

International Business

November 7th, 2007

Country Profiles

- **Business Source Premier – Enhanced Business Searching (EBSCO):** A large collection of country reports from publishers including the Economist Intelligence Unit, CountryWatch, Business Monitor International, and Political Risk Yearbook. The enhanced interface makes finding these a lot easier. When it opens simply click on Country Reports toward the bottom of the screen. You can also find brief reports on major companies. And a keyword search will access hundreds of scholarly journals.
- **Country Commercial Guides:** In-depth reports produced by the State Department: http://www.buyusainfo.net/adsearch.cfm?search_type=int&loadnav=no
- **Lexis Nexis Academic:** *Country Briefings* (Briefings on 32 countries that help you identify commercial opportunities and avoid financial pitfalls), *Business Monitor News* (BMI analyzes political and economic conditions in 175 emerging market countries in four global regions), and *IBC's International Country Risk Guide* (extensive analysis of economic trends and an assessment of the country's financial condition), and *Global Insight* (political, economic and security risk analysis of 185 markets).
- **Gale Virtual Reference Library:** In the Nation and World section there are specialized resources like *Countries and their Cultures* and *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations*.
- **CIA World FactBook:** A bare-bones overview of each country.

Trade and Economic Data

- **World Development Indicators:** 737 time-series for 228 territories, provided through the World Bank. Compare countries, create charts, export to Excel.
- **International Monetary Fund:** A good place for economic news and statistics that can be broken down by country and downloaded to Excel. After you pick a country, on the left there is a link to the World Economic Outlook. Click there and again on the left there's a link to the WEO database. Click there for the interactive statistics.
- **United Nations Common Database:** More macroeconomic and demographic data.
- **International Trade by Commodity Statistics:** Exactly what it says, and quite granular. There are five volumes per year. Each member of the OECD is located in one of them.
- **Export.Gov:** Trade leads, trade events, trade data (TradeStats Express), and other resources.
- I've also found it helpful to visit the websites of a nation's government and national bank, e.g.: <http://www.czech.cz/en/economy-business-science/> and <http://www.cnb.cz/en/>. The UN has a list of national statistical offices: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/inter-natlinks/sd_natstat.asp

MEGI

BYU's Business Library
www.lib.byu.edu/business

Resources licensed by the BYU Library can be found on the MEGI website (Management, Economics, and Government Information). Use the Find a Database tool to search by name or click on the link to the Business Management subject page and try the International tab or the research guides listed to the right.

Factiva

A premier database for business news, a great place to go for the latest on both companies and countries. Don't just throw words at it, you'll get too many results. Use the drill-down filters (the plus-signs) to narrow your search by language, country, industry, company, etc.

- An example search: change language to all, change region to "Countries/Regions of the Indian Subcontinent," change subject to "Tariffs/Trade Barriers," and change the date to "in the last year." Then enter a search term, like "computer."
- LexisNexis Academic is another good news database.

Global Market Information Database

GMID provides interactive statistical analysis. Use the Menu Search to select a broad product category or drill down to a more specific industry or economic indicator, then select nations of interest. This will result in a list of GMID's relevant reports. If those include statistical or demographic reports you can then play with the data in GMID's interactive environment, or export it to excel.

- You can also browse by geography and find reports on consumer lifestyles.
- Additional market reports for Western Europe can be found in the Mintel database.

Some Others

- **World Bank e-Library:** All of the World Bank's publications available online. Of particular interest may be the books *Doing Business in 2007*, *Doing Business in 2008*, etc., which provide comparative profiles of nations' regulatory environments. The United States ranks 3rd in the world for ease of doing business, in case you're wondering.
- **The Economic Freedom of the World** report from the Fraser Institute uses 38 variables to measure economic freedom in 141 nations: <http://www.freetheworld.com/release.html>

Leticia Camacho

Accounting, Information Systems, Public Management,
Organizational Leadership & Strategy Librarian
1521 HBLL
422-1970
leticia_camacho@byu.edu

Andy Spackman

Business Management, Finance, Marketing,
and Economics Librarian
1522 HBLL
422-3924
andy_spackman@byu.edu