WORLD GEOGRAPHY FACTS

About 70% of the world’s surface is water.
About 30% of the world’s surface is land.

PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN OF THE EARTH’S LAND BY CONTINENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continent</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>29.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antarctica</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AREA - CONTINENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continent</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>17,702,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>11,707,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>9,421,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>6,883,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antarctica</td>
<td>5,100,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>4,063,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2,966,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## AREA – COUNTRIES

### FIVE LARGEST COUNTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>6,592,818 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>3,849,000 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3,696,100 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>3,618,770 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>3,286,470 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FIVE SMALLEST COUNTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vatican City State</td>
<td>108.7 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monaco</td>
<td>0.7 sq. mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nauru</td>
<td>8.0 sq. mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvalu</td>
<td>10.0 sq. mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Marino</td>
<td>24.0 sq. mi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POPULATION

Total Population 6,609,823,425
Population Doubling Time (at current rate) 46 years
Male Population 2,980,000,000
Female Population 2,940,000,000
Population Under Age 15 32%
Population Age 65 and Over 7%
Life expectancy at Birth
  MALE 64 YEARS
  FEMALE 68 YEARS

Number of Independent Countries 192

WORLD POPULATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>ESTIMATED TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>254,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500</td>
<td>460,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600</td>
<td>579,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1700</td>
<td>679,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>954,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1,094,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>2,515,312,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>3,019,376,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>3,697,918,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>4,450,210,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>4,853,848,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>5,920,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>6,609,823,425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIVE MOST POPULATED COUNTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1,321,851,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1,129,866,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>301,139,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>234,693,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>190,010,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIVE LEAST POPULATED COUNTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vatican City</td>
<td>738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falkland Islands</td>
<td>1,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nauru</td>
<td>8,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvalu</td>
<td>8,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallis and Fortuna</td>
<td>14,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE 10 LARGEST CITIES (POPULATION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urban Area</th>
<th>Population (in millions of people)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tokyo – Yokohama</td>
<td>31.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico City, Mexico</td>
<td>21.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sao Paulo, Brazil</td>
<td>19.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York, U.S.</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bombay, India</td>
<td>17.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, U.S.</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta, India</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai, China</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lagos Nigeria</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires, Argentina</td>
<td>13.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WEALTH

HIGHEST GDP PER CAPITA (in U.S. dollars): 2006

1. Luxembourg $68,800
2. Equatorial Guinea $50,200
3. United Arab Emirates $49,700
4. Norway $47,800
5. Ireland $43,600
6. United States $43,500
7. Iceland $38,100
8. Denmark $37,000
9. Canada $35,200
10. San Marino $34,600

LOWEST GDP PER CAPITA (in U.S. dollars): 2006

1. Comoros $600
2. Somalia $600
3. Malawi $600
4. Burundi $700
5. Congo, Democratic Rep $700
6. East Timor $800
7. Tanzania $800
8. Afghanistan $800
9. Madagascar $900
10. Guinea-Bissau $900
11. Sierra Leone $900
12. Yemen $900
## CHILD SURVIVAL

### HIGHEST INFANT MORTALITY RATE
(deaths per 1,000 births): 2006

1. Angola 185.4
2. Sierra Leone 160.4.
3. Afghanistan 160.2
4. Liberia 155.8
5. Mozambique 129.2
6. Niger 118.2
7. Somalia 114.9
8. Mali 107.6
9. Tajikistan 106.5
10. Guinea-Bissau 105.2

### LOWEST INFANT MORTALITY RATE
(deaths per 1,000 births): 2006

1. Singapore 2.3
2. Sweden 2.8
3. Japan 3.2
4. Iceland 3.3
5. Finland 3.5
6. Norway 3.7
7. Czech Republic 3.9
8. Malta 3.9
9. Andorra 4.0
10. Germany 4.1
### HIGHEST LIFE EXPECTANCY (in years): 2006

1. Andorra 83.5  
2. San Marino 81.7  
3. Singapore 81.7  
4. Japan 81.2  
5. Australia 80.5  
5. Sweden 80.5  
5. Switzerland 80.5  
8. Iceland 80.3  
9. Canada 80.2  
10. Italy 79.8  

### LOWEST LIFE EXPECTANCY (in years): 2006

1. Swaziland 32.6  
2. Botswana 33.7  
3. Lesotho 34.4  
4. Angola 38.6  
5. Zimbabwe 39.3  
6. Liberia 39.6  
7. Mozambique 39.8  
8. Zambia 40.0  
9. Sierra Leone 40.2  
10. Malawi 41.7
QUALITY HEALTH CARE

1. France
2. Italy
3. San Marino
4. Andorra
5. Malta
6. Singapore
7. Spain
8. Oman
9. Austria
10. Japan

Source: World Health Organization

LOWEST LITERACY RATES

1. Burkina Faso 18%
2. Eritrea 20%
3. Sierra Leone 21%
4. Benin 23%
5. Guinea 24%
6. Somalia 24%
7. Sudan 27%
8. Gambia 27%
9. Ethiopia 28%
10. Niger 28%
**WORLD’S TEN MOST SPOKEN LANGUAGES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese (Mandarin)</td>
<td>1,075,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>514,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindustani*</td>
<td>496,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>425,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>275,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>256,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>215,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>194,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malay-Indonesian</td>
<td>176,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>129,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes many dialects, including Hindu and Urdu
Source: Ethnologue

**TOP TEN ORGANIZED RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Followers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>2.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islam</td>
<td>1.3 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinduism</td>
<td>851 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhism</td>
<td>375 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikhism</td>
<td>25 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judaism</td>
<td>15 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha’ism</td>
<td>7.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confucianism</td>
<td>6.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jainism</td>
<td>4.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shintoism</td>
<td>2.8 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Encyclopedia Britannica
**Top Energy Producers** (% of Total World Energy Produced)

1. U.S. 16%
2. Russia 13%
3. China 12%
4. Saudi Arabia 5%
5. Canada 4%
Source: U.S. Department of Energy

**Top Energy Consumers** (% of Total World Energy Consumed)

1. U.S. 25%
2. China 13%
3. Russia 7%
4. Japan 5%
5. India 3%
Source: U.S. Department of Energy

**Top Carbon Dioxide Emitters**

1. U.S.
2. China
3. Russia
4. India
5. Japan
6. Germany
7. Canada
8. United Kingdom
9. South Korea
10. Italy
Source: U.S. Department of Energy
## Math and Science Results

### Math

**Fourth Grade**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ave. Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Singapore | 594  
| 2. Hong Kong | 575  
| 3. Japan | 565  
| 4. Taiwan | 564  
| 5. Belgium | 551  
| 12. U.S. | 518  

**Eighth Grade**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ave. Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Singapore | 605  
| 2. South Korea | 589  
| 3. Hong Kong | 586  
| 4. Taiwan | 585  
| 5. Japan | 570  
| 15. U.S. | 504  

### Science

**Fourth Grade**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ave. Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Singapore | 565  
| 2. Taiwan | 551  
| 3. Japan | 543  
| 4. Hong Kong | 542  
| 5. England | 540  
| 6. U.S. | 536  

**Eighth Grade**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ave. Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Singapore | 578  
| 2. Taiwan | 571  
| 3. South Korea | 558  
| 4. Hong Kong | 556  
| 5. Estonia | 552  
| 9. U.S. | 527  

Source: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement
### Most Internet Users

1. U.S.  
   - 197,800,000
2. China  
   - 119,500,000
3. Japan  
   - 86,300,000
4. India  
   - 50,600,000
5. Germany  
   - 46,300,000
6. United Kingdom  
   - 35,800,000
7. South Korea  
   - 33,900,000
8. Italy  
   - 28,800,000
9. France  
   - 28,800,000
10. Brazil  
    - 25,900,000

Source: Computer Industry Almanac
Highest Mountains in the World

**Everest**
Range: Himalayas
Location: Nepal-Tibet
Feet: 29,028

**K2 (Godwin Austen)**
Range: Karakoram
Location: Kashmir
Feet: 28,250

**Kanchenjunga**
Range: Himalayas
Location: Nepal-India
Feet: 28,208

Elevation Extremes (Highest)

**Asia: Mount Everest**
Location: Nepal/Tibet
Height: 29,028 feet

**South America: Mount Aconcagua**
Location: Argentina
Height: 22,834 feet

**North America: Mount McKinley**
Location: Alaska, U.S.
Height: 20,320 feet

**Africa: Kilimanjaro**
Location: Tanzania
Height: 19,340 feet
Europe: Mount Elbrus
Location: Russia
Height: 18,519 feet

Antarctica: Vinson Massif
Height: 16,864 feet

Australia: Mount Kosciusko
Location: New South Wales
Height: 7,310 feet

Elevation Extremes (Lowest)

Asia: Dead Sea
Location: Israel-Jordan
Height: 1312 feet below sea level

Africa: Lake Assal
Location: Djibouti
Height: 512 feet below sea level

North America: Death Valley
Location: California, U.S.
Height: 282 feet below sea level

South America: Valdes Peninsula
Location: Argentina
Height: 131 feet below sea level

North America: Death Valley
Location: California, U.S.
Height: 282 feet below sea level

Europe: Caspian Sea
Location: Russia
Height: 92 feet below sea level
Australia: Lake Eyre
Location: South Australia
Height: 52 feet below sea level

Antarctica: Unknown
Height: 16,864 feet

Oceans

Pacific Ocean
Square miles: 60,060,700

Atlantic Ocean
Square miles: 29,637,900

Indian Ocean
Square miles: 26,469,500

Southern Ocean
Square miles: 7,848,300

The World's Newest Ocean - The Southern Ocean
In 2000, the International Hydrographic Organization created the fifth world ocean - the Southern Ocean - from the southern portions of the Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, and Pacific Ocean. The Southern Ocean completely surrounds Antarctica. The Southern Ocean extends from the coast of Antarctica north to 60 degrees south latitude.

Arctic Ocean
Square miles: 5,427,000
Seas and Gulfs

**Mediterranean**
965,000 square miles (separates Europe and Africa)

**South China Sea**
895,000 square miles (surrounded by the Philippines, Indonesia and the Indo-Chinese Peninsula)

**Bering**
878,000 square miles (separates Alaska and Asia)

**Caribbean**
750,000 square miles (surrounded by Cuba, Central America and South America)

**Gulf of Mexico**
700,000 square miles (between southern U.S. and eastern Mexico)

**Okhotsk**
590,000 square miles (bordered by northeastern Asia and the Kamchatka Peninsula)

Rivers

**Nile**
Length: 4180 miles

**Amazon**
Length: 3912 miles

**Mississippi-Missouri-Red Rock**
Length: 3880 miles

**Yangtze**
Length: 3601 miles
Lakes

**Caspian Sea**
Location: southwestern Asia
Area: 143,244 square miles

**Lake Superior**
Location: U.S. and Canada
Area: 31,700 square miles

**Lake Victoria**
Location: Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, Africa
Area: 26,828 square miles

Islands

**Greenland**
Location: Atlantic Ocean
Area: square miles: 838,999

**New Guinea**
Location: Pacific Ocean
Area: 316,000 square miles

**Borneo**
Location: Pacific Ocean
Area: 288,151 square miles

**Madagascar**
Location: Indian Ocean
Area: 226,657 square miles
Waterfalls

**Angel**
Location: Venezuela
Height: 3281 feet

**Tugela**
Location: South Africa
Height: 3000 feet

**Cuquenan**
Location: Venezuela
Height: 2000 feet

**Sutherland**
Location: New Zealand
Height: 1904 feet

Deserts

**Sahara**
3,500,000 square miles
Location: North Africa, extending westward to the Atlantic Ocean

**Gobi**
500,000 square miles
Location: Mongolia

**Libyan**
450,000 square miles
Location: covers part of Libya, Egypt and Sudan
Climate Extremes (Hottest)

World: Africa: El Azizia, Libya
Date: 9/13/1922
Temperature: 136°F

North America: Death Valley, California
Date: 7/10/1913
Temperature: 134°F

Asia: Tirat, Tsvi, Israel
Date: 6/21/1942
Temperature: 129°F

Australia: Cloncurry, Queensland
Date: 1/16/1889
Temperature: 128°F

Europe: Seville, Spain
Date: 8/4/1881
Temperature: 122°F

South America: Rivadavia, Argentina
Date: 12/11/1905
Temperature: 120°F

Antarctica: Vanda Station
Date: 1/5/1974
Temperature: 59°F
Climate Extremes (Coldest)

**World: Antarctica: Vostok**
Date: 7/21/1983
Temperature: -129°F

**Asia: Verkhoyansk/Oimekon**
Date: 2/6/1933
Temperature: -90°F

**North America: Northice, Greenland**
Date: 1/9/1954
Temperature: -87°F

**Europe: Ust 'Shchugor, Russia**
Date: Not Available
Temperature: -67°F

**South America: Sarmiento, Argentina**
Date: 1/1/1907
Temperature: -27°F

**Africa: Ifrane, Morocco**
Date: 2/11/1935
Temperature: -11°F

**Australia: Charlotte Pass, N.S.W.**
Date: 7/22/1947
Temperature: -8°F