



Library Research Tips

Primary and Secondary Information Sources

Depending on your information needs, you may find information in primary or secondary resources.

Primary Sources are original documents usually produced at the time of the event. They have not been interpreted or analyzed.

Examples:

- newspaper reports
- statistics
- legislation
- speeches
- photographs or drawings

Secondary Sources are documents created from primary materials that interpret or analyze original information.

Examples:

- textbooks
- research reports
- biographies
- book or movie reviews
- encyclopedia entries
- case studies

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