Introduction
Electronic publishing is now the dominant form of official publishing.

Access to recent – and in some cases also older - UK government and intergovernmental information resources, including official statistics, is, therefore, electronic – using both official Websites and subscription based electronic resources.

The print collection is an historical collection retained for occasional teaching and research needs. It was built up over a 30 year period from the early 1970s.

Since 2011, the print collection has been added to on a very selective basis for UK, EU, Council of Europe and UN publications only.

Remaining subscriptions to statistical series on paper ended in 2013.

Languages
English is the primary language.

Geographic Guidelines
Print items are selected or received from the UK government and from the following Inter Governmental Organisations (IGO) on a very selective basis with a focus on major policy documents concerning criminology, human rights, health, sustainable development and finance:

- Council of Europe
- European Union
- UNCTAD.

UK official publications

Parliament
The Library holds an almost complete collection of UK House of Commons Papers from 1731-2007/08. It holds a complete set of the Irish University Press reprint of Nineteenth Century Parliamentary Papers. House of Lords holdings papers cover 1714-1859 and from 1947/48-2007/08. Most papers are also available online (see Electronic Resources).

The Library has a complete set of Public General Acts to 1992. Acts since that date are available online. Its collection of Local Acts is complete from 1973 to 2007 but mainly related to transport between 1853-1972.

The Library has a complete set of Hansard parliamentary debates to the 2012/13 session and copies of Cobbett’s Debates and the Mirror of Parliament.


Government Departments
Prior to 1995 the collection was built up using HMSO’s (the then government publisher) standard subscription service. Thereafter, non-parliamentary material was bought until 2011 on a very selective basis according to research and teaching interests in the College of Arts, Humanities & Law and the College of Social Science. Strengths of the historical collection include policy in justice and home affairs, employment, diplomacy, the environment and
health. A microfilm reprint of non-parliamentary HMSO publications from 1922 to 1960 is held.

**International organisations**

**Council of Europe**
The Library has a collection of the documents and working papers of the Consultative/Parliamentary Assembly from the mid 1960s to 2008. The European Treaty Series is held until 2011.

**European Union**
The Library has been a European Documentation Centre from 1968. The number of items received on deposit is now minimal following a steady decrease in receipts which began from the mid 1990s as electronic publishing by the institutions of the EU began to develop significantly. The historical collection includes the Treaties, European Court Reports (to 2008), plus COM documents (to 1988) and European Parliamentary debates, documents and working papers, as long as they were produced on paper or microfiche at the time.

**Food and Agricultural Organization**
The Library has a collection of historical material which concentrates on general agricultural issues and economic and social aspects of agricultural policy.

**International Labour Organization**
The Library has a selective, historical collection of monographs and statistical publications.

**OECD**
The Library’s collection of OECD monographs and serials includes an historical collection of Economic Surveys for European countries and the United States until the mid 2000s. More recent Economic Surveys are available online from the OECD iLibrary.

**United Nations**
The Library has a microfilm reprint of the League of Nations serial publications, 1919-1946 and a microcard reprint of United Nations (UN) documents 1945-1970. It has a paper copy of the League of Nations Treaty Series, plus the UN Treaty Series from 1946-2000 (available online after this date). Monographs and journals were bought on a selective basis with an emphasis on justice and human rights materials, plus development, population, economic, trade and social issues.

The Library receives selective publications from UNCTAD.

**Other organisations**
Material from other IGOs was collected on a selective basis with monographs, statistical publications and serials collected in the areas of justice and home affairs, human rights, trade, the economy, development, the environment, population and social issues.

**Electronic resources**

UK (parliament and government), EU, Council of Europe and some OECD official publications are now freely available online in most cases. The National Archives is developing an online public archive for central government publications; at the moment, the extent of historical coverage varies.

The Library subscribes to Official Publications Online (TSO) as a gateway to UK parliamentary publications on the Web. It also subscribes to the United Nations treaty series online.

**Statistics**
Access to current and, in some cases, historical statistical series is electronic.

The following subscription based/licensed resources are currently available to members of the University.

**Datastream:** financial markets and economic data (including statistics from official sources).

**Bloomberg:** financial markets data.

**OECD iLibrary:** selected publications & statistical series from the OECD.

**UK Data Archive:** UK economic and social survey data and major longitudinal series. Selected IMF and OECD statistical series.

In addition, the UK National Statistics Office, Eurostat (European Union statistical office), the IMF,
the United Nations and the World Bank publish many statistical series online which anyone can access.

The Library Website includes a guide to the subscribed and major official statistical resources available online.

The print collection for statistics is historical. All remaining subscriptions to statistical series on paper ended in 2013.

It includes major statistical series for the UK, Eurostat (although coverage from the 1990s onwards is patchy), IMF, United Nations and World Bank.

Census
The Library holds the reports and County Tables (where appropriate) for UK censuses from 1801 to 2001.

Retention and disposal policy
The Official Publications and statistics print collection is currently retained as an historical collection. Items and series may be disposed of where access to electronic equivalents is available or they are available from the British Library or other major research libraries.

Related Collections
Statistics

Classification
In-house scheme.