Web Resources

- Bureau of Economic Analysis: International Economic Accounts
  Balance of Payments (International Transactions); Trade in Goods and Services; International Services; International Investment Position; Operations of Multinational Companies (U.S. direct investment abroad; Foreign direct investment in the U.S.); Projects linking BEA data with data from other statistical agencies; Supplemental Estimates; Survey Forms and Related Materials; Previously Published Estimates.

- Central Intelligence Agency: The World Factbook

- Countries and Their Cultures

- Country Reports
  Cultural, historical and statistical country information.

- Culture Crossing
  Community-built guide to cross-cultural etiquette and understanding. This user-built guide allows people from all walks of life to share essential tips with each other about how to navigate our increasingly borderless world with savvy and sensitivity.

- International Monetary Fund: Country Information
  IMF reports and publications arranged by country.

- Kwintessential Country Profiles: Guides to Culture, Customs and Etiquette
  Understanding other people’s languages, cultures, etiquettes and taboos is of great value to the traveler or visiting business person. Includes information on a selected number of countries. Topics include language, useful phrases, the society, culture, business and social etiquettes.

- Kwintessential: Doing Business in...: Etiquette and Protocol Guides
  Provide tips on international business values, etiquette, customs and protocol for business people traveling abroad. Each guide offers some advice on the etiquette associated with areas such as meeting and greeting, making appointments, gift giving, dining, business dress, building relationships, meetings and negotiations.

  This series of profiles of foreign nations is part of the Country Studies Program, formerly the Army Area Handbook Program. The profiles offer brief, summarized information on a country’s historical background, geography, society, economy, transportation and telecommunications, government and politics, and national security. The profiles offer reasonably current country information independent of the existence of a recently published Country Study and will be updated annually or more frequently as events warrant.

- Library of Congress: Portals to the World
  Library of Congress Global Gateway: World Culture & Resources.

- NationsMaster.com: Nations of the World
  Individual figures placed alongside other countries and shown relative to population. Allows users to generate graphs based on numerical data extracted from the CIA World Factbook and other sources, a central location that allows you to compare countries on any statistic you like. The purpose of the site is to promote education and...
| Multicultural America |

| World Cultures |

| A-Bo |
Contains articles like Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, American Samoa, Andorra, Angola, Anguilla, Antigua And Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, etc... |

| Bo-Co |
Contains articles like Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Cambodia, etc... |

| Cr-Ga |
Contains articles like Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, etc... |

| Ge-It |
Contains articles like Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar, Greece, Greenland, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guam, Guatemala, etc... |

| Ja-Ma |
### Country Information

**IMF reports and publications arranged by country.**

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | Y | Z |
| Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of | Armenia, Republic of | Aruba, Kingdom of the Netherlands | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan, Republic of | Argentina | Bahamas, The | Bahrain, Kingdom of | Bangladesh | Barbados | Belarus, Republic of | Belgium | Belize | Benin | Bhutan | Cambodia | Cameroun | Congo, Democratic Republic of the | Congo, Republic of | Costa Rica | Côte d'Ivoire | Croatia, Republic of | Cyprus | Czech Republic |
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Note: On this site, the term "country" does not always refer to a territorial entity that is a state as understood by international law and practice. As used here, the term also covers some territorial entities that are not states. Dependent territories of member countries are listed alphabetically followed by a description of the constitutional relationships with their member countries.
## International Etiquette Guide

Understanding other people’s languages, cultures, etiquettes and taboos is of great value to the traveller or visiting business person.

Scroll down the page for information on a selected number of countries. Topics include language, useful phrases, the society, culture, business and social etiquettes.

This information is also available as an App for the iPhone. Please search for “International Business etiquette” in the Appstore.

Other resources include:
- Our *Doing Business In... guides*
- Visit our *Home Page*
- Visit our *Global Directory*
- Visit our *Newsletters*
- Visit our *News*
- Visit our *Contact Us*

You can access *Useful Phrases* here or through the corresponding country.

## Etiquette, Customs and Protocol Guides

### Asia:
- Afghanistan
- Azerbaijan
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- China
- Georgia
- India
- Iran
- Iraq
- Kazakhstan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Pakistan
- Russia
- Saudi Arabia
- Sri Lanka
- Turkey

### Africa:
Doing Business in... Etiquette and Protocol Guides

Kwintessential's 'Doing Business in...' guides provide tips on international business values, etiquette, customs and protocol for business people travelling abroad. Each guide offers some advice on the etiquette associated with areas such as meeting and greeting, making appointments, gift giving, dining, business dress, building relationships, meetings and negotiations.

These guides in no way seek to stereotype a nationality or race. Within each country there will be great diversity as to how people approach business. Etiquette and protocol are flexible entities. These guides offer tips which can be used to lessen the chances of misunderstandings and help form better relationships.

A: Doing Business in Argentina, Doing Business in Austria
B: Doing Business in Belarus, Doing Business in Belgium, Doing Business in Brazil, Doing Business in Bulgaria
C: Doing Business in Chile, Doing Business in China, Doing Business in Columbia
D: Doing Business in the Czech Republic
E: Doing Business in Denmark
F: Doing Business in Finland, Doing Business in France
G: Doing Business in Germany, Doing Business in Greece
H: Doing Business in Hong Kong, Doing Business in Hungary
I: Doing Business in Iceland, Doing Business in India, Doing Business in Iran, Doing Business in Italy
J: Doing Business in Japan
Country Profiles

This series of profiles of foreign nations is part of the Country Studies Program, formerly the Army Area Handbook Program. The profiles offer brief, summarized information on a country's historical background, geography, society, economy, transportation and telecommunications, government and politics, and national security. In addition to being featured in the front matter of published Country Studies, they are now being prepared as stand-alone reference aids for all countries in the series, as well as for a number of additional countries of interest. The profiles offer reasonably current country information independent of the existence of a recently published Country Study and will be updated annually or more frequently as events warrant. Note: The month and year in which each profile was created or most recently updated appear after each country name.

Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to read these documents. If you do not have this software on your PC, go to http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html to download a free copy of the reader.

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Nations of the World

Click on a country name to view its profile, or a region name to view its information. You can also view this list with [flags] or [maps] visible for each country.

VIEW COUNTRIES: Alphabetically  Grouped by region

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## Country statistical profiles 2010

### Data extracted on 24 Jan 2011 15:18 UTC (GMT) from OECD StatExtracts

This statistical profile, updated yearly, is a snapshot of data selected from more than 40 statistical databases available on SourceOECD, our online library. The red ‘+’ is the third column provides links to the sources of the data, where more up-to-date data and longer time series can be found.

<p>| Subject                      | Population and migration | Total population | Population, decadal censuses | Population growth rates | Total literacy rates | Population aged 15 and over | Population aged 65 and over | Population by region | Shares of national population in the ten per cent of regions with the largest population, small regions | Regions with the highest population density in each country, small regions | Distribution of the national population into urban regions, small regions | Distribution of the national population into intermediate and rural regions, small regions |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|</p>
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<th>Distribution of the national population into intermediate and rural regions, small regions</th>
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Country Fact Sheets

These Country Fact Sheets contain the most relevant indicators about FDI in a country. Each sheet contains the most recent data on FDI flows and stocks, mergers and acquisitions, largest TNCs and regulatory changes.

Fact Sheets for 115 economies are available below:

Select one country

Further information on FDI and TNCs is available from:
- The World Investment Report series
- The Investment Policy Review series
- The UNCTAD-ICC Investment Guide series
World Statistics Pocketbook

Introduction

The World Statistics Pocketbook 2009 is the twenty-ninth in a series of annual compilations of key statistical indicators prepared by the United Nations Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Over 60 indicators have been collected from more than 20 international statistical sources and are presented in one-page profiles for 216 countries or areas of the world. This issue covers various years from 2001 to 2010. For the economic indicators, in general, three years - 2006, 2005 and 2003 - are shown; for the indicators in the social and environmental categories, data for one year are presented.

The topics covered include: agriculture, balance of payments, education, energy, environment, food, gender, health, industrial production, information and communication, international finance, international tourism, international trade, labour, migration, national accounts, population and prices. The technical notes contain brief descriptions of the concepts and methodologies used in the compilation of the indicators as well as information on the statistical sources for the indicators. Reference to primary sources of the data is provided for readers interested in longer time-series data or more detailed descriptions of the concepts or methodologies.

To purchase the print version of the World Statistics Pocketbook, click here.
National Accounts Main Aggregates Database

Data Selection - Country Profile

1. Step: Select Country

Afghanistan

2. Step: Select Series

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Per capita GDP, GDP growth rate, Implicit Price Deflators
- GDP by kind of Expenditure
  - GDP by Expenditure, at current prices - National currency
  - GDP by Expenditure, at current prices - US Dollars
  - GDP by Expenditure, at constant 2005 prices - National currency
  - GDP by Expenditure, at constant 2005 prices - US Dollars
- GDP by Expenditure, Annual Average Rate of Growth - Percentage
- GDP by Expenditure, Percentage Distribution (Shares)
- Value Added by Economic Activity
  - Value Added by Economic Activity, at current prices - National currency
  - Value Added by Economic Activity, at current prices - US Dollars
  - Value Added by Economic Activity, at constant 2005 prices - National currency
  - Value Added by Economic Activity, at constant 2005 prices - US Dollars
- Value Added by Economic Activity, Annual Average Rate of Growth - Percentage
- Value Added by Economic Activity, Percentage Distribution (Shares)
- Gross National Income (GNI), Per capita GNI
- Exchange rates, Population

3. Step: Select Years

- Recent years
  - 2009
  - 2008
  - 2007
- 2006

4. Step: Submit Selection

Submit

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#### International Market Research

|----------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|

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### International Market Research

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Country Commercial Guide

- 2010 Country Commercial Guide for the Dominican Republic
  A guide to doing business in the Dominican Republic...
  ( Entire CCG)

- Brazil - Country Commercial Guide (CCG) 2010
  This report contains a collection of published reports designed to help US companies understand the opportunities and challenges of doing business in Brazil...
  ( Entire CCG)

- Using Business in Fiji - 2010 Country Commercial Guide for U.S. Companies
  A comprehensive guide for U.S. companies contemplating exporting their products and services to Fiji...
  ( Entire CCG)

- Australia - 2010 Country Commercial Guide - June update
  Country Commercial Guide - a "how to" guide for exporting to Australia - June update ...
  ( Entire CCG)

Best Market Report

- How to export into Mexico by using the U.S. Postal Service
  Export is the name of the game. Emerging economies offer good opportunities for U.S. companies to reach new markets. Mexico, due to its proximity, growing industry sector, the NAFTA agreement, large population, stable economy, etc., is an excellent option to start exporting. For new to export comm...

- Garage Equipment Tools, Automotive Spares and Accessories Market Opportunity
  Summary: The U.S. Commercial Service (USCS) Kiev is pleased to offer American garage service equipment, auto parts and accessories companies a chance to distribute their brochures or product catalogs at the 20th International AutoTechService 2010 trade show in Ukraine. The AutoTechService 2010 trade...

- Heavy Duty Class 6-8 Truck Market Opportunity in Ukraine
  Summary: The U.S. Commercial Service (USCS) Kiev is pleased to offer American heavy duty Class 6-8 truck, auto parts and accessories companies a chance to distribute their brochures or product catalogs at the 6th Kiev International of TIR (2008) Freight & Cargo, Motor Show, listed in the C...

- Automotive Market Opportunity in Ukraine
  Summary: The U.S. Commercial Service (USCS) Kiev is pleased to offer American auto parts companies a chance to distribute their brochures or product catalogs at the 18th International SIAM Motor Show 2010, listed in the CIADA (International Organization of Automotive Vehicle Manufacturers) Calendar of Events...

- Auto Parts in Central Japan
  Accounting for some 3.2% of Japan’s total gross domestic product (four times the comparable U.S. figure), the automotive industry is Japan’s largest and most important manufacturing sector. In turn, Central Japan is the heart of the Japanese auto industry, and a tightly-knit region hosts the headqu...

Market Research

- Automotive Parts and Accessories
  In 2005, the UK market for automotive parts and accessories was valued at $22.3 billion, and is estimated to reach $24.7 trillion in 2013. As a growing number of UK car owners and operators are keeping their vehicles...
Doing Business in Brazil:
2010 Country Commercial Guide for U.S. Companies

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UNITED STATES.

- Chapter 1: Doing Business In Brazil
- Chapter 2: Political and Economic Environment
- Chapter 3: Selling U.S. Products and Services
- Chapter 4: Leading Sectors for U.S. Export and Investment
- Chapter 5: Trade Regulations and Standards
- Chapter 6: Investment Climate
- Chapter 7: Trade and Project Financing
- Chapter 8: Business Travel
- Chapter 9: Contacts, Market Research and Trade Events
- Chapter 10: Guide to Our Services
Summary

Accounting for some 3.2% of Japan’s total gross domestic product (four times the comparable U.S. figure) the automobile industry is Japan’s largest and most important manufacturing sector. In turn, Central Japan is the heart of the Japanese auto industry. This tightly-knit region hosts the headquarters of Toyota Motor Corporation and Suzuki Motors as well as main plants for Honda Motors and Mitsubishi Motors as well as Toyota and Suzuki. Surrounding them is the full range auto parts firms, including Denso and Aisin Seiki, the world’s second and fifth largest auto parts suppliers respectively. The number of smaller auto parts suppliers and sub-contractors is in the tens of thousands.

The world economic crisis of 2008-2009 hit the auto industry in central Japan especially hard. The “Toyota Shock” caused the first loss by this automaker since World War II. While part makers struggle with drastic sales declines, auto makers face a new challenge – responding to a rapidly-increasing market demand for “ecos.” All of Japan’s manufacturers are seeking new technologies and new types of parts which are, in many cases, simply not available from existing suppliers. U.S. companies with attractive new technologies can break into the Japanese market with unprecedented ease.

For a complete overview of the auto market in Japan, this report is best read together with other recent, geographic area-specific market research reports on auto parts prepared by CS Japan (February 2009 and December 2008).

Market Demand

Just two years ago, central Japan was nearly universally recognized as the most economically vigorous region in Japan. The main source of this vigor, the auto industry, had been busy rewriting sales and profitability records for several consecutive years. (In retrospect, this is now viewed in part as a result of overheated and unsustainable demand in the U.S., particularly for high profit-margin vehicles such as SUV’s and pickup trucks, itself to a great degree fueled by an overheated housing market and unsustainable borrowing by consumers on their home equity.) In Japanese fiscal year 2006 (April 2007 – March 2008) Toyota Motor produced 8.9 million cars and trucks and generated an staggering operating profit of 2.2 trillion yen (USD 18.7 billion at 118 yen/USD).

The global financial and economic crisis then impacted Japan’s auto industry. In JFY 2009 (April 2009 – March 2009), Toyota made only 7.6 million cars and trucks and posted a devastating loss of 461 billion yen (USD 4.5 billion at 103 yen/USD). In JFY 2010 (April 2009 – March 2010), Toyota predicts that it will only make 6.6 million vehicles and post an even larger operating loss of 780 billion yen (USD 8.3 billion at 90 yen/USD). (Note: Toyota marks the same fiscal year as the government of Japan, which is to say April 1 through March 31.)

This unprecedented situation has put many central Japan’s auto parts makers, who had long been enjoying stable growth as a result of the success of the region’s largest company, into what is now referred to as the “Toyota Shock.” Significantly, as JFY 2009 reached mid-point, bankruptcy cases started to appear among second tier and lower level suppliers (i.e., suppliers immediately below the level of the major parts suppliers such as Denso and Aisin).
Background Notes

Current Editions - The Background Notes listed below are the most recently published versions.
Previous editions are available in our archive section.

Background Notes include facts about the land, people, history, government, political conditions, economy, and foreign relations of independent states, some dependencies, and areas of special sovereignty. The Background Notes are updated/revised by the Office of Electronic Information and Publications of the Bureau of Public Affairs as they are received from the Department's regional bureaus.

Sign up for Background Notes free email updates.

Afghanistan (2018-12-06)
Albania (2011-01-04)
Algeria (2010-08-02)
Andorra (2018-07-14)
Angola (2010-12-29)
### Countries and Economies

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<td>Mali</td>
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<td>Gabon</td>
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<td>Somalia</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
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<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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### Developing regions
- East Asia & Pacific
- Europe & Central Asia
- Latin America & Caribbean
- Middle East & North Africa
- South Asia
- Sub-Saharan Africa

### Income Levels
- High income: non-OECD
- Low income
- Lower middle income
- Upper middle income
- High income: OECD

### Other country groups
Country At a Glance tables

At-a-Glance (AAG) tables present two pages of key indicators tracing the trends in social and economic development from the last three decades. Aggregates for each country’s regional and income groups are also included. Charts such as the "development diamond" make it easy to see the relationships between indicators and group comparators.

These tables have been produced in conjunction with World Bank country unit staff, especially for country-focused discussions at the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings, and may contain estimates that will not appear in the World Development Indicators (WDI) database or that differ from our officially published data. Tables are available for most low- and middle-income economies only. For multi-country analysis and cross-country comparisons, we recommend you use the WDI data (see Country Profiles).

- Select a country -

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