

## Primary versus Secondary Sources

	Primary Source	Secondary Source
<b>DEFINITIONS</b>	Original materials that have not been filtered through interpretation or evaluation by a second party.	Sources that contain commentary on or a discussion about a primary source.
<b>TIMING OF PUBLICATION CYCLE</b>	Primary sources tend to come first in the publication cycle.	Secondary sources tend to come second in the publication cycle.
<b>FORMATS</b> --depends on the kind of analysis being conducted.	Conference papers, dissertations, interviews, laboratory notebooks, patents, a study reported in a journal article, a survey reported in a journal article, and technical reports.	Review articles, magazine articles, and books
Example: Scientists studying Genetically Modified Foods.	Article in scholarly journal reporting research and methodology.	Articles analyzing and commenting on the results of original research; books doing the same

Primary Source	Secondary Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conference Papers</li> <li>• Correspondence</li> <li>• Dissertations</li> <li>• Diaries</li> <li>• Interviews</li> <li>• Lab Notebooks</li> <li>• Notes</li> <li>• Patents</li> <li>• Proceedings</li> <li>• Studies or Surveys</li> <li>• Technical Reports</li> <li>• Theses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criticism and Interpretation</li> <li>• Dictionaries</li> <li>• Directories</li> <li>• Encyclopedias</li> <li>• Government Policy</li> <li>• Guide to Literature</li> <li>• Handbooks</li> <li>• Law and Legislation</li> <li>• Monographs</li> <li>• Moral and Ethical Aspects</li> <li>• Political Aspects</li> <li>• Public Opinion</li> <li>• Reviews</li> <li>• Social Policy</li> <li>• Tables</li> </ul>