Macroeconomic & industry data

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Data support – NSM Library team

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What’s the plan?

- Economic indicators & macroeconomic data
- Online data → search tips!
- Interest & exchange rates
- Benchmarks
- Credit ratings
- Industry & sector data
Support

- Contact the data librarians: datasupport-NSM@ubn.ru.nl
  - (short questions or make appointment)

- Mention: topic, sample and variables & historical timeframe, supervisor

- Visit our office: EOS 01.545

- Follow-up workshops as of March 4th

- https://libguides.ru.nl/be/data

- https://libguides.ru.nl/BE/FAQdata
Overview databases

Library Guide Business Administration & Economics: Data & statistics by subject

Sources and tools for finding economic and financial literature and data

Get help with data search

For more information on data retrieval and analysis tools contact the data support of the NSM Library team.

Self study material and handouts of support sessions can be found in the database descriptions and at our workshop page.

Do you need an answer to simple questions about data? Check out our FAQ data page.

"First choice" | Financials & equities | M&A & Event studies | Board, CSR & ESG | Macroeconomic & indicators | Surveys | Data portals & repositories

Databases of 'Macroeconomic & indicators' contain data about i.a. global, national and regional economics, national finance, development, trade and labour and other relevant variables such as demography, national health and education.

'Development indicators' are data which can be used to indicate progress to a certain objective, such as development. Indicators can be in all kinds of fields such as education, health, environment, climate change, economy, trade and labour.

Check the other tabs and think about which data you need for your research.

To contact our (data) librarians see: https://libguides.ru.nl/BE/NSMteam or send an e-mail to datasupport-NSM@rubn.ru.nl.

NOTE: See also the overview of Macroeconomic and micro-socioeconomic data of the EUI Library Data Portal

- Dutch National Data portal
  - Macroeconomic data (NL): portal datasets: more...
- EU Open Data Portal
  - Access portal: economic development: geographic, geopolitical and financial data: Justice more...
- European Data Portal
  - Access portal: transport: education: health: environment: food production more...
Considerations

- Tip of the iceberg → only licensed databases and some open access databases on the Library Guide Business Administration & Economics

- Availability off-campus

- Different data sources, data sometimes partly overlaps, but all have their specialization(s) and methodologies

- Variation in presentation of the data and possibilities to customize & export

- FactSet & Eikon contain huge amounts of this kind of data

- Shopping in different databases can pay off!
Overview databases – macro

IMF E Library – data
Multiple datasets, e.g.:

- International Financial Statistics
- Government Finance Statistics
- Direction of Trade Statistics
- Consumer Price Index
- Balance of Payments

https://data.imf.org/

Overview databases – macro

IMF E Library – data
Search by datatype or country/region
Overview databases – macro

OECD – statistics
Stats on a range of (economic) topics, e.g.: [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/statistics](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/statistics)

- Main Economic Indicators
- International trade and commodities
- Labour markets
- National accounts
- Taxation
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OECD – statistics

1. Pick a database, and one of its sub-datasets
2. Customize the data
3. Export
Overview databases – macro

OECD – statistics

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Overview databases – macro

Other useful databases:

**Eurostat**: EU statistics on many topics, including interest rates and exchange rates → [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/)

**FRED – Federal Reserve Economic Data**: US and international (macro)economic time series → [https://fred.stlouisfed.org/](https://fred.stlouisfed.org/)

**UN Stats**: data on a range of topics, including world development issues → [https://unstats.un.org/](https://unstats.un.org/)

**Penn World Tables**: information on relative levels of income, output, input and productivity worldwide → [https://www.rug.nl/ggdc/productivity/pwt/](https://www.rug.nl/ggdc/productivity/pwt/)
Overview databases – macro

Other useful databases – national statistics offices


Note that in many cases the English version of a statistics office website offers not the same amount of information and data as the version in the local language!
Overview databases – macro

World bank – data
Worldwide economic statistics in different datasets, including e.g.

- World Development Indicators
- Statistical Capacity Indicators
- World Governance Indicators
- Millenium Development Goals

https://databank.worldbank.org/
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World Bank – data
1. Choose a dataset
2. Pick countries
3. Choose variables
4. Select years
5. Export
Overview databases – macro

Sustainable development, some resources

UN Environment Program → https://www.unenvironment.org/resources (inclusive wealth index)

Comprehensive Wealth → https://www.iisd.org/project/comprehensive-wealth

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Especially for national and sub-national socio-economic indicators for developing counties: Global Data Lab (prof.dr. Jeroen Smits)

- Area Database
- Subnational Human Development Index
- International Wealth Index

Important source: survey data https://globaldatalab.org/
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Some important sources of survey data:

- **Enterprise Surveys** → [https://www.enterprisesurveys.org/](https://www.enterprisesurveys.org/)  
  (World Bank; request an account)

- **World Values Survey** → [http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp](http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp)

- **European Values Study** → [https://europeanvaluesstudy.eu/](https://europeanvaluesstudy.eu/)

- **European Social Survey** → [https://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/](https://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/)

*Keep in mind that different sources can employ different methodologies!*
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Cultural Economics → Hofstede's cultural dimensions

**Dimension data matrix**

Here are, in downloadable .xls, .doc, .csv and .sav (SPSS) format, the base culture data for six dimensions of culture as presented in Cultures and Organizations 3rd edition 2010. Researchers can use them without asking for permission. Those who are considering commercial use should contact us.

Researchers wishing to work with our data are strongly advised to read Culture's Consequences 2nd ed 2001. The [research and VSM section](https://geerthofstede.com/research-and-vsm/dimension-data-matrix/) of this web site also contains some advice.

These are the data as used in our books (version 2015 12 08):
- 6 dimensions for website.csv
- 6 dimensions for website.xls

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Need more inspiration? → check e.g. the data portals of NSG (including the Macro Data Guide)

https://nsd.no/nsd/english/datatjenester.html
Intermezzo – finding additional data online

Use search tricks to search more specific → for google:

- inurl: → search specific websites
- intitle: → search just in title field
- filetype: → searches specific file extensions

https://ahrefs.com/blog/google-advanced-search-operators/
**International classifications**

Make use of **standard classifications** in your dataset in order to merge the data later on!

- **EU NUTS classification** (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics) →  
  [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/background](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/background)

- **ISO country codes** (International Organization for Standardization) →  
  [https://www.iso.org/iso-3166-country-codes.html](https://www.iso.org/iso-3166-country-codes.html)

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Search more datasets at once → Eikon & FactSet

FactSet (c. 2 mln. Economics series)
- web-based database, desktop version & Excel add-in
- available on terminals in MSc & Central Library and access off-campus
- request an account through the Library Team (infofm@ubn.ru.nl)

Eikon (>10.000.000 data items in Economics)
- available at 4 terminals on campus; book a timeslot through the library team (see: https://libguides.ru.nl/BE/Eikon)

Both databases offer data from many sources (e.g. World Bank, IMF, national statistics) → coverage not always 100%, so cross-checking can pay off!
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FactSet Economics
customizable Economics tool in the desktop version

Create time series for
e.g.
- National accounts data
- Government finances
- Retail sales

Both on country or world region (e.g. Eurozone)

Everything can be exported to Excel
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FactSet Economics
pull the data straight in your dataset through Excel add-in:
1. insert formula → series lookup

2. choose your series in the Economics category

3. click ‘Info’ to get series details

4. insert dates & frequency and add the selection (can be multiple series)

Don’t forget to click refresh in the ribbon!
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Eikon – economic data

1. Use Thomson Reuters Datastream add-in in Excel
2. Choose time series request
3. Find series
4. Choose category: Economics
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Eikon – economic data

- Make use of the filters
- And/or advanced search
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Eikon – economic data
Filter e.g. on countries, frequency, currency and source (to facilitate comparison)
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Eikon – economic data
Select as many variables as you like, as long as *timeframe* and *frequency* are the same.

*Selecting a datatype is usually not necessary for ‘Economics’ variables*
Rates, benchmarks & credit ratings

Get interest rates & exchange rates from e.g.:
- World Bank
- Eurostat
- IMF
- FactSet
- Eikon

Get benchmarks & credit ratings from:
- Eikon
- FactSet
Interest & exchange rates

In FactSet (Excel add-in)

1. use the sidebar → identifier lookup
2. choose the rate, datatype (e.g. spot) and timeframe
3. pull in Excel (use refresh!)
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Eikon:
Same steps as with Economics, but you can select a datatype (e.g. bid or offered rate). If you don’t, you’ll get the normal rate.

Check with the serie which key-datatypes apply.

Make sure you pick the datatype in the same category!
Benchmarks

Eikon & FactSet (Excel add-in):
  e.g. 6 month US T-bill

  ➢ Eikon: interest rates

  ➢ FactSet (sidebar): fixed income → government benchmarks
Credit ratings

Historical ratings limited availability

Get them from Eikon desktop version, 2 options:
1. Per company or sovereign
   → search in the black top-bar and go for issuer ratings
Credit ratings

2. Use the Screener
Search for ‘screener’ in the black top-bar, select criteria to build a dataset or upload your own list of companies.
Credit ratings

Next step: find issuer rating in the ‘data item library’ → select time (‘as of D0’ = latest) → edit output with date, value and rating source description

Do not make a series (doesn’t work)!
You can only do one observation at once, so to get a series you have to repeat this process, but change the dates.
Credit ratings

FactSet (desktop)
Get ratings by government or firm (not customizable) or pull ratings for a list in the screener.
Industry & peers

- **FactSet (desktop)** → Industry module (e.g. performance on industry basis, constituents)

- **Eikon (desktop)** through Individual firms (peers etc.)

Make sure to work with industry codes (like the SIC) to merge data later on!
Three things to (definitely) remember

➢ shopping databases often pays-off

➢ use standard classifications (e.g. ISO or SIC code)

➢ come to follow-up workshops from March 4th onwards for assistance
  https://libguides.ru.nl/BE/workshops

ANY QUESTIONS?