



ONLINE IB RESOURCES

- **Country and Industry Surveys - Financial Times**, makes available past (but recent) country and industry surveys it publishes in the newspaper. The description of the content from FT: "The Financial Times publishes approximately 240 surveys annually which appear with copies of the newspaper most days of the week. Topics include financial markets, global industries, business management and developed and emerging countries. <http://surveys.ft.com/>
- **Country Indicators for Foreign Policy (CIFP)** is a source for up to date risk assessments, regional conflict analysis, political instability, early warning research, and open-source data. It provides on-line access to measures of domestic armed conflict, governance and political instability, militarization, religious and ethnic diversity, demographic stress, economic performance, human development, environmental stress, and international linkages. <http://www.carleton.ca/cifp/>
- **Ernst & Young International Doing Business In ...**
- Country profiles with an overview of the government structure, economic climate, investment climate, tax systems, forms of business organization and accounting practices for more than 20 countries.
- **EUROSTAT** is the Statistical Office of the European Communities.
- **Geert Hofstede Cultural Dimensions**
- Dr. Geert Hofstede's path-breaking research has been by far the greatest influence on the study of cultural differences and their effect on international business. His website describes the dimensions of cultural difference he identified and reports scores for many countries, providing important measures of cultural distance and guidance on training requirements for expatriates.
- **Home - Doing Business - The World Bank Group**
- The World Bank, one of the world's two main international financial institutions (see below), produces an annual report on business regulation and its impact on the ease of doing business in a large number of countries.
- **International Country Risk Guide (ICRG)** <http://www.prsgroup.com/icrg.aspx>
- **KPMG Competitive Alternatives 2008**
- This report by the global accounting firm KPMG focuses on comparing tax regimes across multiple jurisdictions.
- **KPMG's Guide to International Business Costs**
- A comprehensive guide for comparing business costs in North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific by KPMG. KPMG's 2012 Competitive Alternatives study is the most thorough comparison of international business costs ever undertaken by KPMG. It measures 27 cost components, such as labor, taxes and utilities, applied to business operations in 11 countries, including Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. <http://www.competitivealternatives.com/>
- **Market Potential Index for Emerging Markets - 2008 | globalEDGE**
- GlobalEDGE is a portal created by the International Business Center at Michigan State University with funding from the US government. It provides access to many sources of information that can help evaluate countries for various business purposes.
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development**
- The OECD is an organization of 30 countries, most of them industrialized, that attempts to coordinate policies to promote economic well-being. As part of this effort, it publishes a wide variety of economic data and studies, including data on foreign direct investment and insightful country studies.
- **Pricewaterhouse Coopers International Briefings**
- **Statistics Sources** has "links to hundreds of sites where one can look up reliable statistics on things like international population and economic data, company data, trade statistics,



newspaper and magazine circulation figures, the latest numbers on e-commerce, and much more. <http://www.rba.co.uk/sources/index.htm> and www.rba.co.uk/sources/stats.htm.

- [The 2005 Foreign Direct Investment \(FDI\) Confidence Index - Page 2](#)
- The FDI Confidence Index summarizes the climate for inbound FDI.
- **The Penn World Table** (PWT) website describes itself as “a set of national accounts economic time series covering many countries. Its expenditure entries are denominated in a common set of prices in a common currency so that real quantity comparisons can be made, both between countries and over time. It also provides information about relative prices within and between countries, as well as demographic data and capital stock estimates.” Useful. <http://pwt.econ.upenn.edu/>
- [Transparency International](#)
- Transparency International is an organization focused on reducing corruption around the world.
- [World Economic Forum - Global Competitiveness Report](#)
- The World Economic Forum is a Swiss-based non-profit organization that attempts to reconcile the demands of economic progress and social development. Their Global Competitiveness Report is based on both economic data and input from business executives.

WORLD TRADE

- [EUROPA - Gateway of the European Union](#)
- The website of the European Union, the world's most prominent regional trade organization, includes data and reports on every aspect of the organization's activities (available in many languages besides English).
- [FTD - Statistics](#) Foreign trade figures for the United States.
- [HM Revenue & Customs uktradeinfo - Data - Trade Data](#) Foreign trade figures for the United Kingdom.
- <http://www.transparency.org/>
- [ISTAT](#) Country statistics (including foreign trade figures) for Italy.
- [Istituto del Commercio Estero](#) Foreign trade figures for Italy.
- Market Access database (an official EU site). A description of barriers to trade and investment by country. <http://mkacddb.eu.int/mkacddb2/indexPubli.htm>
- [NAFTA Secretariat - Secrétariat de l'ALÉNA - Secretariado del TLCAN](#)
- The North American Free Trade Association links the USA, Canada and Mexico (in English, French and Spanish).Mercosur/Mercosul
- [Overseas merchandise trade - Statistics New Zealand](#) Foreign trade figures for New Zealand.
- [Portal Oficial MERCOSUL / MERCOSUR](#) (Spanish and Portuguese only). Mercosur (Mercosul in Portuguese) is a regional trade agreement linking many Latin American countries. The national statistical agency of a country often has more detailed and up-to-date data on its own foreign trade than the international agencies listed above. The following websites of some major English-speaking countries provide examples of such detailed data.
- [Statistical publications - Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#) Foreign trade figures for Australia.
- [Statistics Canada – Imports and exports \(International trade statistics\)](#) Foreign trade figures for Canada.
- **The Opacity Index** Opacity is the lack of clear, accurate, formal, easily discernible, and widely accepted practices in the world's capital markets. <http://www.kurtzmangroup.com/opacity.pdf>
- **Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index** A league table of countries ranked according to perceived levels of corruption among public officials and politicians. A survey on bribery can also be found here.
- [UNCTAD.ORG >> Home](#) The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development publishes a multitude of statistics and reports on trade and investment, particularly as they affect developing



countries, as well as a journal on Transnational Corporations. UNCTAD's annual World Investment Report provides a comprehensive analysis of world trends in foreign direct investment.

- [WTO | Welcome to the WTO website](#) The World Trade Organization, the successor organization to GATT, organizes rounds of multilateral negotiations to reduce trade barriers. The current Doha Round has focused on agriculture and development issues.

MAJOR BUSINESS PUBLICATIONS

- [Business Financial News, Business News Online & Personal Finance News at WSJ.com - WSJ.com](#)
The Wall Street Journal is the best-known financial newspaper in the USA.
- [Economist.com](#) Contrary to what the name might suggest, this is not an economics journal but an authoritative UK-based weekly newsmagazine.
- [International finance banking and capital markets news and analysis - Euromoney magazine](#)
Euromoney focuses primarily on international banking and finance.
- [World business, finance and political news from the Financial Times – FT.com US](#) The Financial Times is one of the world's premier financial newspapers.
- *North American-focused:*
- [globeandmail.com: Canada's National Newspaper](#) The Globe and Mail is Canada's most respected daily newspaper with strong international and business coverage.
- [The New York Times - Breaking News, World News & Multimedia](#) The New York Times is widely read across the USA.
- *UK/Europe-focused:*
- [Times Online | News and Views from The Times and Sunday Times](#) A venerable UK newspaper.
- *Asia-focused:*
- [Far Eastern Economic Review | Home](#) A Hong Kong-based weekly newsmagazine.
- [THE NIKKEI WEEKLY](#) A weekly newspaper put out by the publisher of Japan's leading business newspaper group.
- [The Wall Street Journal Asia](#) The Wall Street Journal's Asian edition.

COMPANY INFORMATION

- **Bloomberg Businessweek**
<http://investing.businessweek.com/research/common/symbollookup/symbollookup.asp>
- **Global Brand Rankings** [Interbrand: Best Global Brands 2007](#).
- **Hoovers:** www.hoovers.com
- Type the name of the company in “Search for a company” and explore information on the left-hand side list.
- **Lexis-Nexis (access from departmental library):** <http://academic.lexisnexis.eu/> Type the name of the company in “Get company info” on the right-hand side of the screen.
- **MSN market search:** <http://investing.money.msn.com/investments/market-summary/> Type the name of the company in “Get quotes” and explore information on the left-hand side list.
- **U.S. Security Exchange Commission, EDGAR database**
<http://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch.html> After searched for company, filter results by filing Type “10-K” if US companies, or “20-F” for others.

BUSINESS PLAN TEMPLATES

- <https://www.ubs.com/ch/it/swissbank/aziende/costituzione-previdenza-succeSSIONE/costituzione/costituzione-business-plan.html>
- <http://www.bz.camcom.it/it/servizi/sviluppo-dimpresa/creazione-dimpresa/businessplan>