CQ Researcher compiles reports of various political and social issues such as health, international affairs, education, the environment, and the US economy. It is useful for getting in-depth, non-biased information about important issues in our society. You can access it through the link above, by going to Databases A-Z on the library’s homepage, or visiting your department’s LibGuide.

When you enter the database, you will see this page:

There is a featured report including a debate question and pro and con reports, a scrolling column of news headlines, and links to connect with CQ Researcher on both Facebook and Twitter. At the bottom of the page (not visible in the image above) is a bar with recent issues, compiling topical reports published within the past month.
There are a few ways to find what you need on CQ Researcher. If you’re interested in a current issue, chances are you will find relevant reports on the home page. The “In The News” section highlights earlier reports on topics that are once again in the headlines; if this applies to your topic, this may be a good place to check before moving on to a search.

**IN THE NEWS**

A pretrial hearing in a case involving Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, an Army officer accused of murdering 16 Afghan civilians in March, began on Nov. 6. Bales could face the death penalty if convicted. Some experts speculate that his actions may have resulted from a brain injury he suffered while on duty in 2010. See “Traumatic Brain Injury,” CQ Researcher, June 1, 2012.

Finance ministers and central bank governors from the G20 nations began meetings in Mexico City on Nov. 4 to discuss the global impact of the eurozone crisis and the U.S. budget deficit. See “Euro Crisis,” CQ Researcher, Oct. 5, 2012.

The Labor Department reported Nov. 2 that U.S. employers added 171,000 jobs in October. The unemployment rate rose, however, to 7.9 percent - up from 7.8 percent last month - due to more workers entering the labor force and officially being counted as unemployed. See “Jobs Outlook,” CQ Researcher, June 4, 2010.

Former Penn State President Graham Spanier and two other former administrators were charged Nov. 1 with perjury, obstruction of justice and endangering children in an alleged cover-up of sexual abuse by assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky. Prosecutors said all three officials knew of complaints involving Sandusky showering with boys in 1998 and 2001 and failed to take appropriate action. See “College Football,” CQ Researcher, Nov. 18, 2011.

Actor Brad Pitt contributed $100,000 on Oct. 31 to the Human Rights Campaign, an equality-rights advocacy group supporting gay marriage. The move comes one week before Election Day, when voters in Maine, Maryland, Minnesota and Washington state will vote on ballot measures on marriage equality. See “Gay Marriage Showdowns,” CQ Researcher, Sept. 26, 2008, updated May 29, 2012.

President Obama and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie pledged Oct. 31 to work together to repair the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy
You also have the option of browsing by topic or by date of publication. Browsing by topic is similar to using the index in a book: for example, you can click on “U.S. Presidency” to see all the reports published on that topic. To do this, mouse over the Browse Reports menu on the home page, and select By Topic.

From there, you will see this page:

Here you can see all the topics covered in CQ Researcher. If you’re starting with a broad topic or a general idea of what you need to search for, this could be a great place to start. Seeing everything available on your topic can help you narrow that topic and hone in on a specific subject or issue.
Once you click on a topic, you will see a page like this:

![CQ Researcher Plus Archive](image)

Each broad topic is broken down into more specific subjects or subtopics. Clicking on one of these will show you links to reports published on that subtopic.

Additionally, you can also browse by date. This will allow you to access reports from 1923 to the present. To do this, you mouse over Browse Reports on the home page, and click By Date. This will give you a list of years; click on the one you’re interested in to see a list of reports available from that year.
If you’re trying to find a topic to research, a useful feature may be Find a Topic. This will take you to a page where you can browse issue trackers on many different topics:

The image above shows a small sampling of the available Issue Trackers. Issue Trackers differ from Browse By Topic in that reports in an Issue Tracker will be very closely related to the topic while Browse By Topic may show you reports that only mention your topic, but actually deal more with something unrelated. Your results from Browse By Topic and Issue Tracker may overlap, but generally the Issue Tracker will be more narrowly focused.
Finally, you can always find reports by searching for a keyword or phrase, just as you would in any other database. You can do a Quick Search from the homepage, or use the advanced search link beside the search box on the home page. The advanced search page looks like this:

You can search by keyword, which will find your search term anywhere in a report, or you can specify topics only or report titles only with your search term. You can also narrow your search by date or topic, and you can search specific sections of reports.
When you’ve found a report you’re interested in, all you have to do is click its title to see the full document. Using the menu on the left-hand side, you can navigate between the different sections of the report, or simply view the full text.

At the top of the page there is a link that says View PDF, which is useful for showing you exactly how the report looked as originally printed — if you need to cite a particular page number, for instance, you’ll want to see the PDF. You may want to use the PDF if you need to print the report. There is also a drop menu at the top of the page for printing, which will allow you to print only the sections you need instead of the whole report.

Be aware that if you’re looking at an older report, sometimes not all the report sections are available because of online permission rights. If this is the case and something you need is missing, you’ll need to check the library’s print collection or request a print copy via Interlibrary Loan.
There is also a CiteNow! link, which will open a new window to give you the information you need to cite a report in a paper. You can choose between MLA, APA, Bluebook, and Chicago styles with links at the top of the window.

Whenever you’re using citation information within a database, always remember to check your citation style guide or visit the library to be sure you’re citing correctly. Don’t trust the databases to get the citations correct.
Finally, a feature of CQ Researcher that may be useful to you is its RSS feed. If you need to stay on top of recent reports, you can subscribe to the RSS feed and new updates to the feed will be automatically downloaded to your computer. You can subscribe by clicking the orange feed button at the top of the home page.

From here you’ll go to a page where you can view the feed. If you want to subscribe, click the Subscribe to this feed link at the top of the page.

Once you’ve clicked subscribe, you’ll be asked to type in a name for the feed and select the folder you want to create the feed in. Once you’re subscribed, the feed will appear in the Favorites Center of your browser; open your Favorites and click the Feeds tab, and you will be able to view the feed in your browser.

*Note that these instructions are for Internet Explorer. If you’re using a different browser, you can click the learn more about feeds link at the top of the feed page for instructions on subscribing and viewing feeds in your browser.