

World Development Indicators, World Bank

The printable version is no longer supported and may have rendering errors. Please update your browser bookmarks and please use the default browser print function instead.



Contents

Summary

Tables in IFs

Data Pulling Instructions: World Bank Individual Indicators

Data Pulling Instructions: World Development Indicators Database

Data Pulling Instructions: World Development Indicators Bulk

Data Notes

Summary

The World Bank's Open Data is an initiative from the the World Bank Group to produce reliable data about its member countries, including a number of macro, financial, and sector databases. Their datasets include ones focused on development, aid effectiveness, climate change, economy, education, debt, infrastructure, etc. The World Bank also has a World Development Indicators (WDI) database, which is the premier compilation of cross country comparable data on development and is the primary collection of development indicators. WDI specifically contains 1,400 time series indicators from 217 economies, with much of that data going back more than 50 years. Data for Open Data and WDI is compiled from statistical systems of member countries and officially recognized international sources. Most social and economic data are updated annually or less often and some economic and financial data are updated quarterly. The WDI database is updated quarterly, sometimes more often.

The data team uses World Bank Open Data and WDI for a number of series about education, agriculture, aid, gender issues, environment, finances, economics, and development. Most importantly, WB databases are used for GDP and GDPPC. Example series from the World Bank include but are not limited to, SeriesAgFoodProductIndex, SeriesAidRec%GNI, SeriesCompanyValue%GDP, SeriesExportImport%GDP.

For series GovWBDoingBusinessCostofStarting, the source (Doing Business) has been discontinued now.

The last update was in July 2025.

Tables in IFs

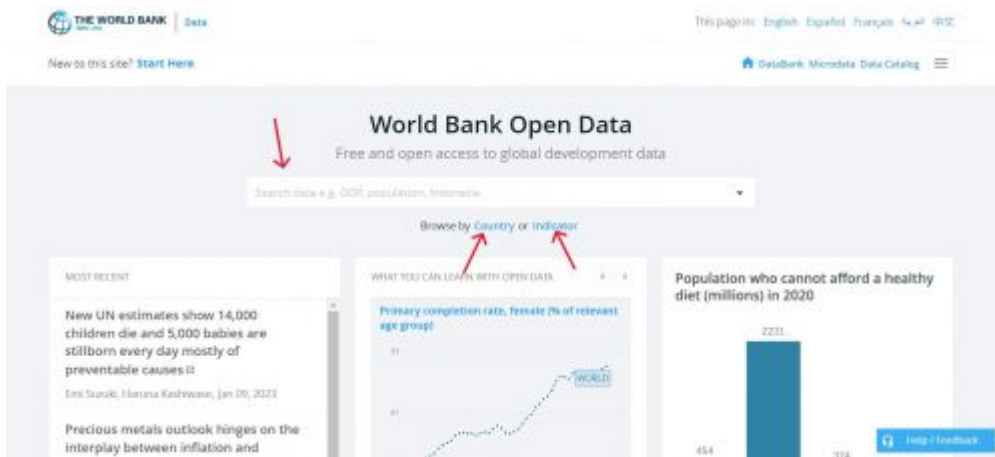
Variable	Definition	Units	UsedInPreprocessor	UsedInPreprocessor	FileName	Code in Source	Decimal Places	Formula
ArmsImp%TotImp	Arms imports (SIPRI trend indicator values)	Percent	1	ECONOMY	MS.MIL.MPRT.KD		3	%NE.IMP.GNFS.CD'
XDebtPNG%GDP	External debt, private non-guaranteed, as percentage of gross domestic product	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.DOD.DPNG.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XDebtPPG%GDP	External debt, public and publicly guaranteed, as percentage of gross domestic product	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.DOD.DPPG.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XFlowsIDA%GDP	Net flows from IDA as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.NFL.MIDA.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XFlowsIMFNonCon%GDP	Net nonconcessional flows from IMF as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.NFL.IMFN.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XIMFCredit%GDP	IMF credits as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.DOD.DIMF.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XIncPayments%GDP	Income payments as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BM.GSR.FCTY.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XPortBonds%GDP	Portfolio investment in bonds (PPG and PNG) as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.NFL.BOND.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XPortEquity%GDP	Portfolio investment in equity as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BX.PEF.TOTL.CD.WD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XReserves%GDP	Gross international reserves as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	FI.RES.TOTL.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XFlowsIMFCon%GDP	Net concessional flows from IMF as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.NFL.IMFC.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XIncReceipts%GDP	Income receipts as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BX.GSR.FCTY.CD		3	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XFlowsIBRD%GDP	Net flows from IBRD as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.NFL.MIBR.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XWBLoans%GDP	IBRD loans and IDA credits as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.DOD.MWBG.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
GovtCurRev%GDP	Current government revenue as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	GC.REV.XGRT.GD.ZS		3	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
ExportServices%GDP	Exports of services as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BX.GSR.NFSV.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
ExportsMerchandise%GDP	Exports of merchandise as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	TX.VAL.MRCH.CD.WT		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
ImportServices%GDP	Imports of Services as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BM.GSR.NFSV.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
ImportsMerchandise%GDP	Imports of merchandiseas % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	TM.VAL.MRCH.CD.WT		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XWorkerRemitPaid%GDP	Worker remittances by country where paid as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BM.TRF.PWKR.CD.DT		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XWorkerRemitReceived%GDP	Worker remittances received by country as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BX.TRF.PWKR.CD.DT		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
XDebt%GDP	External debt as percentage of gross domestic product	Percent	1	ECONOMY	DT.DOD.DECT.CD		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CD'
NetForeignAssets%GDP	Net Foreign Assets (current LCU) as a percent of GDP.	Percent	0		FM.AST.NFRG.CN		4	%NY.GDP.MKTP.CN'
Labor	Labor force size	Millions	1	POPULATION	SL.TLF.TOTL.IN		4	/1000000
PopulationUrban	Urban population	Millions	1	POPULATION	SP.URB.TOTL		4	/1000000
GDPCurDol	Gross Domestic Product in Current US\$	Billion \$	1	ENERGY	NY.GDP.MKTP.CD		4	/1000000000
Xdebt	External long-term (more than 1 year) debt: public, publically guaranteed and priv nonguaranteed	Billion \$	1	ECONOMY	DT.DOD.DLXF.CD		4	/1000000000
LaborFemale%	Portion of labor force made up by women	Percent	1	POPULATION	SL.TLF.TOTL.FE.ZS		4	
LaborSecInd%Tot	Labor in industry as % of total	Percent	0		SL.IND.EMPL.ZS		4	
LaborSecSer%Tot	Labor in services as % of total	Percent	0		SL.SRV.EMPL.ZS		4	
VaddInd%	Value added in industry as percent of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NV.IND.TOTL.ZS		3	
OresMetsIm%MerchIm	Ores and Metals imports as % of merchandise imports	Percent	1	ECONOMY	TM.VAL.MMTL.ZS.UN		4	
GovtDebt%GDP	Central government debt as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	GC.DOD.TOTL.GD.ZS		4	
VaddMan%	Value added in manufacturing as percent of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NV.IND.MANF.ZS		3	
PopForeign%	Foreign population as % of total population	Percent	0		SM.POP.TOTL.ZS		4	
LaborAgriSector	Agricultural labor force as % of total employment, ISIC multiple revisions	Percent	1	ECONOMY	SL.AGR.EMPL.ZS		3	
GenderUnpaidDomesticWorkTimeFemale	Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, female (% of 24 hour day).	Percent	0		SG.TIM.UWRK.FE		2	
GenderUnpaidDomesticWorkTimeMale	Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, male (% of 24 hour day).	Percent	1	POPULATION	SG.TIM.UWRK.MA		2	
ExportGoodSer%	Exports of goods and services as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NE.EXP.GNFS.ZS		4	
EnElecTransLoss%	Electric power transmission and distribution losses (% of output)	Percent	1	INFRASTRUCTURE	EG.ELC.LOSS.ZS		4	
GovtEdPub%GDP	Educational expenditures (public) as percent of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	SE.XPD.TOTL.GD.ZS		4	
GovWBDdoingBusinessCostofStarting	Cost of registering a business as a percent of per capita income	Percent	1	SOCIOPOL	IC.REG.COST.PC.ZS		4	
GovtMil%GDPWDI	Military expenditures (as percent of GDP). Taiwan, China values filled by SIPRI.	Percent	1	ECONOMY	MS.MIL.XPND.GD.ZS		4	
GovCon%GDP	Government (general) final consumption as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NE.CON.GOV.TS		3	
GovExpense%GDP	Government expense as % of GDP (compare with govt expenditures)	Percent	1	ECONOMY	GC.XPN.TOTL.GD.ZS		3	
ImportGoodSer%	Imports of goods and services as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NE.IMP.GNFS.ZS		4	
EnElecConsPerCap	Electricity consumption per capita	KWH/Cap	1	INFRASTRUCTURE	EG.USE.ELEC.KH.PC		4	
InvestGrCapForm%GDP	Gross capital formation (Investment), percent of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NE.GDI.TOTL.ZS		3	
XFDInflows%GDP	Foreign direct investment net inflow as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BX.KLT.DINV.WD.GD.ZS		4	
XFDIOutflows%GDP	Foreign direct investment net outflow as % of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BM.KLT.DINV.WD.GD.ZS		3	
IncShareL20%	Income share of poorest 20% of population	Percent	1	ECONOMY	SL.DST.FRST.20		3	
LaborUnemploy%	Labor unemployment, % of labor force	Percent	1	POPULATION	SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS		3	
TaxImportDuties%Rev	Customs and other import duties (% of tax revenue)	Percent	1	ECONOMY	GC.TAX.IMPT.ZS		4	
OresMetsEx%MerchEx	Ores and Metals exports as % of merchandise exports	Percent	1	ECONOMY	TX.VAL.MMTL.ZS.UN		4	
PopContrUse%WDI	Prevalence of contraceptive use	Percent	0		SP.DYN.CONU.ZS		4	
EnElecAccess%National	Access to electric energy National (% of population)	percentage	1	INFRASTRUCTURE	EG.ELC.ACCS.ZS		4	
EnElecAccess%Rural	Access to electricity in Rural areas (% of population)	percentage	1	INFRASTRUCTURE	EG.ELC.ACCS.RU.ZS		4	
EnElecAccess%Urban	Access to electricity in Urban areas (% of population)	percentage	1	INFRASTRUCTURE	EG.ELC.ACCS.UR.ZS		4	
MalnChi%WeightWB	Percentage of children under 5 malnourished based on weight; US benchmark	Percent	1	AGRICULTURE	SH.STA.MALN.ZS		4	
TaxGoodSer%CurRev	Taxes on goods and services as % of total govt revenue	Percent	1	ECONOMY	GC.TAX.GSRV.RV.ZS		3	
TaxSocSec%CurRev	Social security taxes as % of total govt revenue	Percent	1	ECONOMY	GC.REV.SOCL.ZS		3	
GiniExtended	Gini index of income inequality (lower = more equal)	Index	1	ECONOMY	SI.POV.GINI		3	
ICTInternet%Pop	Percent of population on-line	Percent	1	SOCIOPOL	IT.NET.USER.ZS		4	
LaborAgr%TotFemale	Employees, agriculture, female as % of female employment	Percent	1	POPULATION	SL.AGR.EMPL.FE.ZS		4	
VaddAg%	Value added in agriculture as percent of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NV.AGR.TOTL.ZS		3	
VaddSer%	Value added in services as percent of GDP	Percent	1	ECONOMY	NV.SRV.TOTL.ZS		3	
LaborAgr%TotMale	Employees, agriculture, males as % of male employment	Percent	1	POPULATION	SL.AGR.EMPL.MA.ZS		4	
XCurActBal%GDP	Current account balance (% of GDP)	Percent	1	ECONOMY	BN.CAB.XOKA.GD.ZS		3	
MaternalMortalityRatio	Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births	Ratio	1	POPULATION	SH.STA.MMRT		2	
EnvPMWDI	PM2.5 air pollution, mean annual exposure (micrograms per cubic meter)	micrograms per cubic meter	1	ENVIRONMENT	EN.ATM.PM25.MC.M3		5	
ChildStuntingPercentWDI	Stunting (Height for age) amongst children aged under the age of 5	Percent	1	HEALTH	SH.STA.STNT.ZS		5	
HealthMalarBedNetsWDI	Use of insecticide-treated bed nets (% of under-5 population)	Percent	1	HEALTH	SH.MLR.NETS.ZS		3	
AidRecGrant%TotRev	Grants and other revenue include grants from other foreign governments, international organizations, and other government units;	Percent	1	ECONOMY	GC.REV.GOTR.ZS		3	
IncBelowNPL%WDI	Population below national poverty line	Percent	1	ECONOMY	SI.POV.NAHC		1	
ICTImport%Imp	Imports of ICT goods as % of total goods imports	Percent	0		TM.VAL.ICTG.ZS.UN		2	
ICTExport%Exp	Exports of ICT goods as % of total goods exports	Percent	0		TX.VAL.ICTG.ZS.UN		2	

Data Pulling Instructions: World Bank Individual Indicators

Step 1. To pull data from the world bank, navigate to data.worldbank.org

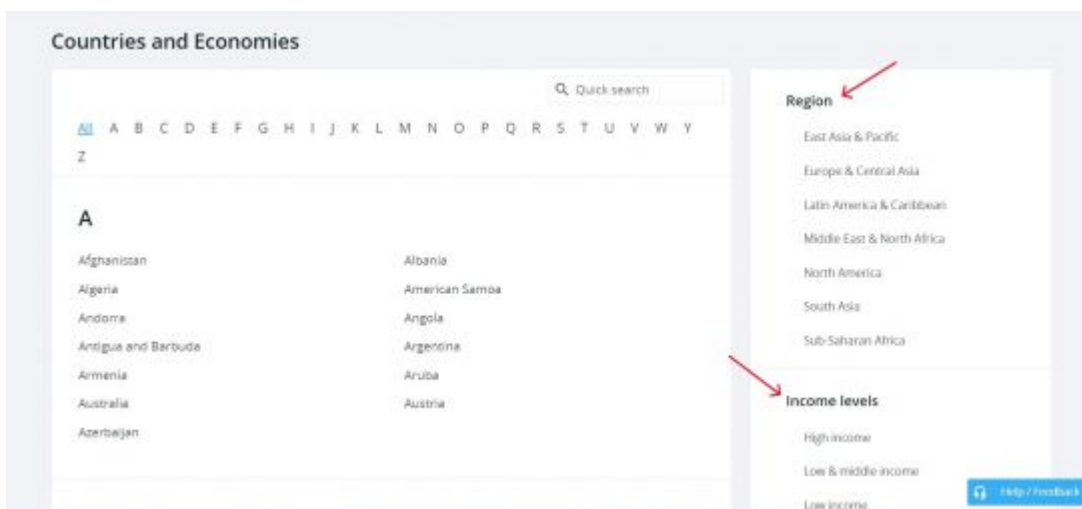
Step 2. To find the series, you can type in the search bar, click <Country> or click <Indicator>.

Step 3. Go to step 4 if clicked on <Country> or to step 7 if clicked on <Indicator>.



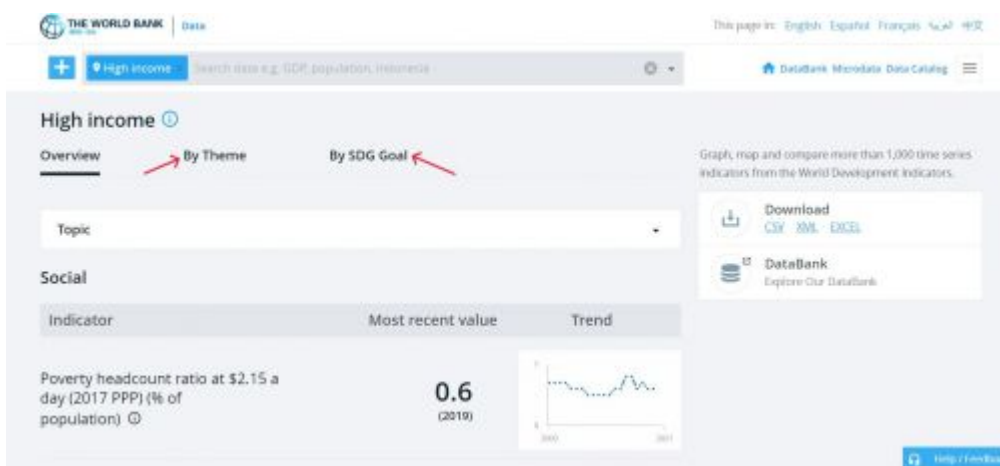
World Bank Data homepage

Step 4. If clicked on <Country>, you can select an individual country or options under various categories, such as <Region> and <Income levels>. This example will use the <High Income> category.



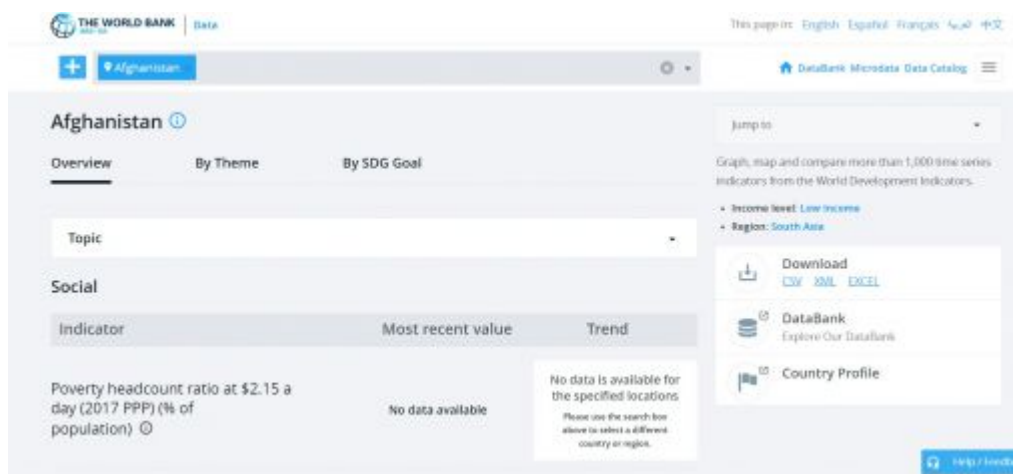
Countries and Economies main page

Step 5. If a category is selected, the following example screen of <High Income> will formulate. From here, select the relevant topic/theme/SDG Goal, then click on the desired indicator. Then skip to steps 10-12, which show how to download an indicator.



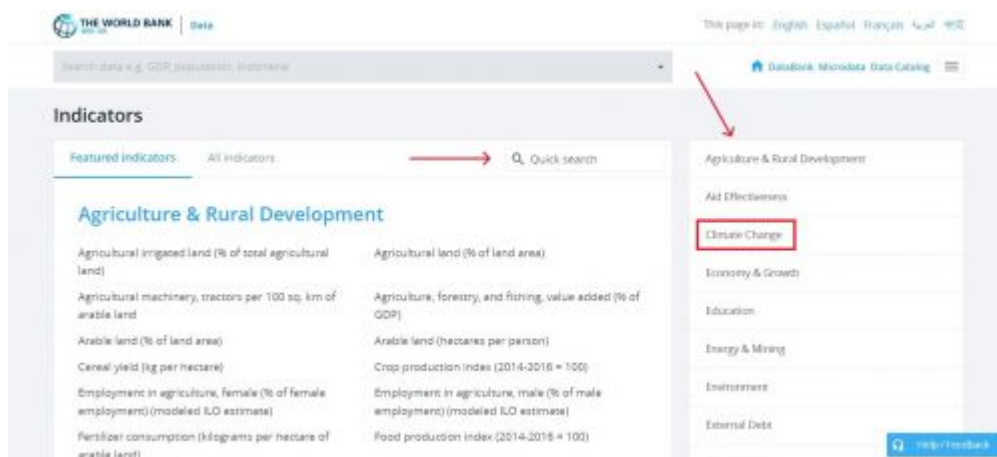
High Income example page

Step 6. If an individual country is selected, the following example screen will formulate. From here, select the relevant topic/theme/SDG Goal, then click on the desired indicator. Then skip to steps 10-12, which show how to download an indicator.



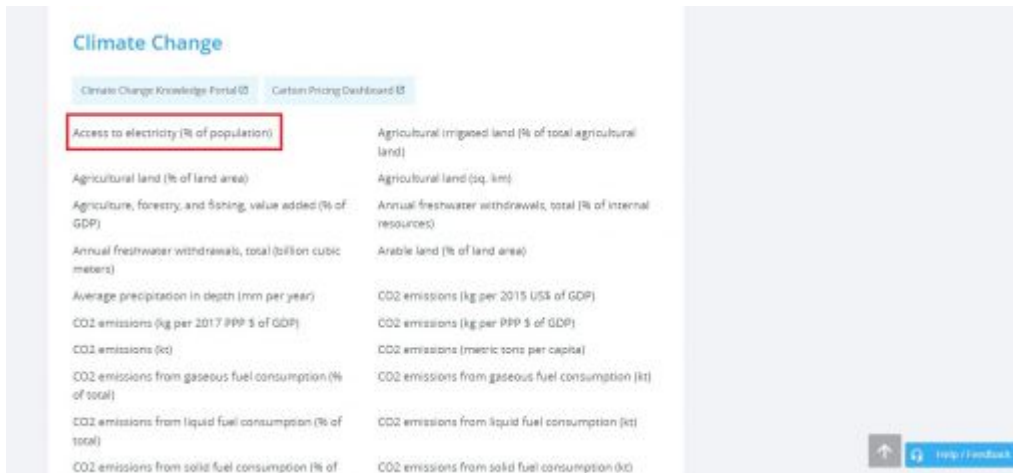
Afghanistan example page

Step 7. If clicked on <Indicator>, navigate to the relevant category of the desired indicator or type in the search bar. For this example, click on the <Climate Change> category.



Indicators main page

Step 8. The following page will populate. Click on <Access to electricity (% of population)> as an indicator example.



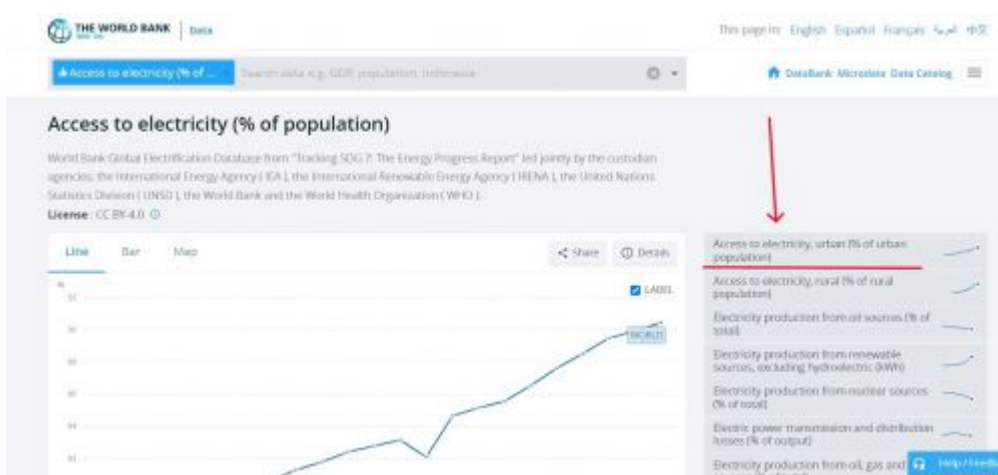
Example category from indicators page

Step 9. Clicking on <Access to electricity (% of population)> will lead to this page.



Access to electricity indicator

Step 10. If a more specific variable is desired, select one of the options of the right side. As an example, <Access to electricity, urban (% of urban population)> is showed here.



Access to electricity indicator

Step 11. Before downloading, select desired time range on the sliding scale beneath the graph.

Step 12. On the right side of the graph, under <Download>, click <EXCEL>. An excel data set will immediately download. You may also click <WDI Tables> to see the data in a slightly different format.

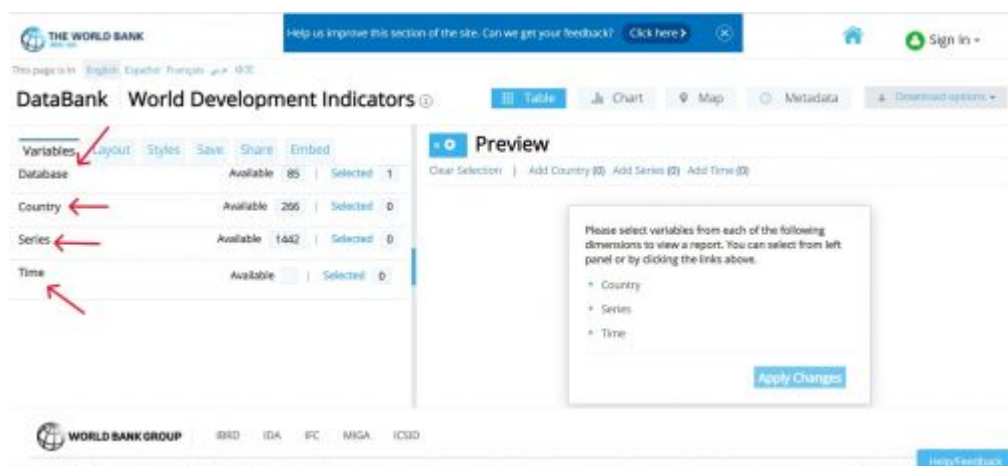


Download Indicator

Data Pulling Instructions: World Development Indicators Database

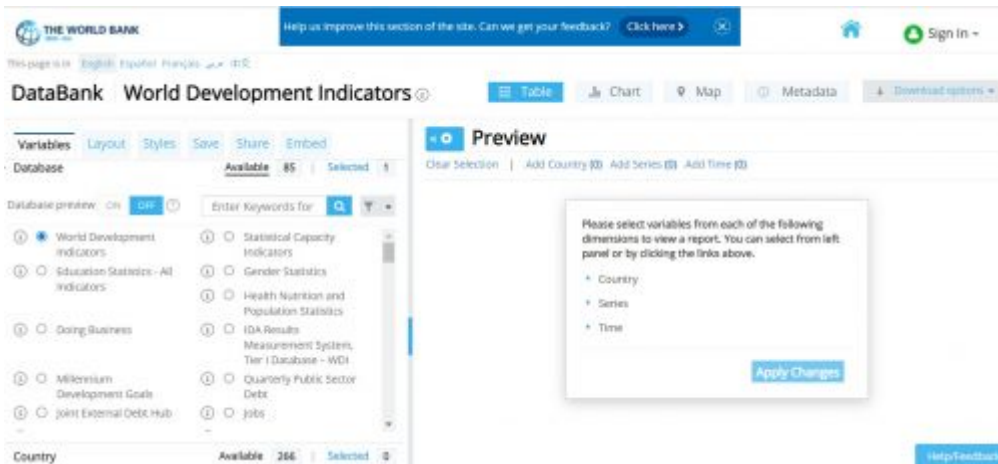
Step 1. To pull data from the World Bank's World Development Indicators database, navigate to <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators>

Step 2. In order to pull data, you'll need to first make selections regarding the database to pull from, countries, series, and time. These variables are on the left hand side.



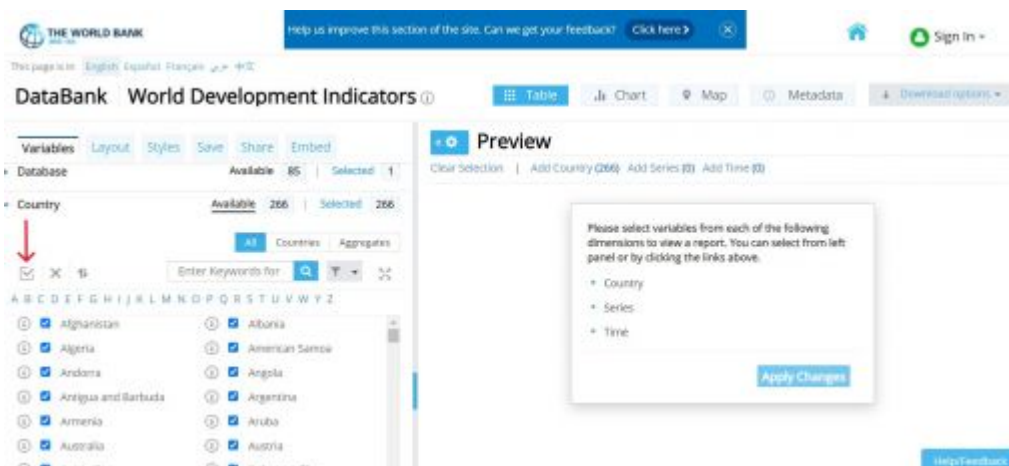
World Bank WDI main page

Step 3. First, select a database. This example will stay with WDI.



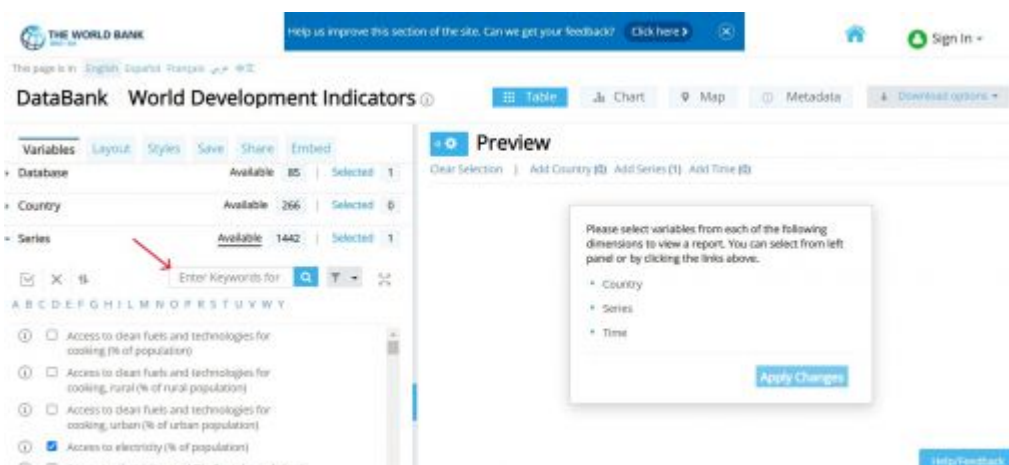
WDI page with database options

Step 4. Second, select the countries to include in the data. To choose all countries, click the checkbox above the list of country names.



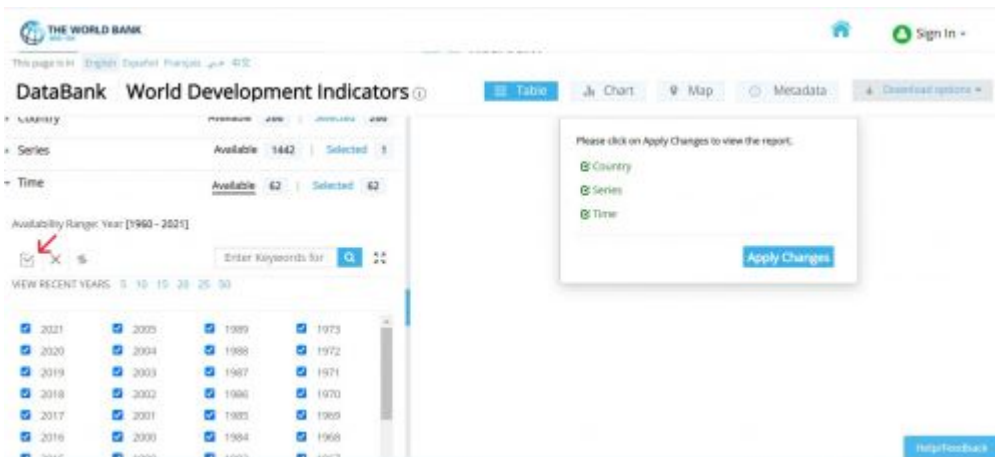
WDI page with country options

Step 5. Third, select series from keywords or alphabetical list. This example will choose <Access to electricity, (% of population)>.



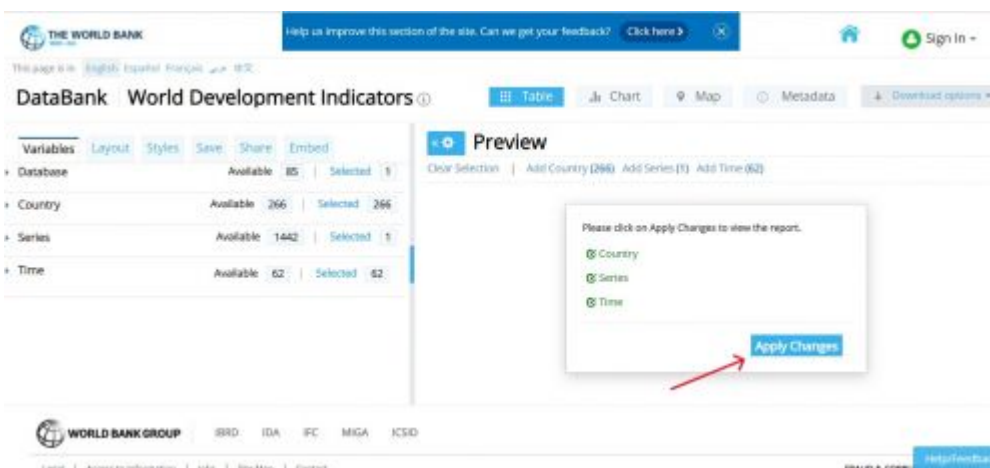
WDI page with series options

Step 6. Finally, select time as range of years. To choose all years, click the checkbox above the list of years.



WDI page with year options

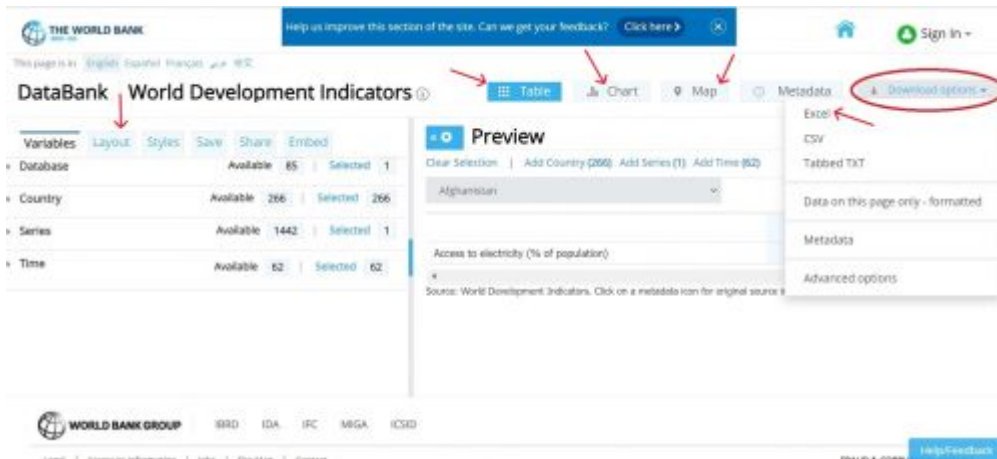
Step 7. When all variables have been selected, click <Apply Changes>.



WDI page with "Apply Changes"

Step 8. The following preview page will formulate. You can also adjust the layout on the left side under the <Layout> tab, and you can preview data in different formats by clicking on <Table>, <Chart>, and <Map>.

To download, click <Download Options> in right hand corner. Then click <Excel> and an Excel dataset will immediately download.



WDI page with download options

Data Pulling Instructions: World Development Indicators Bulk

1. Navigate to
<https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/search/dataset/0037712/World-Development-Indicators>
2. Download CSV

Data Notes

We updated 82 series from WDI, 71 of them are preprocessors and 11 non preprocessors.

1. Download CSV file from
<https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/search/dataset/0037712/World-Development-Indicators>
2. Open the WDICSV.csv file.
3. Use the "**Code in Source**" from the DataDict and "**Indicator Code**" from WDICSV file to prepare the series.
4. Be care of the "Formula", if there is a "%XXXX"(the XXXX is the "Indicator Code"), then you need to use the series divide the series after "%". The series after "%" also in the WDICSV.
 1. Please keep in mind *100 after you finish the division to make it in "**Percent**" instead of decimal.
 2. Always applying "**round**" function after you applied multiplying 100.
5. The "**Years**" for some series are discontinued, please remove the years with all "Nulls" before importing.
6. Blending with old data in IFsHistSeries:
 1. A country that has data in the previous release but not anymore. For this case, we need to bring the data in unless we have a solid proof to say they delete a country's data on purpose. For example, in the table GovCon%GDP, Nigeria used to have values, but the new table has all nulls for it because WDI somehow removes values for

Nigeria.

2. Some historical years of data are missing completely for all countries. WDI does this every now and then. For example, for certain tables, it used to have coverage back to 1960, then along the updates WDI only offers data back to 1980 or even 2000.
7. If you want to try to use python scripts to pull the data, you may access the scripts from [here](#).

Retrieved from

"https://pardeewiki.du.edu//index.php?title=World_Development_Indicators,_World_Bank&oldid=13504"

This page was last edited on 1 October 2025, at 15:37.