World Bank

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Contents

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.
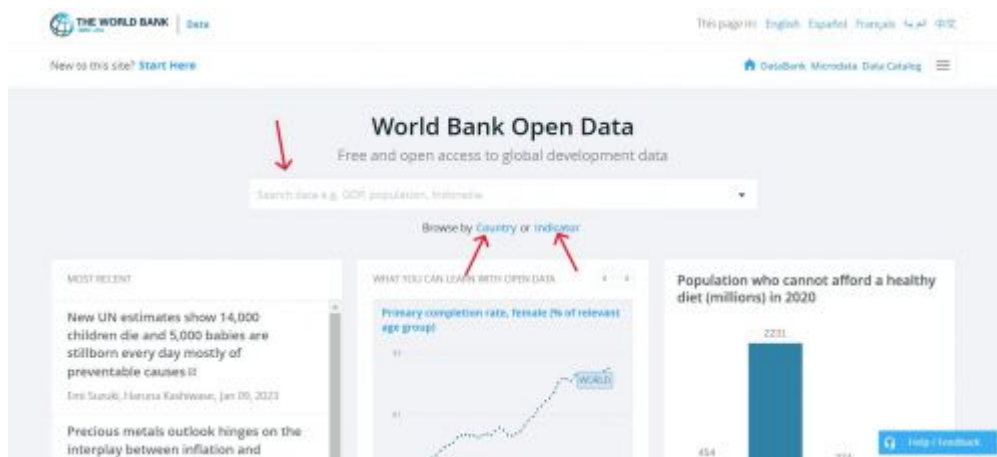
STEPS TO PULL DATA FROM WORLD BANK

Step 1. To pull data from the world bank, navigate to data.worldbank.org
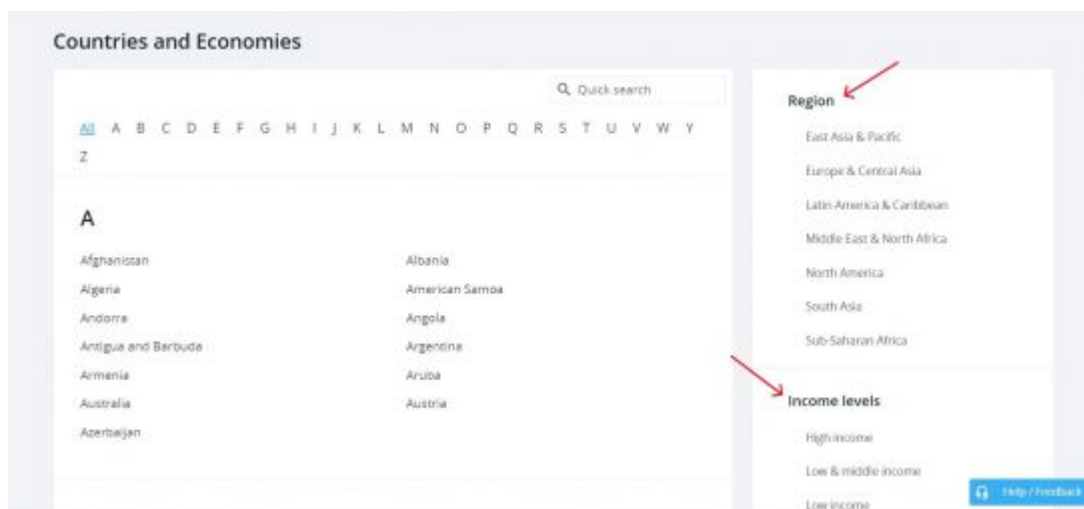
Step 2. To find the series, you can type in the search bar, click <Country> or click <Indicator>.

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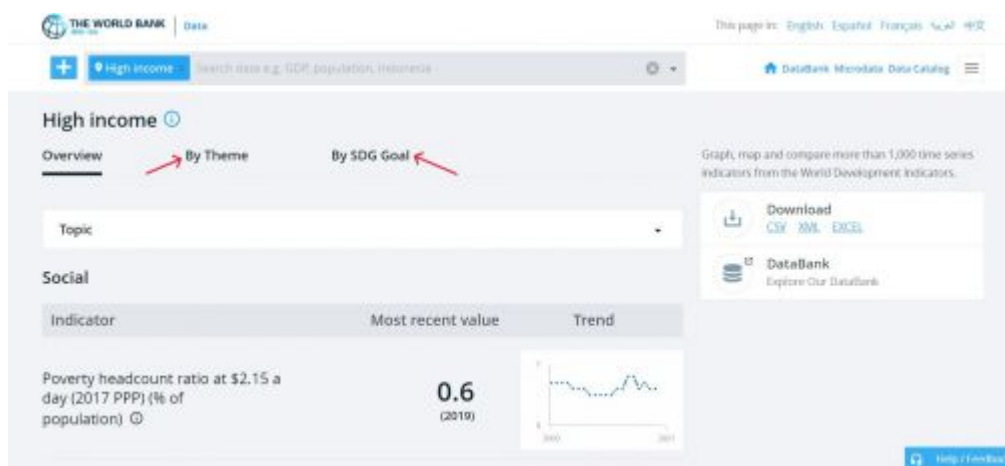
World Bank Data homepage

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.
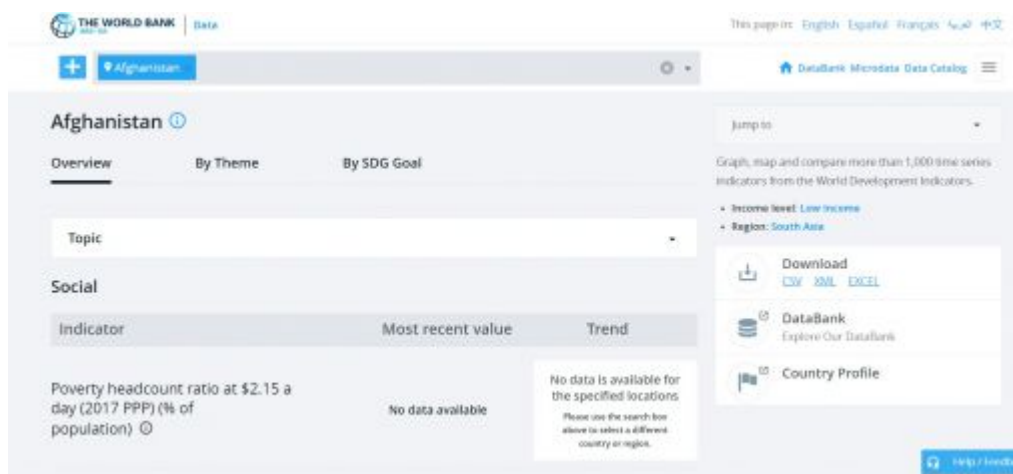

Countries and Economies main page

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.
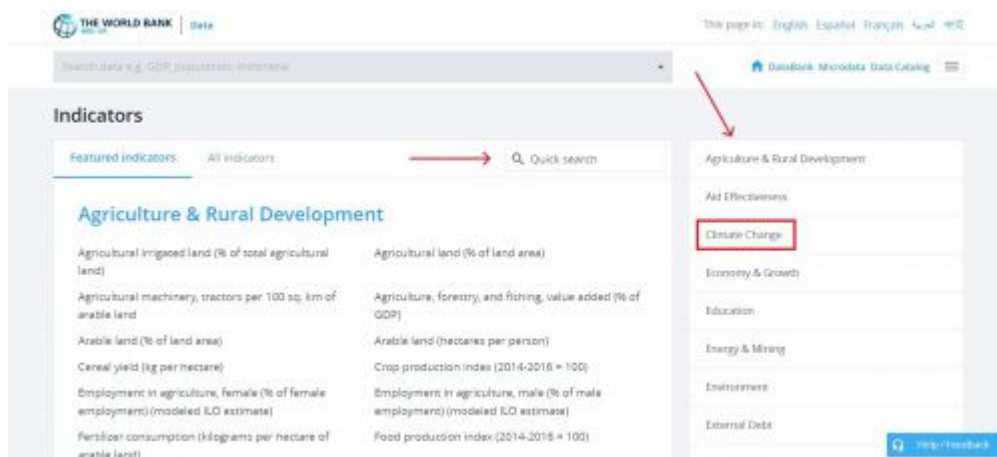

High Income example page

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.
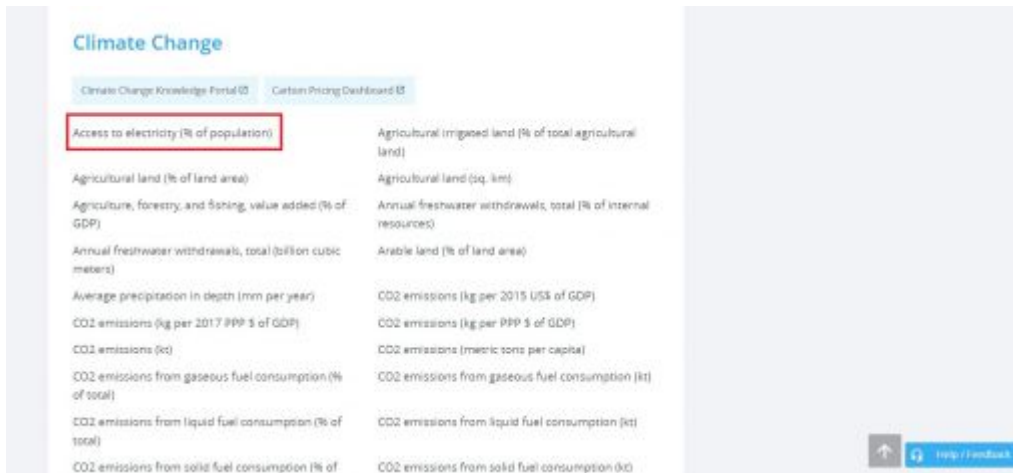

Afghanistan example page

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.
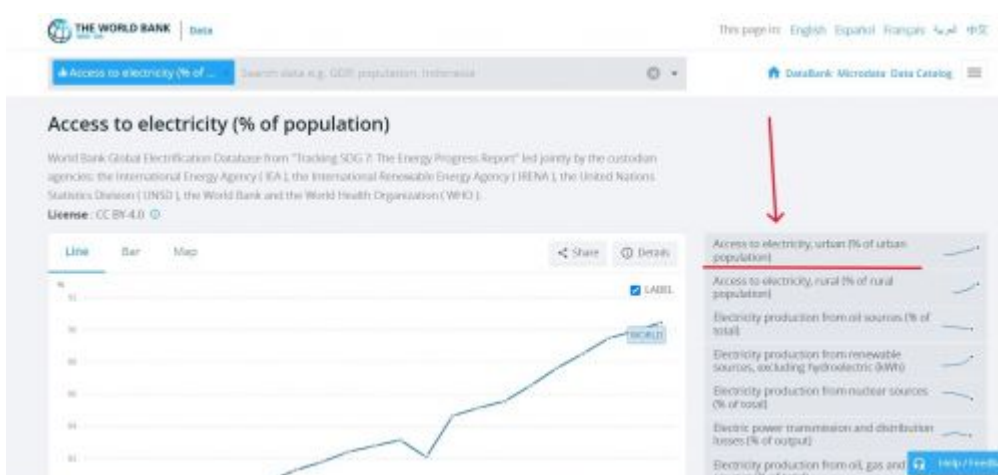
Example category from indicators page

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

STEPS TO PULL DATA FROM WORLD BANK WDI (WORLD DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS)

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.
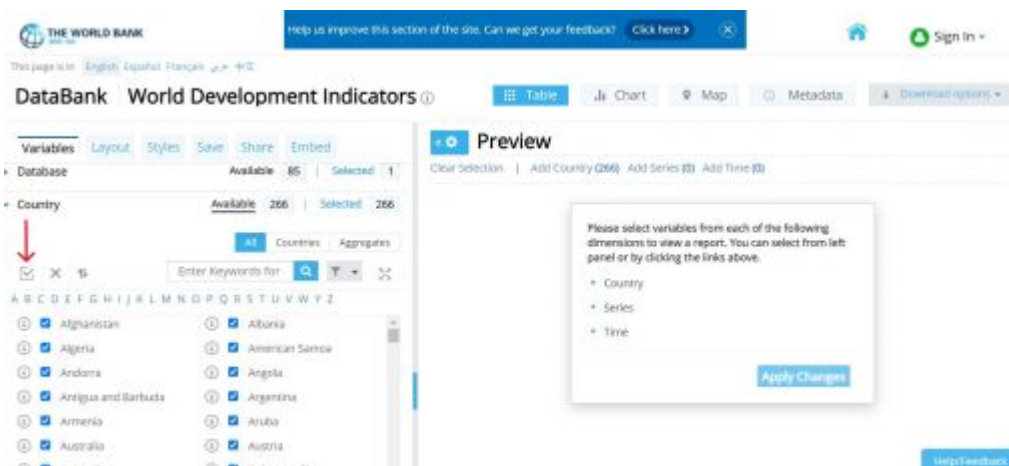

World Bank WDI main page

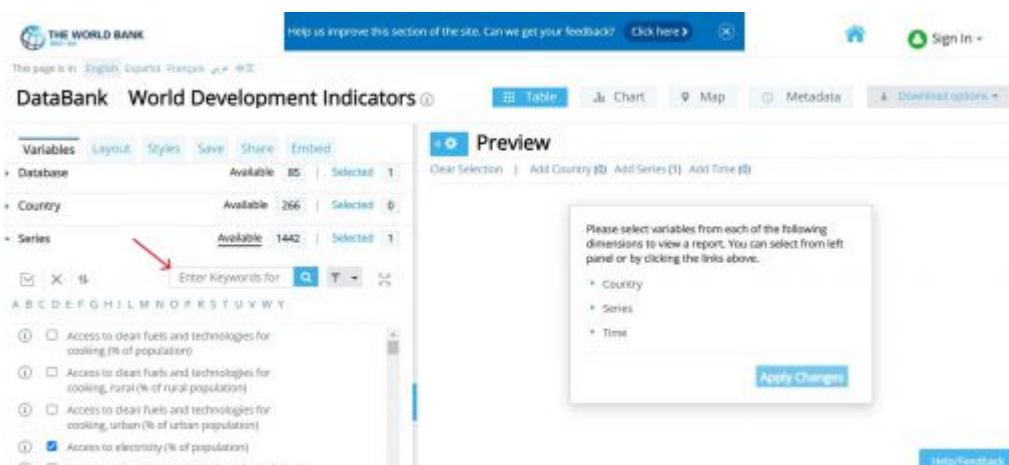Step 3. First, select a database. This example will stay with WDI.

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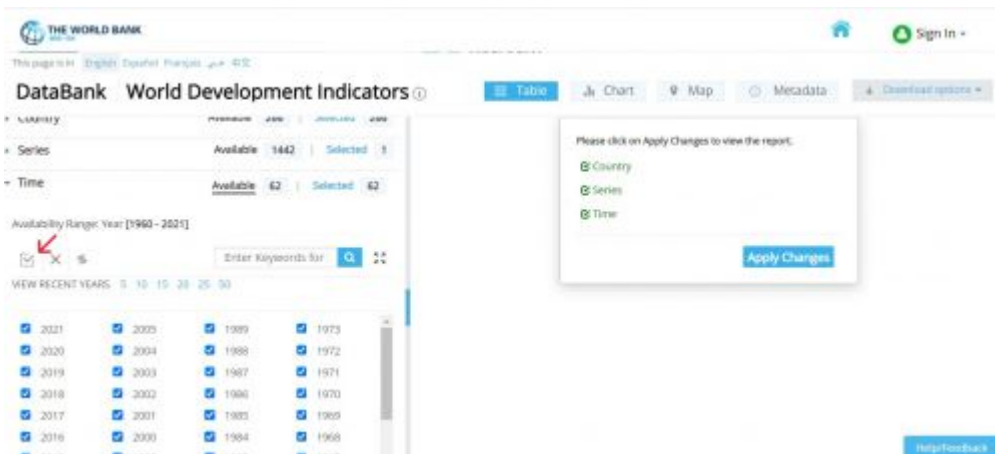
Step 5. Third, select series from keywords or alphabetical list. This example will choose <Access to electricity, (% of population)>.
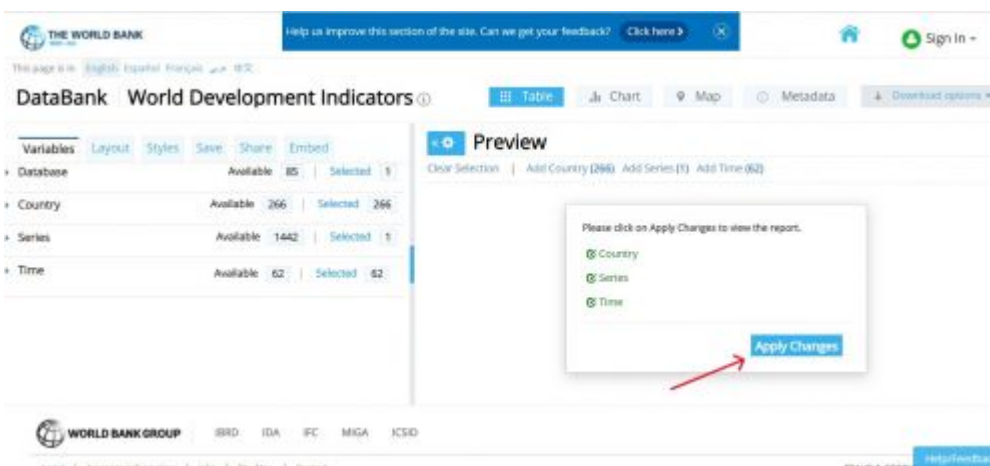

WDI page with series options

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

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WDI page with year options
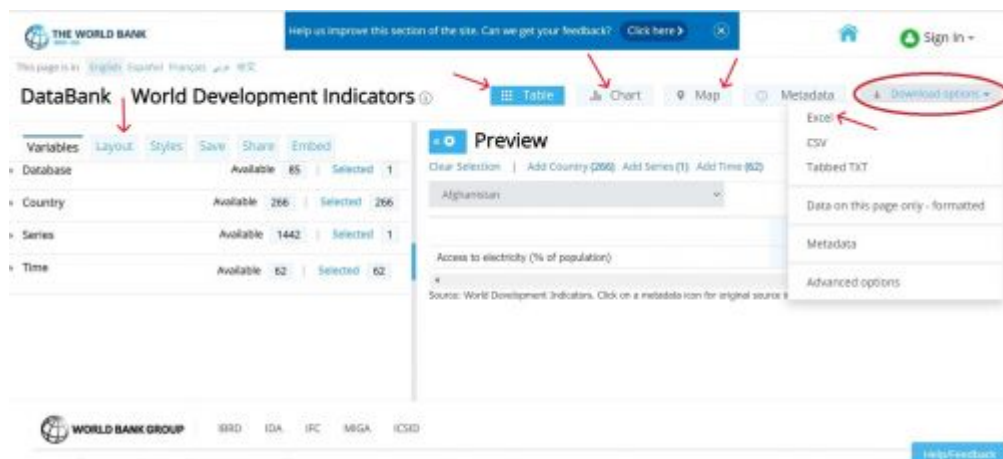
Step 7. When all variables have been selected, click <Apply Changes>.

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