

Reference Books

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Editor

Almanac of the 50 States: Basic Data Profiles with Comparative Tables. State and Municipal Profiles Series. Woodside, Calif.: Information Publications, 2007. 490p. \$85 (ISBN 978-0-931845-96-3).

This single-volume work pulls together information from the Census Bureau as well as from a number of sources including the *City and County Data Book* (www.census.gov/statab/www/ccdb.html), the *State and Metropolitan Area Data Book, 2006* (www.census.gov/compendia/smadb/SMADBstate.html), trade and professional associations, and individual state governments. The work is presented in two parts. Part I contains individual profiles for the fifty states plus the District of Columbia and a summary for the United States as a whole. Each of these uniform individual entries is eight pages long and begins with a short summary of the state (governor, capital city, largest city, date admitted to the union, etc.). The body of each entry contains information about thirteen areas that the editors deemed most interesting to the broadest number of people and includes topics such as geography and environment; demographics and characteristics of the population; vital statistics and health; education; social insurance and welfare; housing and construction; government and elections; government finance; crime; labor and income; economy and business; communication, energy, and transportation. The much smaller second section contains comparative data tables on ninety-two different topics such as motor vehicle deaths and gasoline consumption for the fifty states and District of Columbia. These tables are especially helpful because they give rankings for the states. For example, Alaska ranks thirteenth in the nation in teacher salaries and fifty-first in number of bankruptcy cases.

Some of this information is readily available in other sources, such as the Web site for the USDA Economic Research Service, which includes state fact sheets (<http://usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/facts/states.htm>). But this work pulls together a great deal of information and makes it easily accessible to patrons. There really is nothing that is this extensive. The book would be useful in high school, university, and public libraries (even though the bottom of every page chillingly states that photocopying is prohibited).—*Dona J. Helmer, Librarian, Anchorage School District, Anchorage, Alaska*

Analyses of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Music, 1940–2000. By D. J. Hoek. MLA Index and Bibliography Series. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press and Music Library Association, 2007. 347p. \$75. (ISBN 0-8108-5887-8).

Almost two decades ago, a professor of music theory told this reviewer how he chuckled when thinking of music stu-

dents busily working on music analyses, unaware that *right next door in the library*, there was a book that could help them find all the answers. What was that illuminating text? It was Arthur Wenk's *Analyses of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Music, 1940–1985* (Music Library Association, 1987). Well-known and well-used by music scholars since its first iteration in 1975, it was an essential reference book for any music collection. This most recent update by D. J. Hoek, providing access to analyses through 2000, will undoubtedly be welcomed by music researchers, librarians, and students alike.

In this publication, which subsumes Wenk's 1987 work, Hoek provides the researcher with citations for "writings through 2000 that address form, harmony, melody, rhythm, and other structural aspects of music by composers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries" (xxv). This index is not limited to journal literature or the English language; citations to Festschriften, books, and dissertations are included, and entries additionally represent German, Italian, French, and other European musical scholarship. The book is efficiently organized—alphabetically by composer—and easy to use. While one might question the value of a print index in this digital age, the speed with which reliable, relevant information can be retrieved from this book will convince any skeptic.

What is generally not included here, as Hoek states in his introduction, are analyses of music outside of the western art tradition, such as popular music, jazz, and world music. Nevertheless, this resource is, as was its predecessors, an essential reference tool for any collection supporting undergraduate or graduate music programs. Highly recommended.—*Kristina Lampe Shanton, Music Librarian, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York*

Asian Americans: A Statistical Sourcebook. American Profiles Series. Woodside, Calif.: Information Publications, 2007. 304p. \$79 (ISBN 978-0-929960-43-2).

The goal of the second annual edition of *Asian Americans: A Statistical Sourcebook* is to serve as a one-volume reference source for statistics about this American ethnic group. According to the publisher, it is "not intended as a detailed research tool, but rather as a ready reference source, the first place to turn" (xix). The volume is one of Information Publications' American Profile Series, which includes other volumes of statistical compilations about Black Americans and Hispanic Americans.

A lengthy introduction discusses the intent of the book, defines the term Asian (as self-identified), and suggests the intended audience (anyone interested in these particular statistics). The statistics themselves are all from the U.S. federal government: the various censuses, the American Community Survey, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Labor, *Statistical Abstract of the United States* (U.S. G.P.O., 1879–present), and some census estimates. There are two categories of sources: complete count data and survey information.