

# READER'S GUIDE

**GENERAL NOTE:** The Twelfth Edition of *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations* (WEN) is comprised of five volumes. Volume 1 is dedicated to the United Nations and its related agencies. Volumes 2 through 5, “Africa,” “Americas,” “Asia and Oceania,” and “Europe,” contain entries on the countries of the world.

Reflecting the ever-changing status of the world geopolitical situation, the Twelfth Edition includes entries for 194 countries, one more than the previous edition. This reflects the 2006 decision of Montenegro to dissolve its relationship with Serbia to become an independent nation in its own right. Seven entries describe dependencies. This edition no longer includes volume 6, which was entitled *World Leaders*.

Some notable changes in previous editions include the Eleventh Edition's inclusion of an entry on East Timor, coverage of the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, and the expansion of the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Changes in the Tenth Edition included recording of the change in status for Macau; as of December 1999 Macau came under Chinese authority, and thus Macau was incorporated into the China entry (previously it was described under Portuguese Asian Dependency). Similarly, the entry for United Kingdom Asian Dependency (Hong Kong) was eliminated with the Ninth Edition; as of 1997 Hong Kong came under Chinese authority and, like Macau, is described in that country's entry. Also with the Tenth Edition, the introduction of the euro as currency in the nations of the European Union was noted. The Eighth Edition of this encyclopedia (1995) reported on the dramatic changes in the world in the early 1990s, including the dissolution of the USSR, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia; the unification of Germany; the unification of Yemen; and the independence of Eritrea. These changes resulted in twenty-five new country articles. Whereas the First Edition of the *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations*, in one volume, contained 119 articles, the present Twelfth Edition now contains 201.

In compiling data for incorporation into the *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations*, substantial efforts were made to enlist the assistance of the government of every nation in the world, as well as of all pertinent UN agencies, who cooperated by supplying data and by revising and updating materials relevant to their sphere of interest. Material received from official sources was reviewed and critically assessed by the editors as part of the process of incorporation. Materials and publications of the UN family and of intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations throughout the world provided a major fund of geographic, demographic, economic, and social data.

In compiling historical, economic, and political data, primary materials generated by governments and international agencies were supplemented by data gathered from numerous other sources including newspapers (most notably *The European*, the *Financial Times*, the *New York Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal*); periodicals (most notably *Current History*, *Elections Today*, *The Economist*, the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *World Press Review*); and thousands of World Wide Web sites hosted by government agencies and embassies.

The reader's attention is directed to the Glossary of Special Terms for explanations of key terms and concepts essential to a fuller understanding of the text.

**COUNTRY NAMES:** Country names are reported (as appropriate) in three forms: the short-form name (generally conformed to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's *World Factbook 2006*), as commonly used in the text; the English version of the official name (generally conformed to the United Nations list of country names); and the official name in the national language(s). When necessary, textual usages of some short-form names have been rectified, usually through the substitution of an acronym for the official name, in order to strike a better balance between official usages and universal terminology. Thus the following short-form names have been adopted throughout (except in historical context to preserve accuracy): DROC (Democratic Republic of the Congo—known as Zaire prior to the Ninth Edition); ROC (Republic of the Congo); FRG (Federal Republic of Germany); North Korea: DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea); and South Korea: ROK (Republic of Korea). In addition, Vietnam has replaced Viet Nam to reflect common usage.

**MAPS:** Spellings on the individual country maps reflect national usages and recognized transliteration practice. To clarify national boundaries and landforms, dark shading has been applied to waters, and lighter shading to lands not within that nation's jurisdiction. Cross-hatching has been used to designate certain disputed areas. Rivers that run dry during certain times of the year are indicated by dashed instead of solid lines.

**FLAGS AND NATIONAL EMBLEMS:** All depictions of flags, flag designations, and national emblems have been reviewed and, where necessary, corrected or changed to reflect their official usage as of 2006. In general, the term “national flag” denotes the civil flag of the nation.

**CURRENCY:** In most cases, currency conversion factors cited in the Twelfth Edition are as of the first quarter of 2006.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES:** The general world trend toward adoption of the metric system is acknowledged through the use of metric units and their nonmetric (customary or imperial) equivalents throughout the text. The two exceptions to this practice involve territorial sea limits, which are reported in nautical miles, and various production data, for which (unless otherwise stated) units of measure reflect the system in use by the country in question. All tons are metric tons (again, unless otherwise indicated), reflecting the practice of the UN in its statistical reporting.

**HOLIDAYS:** Except where noted, all holidays listed are official public holidays, on which government offices are closed that would normally be open. Transliterations of names of Muslim holidays have been standardized. For a fuller discussion on these points, and for a description of religious holidays and their origins and meanings, see the Glossary of Religious Holidays in this volume.

**GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION:** To update the sections on Location, Size, and Extent; Topography, Climate, Flora and Fauna, and Environment, the following print publications (and their publishers) were used: *Geo-Data: The World Geographical Encyclopedia* (Gale Group), *World Development Indicators 2005* (The World Bank), and *World Resources* (Oxford University Press). Additional data was acquired from these websites: Library of Congress, *Country Studies: Country Profiles* (<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/profiles.html>); *Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (<http://www.ramsar.org>); *UNESCO World Heritage Centre* (<http://www.whc.unesco.org>); *United Nations Environment Programme* (<http://www.unep.org>); *Weather Channel: Averages and Records* (<http://www.weather.com/common/home/climatology.html>); *World Conservation Union: Species Survival Commission* (<http://www.iucn.org/themes/ssc>); *World Factbook 2006* (<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>).

**POPULATION DATA:** Data for the four rubrics describing population (Population, Migration, Ethnic Groups, Languages) were compiled from numerous publications of the U.S. Department of State, the World Bank, the United Nations, and the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), specifically its publication *Trends in International Migration*. Also consulted were *The State of the World's Refugees* (Oxford University Press) and *International Committee of the Red Cross Annual Report* (International Committee of the Red Cross)

**RELIGIONS:** Data for this section were compiled in large part from the *2005 International Religious Freedom Report* released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State. This is an annual report to Congress compiled in compliance with Section 102(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA) of 1998. The *2005 Report* covers the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 and includes the work of hundreds of State Department, Foreign Service, and other U.S. government employees. The authors gathered information throughout this period from a variety of sources, including government and religious officials, nongovernmental organizations, journalists, human rights monitors, religious groups, and academics.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Sources consulted for updated information on transportation include publications of the American Automobile Manufacturers Association, the International Road Transport Union, specifically its publication *World Transport Data*, and the *World Factbook 2006*.

**HISTORY:** In writing the History rubric, a variety of news and background information sources on each country were used. Full country profiles—including information on the history, economy, political institutions, and foreign relations on most nations of the world—are provided by the U.S. Library of Congress and by the U.S. Department of State; similar formats are published by the *BBC News International* version and *The Economist's* Country Briefings feature. In consulting news sources for up-to-date information on events, only reported facts (not editorials) were used. The *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* are more comprehensive than the *Wall Street Journal*, whose focus is placed on financial and business news. While the website of the United Nations was used extensively in compiling Volume 1 “United Nations,” of the *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations*, its coverage of such problems as politics in the Middle East and global terrorism pertained to and supported the updating of history rubrics of a number of countries. Other organizations that publish journals or studies on global current events, foreign policy, international relations, and human rights include Amnesty International; Human Rights Watch; *Foreign Affairs*, published by the Council on Foreign Relations; and *Great Decisions*, published by the Foreign Policy Association. In addition, the

official websites of each nation were consulted critically for information that could be gleaned from a state's view of its own history and place in the world.

**GOVERNMENT:** The Government rubric is constructed by outlining the institutions of government as they were formed throughout a nation's modern history, up to those existing under the present constitution. *Countries of the World and Their Leaders Yearbook 2006* (Thomson Gale) outlines the form of government and provides information on political conditions.

The U.S. Library of Congress and the U.S. Department of State chronicle constitutional changes and also provide information on the form of government. Electionworld and the *World Factbook 2006* provide information on officeholders in place at the time of publication. The *BBC News International* "Country Profiles" cover current leaders and their political parties, and *The Economist* is comprehensive in its coverage of political structures and political forces in place and at work in the nations it profiles. The official government websites of individual nations were also consulted.

**POLITICAL PARTIES:** *Countries of the World and Their Leaders Yearbook 2006* not only lists the political parties present in each nation, but provides additional information on the political parties in its "History" and "Government and Political Conditions" sections. *The Economist* also has sections in its country briefings labeled "political structure" and "political forces," which describe the political climate of each nation the magazine profiles. In addition, *The Economist* provides a brief history of the nation, which often includes the history of political parties. Editors reviewed the profiles of selected nations prepared by the U.S. Library of Congress, which include comprehensive coverage of politics and political parties. The *World Factbook 2006* was consulted for a list of political parties, and often, their leaders. The website, Electionworld.org, describes the major political parties and their leaders, and also lists minor and defunct parties. Political Resources on the Net, a website, compiles links to a variety of sites useful to the researcher with a critical eye.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** *Countries of the World and Their Leaders Yearbook 2006* lists the administrative subdivisions in each nation of the world; as does the U.S. State Department in its *Background Notes*, and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in its *World Factbook 2006*. *The Economist* was consulted for a description of regional legislatures. The U.S. Library of Congress "Country Profiles" briefings describe administrative divisions and provincial and local government.

**JUDICIAL SYSTEM:** *Countries of the World and Their Leaders Yearbook 2006*, *Background Notes*, and the *World Factbook 2006* all provided basic information on each nation's judicial system. *The Economist* was consulted for a description of the legal systems of each nation it profiles. The U.S. Library of Congress "Country Profiles" briefings provided more in-depth detail about judicial power and structure in the nations it profiles. Jurist, a web-based legal news and real-time legal research service based out of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was consulted as well for concise information on each nation it profiles.

**ARMED FORCES:** Statistical data on armed forces was compiled from the *World Factbook 2006*, *The Military Balance* (The International Institute for Strategic Studies), the *SIPRI Yearbook* (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute), and other print and online sources including *Current World Nuclear Arsenals* maintained by the Center for Defense Information.

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:** This section was updated using data provided by news agencies and the following websites: *World Factbook 2006* (<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>) and *Background Notes* (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn>).

**ECONOMY:** In addition to numerous official online sources, data on the economies of the world were compiled from the most recent editions of the following U.S. government publications: *National Trade Estimate on Foreign Trade Barriers*, *Country Commercial Guides*, and *Economic Policy and Trade Practices*. *The Economist* was consulted for detailed information on economic structures and select indicators in its "Country Profiles" archive; it also included economic and political forecasts for the nations it profiled. The U.S. Library of Congress "Country Profiles" provided a brief historical overview of the economies of the countries it profiled, in addition to detailing the current state of various sectors of those economies. *The Index of Economic Freedom* (Heritage Foundation) was also consulted for its measurement of independent variables into broad factors of economic freedom.

**INCOME:** Statistics on national income were obtained from sources published by the United Nations, The World Bank, and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). CIA figures are for gross domestic product (GDP), defined as the value of all final goods and services produced within a nation in a given year. In most cases, CIA figures are given in purchasing power parity terms.

**LABOR:** Labor statistics were compiled from *World Employment* and *Yearbook of Labour Statistics* (International Labour Office—ILO) and the ILO’s website *Child Labor Statistics by Country* (<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/simpoc/countries.htm>); the World Bank publication *World Development Indicators 2004*; and the U.S. State Department’s *Human Rights Reports 2005*.

**AGRICULTURE, FISHING AND FORESTRY:** In addition to government sources, statistical data for these sections was compiled from the following yearbooks published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: *Trade; Fishery Statistics: Commodities; Fisheries; Production; Agriculture; and Forest Products*.

**MINING:** Data on mining and minerals production came from various online sources and from statistics compiled by the Minerals Information office of the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior, including Volume III of the *Minerals Yearbook*. This volume of the *Minerals Yearbook* is published both electronically on the Internet and in various print formats available from the U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents. The *Yearbook* provides an annual review of mineral production and trade and of mineral-related government and industry developments in more than 175 countries.

**ENERGY AND POWER:** Key sources consulted include *Country Analysis Briefs* (U.S. Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy), *Key World Energy Statistics* (International Energy Agency), and *World Development Indicators* (The World Bank).

**INDUSTRY :** The primary source material for the Industry rubric was the U.S. State Department’s *Country Commercial Guides*, which provide a comprehensive look at countries’ commercial environments, using economic, political, and market analysis. *Background Notes* were consulted for the information on the industrial history and climate of each country profiled. Also useful was information contained in the “Country Profiles” published by the U.S. Library of Congress. The *World Factbook 2006* provides a list of key economic indicators. *The Economist* and, to a lesser extent, *BBC News* were useful in providing background material for the Industry rubric.

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:** The following print sources were consulted: *The Nature Yearbook of Science and Technology* (Palgrave Macmillan Publishers Ltd.); *NIRA’s World Directory of Think Tanks* (National Institute for Research Advancement); in addition, the following websites were accessed: *International Science and Technology Activity* (maintained by Industry Canada, Government of Canada); *Economics Departments, Institutes, and Research Centers in the World* (maintained by the Department of Economics, University of Connecticut); *Science and Technology Statistics* (maintained by UNESCO Institute for Statistics); *World Development Indicators* (maintained by The World Bank); and *Annual Statistics* (patent and trademark information, maintained by the World Intellectual Property Organization).

**DOMESTIC TRADE:** Source material for the Domestic Trade rubric came from the U.S. State Department’s *Country Commercial Guides*, *Background Notes*, and the United Nations publication, *International Trade Statistics Yearbook*. Also used was information contained in the “Country Profiles” published by the U.S. Library of Congress. *The Economist* and, to a lesser extent, the *BBC* were consulted in providing background material for the Domestic Trade rubric. The World Bank’s service “Doing Business” database and the U.S. Commercial Service’s “Buy USA” website were consulted for information on conducting business in a nation, which included business hours and business regulations. Finally, most nations’ government websites provided information on domestic trade.

**FOREIGN TRADE:** Sources consulted included *2005 International Trade Statistics Yearbook* (Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, United Nations) and *Direction of Trade Statistics* (Real Sector Division, IMF Statistics Department, International Monetary Fund). The U.S. Department of State’s *Country Commercial Guides* and *Background Notes* were also used. *The Economist* and the *World Factbook 2006* were consulted in listing import and export partners and key products traded. Various UN bodies—such as UNCTAD and UNESCO—provided up-to-date trade statistics.

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:** Balance of payments tables were computed from the International Monetary Fund’s *Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook*. In some cases, totals are provided even though not all components of those totals have been reported by the government of the country. Accordingly, in some instances numbers in the columns may not add to the total. Supplementing the IMF’s *Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook* were *The Economist’s* “Country Briefings,” the *World Factbook 2006*, and information taken from the U.S. State Department, in particular, the *Country Commercial Guides*. “Country Profiles” from the U.S. Library of Congress were also used. Also consulted was the United Nations publication *National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables*.

**BANKING AND SECURITIES:** Statistical data on securities listings and market activity was compiled in part from *Emerging Stock Markets Factbook, 2005* (Standard and Poor’s) as well as from the websites *Country*

*Forecasts* ([www.countrywatch.com](http://www.countrywatch.com)) and *International Banking Statistics* ([www.bis.org/statistics/bankstats.htm](http://www.bis.org/statistics/bankstats.htm)). Various websites specific to the individual countries of the world were also consulted.

**INSURANCE:** Primary sources for information on insurance include the online resources of the Insurance Information Institute, Rowbotham and Co. LLP, PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Swiss Reinsurance Company, and J. Zakhour & Co., as well as numerous national websites dealing with insurance.

**PUBLIC FINANCE:** In addition to official government websites, analytical reports from the U.S. Department of Commerce, and news reports, the following publications were consulted for standardized statistical data: *World Factbook 2006*, *International Financial Statistics Yearbook, 2002* (International Monetary Fund), and *Government Finance Statistics Yearbook, 2002* (International Monetary Fund).

**TAXATION:** Information on Taxation was compiled from country data sheets published by international accounting firms (Deloitte and Ernst & Young). Additional information was obtained from the U.S. Commerce Department and the government websites of the countries of the world.

**CUSTOMS AND DUTIES:** Information on Customs and Duties was compiled from country data sheets published by the accounting firms of Deloitte and Ernst & Young. Additional information was obtained from the U.S. Commerce Department, the World Trade Organization and the government website of the countries of the world.

**FOREIGN INVESTMENT:** Source material for the Foreign Investment rubric included the U.S. State Department's *Country Commercial Guides*, which provided a comprehensive analysis of the foreign direct investment environments of the countries of the world, as did the World Bank publication, *A Better Investment Climate for Everyone*. The International Monetary Fund's publications *International Financial Statistics Yearbook* and *Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook*, and the U.S. State Department's *Background Notes* were consulted for the information on foreign direct investment. Also used was information contained in the "Country Profiles" published by the U.S. Library of Congress. *The Economist* was consulted in providing basic FDI figures and other relevant data.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Source material for the Economic Development rubric included the U.S. State Department's *Country Commercial Guides* and *Background Notes*. *The Economist* was consulted for economic and political forecasts for selected nations. The U.S. Library of Congress "Country Profiles" provided a brief historical overview of the economies of the countries profiled, in addition to detailing the current state of various sectors of those economies. The *Index of Economic Freedom* was also consulted for its broad description of economic freedom and development. Information on foreign aid was taken from the print publications and websites of the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:** Publications consulted in the preparation of this rubric include *2005 Country Reports on Human Rights Practice* (<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/index.htm>), *International Save the Children Alliance Annual Report 2004* (Cambridge House), *The State of the World's Children* (Oxford University Press), and the *World Development Report* (Oxford University Press). Additional information was obtained from country-specific websites and general news publications.

**HEALTH:** Statistical sources consulted include *Country Health Briefing Papers* (a series of reports produced by IHSD Limited and DFID Health Systems Resource Centre for the United Kingdom Department for International Development); *Health Care Systems in Transition* (European Observatory on Health Care Systems, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe); *Health in the Americas*, Volume II (Pan American Health Organization, World Health Organization) as well as numerous websites on the individual nations of the world. In addition, country-specific health profiles published by the World Health Organization and the World Bank were consulted.

**HOUSING:** The latest government population and housing census information available was used for each country through access of official government websites. Also of use was the World Bank publication *World Development Indicators 2005*. Topics accessed on the World Bank's website included *Countries and Regions*, *Urban Development*, and *Housing and Land*. Other websites consulted included Habitat for Humanity (<http://www.habitat.org>), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (<http://unhabitat.org>) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID—<http://www.usaid.gov>). USAID topics accessed included *Locations* and *Urban Programs*).

**EDUCATION:** Data on Education was obtained from various UNESCO publications including *World Education Report*, *Global Education Digest*, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2005*, and the UNESCO *Statistical Yearbook*. Also consulted was *EdStats* compiled by the World Bank (<http://devdata.worldbank.org/edstats/>), the *World Factbook 2006* (<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>), the UNESCO

website's *Country and Regional Profiles* (<http://www.uis.unesco.org/profiles/>), and *World Data on Education* (International Bureau of Education).

**LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS:** Some information concerning libraries and museums was accessed through official government websites of various countries when links were available to tourism, education, and/or cultural ministries or departments. In addition, the following websites were consulted: American Library Association (<http://www.ala.org>); International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (<http://www.ifla.org>); Museums of the World (<http://www.museum.com>); and United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (<http://www.unesco.org>).

**MEDIA:** Primary sources for this section include the annual *Editor & Publisher* publication *International Year Book*, online data provided by UNESCO, and the media sections of the "Country Profiles" featured on the website of *BBC News*. The UNESCO profiles provide key statistics and indicators on education, science and technology, and culture and communication. In addition, government and other websites related to the countries of the world were consulted. Additional sources consulted include the publications *World Development Indicators 2005* (World Bank), *World Media Handbook* (United Nations), *World Factbook 2006*, and *2005 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices*.

**ORGANIZATIONS:** Lists of member countries were obtained through the official websites of a variety of prominent international organizations and associations, such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Amnesty International, Kiwanis International, the World Alliance of YMCAs, the World Organization of the Scout Movement, etc. *Associations Unlimited* (Thomson Gale) was also consulted.

**TOURISM, TRAVEL, AND RECREATION:** Statistical sources consulted include *Yearbook of Tourism Statistics* and *Compendium of Tourism Statistics*, both published by the World Tourism Organization. Tourism websites of the individual countries were also consulted, as well as the United Nations publication *Schedule of Daily Substinence Allowance Rates* and the U.S. Department of State per diem travel allowances published online at [www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn](http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn).

**FAMOUS PERSONS:** Entries are based on information available through March 2006. Where a person noted in one country is known to have been born in another, the country (or, in some cases, city) of birth follows the personal name in parentheses.

**DEPENDENCIES:** Source material for the Dependencies rubric was taken from *Background Notes* and from the website of the United Nations. The Library of Congress's "Country Profiles" archive provided up-to-date information on dependencies. *The Economist* and the website of *BBC News* were also consulted, as was *Countries of the World and Their Leaders Yearbook 2006*.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:** Bibliographical listings at the end of country articles are provided as a guide to further reading on the country in question and are not intended as a comprehensive listing of references used in research for the article. Effort was made to provide a broad sampling of works on major subjects and topics as covered by the article; the bibliographies provide, wherever possible, introductory and general works for use by students and general readers, as well as classical studies, recent contributions, and other works regarded as seminal by area specialists. The country article bibliographies were supplemented with information obtained from a search conducted in July 2006. An extensive bibliography listing key references related to the facts in this encyclopedia follows. However, it is not a complete listing since many fact sheets, brochures, World Wide Websites, and other informational materials were not included due to space limitations.

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# GUIDE TO COUNTRY ARTICLES

All information contained within a country article is uniformly keyed by means of small superior numerals to the left of the subject headings. A heading such as "Population," for example, carries the same key numeral (6) in every article. Thus, to find information about the population of Albania, consult the table of contents for the page number where the Albania article begins and look for section 6 thereunder. Introductory matter for each nation includes coat of arms, capital, flag (descriptions given from hoist to fly or from top to bottom), anthem, monetary unit, weights and measures, holidays, and time zone.

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## FREQUENTLY USED ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AD—Anno Domini	fl.—flourished	m <sup>3</sup> —cubic meter(s)	rev. ed.—revised edition
AM—before noon	FRG—Federal Republic of Germany	mi—mile(s)	s—south
b.—born	ft—foot, feet	Mt.—mount	sq—square
BC—Before Christ	ft <sup>3</sup> —cubic foot, feet	Mw—megawatt(s)	St.—saint
c.—Celsius	GATT—General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	n.—north	UK—United Kingdom
c.—circa (about)	GDP—gross domestic products	n.d.—no date	UN—United Nations
cm—centimeter(s)	gm—gram	NA—not available	US—United States
Co.—company	GMT—Greenwich Mean Time	oz—ounce(s)	USSR—Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Corp.—corporation	GNP—gross national product	PM—after noon	w—west
cu ft—cubic foot, feet	GRT—gross registered tons	r.—reigned	
cu m—cubic meter(s)	ha—hectares		
d.—died	i.e.—id est (that is)		
E—east	in—inch(es)		
e—evening	kg—kilogram(s)		
e.g.—exempli gratia (for example)	km—kilometer(s)		
ed.—edition, editor	kw—kilowatt(s)		
est.—estimated	kwh—kilowatt-hour(s)		
et al.—et alii (and others)	lb—pound(s)		
etc.—et cetera (and so on)	m—meter(s); morning		
F—Fahrenheit			

A fiscal split year is indicated by a stroke (e.g. 1998/99).  
For acronyms of UN agencies and their intergovernmental organizations, as well as other abbreviations used in text, see the United Nations volume.  
A dollar sign (\$) stands for us\$ unless otherwise indicated.  
Note that 1 billion = 1,000 million.