Researching Asian Sources

By Agatha Foo

agathafoo@smu.edu.sg
## Internet Usage Statistics - The Big Picture
### World Internet Users and Population Stats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World Regions</th>
<th>Population (2006 Est.)</th>
<th>Population % of World</th>
<th>Internet Usage, Latest Data</th>
<th>% Population (Penetration)</th>
<th>Usage % of World</th>
<th>Usage Growth 2000-2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>915,210,938</td>
<td>14.1 %</td>
<td>23,649,000</td>
<td>2.6 %</td>
<td>2.3 %</td>
<td>423.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>3,667,774,066</td>
<td>56.4 %</td>
<td>364,270,713</td>
<td>9.9 %</td>
<td>35.6 %</td>
<td>218.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>807,289,020</td>
<td>12.4 %</td>
<td>291,600,898</td>
<td>36.1 %</td>
<td>28.5 %</td>
<td>177.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>190,084,161</td>
<td>2.9 %</td>
<td>18,203,500</td>
<td>9.6 %</td>
<td>1.8 %</td>
<td>454.2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>331,473,276</td>
<td>5.1 %</td>
<td>227,303,680</td>
<td>68.6 %</td>
<td>22.2 %</td>
<td>110.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America/Caribbean</td>
<td>553,908,632</td>
<td>8.5 %</td>
<td>79,962,809</td>
<td>14.4 %</td>
<td>7.8 %</td>
<td>342.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania / Australia</td>
<td>33,956,977</td>
<td>0.5 %</td>
<td>17,872,707</td>
<td>52.6 %</td>
<td>1.7 %</td>
<td>134.6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORLD TOTAL</td>
<td>6,499,697,060</td>
<td>100.0 %</td>
<td>1,022,863,307</td>
<td>15.7 %</td>
<td>100.0 %</td>
<td>183.4 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**
1. Internet Usage and World Population Statistics were updated for March 31, 2006.
2. CLICK on each world region for detailed regional information.
3. Demographic (Population) numbers are based on data contained in the world-gazetteer website.
4. Internet usage information comes from data published by Nielsen/NetRatings, by the International Telecommunications Union, by local NICs, and other other reliable sources.
5. Definitions, disclaimer, and navigation help, see the Site Surfing Guide.
6. Information from this site may be cited, giving due credit and establishing an active link back to www.internetworldstats.com. ©Copyright 2006, Miniwatts Marketing Group. All rights reserved.
• High demand for information
• Barriers in getting information exist
• Where and how to find it
"Attempts to survey international business information sources inevitably run into several snags: Availability, intelligibility, discrepancies, and disinformation. Maybe it’s just me, but these snags seem greater with Asian business information than with that from some other regions."

Marydee Ojala

Asia/Far East Business Information
Online 91, Conference Proceedings
“The barrier we’ve noticed is consistency in which the Asian Governments have collected data”

Rebecca Smith
Head
Business & Economics Library
University of Illinois
May 2006

“Difficulties researching information about Asia principally because the standard sources focus primarily around English language publications, which immediately creates a ‘western’ bias as well as a lack of local content breath and depth”

Chris Flegg
Chief Librarian
(Melbourne Business School)
May 2006
Barriers to finding information

- Language
- Availability
- Out-of-date information
- Lack of Information providers
- Discrepancies
Barriers to finding information

- Language
  - Different official languages
  - Translated data

- Availability
- Out-of-date information
- Lack of Information providers
- Discrepancies

© Agatha Foo, SMU 2006
Barriers to finding information

- Language
- Availability
- Out-of-date information
- Lack of Information providers
- Discrepancies
  - Electronically
  - Conservative
  - Overload or non-existence
Barriers to finding information

- Language
- Availability
- Out-of-date information
- Lack of Information providers
- Discrepancies

- Financial
- Economic Data
Barriers to finding information

- Language
- Availability
- Out-of-date information
- Lack of Information providers
- Discrepancies

- Specific topic, specific country
- Secondary data
Barriers to finding information

- Language
- Availability
- Out-of-date information
- Lack of Information providers
- Discrepancies

- Conflicting data
- Information providers (local vs international)
- Different accounting standards

© Agatha Foo, SMU 2006
Traditional Approach

- Electronically – web & databases
- Print – directories, books & journals
Non-traditional approach

- Cold calls

- Connections / Contacts

- In-person (face-to-face interview)
Standard Business Sources

- OneSource
- BvDEP (Bureau van Dijk Electronic Publishing)
- Thomson Financial
- EIU (Economist Intelligence Unit)
- Factiva
- Internet Securities (ISI Emerging Markets)
- Euromonitor
- Datamonitor

© Agatha Foo, SMU 2006
Asian Demographics

- [http://www.asiandemographics.com](http://www.asiandemographics.com)

Asian Demographics specializes in the collection, analysis and modelling of demographic data

- provide a perspective of the demographic future of Asia

- 14 countries covered – Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines & New Zealand

- The company is registered in New Zealand with offices in Hong Kong and Singapore
### Summary Statistics

#### Household Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NT$ constant 2004 values</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>913,094</td>
<td>799,476</td>
<td>791,811</td>
<td>787,144</td>
<td>785,898</td>
<td>-2.6%</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>726,848</td>
<td>689,119</td>
<td>684,275</td>
<td>681,415</td>
<td>681,296</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>US$ constant 2004 values</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>27,678</td>
<td>23,531</td>
<td>23,305</td>
<td>23,168</td>
<td>23,131</td>
<td>-3.2%</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Households (000s) earning NT$ constant 2004 values</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over NT$ 2000000</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>-13.2%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over US$ 50000</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>-12.3%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number of City, Town and Rural Households

Age Profile of Householders

Asian Demographics Ltd
Relative to the rest of the Asia Region, Taiwan has one of the slowest growth rate for its labour force and will be the 3rd country in the region to experience negative labour force growth before 2024.
Segment Y

- [http://www.segmenty.com](http://www.segmenty.com)

- Segment Y is a Dutch automotive intelligence company that focuses on emerging markets.

- Operating from India, it covers emerging markets in Asia such as China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines and, of course, India.

- It also tracks more developed markets in the region like Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, Korea and Australia.
### Segment Y

Automotive intelligence on emerging markets

#### Vehicle Data Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Segment-global</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Transmission type</th>
<th>Gears</th>
<th>Engine cc</th>
<th>Jan '03</th>
<th>Feb '03</th>
<th>Mar '03</th>
<th>Apr '03</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Chevrolet Spark</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>999</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Chevrolet Spark</td>
<td>1.0 Trendy</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>999</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Daewoo Matiz</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>796</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Daihatsu Ceria</td>
<td>800 KL/KX</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Hyundai Atoz</td>
<td>1.0 GL</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Hyundai Atoz</td>
<td>1.0 GLS</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Hyundai Atoz</td>
<td>1.0 GLS Auto</td>
<td>automatic</td>
<td>4 speed</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Hyundai Atoz</td>
<td>1.0 GLX</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>mini</td>
<td>Kia Picanto</td>
<td>1.1 GL</td>
<td>manual</td>
<td>5 speed</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volumes Query Builder

Overview of Volumes Query Builder
The 'Volumes Query Builder' is a tool that helps the users to construct a query to run on the database. Clicking on the 'Volumes Query' on the main tool bar opens this tool.

What is a Query?
A query is classified as any kind of request for data in any format from the system. A user can extract the data in a variety of formats and in different combinations by formulating appropriate queries.

Specifying a Query
There are two main components of a query:
The Asian Banker Journal

- www.theasianbanker.com
- It covers the latest news and research reports on developments in the financial services sector
- Print and online access
- By subscription, free newsletter
- Based in Singapore
Unique information

- Private companies financial (Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, China, Japan & Korea)

- Standard sources:-
  - One Source
  - Oriana
  - ISI Emerging Markets
Major free regional websites

Agricultural and Agri-Food Canada
- Country info, product report, market research report for Asia Pacific countries.
  http://atn-riae.agr.ca/info/asia-e.htm

APEC Tariff Database
- Find tariff info for the APEC member economies (21 countries)
  www.apectariff.org
Major free regional websites

Business-in-Asia
http://www.business-in-asia.com/

Asia Development Bank
- Economic & Statistics, white papers and reports for various countries
http://www.adb.org/
Major country sites

**Japan**

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)
- *Industry profiles, Doing business in Japan, case studies*

[www.jetro.org](http://www.jetro.org)
Major country sites

India
India One Stop.com
- Industry overview, country overview
http://indiaonestop.com

Indiastat.com (by subscription)
- Socio-economic statistical facts & figures
www.indiastat.com
Major country sites

**India**
Confederation of Indian Industry
- *Sectors overview*

**India Infoline**
- *Industry reports*
  [www.indiainfoline.com](http://www.indiainfoline.com)
Major country sites

Singapore
Economic Development Board
- Singapore facts & figures, Singapore rankings, sector overview

www.edb.gov.sg

Infocomm Development Authority
- Facts & figures, regulations etc on Infocomm in Singapore

www.ida.gov.sg
Major country sites

South Korea
Korea Information Service
- About 14000 audited company basic profiles provided

Korea Institute of Finance
- Review on development of Korea's financial industry. They have research reports and financial research papers
  http://www.kif.re.kr/
Major country sites

Malaysia
Malaysia Industrial Development Authority
- *Doing Business in Malaysia, Industry Profile*
  http://www.mida.gov.my/
Major country sites

**Thailand**

Bank of Thailand
- *Economic data, Finance Sector data*
- *Regional level of data*

[www.bot.or.th](http://www.bot.or.th)

Board of Investment Thailand
- *Doing Business in Thailand, statistics etc*

Major country sites

**Indonesia**

National Agency for Export Development

- *Import Export data, trade statistics and commodity prices*

http://www.nafed.go.id/

**The Jakarta Post**

- Indonesia Outlook, National review, city review and business review

http://www.thejakartapost.com/

© Agatha Foo, SMU 2006
What’s Next?

- Note that cultural differences are very important when doing business in Asia.

- Both secondary research & primary research – through asking questions, traveling to the countries, or hiring local expert is the next best thing to do.
Thank You

By Agatha Foo

agathafoo@smu.edu.sg