

FINDING DATA ON THE WEB

Local voices. Global change.

Finding Data on the Web

Data Sources Online

- **Twitter!**
- Think tanks, NGOs and academics and government
- Advanced Google Searches
- Exercise
- Summary & Conclusions

Finding Data on the Web

Data tweets

- @Kresearcher
- @ColdTusker
- @OxfamEAfrica
- @IHubResearch
- @VirtualKenya
- @AfricaReview
- @AidData
- @AlexAwiti



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Finding Data on the Web

Kenyan think tanks, NGOs and academics

[Mars Group](#)

[Africa Open Data](#)

[International Budget Partnership County Budgets](#)

[Institute of Economic Affairs](#)

Kenyan Government Sources

[Kenya National Bureau of Statistics](#)

[E-promis Kenya](#)

[Kenya Open Data Initiative](#)

[National Treasury](#)



Finding Data on the Web

Global and open data catalogs

[World Health Organization](#)

[United Nations](#)

[World Bank](#)

[DataCatalogs.org](#)

[The Guardian's world government data portal](#)

[Google's public data directory](#)

[The data hub](#)

[DBPedia Datasets](#)

[Factual](#)

[Free GIS data](#)

[List of open data resources](#)

[Energy data repositories](#)

[World Research Institute](#)

[Data wrangling](#)

[Quora thread: "Where can I find large datasets open to the public?"](#)

[Directory of APIs](#)

[Infochimps](#)

[Datamarket](#)

[Offshore Leaks](#)

[Investigative Dashboard](#)

[Open Corporates](#)

[Natural Earth data](#)

[UNEP Data](#)

[Transparency International](#)

[Corruption Index](#)

[Land Ownership Database](#)

[Gapminder World](#)



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Finding Data on the Web:

Data Formats for Download

- Portable Document Format (PDF): charts that contain data but are saved in a unified document with text
- Excel file (xls): data is saved as a table readable by Microsoft Excel
- Comma separated values (CSV): Plain text file with each data separated by a comma

Finding Data on the Web: Google Advanced Searches

Webpage Screenshot

Advanced Search

Find pages with...

all these words:

this exact word or phrase:

any of these words:

none of these words:

numbers ranging from:

to

To do this in the search box

Type the important words: `tricolor rat terrier`

Put exact words in quotes: `"rat terrier"`

Type OR between all the words you want: `miniature OR standard`

Put a minus sign just before words you don't want:
`-rodent, -"Jack Russell"`

Put 2 periods between the numbers and add a unit of measure:
`10..35 lb, $300..$500, 2010..2011`

Then narrow your results by...

language:

any language ▼

Find pages in the language you select.

region:

any region ▼

Find pages published in a particular region.

last update:

anytime ▼

Find pages updated within the time you specify.

site or domain:

Search one site (like `wikipedia.org`) or limit your results to a domain like `.edu`, `.org` or `.gov`

terms appearing:

anywhere in the page ▼

Search for terms in the whole page, page title, or web address, or links to the page you're looking for.

SafeSearch:

Show most relevant results ▼

Tell **SafeSearch** whether to filter sexually explicit content.

reading level:

no reading level displayed ▼

Find pages at one reading level or just view the level info.

file type:

any format ▼

Find pages in the format you prefer.

http://www.google.com/advanced_search Tue May 20 2014 13:38:51 GMT+0300 (E. Africa Standard Time)

Finding Data: Advanced Google Searches Shortcuts

Type OR to find variations of the same search: Kenya “tourism” OR “tourists” OR “visitors”

Use quotes to search for phrases “Kenya National Bureau of Statistics”

Narrow search to specific website: “site:url” Example “site:www.tourism.go.ke”

Narrow search to filetype: “Filetype:[extension]”

Example: site:www.tourism.go.ke filetype:xls

Also try http://www.google.com/advanced_search

[Google alerts](#): get notified about your beat

Finding Data on the Web: Exercise

Get back into your two groups:

- [Tourism Players Want State to Wave Taxes](#)
- [Kenya Bids to Revive Tourism as al-Shabaab Vows Broader War](#)

Finding Data on the Web: Exercise

1. Return to your lists of data that would enrich Kenyan tourism coverage
2. Search for data using databases and advanced searches.
3. Categorize the data you have by story angle

Finding Data on the Web: Exercise

1. How feasible is it for tourists from the East to replace tourist from the West?
2. What are the current numbers of Asian tourists to Kenya versus the top five Western countries?
3. What is the impact to the economy if there is a significant drop in number of tourists?

Finding Data: No Excuses!

- “We don’t have that data on a computer.”
- High fees
- Delay tactics
- “Your request was unclear.”
- Sending the wrong data
- “Our database is too complicated to give you access.”
- “Our database software is proprietary.”
- “That information is protected by privacy law.”

Summary & Resources

- Data is available in many different formats and almost always you will need to convert data to an Excel or csv file.
- Every day, more data is available online and accessible through searches
- If you can't find it online, don't give up!