Link to Princeton Presentation on Data Collection:

http://www.princeton.edu/~otorres/FindingData101.pdf

List of Links for Economic Data:

http://www.nber.org/data index.html/

Note: Some of the links in nber will lead you to the personal pages of some Authors, who share more datasets they have used in their research.

http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/0,,contentMDK:2027991 8~pagePK:64165401~piPK:64165026~theSitePK:469382,00.html?contentMDK=20227695

Note: The link above takes you to the world bank development research programs. If you click in the program you are interested in, and then click on the icon "Datasets" in the left menu, it provides you to their data sets used for some well published papers.

http://econ.williams.edu/online-resources/

Note: This is a great website by Williams college, where they provide several resources for research in economics. I suggest you explore all 15 categories they have.

List of Links for Economics Journals and Research:

https://ideas.repec.org/top/top.journals.simple.html

Note: The link above Provides a ranking for economic journals

https://www.aeaweb.org

https://scholar.google.com

Note: Google scholar is usually a good way to find academic papers. One thing that can indicate the quality of papers is the number of citations, which you can find under each paper as "Cited by"