

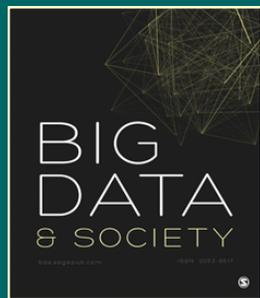
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Journals



Big Data is a new journal with wide-ranging, and some freely available, content for policy makers, academics, statisticians, scientists, developers and business leaders.



Big Data & Society, an open access peer-reviewed journal, takes an interdisciplinary approach.

News You Can Use is a publication of the State Library of Ohio. For more information contact Marsha McDewitt-Stredney, Director, Marketing & Communications at marshams@library.ohio.gov or 614-644-7061

BIG DATA

Our society loves to collect and share information. In some ways, this activity is a more important currency than money. Huge volumes of demographic data, scientific experiment results, or chartings of impossibly distant galaxies can be computerized, arranged in patterns, and interpreted in ways that are not possible with smaller data sets. Articles and discussions about the exciting possibilities and pitfalls of "big data" seem to be everywhere. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, big data was first used as a term in 1980, and is defined as "computing data of a very large size, typically to the extent that its manipulation and management present significant logistical challenges."

The value of big data to government, business, research organizations, social scientists and nonprofits is its role as a policy-and-decision-making tool, but its relative newness poses difficulties in using it effectively. The RAND Corporation conducts public policy research and two recent blog postings highlight the use (or attempted use) of big data to solve problems. The first post deals with the

frustrating search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 which has involved several governments and covered vast areas of land and ocean. Adequate techniques needed to sort out the sheer volume of possible crash scenarios have not been available. The second post examines license plate reading technology as another example of data collection in modern problem-solving. The potential usefulness of the information in keeping the public safe needs to be carefully weighed alongside the management of privacy concerns.

As our capacity to generate, collect, store, sort, crunch, interpret, and apply vast amounts of information increases, so does our society's expectation that big data can solve problems quickly in new ways, and without creating new dilemmas. Big data, as with each new technological breakthrough, brings the familiar risk that our desire to use new tools will outpace society's ability to understand and regulate them. The resources in this newsletter will help you become more familiar with big data.

Ohio Talking Book Program

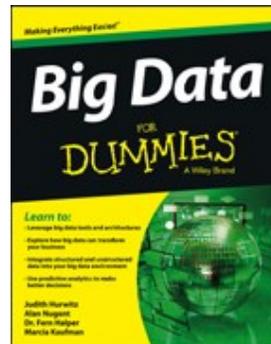
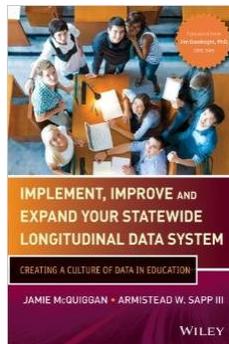
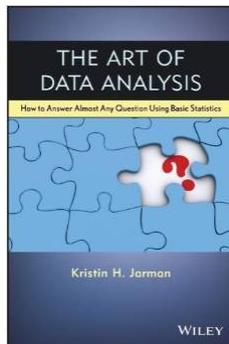
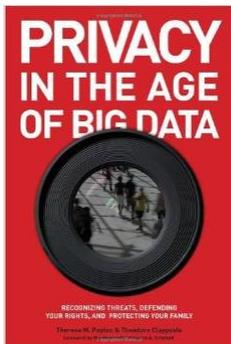
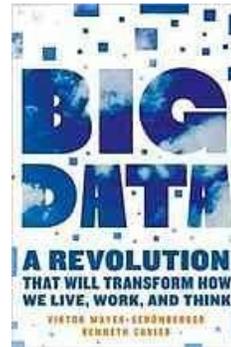
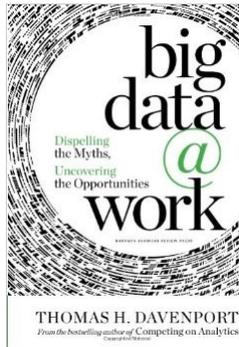
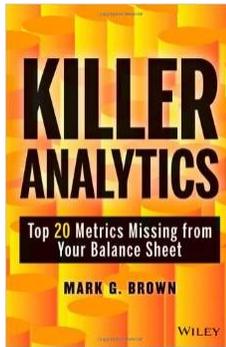
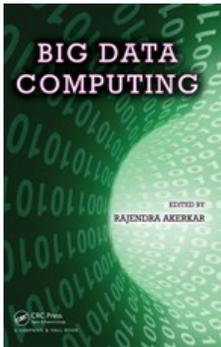
The State Library of Ohio in partnership with the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled, the Cleveland VA Blind Rehabilitation Center, and VA Health Care recently created a READ poster for the Ohio Talking Book Program. The posters, which feature visually impaired veterans, are being distributed to the partner organizations and all public libraries in Ohio. The State Library of **Ohio Talking Book Program** coordinates the Ohio program and serves as the machine lending agency for the state.

A network of volunteers work with Ohio Talking Book Program staff to keep the equipment repaired. The talking books are circulated by the **Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled** in Cleveland. Funding is provided by a combination of federal, state and local funds. For more information contact Tracy Grimm at 614-644-7061.

http://library.ohio.gov/PCS/tlk_bk

The image is a poster titled 'READ' in large, green, serif letters at the top. Below the title, it says 'Ohio Talking Book Program'. The poster features a grid of seven photographs of men, likely veterans, sitting at tables and using talking book equipment. In the bottom right corner, there are logos for the State Library of Ohio, the Cleveland VA Blind Rehabilitation Center, and the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (OLBPD). The OLBPD logo includes the text 'Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled' and 'Cleveland, Ohio'. Below the logos, there is contact information for the Ohio Talking Book Program: 'Toll Free: 877-535-8242', 'ext. 2110', and 'http://olbpd.cpl.org'. There is also a logo for 'VA HEALTH CARE' with the text 'Defining EXCELLENCE in the 21st Century'.

Books at the State Library about BIG DATA



Government Report

The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) is an advisory group of the Nation's leading scientists and engineers, appointed by the President to augment the science and technology advice available to him from inside the White House and from cabinet departments and other Federal agencies. PCAST is consulted about, and often makes policy recommendations concerning, the full range of issues where understandings from the domains of science, technology, and innovation bear potentially on the policy choices before the President.

Ask a Librarian

I have asthma and need to travel for my work. Where can I find information about air quality conditions around the state or nation?

Answer: [AirNow](http://airnow.gov) (airnow.gov), a collaborative health project of the U.S. EPA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Park Service, and state and local authorities, helps you select the best days for an autumn hike in the park and clarifies when an allergic or asthma-prone child should choose an indoor activity instead. The web site presents hourly information on local ozone levels, particulate measurements, UV radiation exposure, and other air quality data, forecasts, and health

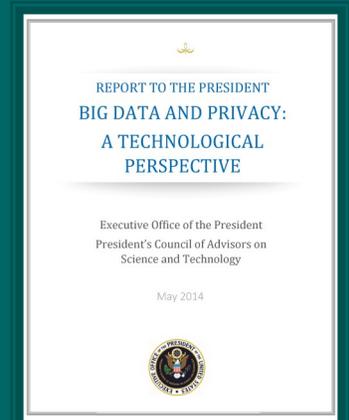


alerts accompanied by color-coded maps. A mobile app is also available. Six Ohio partner agencies contribute to the web site.

I found the journal I need in OhioLINK's catalog and it is online in Lexis Nexis Academic. Does the State Library have a subscription?



Answer: Although we do not have access to Lexis Nexis Academic, we can search for the journal using our in-house subscription to Nexis News. It is especially helpful when searching for business and legal publications.



<http://1.usa.gov/1x3C94M>

A Smarter Ohio

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