Journal of Economic Perspectives
  - d) Journal of Economic Literature

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- e) Journal of ABC Economics (ABC = Health, Labor, Sports, Urban, Law and, Education, Financial, Population, Regulatory, Agricultural and Resource, Environmental, etc etc etc)
- 5) General
- a) WebEc Guide to Economics Data: <http://www.helsinki.fi/WebEc/webecc8d.html>
  - b) EcEdWeb (Economic Education Web):  
<http://ecedweb.unomaha.edu/econinfo.cfm>
  - c) AEA's Resources for Economists: [www.rfe.org](http://www.rfe.org)
  - d) National Bureau of Economic Research: [www.nber.org](http://www.nber.org)
  - e) Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research:  
<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/>
  - f) Data & Information Services Center:  
<http://dpls.dacc.wisc.edu/newcatalog/browse.asp>
  - g) html Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (Census data):  
<http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/index>
  - h) Economic Time Series Data: <http://www.economagic.com/>
  - i) Journalist's Toolbox: <http://www.journaliststoolbox.org/>
- 6) Policy Research Groups:
- a) AEI: [www.aei.org/](http://www.aei.org/)
  - b) Brookings Institution: [www.brookings.edu/](http://www.brookings.edu/)
  - c) CATO Institute: [www.cato.org/](http://www.cato.org/)
  - d) Institute for Public Policy and Social Research: [www.ippsr.msu.edu/](http://www.ippsr.msu.edu/)
  - e) Mathematica policy Research: [www.mathematica-mpr.com/](http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/)
  - f) Rand: [www.rand.org/](http://www.rand.org/)
  - g) Urban Institute: [www.urban.org/](http://www.urban.org/)
  - h) And research papers from staff at different government agencies, including FED/FRB, FTC, DOJ, DOE, FCC, EPA, DOT, EPA, HHS, etc etc
- 7) Major US Government data sources
- a) Federal Digital System (FDSys): <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>
  - b) NTA's US Databases: <http://www.ntanet.org/tax-resources/us-databases.html>
  - c) FedStats (links to over 100 gov't agencies): <http://www.fedstats.gov/>
  - d) Bureau of Economic Analysis: <http://www.bea.gov/>
  - e) Bureau of Labor Statistics: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)
  - f) Census Bureau: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

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- i) Survey of Income and Program Participation: <http://www.census.gov/sipp/>
- g) The U.S. Department of Commerce: <http://www.commerce.gov/>
- h) St. Louis Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED):  
<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/>
- i) Federal Reserve Board of Governors:  
<http://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/default.htm>
- i) Survey of Consumer Finances:  
<http://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/scf/scfindex.htm>
- j) Statistical Abstract of the United States:  
<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>
- k) Data.gov: <http://www.data.gov/>
- l) USA.gov: [http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Reference\\_Shelf/Data.shtml](http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Reference_Shelf/Data.shtml)
- 8) Industry associations and trade publications
  - a) There are lots of them... and almost all of them make data available to the public

**Some Specific Sectors ... a sampling at best**

- 1) Airwaves
  - a) FCC: <http://www.fcc.gov/>
    - i) and data: <http://www.fcc.gov/data>
  - b) FCC spectrum auction data: <http://capcp.psu.edu/FCC/>
- 2) Banking:
  - a) FDIC: <http://www.fdic.gov/>
    - i) Bank Data Guide: <http://www.fdic.gov/bank/statistical/guide/index.html>
  - b) FRB San Francisco: <http://www.frbsf.org/banking/data/index.html>
  - c) and see the Federal reserve Bank links above
- 3) Education
  - a) National Center for Education Statistics: [www.nces.ed.gov](http://www.nces.ed.gov)
  - b) US Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov/>
  - c) Education Policy and Data Center: <http://epdc.org/>
  - d) Center for Data-Driven Reform in Education: <http://www.cddre.org/>
  - e) State Data ... many many states... here are a few:
    - i) Massachusetts: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/results.html>

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- ii) Texas: [http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index3.aspx?id=3631&menu\\_id=793](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index3.aspx?id=3631&menu_id=793)
  - iii) California: <http://star.cde.ca.gov/>
  - iv) Indiana: <http://www.doe.in.gov/data/>
  - v) North Carolina: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/data/reports/>
  - vi) New Jersey: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/data/>
  - f) World Bank EdStats: <http://data.worldbank.org/topic/education>
- 4) Environmental
- a) EPA: <http://www.epa.gov/>
  - b) Air Pollution:
    - i) EPA: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/airs/airsaqs/>
    - ii) California: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqd/aqcd/aqcd.htm>
  - c) Temperature and Precipitation:
    - i) Worldwide:  
[http://climate.geog.udel.edu/~climate/html\\_pages/Global ts 2007/README.global.p ts 2007.html](http://climate.geog.udel.edu/~climate/html_pages/Global_ts_2007/README_global_p_ts_2007.html)
    - ii) NOAA: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ghcnm/v2.php>
    - iii) Berkeley Earth surface temperature: <http://www.berkeleyearth.org/>
  - d) NatureServe data resources:  
<http://www.natureserve.org/getData/dataResources.jsp>
  - e) Oil spills:
    - i) ITOPF: <http://www.itopf.com/information-services/data-and-statistics/statistics/>
    - ii) National Response Center: <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/download.html>
    - iii) Deepwater Horizon: <http://energy.gov/about-us/open-government/data-deepwater-horizon>
- 5) Financial
- a) Through the BC library: <http://databases.bc.edu/V/?func=find-db-1>
    - i) Go to Subject: Economics
      - (1) Center for Research in Securities Prices (CRSP)
      - (2) Compustat
      - (3) Interactive Data Corporation (IDC)
      - (4) WRDS
  - b) Financial Data Finder: <http://www.fisher.osu.edu/fin/fdf/osudata.htm>

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- c) SEC's EDGAR (filings and forms): <http://www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml>
  - d) Shiller's data page: <http://www.econ.yale.edu/~shiller/data.htm>
  - e) French's data page:  
[http://mba.tuck.dartmouth.edu/pages/faculty/ken.french/data\\_library.html](http://mba.tuck.dartmouth.edu/pages/faculty/ken.french/data_library.html)
- 6) Health
- a) CDC WONDER: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/>
  - b) Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.hhs.gov/>
  - c) National Health Statistics: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>
    - i) and at the state level: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/datawh/stprofiles.htm>
  - d) National Inpatient Sample: <http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/nisoverview.jsp>
  - e) Medicare: <http://data.medicare.gov/>
  - f) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: <https://www.cms.gov/home/rsds.asp>
  - g) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: [www.ahrq.gov/](http://www.ahrq.gov/)
  - h) National Library of Medicine: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hsrinfo/datasites.html>
  - i) World Health Organization: [http://www.who.int/health\\_topics/en/](http://www.who.int/health_topics/en/)
  - j) Health and Retirement Study: <http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/>
  - k) Mathematica: <http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/>
  - l) UCLA Center: [www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/](http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/)
- 7) Housing
- a) Department of Housing and Urban Development:  
<http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD>
  - b) Case Shiller Housing Price Indices: <http://www.standardandpoors.com/indices/sp-case-shiller-home-price-indices/en/us/?indexId=spusa-cashpidff--p-us--->
    - i) Also see Shiller's data page above:
  - c) US Census: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/housing.html>
    - i) American Housing Survey: <http://www.census.gov/housing/ahs/>
  - d) Federal Housing Finance Agency: <http://www.fhfa.gov/Default.aspx?Page=14>
  - e) National Association of Home Builders:  
<http://www.nahb.org/page.aspx/landing/sectionID=113>
  - f) GeoLytics: <http://www.geolytics.com/>
  - g) Zillow: <http://www.zillow.com/>
- 8) International/Development
- a) International Monetary Fund: <http://www.imf.org/external/data.htm>

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- b) OECD: [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)
  - c) United Nations: [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/inter-natlinks/sd\\_natstat.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/inter-natlinks/sd_natstat.htm)
  - d) World Bank: <http://data.worldbank.org/>
    - i) Doing Business: <http://www.doingbusiness.org/>
  - e) Poverty Action Lab: <http://www.povertyactionlab.org/>
    - i) Dataverse: <http://dvn.iq.harvard.edu/dvn/dv/jpal>
  - f) Penn World Table: [http://pwt.econ.upenn.edu/php\\_site/pwt\\_index.php](http://pwt.econ.upenn.edu/php_site/pwt_index.php)
  - g) International Relations Data site: <http://www.paulhensel.org/data.html>
  - h) CIA World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>
- 9) Labor
- a) Bureau of Labor Statistics: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)
    - i) Consumer Expenditure Survey: <http://www.bls.gov/ces/> and [http://www.nber.org/data/ces\\_cbo.html](http://www.nber.org/data/ces_cbo.html)
    - ii) National Longitudinal surveys: <http://www.bls.gov/nls/>
  - b) Panel study of income Dynamics: <http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/>
- 10) Law/Crime
- a) Bureau of Justice Statistics: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>
  - b) FBI Uniform Crime Reports: <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/ucr>
  - c) National archive of Criminal Justice Data: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/NACJD/>
  - d) Wolfers' death penalty data page: <http://bpp.wharton.upenn.edu/jwolfers/DeathPenalty.shtml>
  - e) Empirical legal Studies (links to databases): <http://www.elsblog.org/>
  - f) Gun Control
    - i) John Lott's data: <http://www.johnlott.org/>
    - ii) Carlisle Moody's data: <http://cemood.people.wm.edu/research.html>
    - iii) Stephen Rafael's data:
- 11) Sports
- a) Rodney Fort: <http://www.rodneymfort.com/SportsData/BizFrame.htm>
  - b) John Vrooman: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/Econ/faculty/Vrooman/sports.htm>
  - c) cMax:
    - i) MLB: <http://cmaxsports.com/Misc/MLBResources.html>

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- ii) NBA: <http://cmaxxsports.com/Misc/NBAResources.html>
- iii) NFL: <http://cmaxxsports.com/Misc/NFLResources.html>
- iv) NCAA: <http://cmaxxsports.com/Misc/NCAAResources.html>
- v) Forbes Valuations: <http://cmaxxsports.com/Misc/ForbesResources.html>

12) Taxation and Income Inequality

- a) Tax Policy Center: <http://sldqs.taxpolicycenter.org/>
- b) World Tax Database: <http://www.bus.umich.edu/otpr/otpr/default.asp>
- c) Top Incomes Database: <http://g-mond.parisschoolofeconomics.eu/topincomes/>
- d) OECD data
  - i) Cara McDaniel: <http://www.caramcdaniel.com/researchpapers>
  - ii) Peter Lindert: <http://lindert.econ.ucdavis.edu/index.cfm?employeeid=17&currentNav=2>
- e) Collecting Taxes: [http://www.fiscalreform.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=759&Itemid=134](http://www.fiscalreform.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=759&Itemid=134)
- f) World Income Inequality databases:
  - i) UNU-WIDER: [http://www.wider.unu.edu/research/Database/en\\_GB/database/](http://www.wider.unu.edu/research/Database/en_GB/database/)
  - ii) Solt's Standardized Database: <http://www.siuc.edu/~fsolt/swiid/swiid.html>

13) Trade

- a) IRS Tax Stats: <http://www.irs.gov/taxstats/>
- b) International Trade Commission: <http://www.usitc.gov/>
- c) ITC trade and tariff database: <http://dataweb.usitc.gov/>
- d) International trade Data System: <http://www.itds.gov/>
- e) Foreign Trade: <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/>
- f) World Trade Organization: [http://www.wto.org/english/res\\_e/statis\\_e/statis\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/statis_e.htm)

14) Transportation

- a) Department of Transportation: <http://www.dot.gov/>
- b) FAA: [http://www.faa.gov/data\\_research/](http://www.faa.gov/data_research/)
- c) Bureau of Transportation Statistics: [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)
- d) BTA/Airlines: [http://www.bts.gov/programs/airline\\_information/](http://www.bts.gov/programs/airline_information/)
- e) BTA/Freight: [http://www.bts.gov/programs/freight\\_transportation/](http://www.bts.gov/programs/freight_transportation/)