Finding information on specific countries

It is possible to find information on many different countries for your assignments. The databases mentioned here, and many more, contain information about countries beyond the UK. The databases listed below can be found by visiting our A-Z of Databases page at www.le.ac.uk/library/find/databases or on your subject pages at www.le.ac.uk/library/find/subjects

**Society, Culture and Behaviour**

*Sociological Abstracts* provides information on sociological literature from all around the world from 1952 onwards. When searching the database use the name of the country as a keyword and combine it with keywords for your topic – for example, *nigeria and women and employment*. Limiting your search to peer-reviewed articles will ensure you retrieve only high-quality academic articles which would be the most suitable for your assignments.

*Business Source Premier* can also provide you with sociological articles on a country. You can enter the country’s name in the search box as a keyword or as a geographical term – simply select the field *GE Geographic Terms* in the drop-down box next to your search box.

Business Source Premier can be cross-searched with *PsycINFO* which provides articles on behaviour. Together they should prove a good source of information on a country’s society and culture – example search: *ghana and consumer behaviour*.

**Museums**

*Art Full Text* will provide you with access to art journals and museum bulletins. Coverage is international. The database can be searched like Business Source Premier and PsycINFO above. You will also find information on the website of the International Council of Museums [http://icom.museum/](http://icom.museum/)

**Media**

For media, use the sociological databases listed above and *CIOS – Communication Institute for Online Scholarship*. In CIOS, search ComAbstracts to find citations of articles on all types of media from all over the world – example search: *news coverage and middle east*. You can also browse a full-text online journal in CIOS – The Electronic Journal of Communication. This journal sometimes has special issues useful to students studying in an international context, for example *Volume 20 (3/4) The Internet in China and Chinese Society*.

**Education**

*ERIC – the Educational Resources Information Center* – covers all sectors of education and all countries. You can find information about articles on developments in education back to 1966 on this database. It can be searched on the same interface and in the same way as Sociological Abstracts.
News articles

**Nexis** provides articles from national and regional newspapers from all over the world. Some articles go back to the early 80s. Articles are available in Arabic, Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian.

**Factiva** provides articles in the original language from national and regional newspapers from all over the world. Some articles go back to the early 80s.

**FT.com** provides market, economic and financial news and analysis from all around the world. The archive dates back to 2001.

Historic newspaper articles from the UK and the US are available from the **Times Digital Archive** and **Proquest Historical Newspapers**.

Market, country and company reports

- Market and industry reports

**Passport** provides full-text reports on markets and industries at a global level and in 207 countries around the world. It holds profiles of companies and brands and gives information on performance and market share. Simply search for the sector you are interested in – example: **pharmaceuticals** – and narrow down the long list of results using the categories in the left-hand column of the results screen. Passport also has 80 consumer lifestyle reports which give a detailed breakdown of a country’s demographics and latest consumer trends. Example search: **consumer lifestyles in India**.

**Business Source Premier** has industry profiles and market research reports from all around the world and provides company profiles with detailed SWOT analyses from Datamonitor and other sources. Do a keyword search and then limit the results to documents you need by choosing the appropriate ‘Source Types’ in the left-hand column of the results page.

- Country reports

**Passport** has 206 country factfiles which give a brief overview of the geography, politics and economy of a nation and provide macroeconomic and demographic data. **Business Source Premier** holds country reports from many sources including Datamonitor. Some of these reports contain in-depth PESTLE analysis.

- Annual company reports

An archive of annual reports from companies from all over the world can be found on **Mergent Online**. Mergent Online can be searched by company, stock index, stock market or country. Companies often provide an archive of their annual reports on the **Internet**. Find a company’s website and look in the ‘investor relations’ section of the site.

**Passport** has company profiles which give information on performance and market share and **Business Source Premier** has company reports with detailed SWOT analyses.

Company, industry and country profiles can also be found in **Nexis**. There are special tabs to search for them at the top of the screen.

Statistics

**Passport** provides consumer market, macroeconomic and demographic data for 207 countries. Click ‘Search’ in the top-left corner of the home page to see the full list of data available. Data go back to 1977 in some cases. Forecasts are also available for some datasets.

In its **International Macrodata** section the **UK Data Service** holds macroeconomic and demographic data from such respected sources as the European Commission, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations. Some data are available monthly and quarterly and stretch back to the 1950s. To log on to the UK Data Service use the institutional logon route. To view the data you must register with the Service.
Datastream provides stock prices, equity indices, bonds, company accounts data and macroeconomic data from all countries. Often data are available at daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual frequencies and many datasets reach back to the 1950s. Datastream can be used on 2 PCs in the Express Zone. Book a session on Datastream using the Group Study Room booking form.

Bloomberg provides stock prices, equity indices, bonds, company accounts data, demographics and macroeconomic data from all countries. Often data are available at daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual frequencies and many datasets reach back to the 1950s. Bloomberg can be used on 11 PCs in Library IT Room 2 and on 1 bookable PC in the Express Zone. Book a session using the Group Study Room booking form.

Company accounts data

Up to 30 years of accounts data from companies from all countries are available on Mergent Online. The database can be searched by company, stock index, stock market or country. Up to 16 years of accounts data from global banks are available from Bankscope. Search by bank name, specialisation and/or geographical location. Factiva provides stock market and company accounts data for up to 5 years for companies from all around the world.

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