



# EIU CountryData

## Quick Reference Guide

### Introduction

EIU (Economic Intelligence Unit) CountryData is an analytical database of annual, quarterly, and monthly economic indicators and forecasts on 117 countries. It provides access to 278 economic series, 40 regional aggregates, and more than 750,000 individual data points back to 1980 and forecasts to 2006.

### Scope

- Annual, quarterly, and monthly time series data for countries worldwide from 1980.
- Data available in tabular and chart format.
- Economic forecasts for one to five years.

### Access

- Available via GSB network at the [Jackson Library Web site](#). Off campus access is limited to the Stanford community. GSB users can access the database via [WebApps](#)

### Help

- Click on **Help** from the top toolbar on any page for information about economic and statistical concepts, understanding types of economic data, frequently asked questions, and a list of all help screens.
- For search assistance, ask your librarian at the Information Desk or email to [jackson.library@gsb.stanford.edu](mailto:jackson.library@gsb.stanford.edu).
- For technical problems, email to [rcc-action@gsb.stanford.edu](mailto:rcc-action@gsb.stanford.edu).

### Features

- Use **Presets** to search one of the three predefined EIU datasets (key forecasts, Economic snapshot, and latest data).
- Use **Country Outlook** to display a text snapshot of the EIU's forecasts on 181 countries around the world.
- Exports data tables into Excel, Lotus 1-2-3 or dBase.
- Analytical Features include: **Screen Countries** which allows you to identify countries by a number of different economic variables and **Segment Countries** which allows you to group countries based on two economic and demographic variables.
- Customized tables by countries or regions, economic series, and date range.

### Searching EIU CountryData

When you access EIU CountryData you will be taken to a welcome screen containing explanations of each icon across the upper toolbar.



#### **Data Selection by Countries, Series and Years**

1. To begin a search, click the **Data Selection** icon from the top toolbar to open the search menu.
2. You can now create a data set by clicking the blue boxes to select data by Countries, Series, and Years.

3. To select data by country or region click on **Choose/Edit Countries** and click the tick box next to each country, region or regional aggregate you would like to include in your search.
4. To select data by series, click on **Choose/Edit Series** and choose the series you would like to include in your search in the same way. To expand the list of series available, click the + next to that line.
5. To select data by years, click on the **Choose/Edit Years**.
6. Highlight the years you wish to include in the study using the **Shift** key to select a group of years at once.
7. Click on **Select**. The selections you have made are visible on the right hand side of the screen.



### Selecting predefined datasets

Select one of three predefined EIU datasets ("Key forecasts", "Economic snapshot", and "Latest data") or retrieve your own selections and saved tables.



### Viewing Tables

Display tables showing the data that you have selected can be viewed in one of three formats:

- **By Country:** series in rows, years in columns (default)
- **By Series:** countries in rows, years in columns
- **By Year:** series in rows, countries in columns.

Once you have completed your data selection, click on **View Tables** in the Data Selection window or click on the **View Tables** icon at the top of screen to study the data.

To graph and analyze your search results when viewing tables use the following options displayed in the toolbar at the bottom of the screen:

- The **Rank** button allows you to add ranking, median, mean and quartile information to the table.
- To reverse the order of the columns use the **Swap** button.
- The **Analysis** button allows you to calculate and add or replace a row of data to the table with moving averages, indices, changes, trends, or subtotals.

Use tabs at the bottom of the screen to select yearly, quarterly, or monthly data for a country.



### Viewing Charts

Display charts illustrating data that you have selected in one of ten possible formats from pie charting to distribution analysis.

Once you have completed your data selection, click on **View Charts** in the Data Selection window or click on the **View Charts** icon at the top of the screen to study the data.

- Select the type of chart you wish to view from the list presented. A summary of the data selected is included in the table shown below the list of charts.
- Individual charts can be changed to show a different series, year or country by clicking **List All**.
- Click the **Print** icon to print the chart you are viewing.
- Click **Close Chart** exit the chart and return to the list of charts available.

## Analytical Functions

There are two types of analytical functions on EIU CountryData: **Screen countries** and **Segment countries**.

**Screen countries** function allows you to identify countries from specified criteria.

1. To begin, click the **Screen countries** icon on the upper toolbar.
2. First, select the geographic area to include in the search. (i.e. All Countries)
3. Click **OK**.
4. Next, select a series. (i.e. Consumer prices) and complete all areas of the window.
5. Click **OK**.
6. A summary window is then displayed showing your search results.
7. Click **Add a criterion** to select another variable.
8. Click **See the list** to display a list of countries, grouped by categories.
9. From the list of countries retrieved, it is possible to sort according to the variables or the background data displayed.

**Segment countries** function allows you to analyze two variables for any number of countries.

1. To begin, click the **Segment countries** icon on the upper toolbar.
2. Select the geographic area to include in the segmentation.
3. Click **OK**.
4. From the list of series in the drop down menu select the two variables you wish to analyze.
5. Click **View Table** to see your results.
6. The table with results is then displayed. To view a list of countries, click within the cell and the list will be displayed to the right.
7. Using the toolbar at the bottom of the screen to **Modify** the search, **Swap** the presentation of the variables (rows and columns), view data in **Percentages**, change the **Descriptive variables**.

## Sample Searches

*Historical data: Find GDP data for Latin America from 1991-2001.*

1. Click **Data selection** on the upper toolbar.
2. Select the **Regional aggregate** by clicking tick box.
3. Select **Latin America** by clicking the tick box.
4. Click **Choose /Edit Series**; click the **Gross domestic product**
5. Click **Choose/Edit Years**, click 2001, and then holding down the Shift key, click on 1991. All the years will be highlighted.
6. Click **View tables** or **View charts** to view the data.

*Presets: Find an economic forecast for India.*

1. Click **Presets** on the upper toolbar.
2. Select **Key forecasts** from the presets drop-down menu.
3. Select **India** by clicking the tick box next to **India**
4. Click **View Tables** on the upper toolbar.

*Country outlook: Obtain a short-term forecast for Iraq.*

1. Click **Country outlook** on the upper toolbar.
2. Select **Iraq** from the list of countries.
3. A forecast for Iraq will appear.

*Screen countries: Identify countries whose consumer price index has grown by 5% in the past year.*

1. Click **Screen countries** on the upper toolbar.
2. Select **All countries**. Click **OK**
3. Select **Consumer prices (% change)**
4. In the window to the right bullet **A given year** and choose **2001** from the drop down menu, in the minimum value box enter 5.
5. Click **OK**
6. A summary window will be displayed showing your results.
7. Click **See the list** to view a list of countries retrieved.

## **Download**

EIU CountryData enables exporting of data to other software programs, including spreadsheets, databases, word processors and ASCII formats.

1. After you have completed your search and the results include the table, click the **Export** icon on the upper toolbar.
2. Select the format you wish to export to and, click the **Export** button to transfer the data.
3. If you wish to export all of you data into a single file, click the **Export all table to one file** check box.
4. Next, you will be prompted to save or open the file and then select the drive and directory on which to save it. Select the drive and name your file.
5. To return to the table you were using, click the **Close** button.

## **Print**

- To print a table, click the **Printer** icon on the bottom menu bar. A window with the formatted table will appear.
- Use your browser's **Print** button to print the table.