



University of KwaZulu-Natal Library, Pietermaritzburg

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS: SOUTH AFRICA: A SELECT GUIDE

This guide covers major South African publications from central government available in the Pietermaritzburg campus libraries. The collection is housed in the Cecil Renaud Main and Law libraries. Most South African central government publications in the Main library are housed in the Periodicals section, filed under 'South Africa' in the alphabetical sequence. The limited range of Natal/KwaZulu-Natal publications are filed under 'N' in the alphabetical arrangement. See the library guide: *Government publications: guide to library resources* for a complete listing of all the publications available. Many government publications are now available electronically. Access instructions are provided at the end of this guide.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

STATUTES/ACTS/LEGISLATION (Print and online)

Legislation is written law and the highest law making body is the national parliament. The Constitution is the supreme law and contains a Bill of Rights. Every act has a name and number, re-commencing at one (1) each year. An act is cited thus: Immigration Act 13 of 2002. Prior to being approved and signed by the State President, draft legislation is known as a Bill. Every act has a section that empowers the relevant minister to make regulations. The authoritative version of any act and regulations are published in the Government Gazette. The publishers Juta and LexisNexis Butterworths have print and electronic full text versions of legislation including some regulations. Their compilations provide the latest versions of acts, inclusive of amendments. Post 1994 legislation is also available from the SA Government's website.

Print:

- *Union statutes: classified and annotated reprint, 1910 – 1947*
- *Statute law of SA, 1910 - 1967*
Law and Main (Periodicals) libraries
- *Statutes of the Republic of South Africa, classified and annotated, 1910+*
Law library
- Government gazette, 1912+
Main library – full set

Electronic:

- *Government Gazette* inclusive of Acts
Sabinet online. See access instructions at the end of this guide
- SA Government Online: www.gov.za. Choose Documents and then Bills or Acts.
- LexisNexis (SA) and Jutastat databases. See access instructions at the end of this guide.

DEBATES OF PARLIAMENT (Hansard) (Print only)

Readings of proposed legislation, questions and answers and other matters discussed in Parliament are reported verbatim in 'Hansard'.

- *Debates of the Houses of Parliament, 1910 - 1994*
- *Debates of the Constitutional Assembly, 1994 – 1996*
- *Debates of the Senate 19190 – 1965; 1994 – 1996*

Law and Main (Periodicals) libraries

- *Debates of the National Assembly 1994 +*
Law (current issues) and Main library (bound annual volumes)
- *Debates of the National Council of Provinces 1997 +*
Law library

GOVERNMENT GAZETTES incl. Regulation Gazettes (Print and online)

The Gazette is the official source by which the government communicates with its citizens concerning its activities, specifically legislation, regulations, general and legal notices, for example, permit applications for liquor licences and name changes; tenders. Each Gazette is identified by its unique number (within a volume) and the date of issue. The official version of every Act is that which appears in the Gazette. Each act is published in a separate gazette. Regulation Gazettes, which form part of the gazette sequence, also have their own numbers in addition to the Gazette number. They reflect the detail for implementing an act. For example an act regarding a professional body will stipulate a fee structure and such actual fees will be published in a regulation gazette. As fees are amended new regulations will be published.

Print:

- 1910 + **Main library; Law library last 2 years as well as Regulation Gazettes**

Electronic:

- 1994 + Provincial and national gazettes.
SA Gazettes on SABINET. See list at end of guide for access details
- 2004 + LexisNexis (SA) database. From the Library's website.

RP's / UG's (Print and electronic)

These are **annual reports of government departments** as well as **reports of commissions of inquiry**. Known as UG's between 1910 and 1961.

Print:

- 1910 + **Main library (Periodicals)**

Electronic:

- 1996 + **SA Government Online:** ww.gov.za for annual reports. See list at end of guide for access details.

WHITE PAPERS (including policy documents) (Print and electronic)

These include reports on proposed water schemes; explanatory memoranda on bills and **topical reports**. Since 1994 white papers have reflected **policy proposals** starting with the RDP. They were often preceded by a draft white paper or a green paper. Since 1994, white papers that are policy papers have been treated as books and are reflected in the Library's catalogue. Some have been published in the Government Gazette.

Print:

- 1980 + **Main (Periodicals) library** (incomplete); see also Library's catalogue for post 1994.

Electronic:

- 1994 + **SA Government Online:** www.gov.za. See list at end of guide for access details

SPECIALIST DOCUMENTS

A wide range of specialist documents are published by various government departments.

The most well known are:

- *Population census* (housed in **Reference library: R 316.8 POP**)
- *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics* (housed in **Periodicals, Main library**)
- *SA Statistics* (housed in **Reference library: R 316.8 SOU**)
- *South Africa 1: 50 000 Topographical Survey maps*
- *South Africa Yearbook* (housed in Reference library: **R 916.8 SOU**; superseded issues in Periodicals)

Many government departments commission special investigations which can often be found full text via the individual departmental websites from the main government website.

INDEXES TO GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (Print and electronic)

Statutes: Print:

- Annual bound volumes to the *Government Gazette*
Law library
- *Butterworths Statutes of the Republic of South Africa classified and annotated from 1910*. Indexes in vol. 1.
Law library
- *Juta's index / Windex : an accumulative reference to acts, proclamations, government notices, provincial ordinances and provincial notices 1910 – 1989*.
Law / Main (Periodicals) libraries

Electronic:

- LexisNexis and Jutastat databases from the **Library's website**.

Debates: Print:

- Annual printed indexes (erratic)
Law and Main libraries

Government gazettes / Regulation gazettes: Print:

- *Annual indexes 1979 +*
Law and Main (Periodicals) libraries
- *Butterworths Statutes of the Republic of South Africa Classified and Annotated from 1910*.
Law Library

Electronic:
SA Gazettes **via Sabinet**

RP's; UG's: Print:

- *Bibliography of South African Government Publications: Dept of Statistics 1910 – 1968*
- *Index to the Manuscript Annexures and Printed Papers of the House of Assembly... 1910 – 1990*
- Library in house index 1980 +

White Papers: Print:

- Library in house index 1980+
- Library catalogue 1994 +
- *Index to the Manuscript Annexures and Printed Papers of the House of Assembly... 1910 – 1990. Print*
Main (Periodicals) library

ELECTRONIC ACCESS

SA Government Online: www.gov.za

Click on the Documents option under Information and then select required category of document

LexisNexis (SA) Go to the Library's website: <http://library.ukzn.ac.za>. Click on **Electronic Resources, then databases and select LexisNexis (SA)**. Use the Contents list on the left hand side of the screen to open up the indexes or choose Focus search from the middle of the toolbar.

Jutastat: Go to the Library's website: <http://library.ukzn.ac.za>. Click on **Electronic Resources, then databases and select Jutastat**. Use the Contents list on the left hand side of the screen to open up the indexes

SA Gazettes Online: Go to the Library's website: <http://library.ukzn.ac.za>. Click on **Electronic Resources, then databases and select SA Gazettes**. A search screen enables you to input information and search by a variety of options.