

THE ICONN TIMES

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DID YOU KNOW?

The Census Book by William Dollarhide is included in HeritageQuest Online. It is a comprehensive review of census schedules that allows you to take advantage of the research possibilities revealed by census data. It reveals many unknown facts and peculiarities about census records that will help you understand the data in HeritageQuest Online. The book can be viewed from any "Census Results Screen". Use the table of contents to navigate to specific items of interest or browse the entire book for a full overview.

In order to view *The Census Book*, you will need to have installed the Adobe® Acrobat® Reader™. If your browser does not already have the Reader installed, you can download it from www.adobe.com.



HERITAGEQUEST ONLINE IS NOW AVAILABLE ON ICONN

This research resource for tracing family history and American culture combines digital, searchable images of U.S. federal census records with a digitized version of the popular UMI Genealogy and Local History collection. U.S. census images are currently available for 1790 through 1930. Census records can be searched by name, place of birth, age, ethnicity and other variables. The Genealogy and Local History collection not only places heavy emphasis on local histories (12,000) and compiled genealogies (7,000) but also includes a wide range of published works containing other valuable genealogical records such as tax lists, directories, land and probate records, military rosters, cemetery lists, and much more. Titles are included from libraries nationwide, including the Widener Library (Harvard University), the New York Public Library, and the Connecticut Historical Society.

Future enhancements include the PERSI Index (1st Quarter 2004), and Revolutionary War Pension Files and Freedman's Bank Records (2nd Quarter 2004). For additional product information and a list of Connecticut publications included in the database, go to <http://www.iconn.org/moreinfolinks.html>.



HERITAGEQUEST TRAINING OPPORTUNITITES

Spend an hour online with expert ProQuest trainers. They'll answer your questions and show you how to:

- Search for documents related to people or places
- Perform a basic or advanced search on available census materials
- Use features such as limiting a search to a geographical location.
- Browse or search publications, including both magazines and books
- Browse through census data
- Access scanned census images to view pages of census data
- View, download and print scanned images of the documents
- Create a list of citations to print, email or download
- Edit and combine searches using the Search History function
- Save selected results to a personal Notebook, where you can take notes on your findings

To view the schedule and register for a class, go to <http://www.il.proquest.com/proquest/webtraining>. To participate, you'll need a java-enabled PC or MAC connected to the Internet and a telephone.

This is an excellent alternative to classroom training. In January, three training sessions in the Middletown Library Service Center were filled within days of announcing the class. Three additional classes, scheduled in February also filled up quickly after announcement. The online training from ProQuest lasts one hour, requires no travel and can help you get started with this new tool.

The same training option is available for the ProQuest Newspaper collection. Check the above Web site to get the schedule and enroll. The Newspaper training will show you how to use PQNext to access Newsstand, including constructing basic and advanced searches, limiting searches to specific newspapers or article types and e-mailing and printing articles and bibliographies. They'll also answer your questions and show you how to access support options such as ProQuest Help.

iCONN LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Twelve iCONN learning activities are now available at <http://www.iconn.org/staff/>. These iCONN learning activities illustrate how students at various academic levels could use iCONN resources as part of their research strategy for completing an assignment related to a sample search topic. Specifically, each sample learning activity is designed to provide:

- A relationship to Connecticut curriculum content standards;
- A curriculum-related task that might be assigned to students at the elementary, middle or high school level;
- Models of the types of research questions and assignments where iCONN is an especially valuable resource;
- One or more search strategies using the iCONN databases and their features; and
- Examples of alternative search strategies for the same task that would be appropriate to differentiate instruction for students who need extra assistance or greater academic challenge.

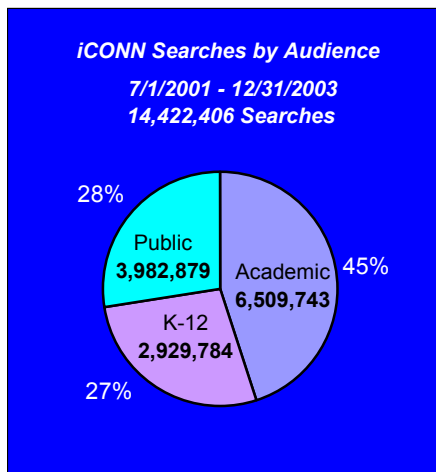


The iCONN Times is a quarterly publication of the Connecticut Digital Library.

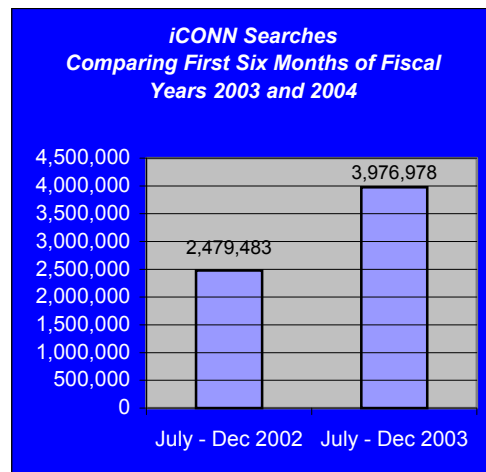
Find it on the Web at:
<http://www.iconn.org/staff/>
under "Support Materials"

Connecticut Digital Library
786 South Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 344-2475
Toll free (888) 256-1222

\$\$\$ AND SENSE—iCONN AND REQUEST USAGE CONTINUE TO CLIMB



The total cumulative number of searches in iCONN since July 1, 2001 increased 38% from July 1, 2003 (10 million-plus searches) to December 31, 2003 (14 million-plus searches). The latest search distribution is 45% academic, 28% public, and 27% school. The second graph, which compares the total number of searches performed in July – December of 2002 and 2003,



shows a 60% increase.

The total number of searches performed in reQuest, the statewide library catalog, increased 10% from calendar year 2002 (926,312 searches) to 2003 (1,019,285 searches). In addition, the total number of filled interlibrary loan requests increased 25% from July – December of 2002 (54,438) and 2003 (68,179).

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A complete membership directory with contact information and minutes to previous meetings is available at <http://www.iconn.org/cdlab.html>