

What is a library database?

- **Library databases contain information from published works.**
 - Examples: Magazine and newspaper articles, encyclopedias and other reference books.
- **Library databases are searchable.**
 - By Keywords, Subject, Author, Magazine Title, Date, etc.
- **Library databases provide citation information..**
 - Author, if available
 - Title of Article
 - Publication (Title of Magazine, Newspaper, or Reference Book)
 - Publisher
 - Date of Publication
- **Library databases often contain full-text articles.**
 - You can print or email an entire article.
- **There are different kinds of library databases**
 - For specific topics. Examples: WilsonWeb for Biography, eLibrary Science
 - For general topics Examples: Ebsco, NewsBank
- **Library databases are paid for by taxpayer dollars.**

How is a library database different from a website?

Library databases	websites
• Library databases get their information from professionals or experts in the field.	• Websites can be written by anyone regardless of expertise.
• Library databases contain published works where facts are checked.	• Website content is not necessarily checked by an expert.
• Library databases are easy to cite in a bibliography and may create the citation for you.	• Websites often don't provide the information necessary to create a complete citation.
• Library databases can help you narrow your topic or suggest related subjects.	• Websites often aren't organized to support student research needs.
• Library databases are updated frequently and include the date of publication.	• Websites may not indicate when a page is updated.