Overview

*CQ Researcher Online* has been published since 1991. Original articles on a variety of topics are written by an experienced observer of the given issue. This database uses a blue banner. *CQ Global Researcher* has been published since 2007 and uses a green banner. Articles provide in-depth coverage of global affairs from a number of international viewpoints.

These databases are considered a “news and current event” resource, have many of the same features, are integrated in some aspects, and all articles are about 12,000 words or 24 pages in length. The purpose of this handout is to help researchers use these databases.

Access

Wichita State University Library databases are all available through the Electronic Databases link on the library homepage at [http://www.library.wichita.edu/](http://www.library.wichita.edu/). Under “Links to All Databases” click on the “By Title” link and locate *CQ Researcher* or *CQ Global Researcher* alphabetically on this page. For more help locating and using library resources, call the Reference Desk at (316) 978-3584 or instant message the Reference Desk at wu_knows (yahoo), wuknows2 (AOL), or *wu_knows@hotmail.com*.

Site Features

Figures 1 and 2 show the similarities and differences in Site Features of both databases.

**Advanced Search**

Each database allows certain limiters, such as searching specific report sections.

**Browse by Topic**

Reports in each database are organized by major topic.

**Browse by Date**

Reports in each database are organized by date.

**Pro/Con**

Questions from this section in *CQ Researcher* are organized by topic.

**Issue Tracker**

An integrated list of reports from both databases organized by topic.

**Index**

A cumulative index of major topics and subtopics in *CQ Researcher*.

**Browse by Country**

Reports in *CQ Global* are organized by country and region.

**Your Profile**

Allows favorite searches and documents to be saved for future reference.

**Log In**

Allows access to “Your Profile”.

**E-mail Alerts**

Provides notification of new articles on topics of interest.

**Favorite Documents**

View up to 50 documents that were saved for future reference (see checkbox within an article).

**Saved Searches**

View up to 25 searches that were saved for future reference (see checkbox on the search results page after you complete the search).

**Document History**

View the last 25 documents from the current search session.
Quick Search
After accessing either database, the researcher will find the Quick Search window (figure 3) at the top of the homepage. This search looks through all of the text in articles for the words typed in the search box. The results are displayed in order of relevancy, based on an algorithm that weights the appearance of the word in certain fields, such as title, higher than other fields.

Search Tips
Quotation marks keep words together as a phrase in the search which helps create a more precise list of results. Look at the comparison of search results from the search wind power (figure 4) and “wind power” (figure 5). The first search has 149 results, while the second search has only 18 results. Notice when quotes are added, the search appears with double sets of quotation marks.

By typing an * (asterisk symbol) at the end of a word, you can search for items with multiple endings. For example: work* will find results for work, worker, workers, workplace, and working.

To find any character in a word use the ? (question mark symbol) anywhere in the word. For example: wom?n will find woman and women.

To find words within a certain number of words from each other, separate words with a "w" and slash mark (/) and the number of words which can occur between the search terms. For example: electoral w/6 college will find the words “electoral” and "college" within 6 words of each other in the article.

Report Features
The initial search list will provide results from only the database selected (either CQ Researcher or CQ Global). However, there will be links to the other database within the article in the feature called “Issue Tracker.” Articles in CQ Global have a green “G” symbol (see fig. 6).

The left column in each article lists the article sections available for a particular article (see figure 7 with descriptions).
Introduction
Briefly introduces the topic

Overview
Introduces more specific issues under consideration

Background
Provides a history of the issue, including pertinent policy and legal decisions

Current Situation
Gives a snapshot of the issue at the time of publication

Outlook
Presents a projection of what the future may bring

Pro/Con
Supplies statements from representatives of opposing positions on the issue

Special Focus
Offers other dimensions of the issue (unique to CQ Researcher)

Chronology
Provides a list of key events in the issue's history

Short Features
These are brief reports about special issues related to the main topic

Voices from Abroad
The writer quotes a range of sources, including media, lawmakers, academics, interest group representatives, government officials and citizens involved in the issue (unique to CQ Global)

Maps and Graphs
Gathers together all of the graphic elements in an issue for quick review

Bibliography
Provides an annotated list of key sources

The Next Step
Supplies additional bibliographic sources related to particular questions considered in the report

Contacts
Provided as a way of getting further information from government agencies, think tanks, and other organizations that shed light on the topic

Footnotes
There are hotlinks for each citation in the article

About the Author
A brief biography with credentials are provided about the author

Document Features
Several features are available to assist with research and article retrieval (fig. 8).