

Wisconsin Digital Archives Collection Development Policy

March 2021

Background

Under Sections 35.81-35.84 of the Wisconsin Statutes, as amended by 1991 Wisconsin Act 285, state agencies are required to participate in the Wisconsin Document Depository Program by providing either print or electronic documents to the program. Print documents are distributed on a very limited basis to [designated depository libraries](#) throughout the state as most state documents are now only available in electronic formats. Electronic documents are digitally archived and made accessible through the [Wisconsin Digital Archives](#).

Collection Development Policy

The Wisconsin Digital Archives is a growing collection of state documents about the activities, functions, and policies of Wisconsin State Government as defined by [Wis. Stat. ch. 35.81\(3\)](#). The collection contains state documents from 2001 to current published by the Executive and Judicial branches of Wisconsin State Government along with select legislative service agencies, government task forces, initiatives, boards, commissions, councils and special study groups. State documents in the collection include:

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Agricultural impact statements | Instructional materials |
| Annual reports | Manuals |
| Audit reports | Maps |
| Biennial reports | Master plans |
| Budget reports | Newsletters |
| Comprehensive plans | Regulations |
| Directories | Speeches |
| Economic impact reports | Statistics |
| Environmental impact statements | Strategic plans |
| FAQs | Task force reports |
| Financial reports | Technical reports |
| Final project reports | Toolkits |
| Guidebooks and Handbooks | |

Additional legislative documents are archived and made available through the [Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau Digital Collections](#). The catalog records for legislative documents are distributed through the Wisconsin Document Depository Program.

Items Not in the Collection

State documents that would be considered ephemeral such as brochures, pamphlets and posters are not archived. Some web content may not be included in the collection due to technical limitations and unresolved format issues, including databases. Records are not state documents and are also not in the Wisconsin Digital Archives.