Sources of economic data

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UCL SSEES Library www.ucl.ac.uk/ssees/library
Contents

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2. Macroeconomic data
3. Financial data
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1. Accessing data
Surface Web:

- Google
- Bing
- Wikipedia

Deep Web (not picked up by search engines):

- Medical Records
- Financial Records
- Legal Documents
- Subscription Information
- Scientific Reports
- Competitor Websites
- Academic Databases
- Multilingual Databases
- Academic Records
- Government Resources
- Organizational Repositories

Dark Web (only searchable with Dark Web browsers):

- Private Communication
- Contraband Sales
- Encrypted Sites
- Illegal Information

4% Surface Web
90% Deep Web
6% Dark Web
How to access data

- UCL Explore [ucl.ac.uk/library/explore](https://library.explore.ucl.ac.uk)
- UCL Databases A-Z list [https://library-guides.ucl.ac.uk/az.php](https://library-guides.ucl.ac.uk/az.php)
- Registry of Research Data Repositories [re3data.org](https://re3data.org)
Library catalogue
Databases

UCL Library Services provides access to a wide range of databases. These are available for use by UCL staff and students both on and off-site within the terms of the license agreements. Off-site users will need to login to most databases using their UCL username and password. Trials to new databases will appear on our blog.

Databases can also be accessed via Explore. The content of many of UCL’s databases can be searched within Explore, following links to view full-text if it is available.

For additional help accessing databases please see our FAQs, or contact the E-Resources team.
Single Sign-on

**UCL members**: in order to access this resource, please enter your UCL computer account details in the boxes below and click "Login".

**Login to Bureau van Dijk**

UCL username: *


UCL password: *


Login

- You will only need to enter these details once per Web browser session.
- **Remember**: to properly log out of any resource, you should always end your web browser session.
Registry of Research Data Repositories
2. Macroeconomic & institutional data
World Bank Data

Statistics on development in countries around the globe, collated by the World Bank. Consists of a number of datasets including world development indicators, debt statistics and trade logistics statistics. Openly available.

data.worldbank.org
World Bank Resources

Open Data Catalog
Provides a listing of available World Bank datasets, including databases, pre-formatted tables, reports, and other resources.

DataBank
An analysis and visualisation tool that contains collections of time series data on a variety of topics.

Microdata Library
Provides access to data collected through sample surveys of households, business establishments or other facilities.

World Development Indicators
The primary World Bank collection of development indicators, compiled from officially-recognized international sources.

Open Finances
Explore raw data about the World Bank Group’s finances, including disbursements and management of global funds.

Projects & Operations
Provides access to basic information on all of the World Bank’s lending projects from 1947 to the present.

Open Data Toolkit
Provides an understanding of Open Data and how to get “Up to speed” in

Living Standards Measurement Study
Supports countries in conducting multi-topic household surveys to

Global Consumption Database
A one-stop source of data on household consumption patterns in
The World Development Indicators is a compilation of relevant, high-quality, and internationally comparable statistics about global development and the fight against poverty. The database contains 1,600 time series indicators for 217 economies and more than 40 country groups, with data for many indicators going back more than 50 years.
Microdata Library

Search in 3,023 surveys, 2,630,593 variables and 2,589 citations

Keywords...

Browse Catalog »

Featured collections

The Microdata Library is a collection of datasets from the World Bank and other international, regional and national organizations.
Doing Business Indicators

The Doing Business project provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement across 190 economies. Economies are ranked on their ease of doing business, from 1-190. The rankings are determined by sorting the aggregate scores (formerly called distance to frontier) on 10 topics, each consisting of several indicators, giving equal weight to each topic. More details: [http://www.doingbusiness.org](http://www.doingbusiness.org).
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Economic data cover macro-economic and structural data series as well as survey data pertaining to the EBRD's countries.

ebrd.com
Economics at the EBRD

Economic research and data: More in this section

Overview
Office of the Chief Economist
Economics, Policy and Governance
Regional Economic Prospects
Economic surveys

Chief Economists of the EBRD
Sept 2019 - Present Beata Javorcik
Sept 2016 - Aug 2019 Sergei Guriev
Jan 2015 - Aug 2016 Hans Peter Lankes
Jan 2006 - Dec 2014 Erik Berglöf
Jun 2000 - Dec 2005 Willem Buiter
May 1994 - Dec 1999 Nick Stern
Oct 1993 - May 1994 Michael Bruno
Jun 1991 - Sept 1993 John Fleming

'Inclusive' is one of the EBRD's six transition qualities

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Google+
Life in Transition Survey (LITS)

Share this page:

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development seeks to foster the transition to an open market-oriented economy and to promote private and entrepreneurial initiative in more than 30 countries from Morocco to Mongolia and Egypt to Estonia.

To perform this task effectively, we need to analyse and understand how transition has affected the lives of people in regions, and what their views are on issues such as democracy, the role of the state, and prospects for the future.

The EBRD, in collaboration with the World Bank, has carried out three such surveys: one in 2006, one in 2010 and one in 2016. The most recent polled 51,000 households in 34 countries, mainly “transition countries” in central and eastern Europe as well as Turkey and also, for the sake of comparison with more prosperous western neighbours, from Germany and Italy. For the first time, the survey also covered Cyprus and Greece.

Three publications have been produced which summarise some of the main results of the survey and to share these results with our partners.
OECD iLibrary

Contains all books and papers published since 1998 – as well as a vast collection of statistics, with data going back to the early 1960s.

Topics:
GDP, FDI, government debt, health, unemployment, population, labour, trade …

oecd-ilibrary.org
OECD Regional Wellbeing [https://www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org](https://www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org)

Greater London

Explore the map to find out how life is across OECD regions and discover regions with similar well-being.

Each region is measured in eleven topics important for well-being. The values of the indicators are expressed as a score between 0 and 10. A high score indicates better performance relative to the other regions.

Regions with similar well-being in other countries:

- Austria: Vorarlberg
- Germany: Hamburg
- Ireland: Southern and Eastern
- Finland: Helsinki-Uusimaa
Eurostat

Eurostat is the statistical office of the European Union. Publishes data on topics such as economics, industrial and environmental issues. Registration is required for in-depth support from their helpdesk.

ec.europa.eu/eurostat
Eurostat Statistics Explained

Did you know that....
Half of the EU-28's 2017 orange production came from Spain (54.1%), with a further quarter coming from Italy (24.7%). Read more...

Most visited:
1. Unemployment statistics
2. Migration and migrant population statistics
3. Migration and migrant population statistics
4. Electricity price statistics
Eurostat visualisation tools

- Themes in the Spotlight
- You in the EU
- Young Europeans
- Quality of Life
- Quiz
- Country Profiles
- My Country in a Bubble
- My Capital in a Bubble
- My Region
- Regions & Cities Illustrated
- Statistical Atlas
- Economic Trends
- Government Expenditure
- Food Price Monitoring Tool
- Business Sector Profile
- Energy Flow Diagrams (Sankey)
- Energy Prices
- Air Traffic
- Business Cycle Clock
- Widget Generator
UK Data Service

• Comprehensive resource funded by the ESRC.
• A single point of access to a wide range of secondary social science data.
• Support, training and guidance available.
ICRG Researchers' Dataset

Comprises of 22 variables in 3 subcategories of risk (political, economic and financial) for 146 countries covered by the ICRG from 1984 through to the last full calendar year. The components include:

- Government stability
- Socioeconomic conditions
- Investment profile
- Internal conflict
- External conflict
- Corruption

- Military in politics
- Religion in politics
- Law and order
- Ethnic tensions
- Democratic accountability
- Bureaucracy quality
EIU Country Reports and Profiles

The world leader in global business intelligence

October 21st 2019

The Economist Intelligence Unit provides a constant flow of analysis and forecasts on more than 200 countries and six key industries. We help executives make informed business decisions through dependable intelligence delivered online, in print, in customised research as well as through conferences and peer interchange. To sample some of our analysis and forecasts, as well as stay up-to-date with all our latest products and services, sign-up to our weekly email newsletter, the Global Business Portfolio.
EIU Home page
Historical country data

- Cross-National Time-Series Data Archive (CNTS Archive)
- WRDS (Wharton Research Data Services)
3. Financial data
Datastream

An extensive, historical time series database from Thomson Reuters that provides financial and economic data (over 65 years of data across 175 countries).

Book access at the SSEES library help desk.
Datastream covers

- economics: country reports and statistical data
- bonds (a single bond)
- bond indices (multiple bonds)
- equities (share price for a company)
- equity indices (share prices for an index)
- investment trusts and unit trusts
- interest rates
- exchange rates
- derivatives and commodities
Datastream training tutorials

• This video shows how you can find and download data from Datastream

• Introduction to Datastream by University of Southampton Libraries

• Training tutorials by Refinitiv
World Bank financial databases

- Global Financial Development Database
- Financial Inclusion Database
- Bank Regulation and Supervision Survey

datacatalog.worldbank.org
Access via WB Data Catalog

Global Financial Development database

Financial Development And Structure
International Monetary Fund (IMF) Data

The IMF publishes a range of time series data on IMF lending, exchange rates and other economic and financial indicators.

data.imf.org
IMF financial datasets include

- International Financial Statistics
- Financial Development Index Database
- Financial Access Survey
4. Company & entrepreneurship data
Amadeus

A database of public and private companies (25 mil companies) across Europe, including small and medium sized businesses and start-ups.
Amadeus covers

Companies data

- Company information for European companies, with a focus on private company information
- Company financials in a standard format so you can compare companies across borders
- Financial strength indicators
- Directors
- Stock prices for listed companies
- Detailed corporate structures

Patents data
Osiris

A database of publicly listed companies worldwide. The information is very detailed and includes a lot more than financial reports. Different templates are used to show accounts in the correct formats for their company type and location.

Coverage: standardised financials, ownership, news, ratings, earnings and stock data for the world’s publicly quoted companies.
GEM Global Entrepreneurship Monitor

Contains individual-level datasets on entrepreneurship that can be used for exploring the determinants of entrepreneurial entry, high-growth aspirations of entrepreneurs, financing patterns, gender differences, innovation orientation of entrepreneurs and much more. It also contains national Expert Surveys of cross-country entrepreneurial environments.

gemconsortium.org/data
Business Environment and Enterprise Performance Survey (BEEPS)

BEEPS is a firm-level survey of a representative sample of an economy’s private sector. BEEPS covers a broad range of business environment topics including access to finance, corruption, infrastructure, crime, competition, and performance measures.

http://www.beeps-ebrd.com/
5. News & company information
LexisNexis Advance

Select **Nexis UK** from the A-Z databases list.

- Power search
- News
- Companies
- Market Insights
- Sources
The Financial Times

FT.com provides access to today’s Financial Times from 5 regions, an archive and additional functionality through site registration. Data features include interactive charting and market reports via the Data Archive. For off-site and ePaper access you must first register for an FT.com account.
Global Market Overview

Investors eye US jobs report after debt market drama

Stock sell-off continues with emerging markets most exposed
Intellinews Pro

Delivering market news and reports, in English, for over 15 countries in Central and Eastern Europe and regionally for the Middle East/North Africa, Nigeria/Ivory Coast, Sub Saharan Africa, and Asia.
Asian & European Business Collection

Offering detailed information on companies, economies, markets, and overall business conditions throughout the Eastern Hemisphere. Includes full-text coverage of news stories, country information and statistics and political, economic, social, and business profiles.
6. Market research
Passport

Contains a wealth of information and data on markets, industries, and consumers around the world:

- Market shares by brand for specific consumer products
- Demographics at the country level
- Various governmental data, including levels of government spending on things like defense, corruption levels, infrastructure data, …
- Economic and resource data
- Consumer lifestyle data, such as how frequently people shop, eat, drink out, …
- Company profiles, particularly for large and/or international firms …
Resources

Learn about Passport's features from Euromonitor's account management team. See how you can use Passport to better understand industries, countries and consumers.

Demos

- The Payment Landscape in Brazil
- The Analgesics Market in Asia Pacific
- The Growth of Colour Cosmetics in China
- Creating a PEST Analysis
Business Market Research Collection

Contains company, industry, economic and geopolitical market research from: Hoover's Company Profiles, OxResearch and Snapshots.
Snapshots

The Snapshots Series includes over 8,890 market reports across 43 industries in 40 countries, spanning the UK, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Asia Pacific, North America, and Latin America.
Statistics is the art of never having to say you're wrong...
7. Tips and further help
Questions to ask

• Is data for my research topic available?
• Is it sufficient? Are their characteristics suited to, and sufficient for, my study?
Scientific method
Tips

• Choose your data from the same databank or family of databanks.
• Some databanks have better cross-country comparability than others.
• Consult dataset documentation, user guides and worked examples.
• Examine more info and footnotes.
LibrarySkills @ UCL

• Online guides

• Bookable training sessions

• SSEES library guides to resources

www.ucl.ac.uk/library/libraryskills-ucl
• How to find a book? a journal? a journal article?
• How to search library catalogue? other libraries? databases?
• How to avoid plagiarism? copyright issues?
• How to evaluate information? manage your data?
• How to cite sources? use reference management software?

www.ucl.ac.uk/library/libraryskills-ucl
Further help

• Help screens & help desks very useful (e.g. help@ukdataservice.ac.uk)

• UCL’s ISD offer data analysis software support and training (e.g. Excel, SPSS)

• LinkedIn Learning for online video tutorials

• UCLA Statistical Computing website: http://www.ats.ucla.edu/stat/

• Economics Liaison Librarian and Eurostat microdata contact: kieron.jones@ucl.ac.uk
Contact

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