How to Read the Country/Economy Profiles

This section presents two-page profiles for all the 140 economies included in *The Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Report 2013*.

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1. **Key indicators**

The first section presents several key indicators that give a sense of the size of the country and its economy. Population and surface area figures are from the World Bank’s *World Development Indicators Online Database* (December 2012). GDP numbers are from the International Monetary Fund (IMF)’s *World Economic Outlook Database* (October 2012 edition). The Environmental Performance Index rankings are from YCELP, Yale University and CIESIN, Columbia University. National sources have been consulted where appropriate.

2. **Travel & Tourism indicators**

The second section presents Travel & Tourism (T&T) indicators that aim to provide a measure of the past, current, and projected future activity of Travel & Tourism in each economy. This section is in turn split into two parts:

   - The first part includes data from the Tourism Satellite Accounting Research carried out annually by the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) and the second part includes data on international tourist arrivals and international tourism receipts over the period 1995 to 2011 provided by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). The graph shows all the available data for tourism arrivals and receipts during this period for each economy.

   - Developed by the UNWTO, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and Eurostat, the Tourism Satellite Accounting (TSA) framework is a statistical tool—including concepts, definitions, aggregates, classifications, and tables—that is compatible with international national accounting guidelines and allows for valid international comparisons. The TSA also makes these estimates comparable with other internationally recognized macroeconomic aggregates and compilations. Using the TSA approach, WTTC estimates the current and projected future economic contribution of Travel & Tourism in terms of an economy’s GDP and employment.

   WTTC defines the T&T sector in two ways: More narrowly, T&T activity—defined as the T&T industry—captures the production-side industry contribution (that is, its direct impact only). A second, broader definition of the T&T economy takes into consideration the direct as well as the indirect contributions by traditional travel service providers and industry suppliers within the resident economy. This latter perspective is used when one wants to understand the total impact of Travel & Tourism on the resident economy. More information regarding WTTC’s TSA Research, along with details on the methodology and data, are available at http://www.wttc.org/eng/Tourism_Research/.

   The number of international tourist arrivals, expressed in thousands, is the most common unit of measure used to quantify the volume of international tourism for statistical purposes. It includes exclusively overnight visitors—that is, tourists who stay at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the country visited. Same-day visitors are not included. The number of arrivals does not necessarily correspond to the number of persons. The same person who makes
several trips to a given country during a given period will be counted as a new arrival each time.

**International tourism receipts**, expressed in millions of current US dollars, are the receipts earned by a destination country from inbound tourism and cover all tourism receipts resulting from expenditures made by visitors from abroad, on, for instance, lodging, food and drinks, fuel, transport in the country, entertainment, shopping, and so on. This measure includes receipts generated by overnight as well as by same-day trips. Receipts from same-day trips can be substantial, as in the case of countries where a lot of shopping for goods and services takes place by visitors from neighboring countries.

### Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index

The third section of the page presents the economy’s performance on the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI) and its various components. For further analysis, the data tables at the end of the Report provide detailed rankings and scores for each of the variables included in the TTCI.

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#### Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index in detail

This page presents the rank achieved by a country on each of the indicators entering the composition of the TTCI. Indicators are organized by pillar. Please refer to Appendix A of Chapter 1.1 for the detailed structure of the TTCI.

The ranks of those indicators that constitute a notable competitive advantage are highlighted in blue bold typeface. Competitive advantages are defined as follows:

**k** For those economies ranked in the top 10 in the overall TTCI, individual indicators ranked from 1 through 10 are considered to be advantages. For example, Germany—which is ranked 2nd overall—is ranked 7th rank on indicator 6.01 Quality of air transport infrastructure, making this indicator a competitive advantage.

**k** For those economies ranked from 11 through 50 on the overall TTCI, variables ranked higher than the economy’s own rank are considered to be advantages. In the case of Thailand, ranked 43rd overall, its rank of 24th on indicator 5.01, Government prioritization of the T&T industry, makes this indicator a competitive advantage.

**k** For those economies with an overall rank on the TTCI lower than 50, any individual indicators ranked higher than 51 are considered to be advantages. For Armenia, ranked 79th overall, indicator 1.08, Cost to start a business, where the country ranks 38th, constitutes a competitive advantage.