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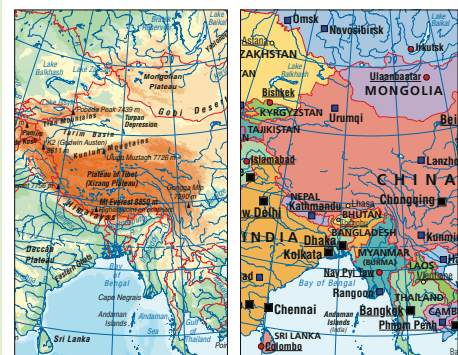
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Types of maps

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL



A common way of mapping a country is to use separate physical and political maps. Physical maps show features of the natural landscape such as height above and below sea level, water bodies, mountain ranges, deserts, plateaux and wetlands. Political borders may also be shown by a coloured line as in the physical maps of Australia on page 10 and Asia on page 72. Political maps use different colours to distinguish between different political units, such as states or provinces on country maps or countries on world, regional and continental maps. The political map of Australia on page 11 is divided into states and the one of Asia on page 73 shows countries. Political maps also show the main cities.

GAZETTEER



Gazetteer maps show the name and location of places, geographical features, such as towns, cities, rivers, mountains, oceans, deserts, and state and country borders. Latitude and longitude lines help locate places and features at a point on the earth's surface. Gazetteer maps usually show large areas of the earth's surface such as regions, countries and continents. This example is a section of the gazetteer map of the North Island of New Zealand from page 67.

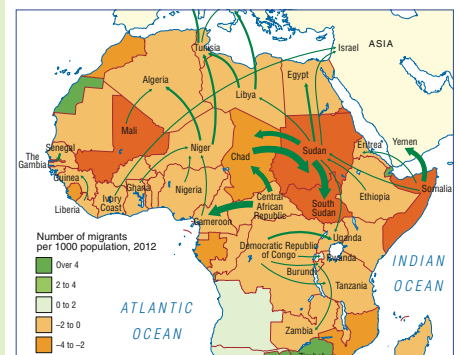
OTHER MAPS

Topographic maps, shown and described on page 9
Street directories, shown and described on page 59
Weather maps show the conditions of temperature, rain, wind and pressure over a part of the earth's surface, usually a whole country or continent. Examples for Australia are shown on page 14.

3D terrain models show places and features in relation to a three-dimensional view of the earth's surface (terrain) for a particular area, as in the example of the Cradle Mountain area in Tasmania on page 49.
Choropleth maps use colour shades or patterns to show differences in percentage or proportion of a measured attribute, as in the maps on pages 156–9.

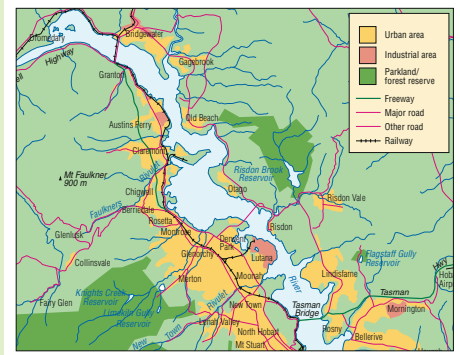
Cartograms show differences between countries or areas in attributes that are measurable, such as wealth, energy use or carbon emissions, by changing their shapes or sizes. Countries can, for example, be shown as squares of different sizes to reflect their value in the measured attribute. An example of a cartogram depicting gross domestic product can be found on page 163.

THEMATIC



Colour and/or symbols can be used on maps to show a particular theme or topic. Symbols show features at a particular location. Thematic maps can show local, national, regional or global differences. The Darwin population maps on page 55 are at a local level; the maps on pages 24–32 in the Australia section are at a national scale; the World section contains a range of thematic maps at the global scale from page 140 onwards. This map is from page 113 showing migration in Africa. Another type of thematic map shows historical and political change. This atlas has maps showing historical change for Australia on pages 22 and 23, for the Middle East on page 91, and for Europe on page 100.

PRÉCIS

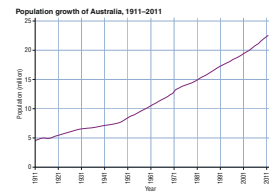


A précis map provides a summary of certain types of activities in zones or patterns over an area of the earth's surface. Each of Australia's capital cities is mapped in this way to show the divisions between urban, industrial and natural zones of land use, as in the précis map of Hobart above, which appears on page 50. Précis maps can be drawn from sketches made in the field by an observer who maps the broad zones of land use in the surroundings.

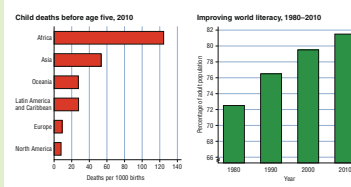
Types of graphs, photos and diagrams

GRAPHS

Line and area
A line graph plots data as a series of points on a grid formed by an x- and a y-axis. The points are joined to form a smooth line that shows a trend or change over time. The simple line graph below appears on page 23.

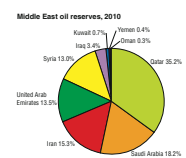


On page 61 you can see a multiple-line graph, 'Value of major mineral and energy production, 2002–11'. Area graphs, as shown on page 89 and page 175, use a combination of lines and colours to show cumulative values.
Bar and column
Bar and column graphs show data as a series of parallel rectangles. Bar graphs display the rectangles horizontally and column graphs display them vertically. This bar graph and column graph appear on page 156.



A composite graph combines two or more subsets of an item of data to show how they contribute to the whole. 'Mode of travel by age group, 2011' on page 41 is a composite column graph.

Pie
A pie graph divides one type of data into slices or sections. The different-sized divisions represent proportions of the whole 100 per cent in a 360-degree circle or pie. The parts should be displayed in descending order starting from the 12 o'clock position. Data is converted into a percentage of the total amount as in this pie graph from page 89.

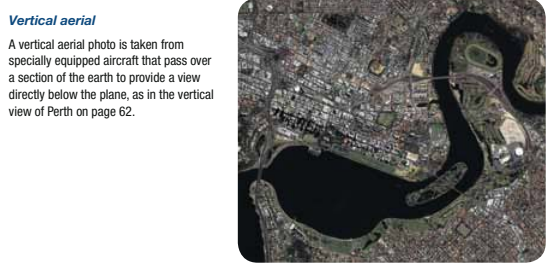
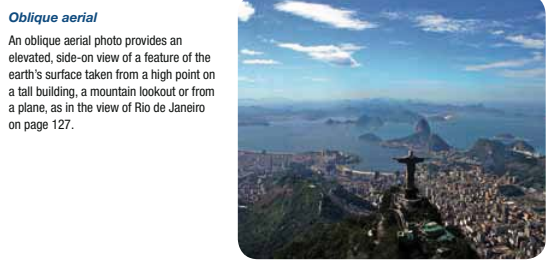
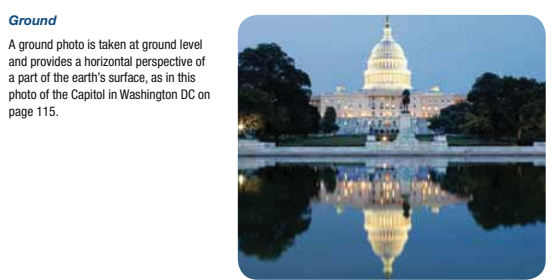


OTHER GRAPHS, PHOTOS AND IMAGES

Climatic graphs combine line and column graph formats to represent rainfall and temperature conditions, as explained and shown on page 13.
Pictorial graphs plot tiny pictures or symbols to show the type of data being graphed, as shown on page 160.
Population profiles are a special type of bar graph that divides the population of a place into age and gender groups, as shown on page 153.

Ternary graphs plot a three-dimensional range of data, as described on page 161.
Historical images show the features of a place at a time in the past so that they can be compared with how the place looks today, as for example on page 148.
Satellite images, shown and described on pages 8 and 9

PHOTOS



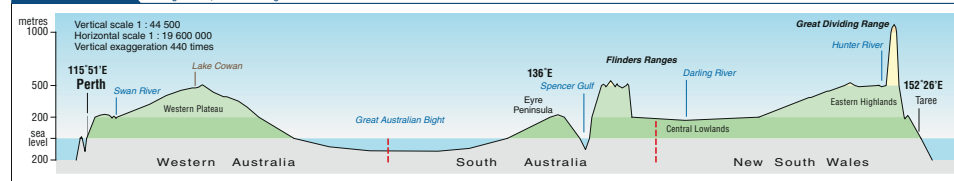
DIAGRAMS

Cross-sections, shown and described on page 10
Technical diagrams illustrate a feature in a graphic style, rather than photographic, as in the depiction of a satellite on page 8 or the water levels in the Great Lakes system of North America on page 119.
Block diagrams depict a part of the earth in a three-dimensional way, as in the diagram of tectonic plates on page 146.
Circular or flow diagrams show movement through a system, such as heat and gases in the greenhouse effect on page 149.

Physical



Cross-section Through Perth, Flinders Ranges and Taree



CROSS-SECTION

A cross-section is a useful means of showing the shape and slope of the land as if it had been cut with a knife and viewed from the side. A cross-section has a starting point and a finishing point and it shows what the land would look like if you travelled from one of these points to the other. The vertical scale must be exaggerated relative to the horizontal scale so as to make the features stand out more clearly. The ratio between the horizontal scale and the vertical scale is called the **vertical exaggeration**.

To construct a cross-section first decide on the starting and finishing points on the map. Mark these on a piece of paper and then mark the height of the land as indicated by layer shadings or contour lines. When you have decided on a suitable vertical scale, draw a

vertical and a horizontal axis. Transfer the piece of paper to the horizontal axis and plot the heights according to the vertical scale. Join the points to make a continuous line. Name the cross-section and label the key features. State the vertical scale (VS), the horizontal scale (HS) and the vertical exaggeration (VE).

$$VE = \frac{VS}{HS}$$

In the cross-section above, the vertical exaggeration is approximately 443 (1 : 44 000 divided by 1 : 19 500 000). A large vertical exaggeration distorts the actual situation but provides an idea of the shape of a land area in the small space of an atlas page.

Political



Flag



Coat of Arms



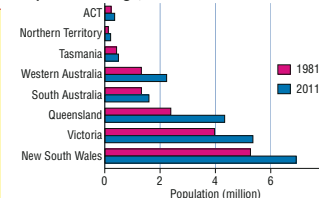
State flower
Golden wattle



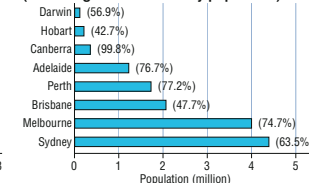
FACT FILE

Land area—7 692 024 km². Highest point is Mt Kosciuszko (2228 metres).
Population—Approx. 21 507 717
Indigenous population—Approx. 548 370
Persons born overseas—Approx. 5 294 000 or 24.6% of the total population
Median age—37.1 years
Life expectancy—female 84.2 years; male 79.7 years
Economic development—GDP per capita (PPP) A\$39 438 (see also page 163 for GDP and PPP)
A continent, an island and a nation—In land area, Australia is the world's largest island and the world's sixth-largest country. It is the world's flattest continent and (apart from Antarctica) the world's driest continent.
States and territories—Australia's colonies were federated in 1901. Six states and two territories make up the federation of Australia. The current political system consists of three levels of government—federal, state (and territory) and local.

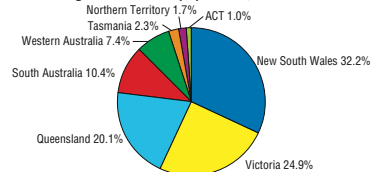
Population change, 1981–2011



Population of capital cities, 2011 (Percentage of state/territory population)



Percentage of Australian population, 2010



Environments under threat

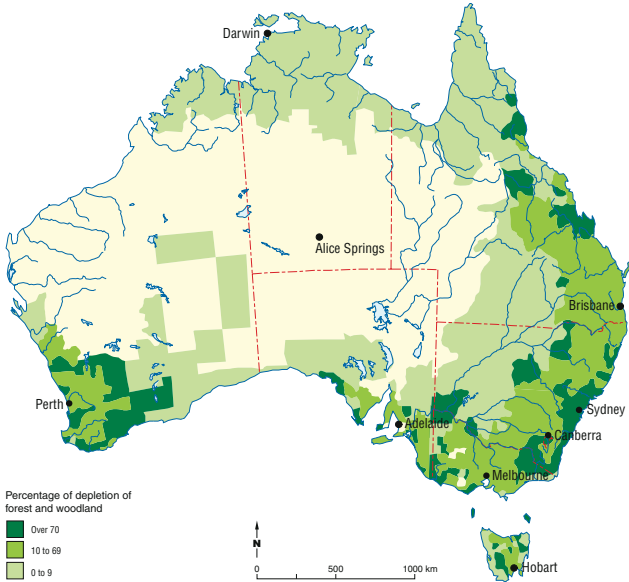
Logging of old-growth forest in Tasmania



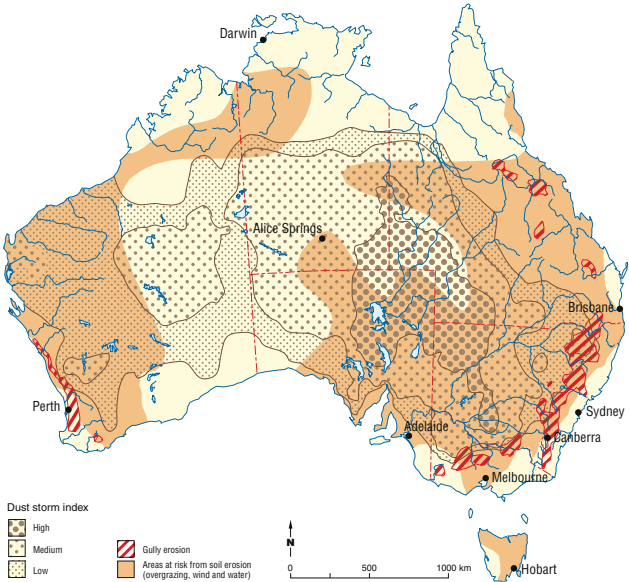
Gully erosion in South Australia



Land clearing

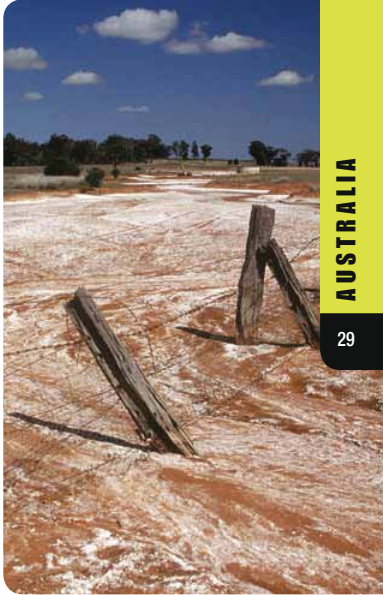


Soil erosion



Environments under threat

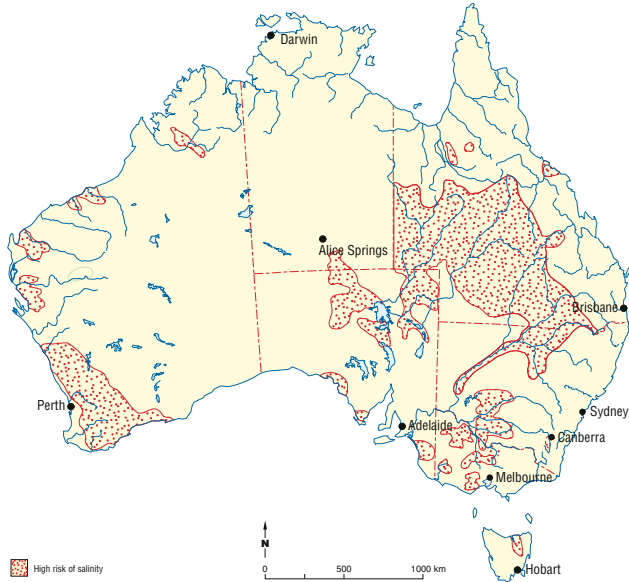
Rising salinity near Mudgee



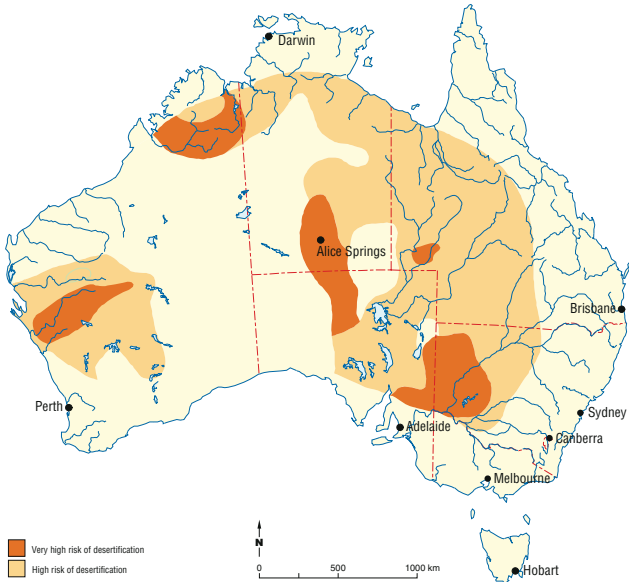
Desertification in central South Australia

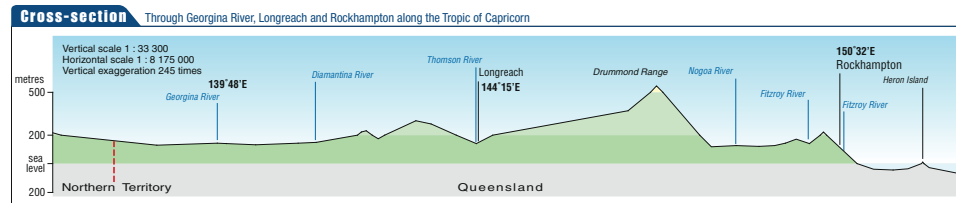


Salinity



Desertification





CAIRNS

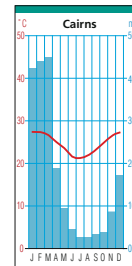
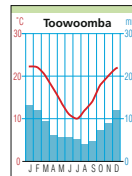
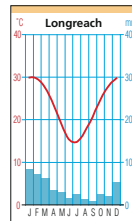
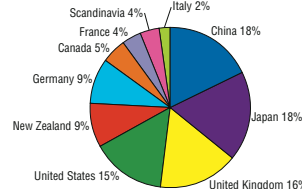
Cairns is Queensland's northernmost city. In 2011 it had a population of 153 075 residents out of a total Far North Queensland regional population of 278 086. In addition to the resident population, Cairns has a sizeable overnight tourist population, numbering up to 25 000 on any one night. Cairns has one of the fastest urban growth rates in Australia. Its residential population has grown at a trend growth rate of 2.6% per annum over the last 10 years.

Cairns is linked to Brisbane by rail and road and has an international airport that caters for increasing numbers of overseas tourists, especially from China and Japan. It is the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and to the Wet Tropics of Queensland—both on the World Heritage list and both major tourist attractions. It is also well known for big-game fishing activities. Cairns was first settled in 1876 and named in honour of William Wellington Cairns, who was the governor of Queensland at the time. Gold and tin mining were the first industries in the area, followed by timber, cattle grazing and sugarcane farming.

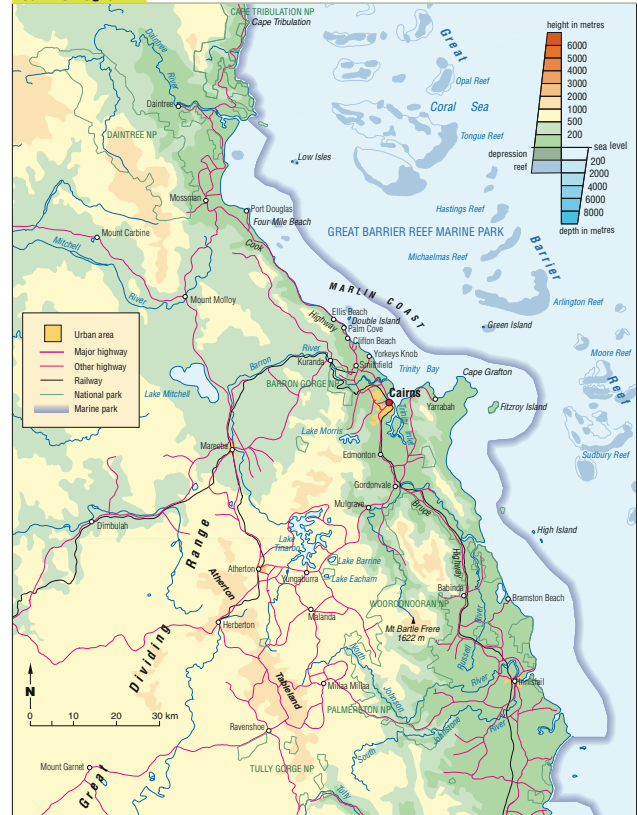
Today Cairns is a major regional centre for the surrounding farmland and for the irrigated farmlands of the Atherton Tableland to the west.

In 1985 Cairns Airport was upgraded to handle international flights, especially direct flights from Asia and North America. As international tourism experiences fluctuations from year to year, so too do aircraft movements, but in recent years there has been strong growth in the domestic services.

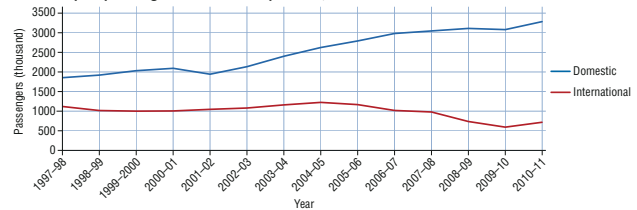
Origin of international visitors to north Queensland, 2011–12



Cairns region



Cairns airport passenger arrivals and departures, 1998–2011



A tourist boat on the Great Barrier Reef, near Cairns

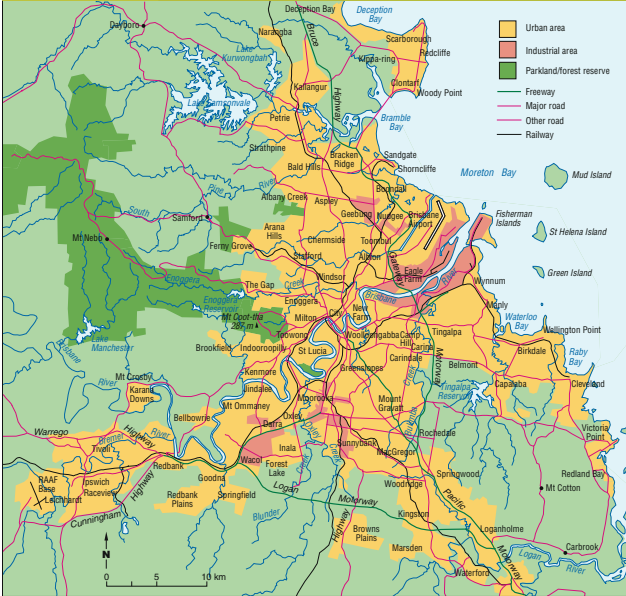


Cape Tribulation National Park





Brisbane region



Satellite image showing a similar area to the précis map



BRISBANE

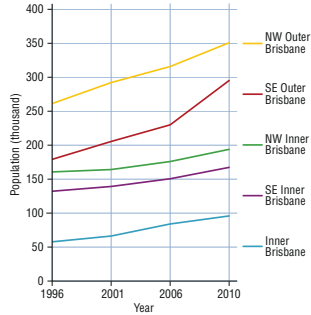
Brisbane is the capital of Queensland and, with a population of over 2.07 million (2011), it is Australia's third largest city. It is located on the Brisbane River and to the west of Moreton Bay. With a major seaport, rail and road links and an international airport, Brisbane is an important transport hub on the Australian east coast for the movement of agricultural produce, manufactured goods and people.

The Brisbane area was the homeland of the Indigenous Turrbal people of the Yuggera language group. European settlement of the area began as a penal colony in 1824 and in 1842 the area was opened to free settlers. Brisbane was given its English name after Sir Thomas Brisbane, a former governor of New South Wales. Brisbane owes its growth to Queensland's agricultural and mineral wealth. It officially became a city in 1902.

Brisbane hosted the Commonwealth Games in 1982 and the World Expo in 1988. At that time the south bank of the Brisbane River was redeveloped to make a visitor-friendly recreation area. South Bank is now popular with both locals and tourists, who come to use the artificial beaches, listen to bands, eat at the many restaurants or stroll through the outdoor market.

Brisbane is one of the fastest-growing capital cities in Australia, with an annual growth rate of 3.4% compared to the national average of around 1.4%. The Australian Bureau of Statistics predicts that Brisbane's population will grow to between 2.5 and 3.3 million by 2051.

Population growth of Brisbane, 1996–2010



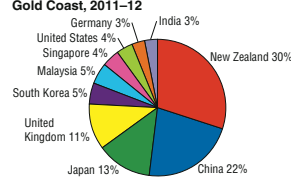
The Gold Coast and its hinterland



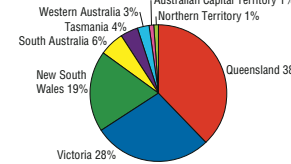
GOLD COAST

The Gold Coast is one of Australia's most popular holiday destinations. Tourism on the Gold Coast employs over 28 000 people and contributes A\$1.9 billion to the Queensland economy. With many visitors coming from overseas, tourism contributes approximately A\$1 billion to Australia's export earnings annually. A further A\$3 billion is generated by 3.3 million Australians who make the Gold Coast a holiday destination each year.

Origin of international visitors to the Gold Coast, 2011–12



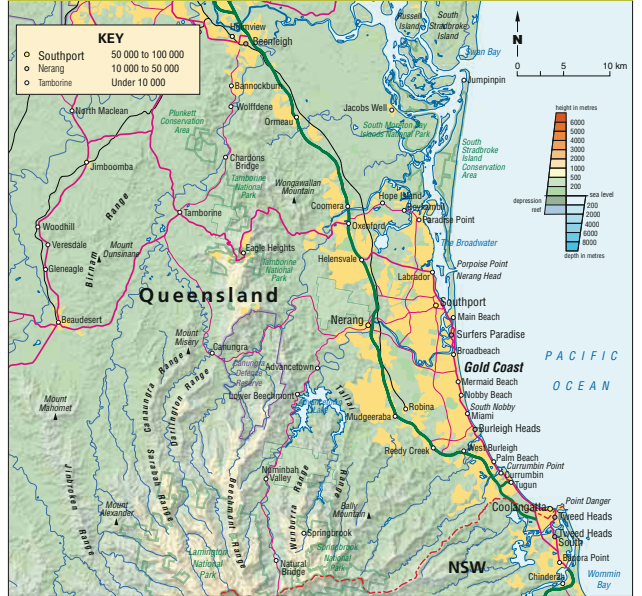
Origin of domestic visitors to the Gold Coast, 2011–12



GOLD COAST URBAN PLANNING

The attractions of the Gold Coast have drawn many people to settle in the area. Planning for the resulting urban growth is of great importance in order to retain a balance between the area's significant landscape features and the built environment. The Gold Coast City Council has undertaken detailed planning that considers both the landscape values and also the need to provide amenities for residents and visitors. Urban planners have prepared maps that display the relief of the region so that they can identify areas best suited to particular land uses and pinpoint the corridors that are needed to protect the most scenic views of the area.

Gold Coast region

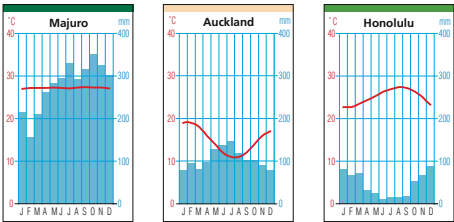


Urban planning with view corridors



Solomon Islands and Vanuatu

NEW ZEALAND

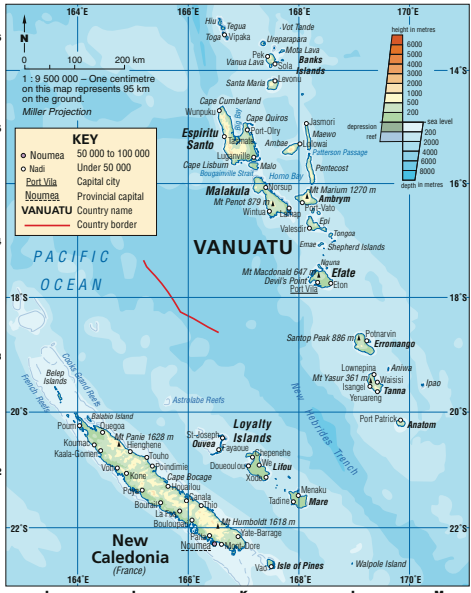


PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM

The Pacific Ocean covers about one-third of the Earth's surface. Scattered in it lie about 7500 low-lying islands and atolls (ring-like coral islands with reefs that enclose lagoons). These are all part of the many Pacific Island nations and territories.

The Pacific Islands Forum was set up in 1971 in response to France's nuclear tests on Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia. The forum represents all independent and self-governing Pacific Island countries as well as Australia and New Zealand. It provides member nations with the opportunity to express their joint political views and to cooperate in areas of political and economic concern. The 16 members are Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. New Caledonia and French Polynesia became associate members in 2006. The heads of government of the member states meet annually.

One of the most pressing issues raised today is the threat of environmental disaster from rising sea levels due to climate change. Rising sea levels are already having devastating effects on Tuvalu, whose 10 000 people live on nine low-lying atolls no more than five metres above sea level. Scientists predict that rising waters will totally cover the atolls within 50 years.



FACT FILE

Land area—268 021 km². Highest point is Mt Cook (3764 m). The Maori name for New Zealand is Aotearoa.

Population—Approx. 4.4 million: North Island 3.37 million; South Island 1.04 million.

Capital city—Wellington

Largest cities—Auckland (1 354 900), Christchurch (389 700), Wellington (390 300), Hamilton (203 400).

Major exports—Beef, lamb, dairy products, wool, timber, fish.

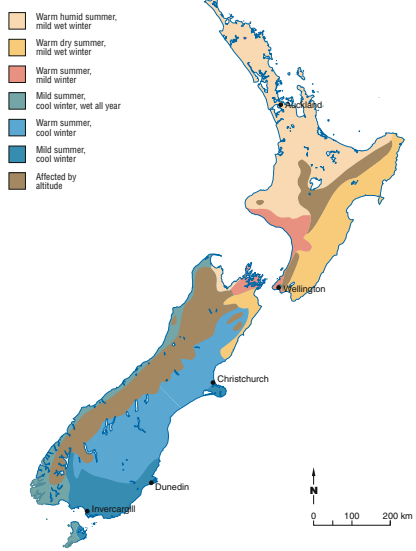
Territories—New Zealand has jurisdiction over the islands of Tokelau and the Ross Dependency (Antarctica). The Cook Islands and Niue are self-governing territories in free association with New Zealand.

Land rights—Under the Treaty of Waitangi, signed on 6 February 1840, the Maori chiefs ceded sovereignty to Britain, making New Zealand a British colony. Although the chiefs retained possession of all land, the Crown alone had the right to buy. The English and Maori interpretations of the treaty did not coincide and were later the subject

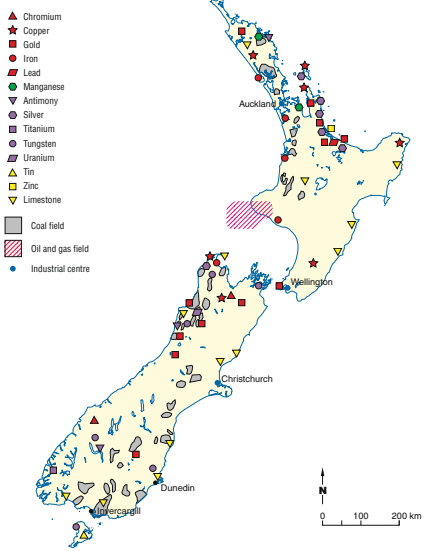
of much violent dispute. As the number of English settlers increased, large tracts of land were 'bought' from the Maori, sometimes against their will. The Maori Wars continued until 1872. In 1995 the New Zealand government established the Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS) to settle Maori claims made under the Treaty of Waitangi. Resolution of each claim by the OTS can take between four and eight years. The government has set a target of finalising all settlements by 2020.

NEW ZEALAND

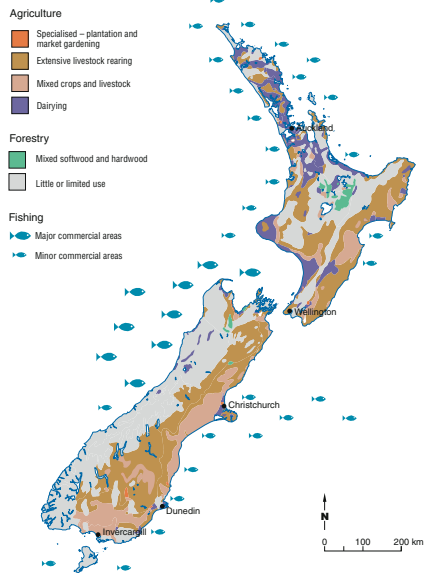
Climatic regions



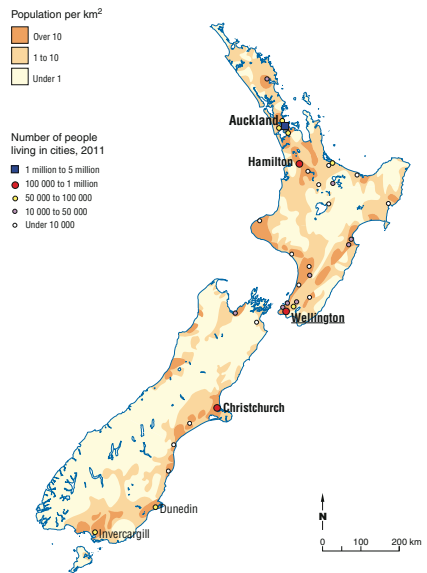
Minerals, energy and industry



Agriculture, forestry and fishing



Population



NEW ZEALAND—Volcanism and earthquakes

VOLCANIC ACTIVITY

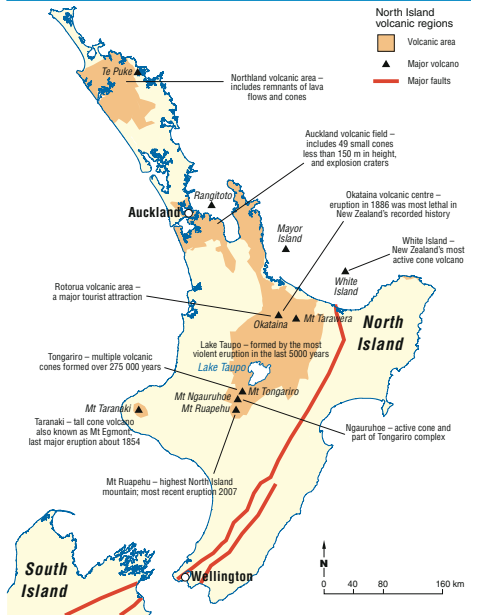
Volcanic activity resulting from the collision of the Pacific and the Indian-Australian plates has been responsible for creating much of New Zealand's landscape. Much of the North Island has been subjected to violent volcanic eruptions, many of them resulting in the loss of many lives. Most of New Zealand's volcanic activity has occurred during the last 1.6 million years in the Taupo Volcanic Zone (TVZ). This area has three frequently active cone volcanoes (Ruapehu, Tongariro/Ngauruhoe and White Island) and two of the most active calderas in the world (Okataina and Taupo).

Apart from cone volcanoes and caldera volcanoes, New Zealand's volcanic areas also include volcanic fields such as the Auckland volcanic field. Volcanic fields are areas consisting of many small craters or cones that were formed by relatively small eruptions and that usually don't erupt again. New eruptions in the field form new craters, cones or lava flows. Cone volcanoes are single mountains or craters that build up through a succession of eruptions at the same location. Calderas are large, deep craters formed when the ground above the magma chamber collapses. They result from infrequent, large and extremely violent eruptions. Later they often fill with water to form large lakes.

Mt Ruapehu, the largest active volcano in New Zealand



North Island volcanic regions



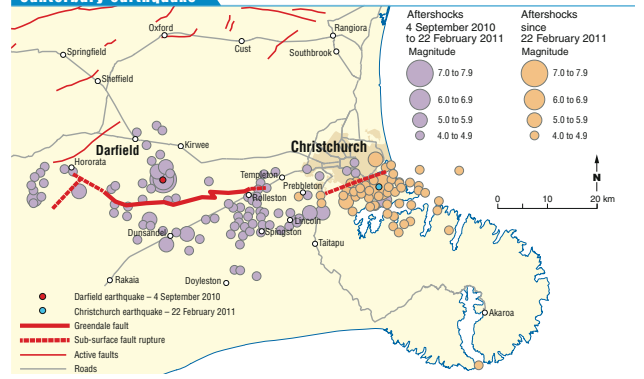
CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKES

On 4 September 2010 an earthquake with 7.1 magnitude on the Richter scale was recorded in New Zealand. Its epicentre was located 10 km south-east of Darfield in the Canterbury region. Despite its strength this earthquake did not result in any deaths or major damage; however, it was followed by many powerful aftershocks. One of these powerful aftershocks occurred on 22 February 2011 with a magnitude of 6.3 at a shallow depth of 6 km and with an epicentre just 10 km south of Christchurch's central business district (CBD). Christchurch and the surrounding area suffered major damage and 183 deaths as a result of this earthquake.

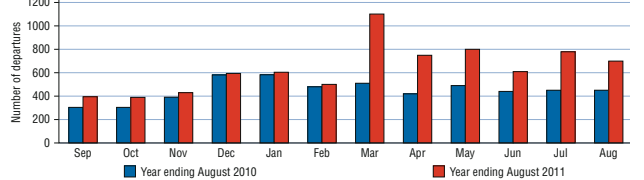
EARTHQUAKE MAGNITUDE SCALES

Magnitude scales enable scientists to compare the size of different earthquakes. The scale most often mentioned is the local magnitude scale (M_L) or **Richter scale**, developed in 1935. This original Richter scale was expanded on by the development of other methods, such as the surface-wave magnitude scale (M_s) and the body-wave magnitude scale (m_b), which can better deal with earthquakes located at larger distances. These modified 'Richter scales' can be calculated very quickly on the basis of seismographic readings, but they can only reliably express the actual energy of earthquakes up to magnitude 8.0. In 1979 the **moment magnitude scale (MMS)** (M_w) was developed to more reliably measure very large earthquakes. It uses the concept of seismic moment, which estimates the total energy of an earthquake as well as its physical size. Because they have been developed to be consistent, any of the above scales should yield approximately the same value for any given earthquake.

Canterbury earthquake

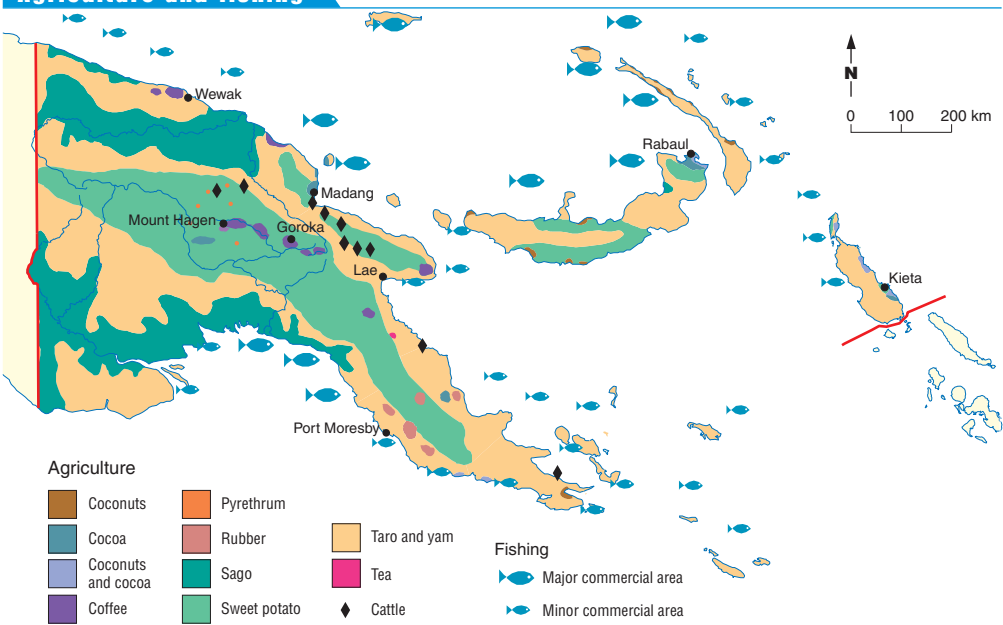


Permanent and long-term departures from Christchurch, September 2009 to August 2011

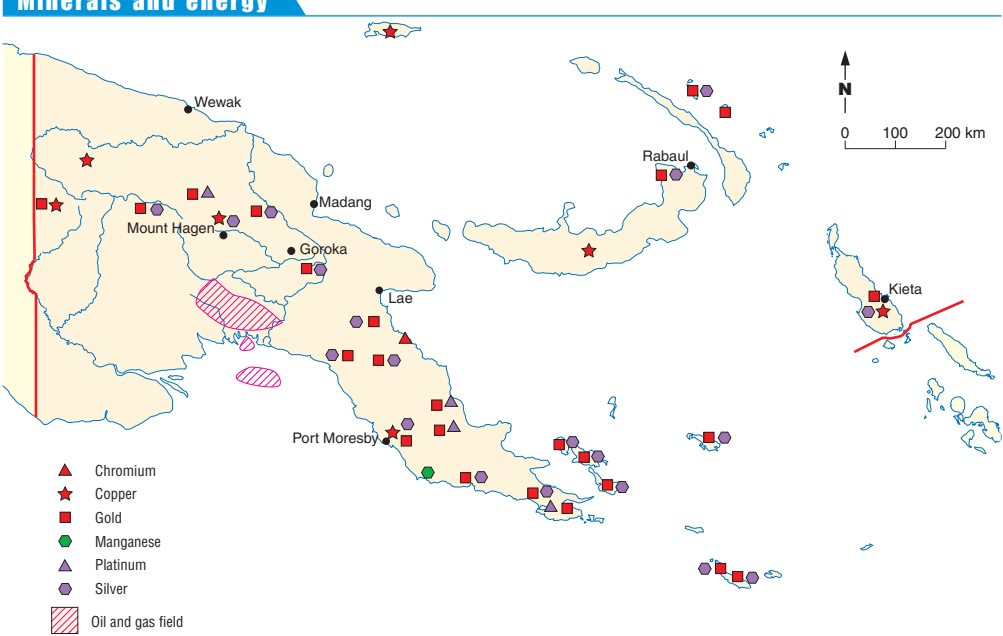




Agriculture and fishing

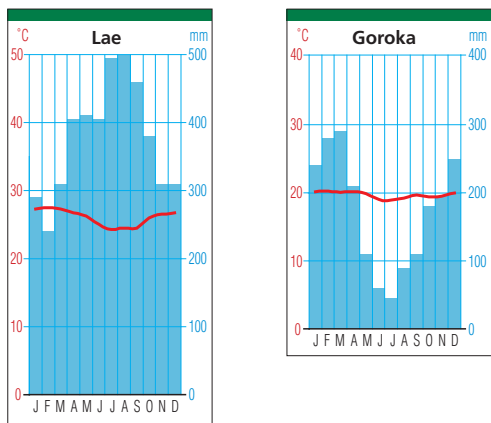


Minerals and energy



Languages—There are over 750 indigenous languages. The linguistic pattern is so diverse that villagers a few

Independence—After World War II, the Trust Territory of Papua and New Guinea was administered by Australia on behalf of the United Nations. In 1973, self-government was declared and, in 1975, Papua New Guinea achieved full independence.



Today the Kokoda Trail is a popular hiking route for visitors seeking to understand the challenges faced by the Australian troops. It is a 96 km track of extremely steep, slippery slopes reaching an elevation of 2190 m at Mt Bellamy.

A detailed map of Papua New Guinea, highlighting the Kokoda Trail. The trail is shown as a dashed line, starting from Port Moresby on the coast and heading inland through various towns and mountains. Key locations marked include Port Moresby, Illolo, Owers Corner, Toribaiwa, Nauro, Menari, Myola, Brigade Hill, Efoji, Kagi, Mt Bellamy, Alola, Olivi, Wairopi, Awala, Popondetta, Sanananda, and Gona. The map also shows the Owen Stanley Range, the Gulf of Papua, and the Solomon Sea. A key indicates that the dashed line represents the Kokoda Trail, solid lines represent roads, and circles represent Buna (likely a typo for towns). A scale bar shows distances up to 40 km, and a north arrow is present.

City	Population (thousand)
Port Moresby	385
Lae	125
Madang	45
Wewak	30
Goroka	28
Mount Hagen	25
Kokopo	25

Population per km²

- Over 40
- 10 to 40
- 2 to 10
- Under 2

Number of people living in cities, 2011

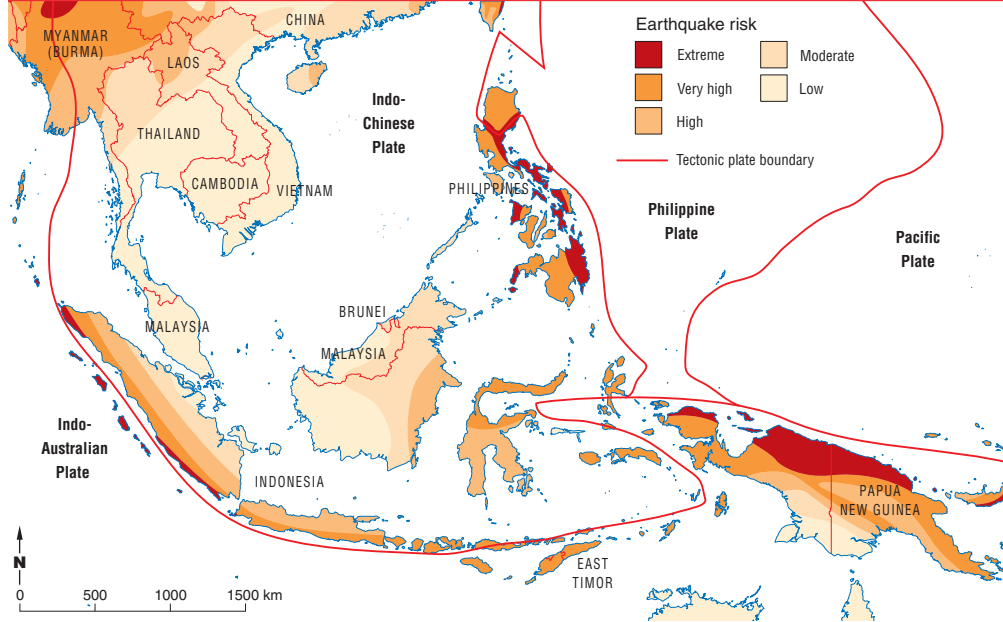
- 100 000 to 500 000
- 50 000 to 100 000
- Under 50 000

Wewak, Madang, Mount Hagen, Goroka, Lae, Port Moresby, Rabaul, Kieta

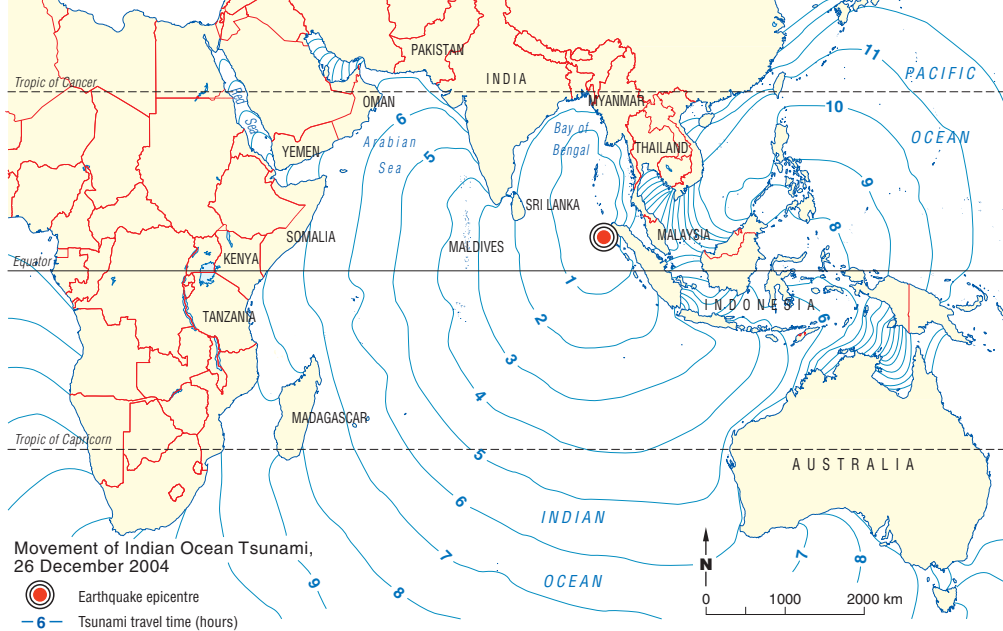
0 100 200 km

SOUTH-EAST ASIA—Natural hazards

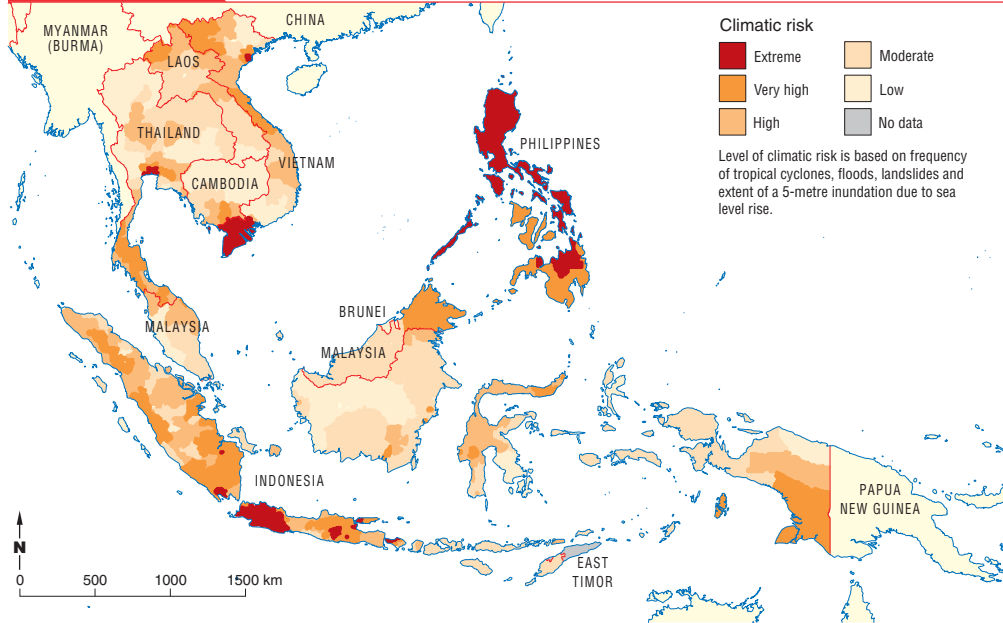
Earthquake risk



Indian Ocean tsunami, 2004



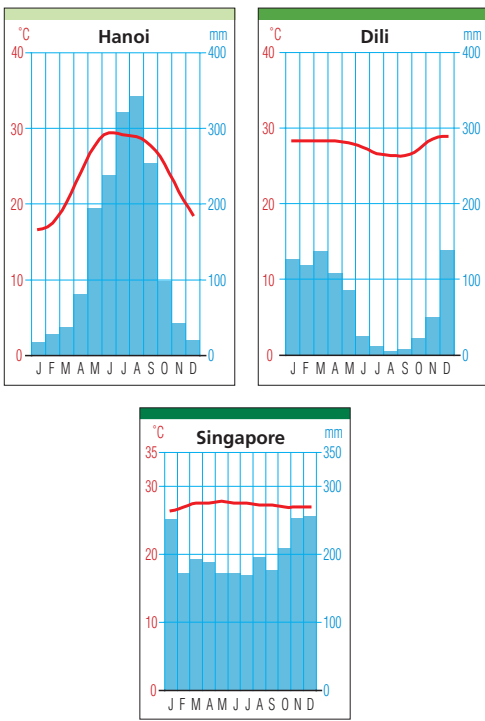
Climatic risk



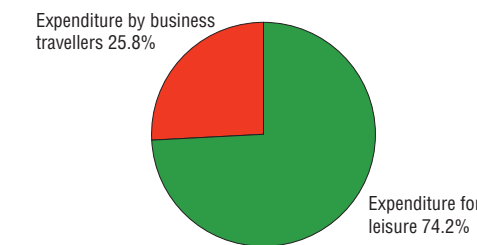
Damage due to an earthquake in the Philippines



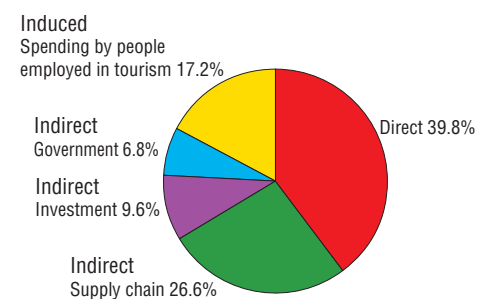
After the tsunami, in Banda Aceh



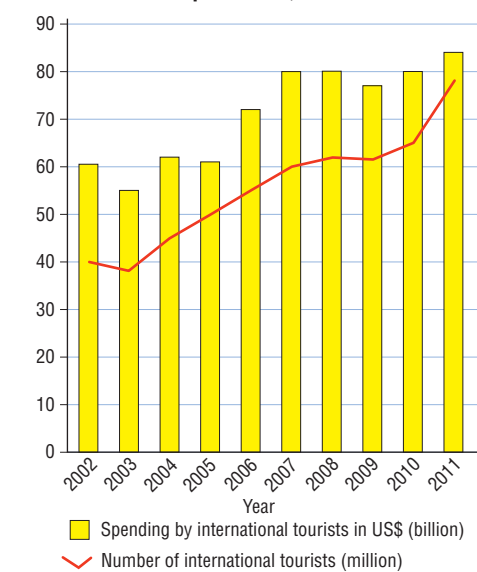
Contribution of leisure and business tourism to the South-East Asian economy, 2011



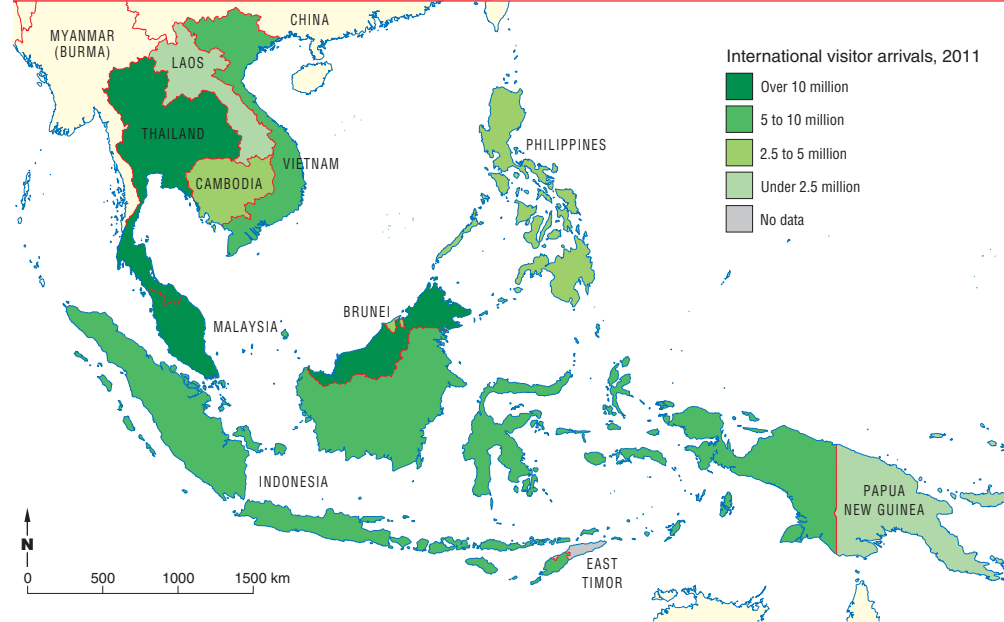
Contribution of tourism to employment in South-East Asia, 2011



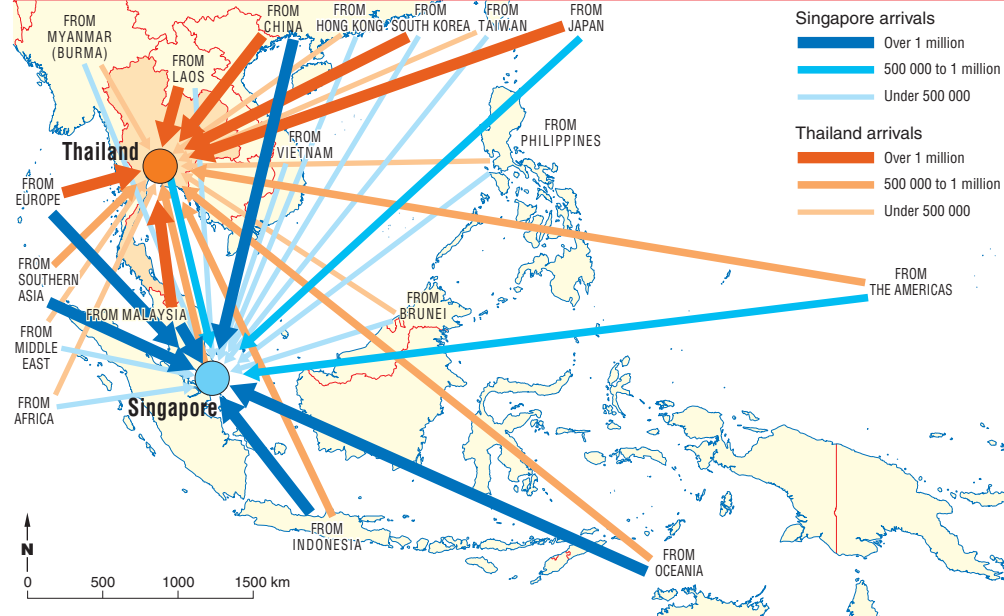
Number of international visitors to South-East Asia and their expenditure, 2002–11



International visitor arrivals, 2011



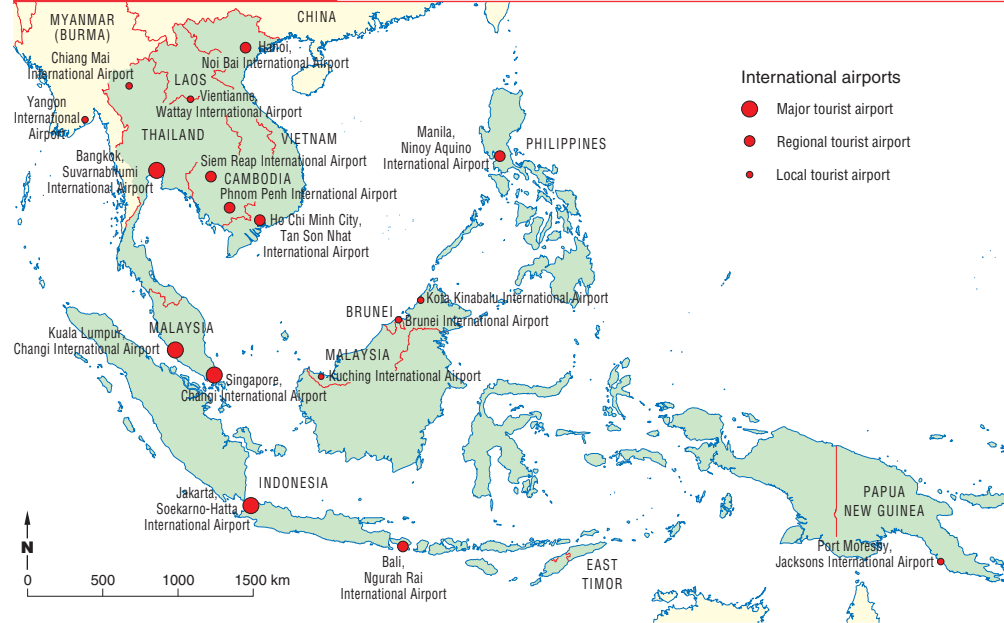
Origin of tourist arrivals, 2011



Main terminal in Bangkok International Airport



International airports



KOREA and JAPAN



FACT FILE

Japan—Land area: 377 835 km²; population: approx. 127.3 million; capital city: Tokyo; largest cities: Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Nagoya, Sapporo, Kobe, Kyoto

Republic of Korea (South Korea)—Land area: 98 480 km² (separated from North Korea by a demilitarised zone of 1262 km²); population: approx. 48.4 million; capital city: Seoul; largest cities: Seoul, Pusan, Taegu, Incheon

People's Democratic Republic of Korea (North Korea)—Land area: 120 540 km²; population: approx. 22.9 million;

capital city: Pyongyang; largest cities: Pyongyang, Chongjin, Namju, Sinuiju

Two Koreas—Following WWII, Soviet forces occupied northern Korea (north of the 38°N parallel) and established the pro-communist People's Democratic Republic of Korea in 1948. US forces occupied the land to the south, which became the Republic of Korea. After the Korean War (1950–53), the two countries were formally separated by a demilitarised zone at the 38°N parallel.

Industrial giants—After WW II, Japan and South Korea embarked on ambitious programs of industrialisation. Their industry is based on giant corporate groups of companies (known as *keiretsu* in Japan and *chaebol* in South Korea). Manufacturing has moved from light to heavy industry concentrated mainly in oil, petrochemicals, iron and steel, machinery, shipbuilding and motor vehicles, as well as electronics. Japan produces nearly 20% of the world's annual motor vehicle output and is a leader in technologically advanced production methods.

JAPAN—Natural and human disaster

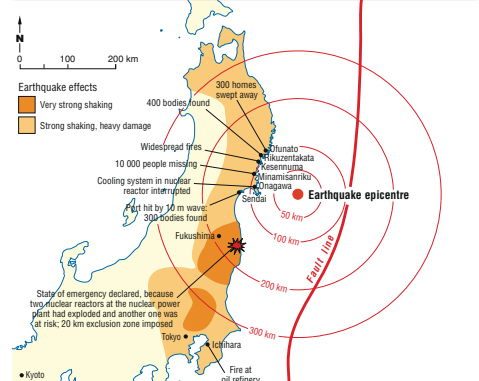
JAPAN'S EARTHQUAKE, TSUNAMI AND NUCLEAR DISASTER

On 11 March 2011 the fifth most powerful earthquake ever recorded occurred off the east coast of Honshu, along the subduction zone between the Pacific plate and the North America plate. The epicentre of the 9.0 M_w (moment magnitude scale) earthquake was located approximately 70 km off the east coast at a depth of approximately 32 km. The earthquake triggered a massive tsunami reaching a height of about 40 m in Iwate prefecture. Tsunami waves were recorded as 2 m high at tide gauges in Hawaii and on the west coast of North and South America.

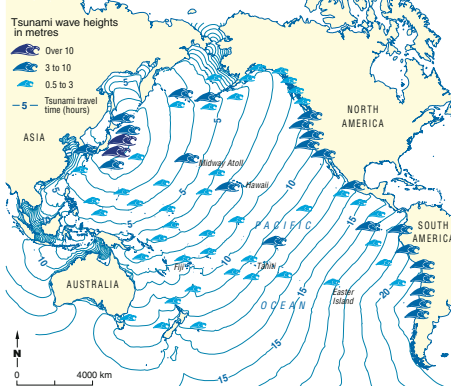
The impact of the earthquake and tsunami resulted in a number of nuclear accidents, primarily a level 7 meltdown of three reactors in the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant complex. People living within a 20 km radius of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant were evacuated, as well as people living within a 10 km radius of the Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Plant. The disaster resulted in 15 854 deaths and 3203 persons missing, 130 927 displaced and at least 332 395 buildings, 2126 roads, 56 bridges and 26 railways destroyed or damaged. The economic cost of the disaster has been estimated at \$200 to \$300 billion making it the costliest natural catastrophe of all time.

Studies done after the disaster found that a slip of nearly 50 m in the ocean floor had caused the earthquake. It also appears that during the massive earthquake nearly all the stress that had been building up along the plate boundary was released, whereas it is usually only partially released. As a result, the fault at the plate boundary has changed from a thrust fault (in which one plate is pushed up at the fault) to a normal fault (in which one plate is pushed down at the fault).

Tohoku earthquake, 11 March 2011



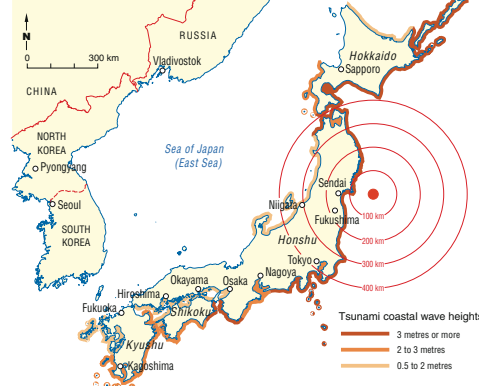
Tsunami height and travel time



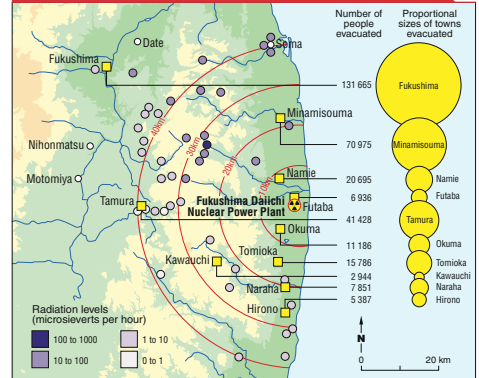
Houses washed away by the 2011 tsunami



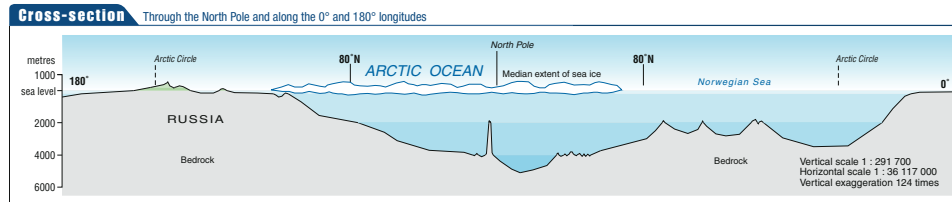
Severity of tsunami



Radiation levels in Fukushima region, 20 March 2011







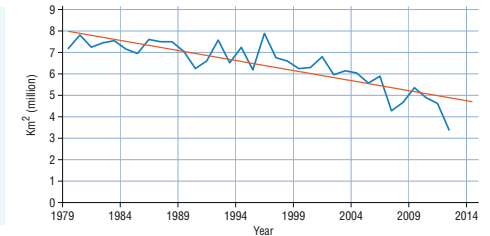
ARCTIC SEA ICE

Arctic sea ice reached its lowest extent on record (3.4 million km²) in September 2012, continuing the trend that resulted in the North-West Passage being ice-free in 2007 for the first time in the modern era. The extent of Arctic sea ice has been decreasing at a rate of about 10% per decade since satellite records began in 1979. Some scientists are predicting that the Arctic Ocean may become ice-free some time between 2015 and 2040, for the first time in more than 700 000 years. Rising Arctic temperatures, unusual wind patterns and changing ocean circulation patterns are suggested as contributing factors for the loss of sea ice. Scientists say that a 'positive feedback loop' is set up when sea ice retreats and ocean currents transport more heat to the Arctic with the open water absorbing more sunlight, further accelerating the rate of warming and leading to the loss of more sea ice. On a global scale, the loss of the Arctic's reflective sea ice cover would result in greater absorption of solar energy, potentially accelerating climate change.

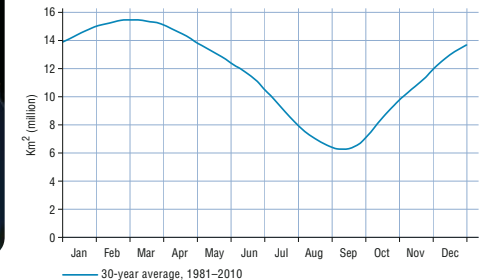
Arctic sea ice, 16 September 2012



Average Arctic sea ice extent during September, 1979–2012



Seasonal variation in Arctic sea ice



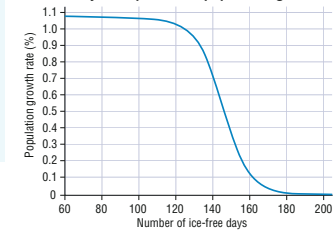
POLAR BEARS

The polar bear is the world's largest terrestrial carnivore and inhabits Arctic areas where sea ice occurs for a significant part of the year. There are approximately 20 different populations of polar bears in the Arctic that together amount to approximately 25 000 bears. Climate change is predicted to have a significant impact on their population as growth rates drop significantly in areas with more than 120 ice-free days (see graph on the right). Polar bears are forecast to lose 42% of the Arctic range that they need to hunt and breed during summer months within the next 45 years. The declining quality of sea ice will make it less stable for mother bears to raise their cubs and they will be forced to swim longer distances increasing the risk of drowning or starvation. Biologists have predicted that the north coast of Alaska and Russia will most likely lose all of their polar bear populations due to thinning and disappearing sea ice. The only bears expected to survive will be those on the northern Canadian Arctic islands and the west coast of Greenland.

Polar bear distribution



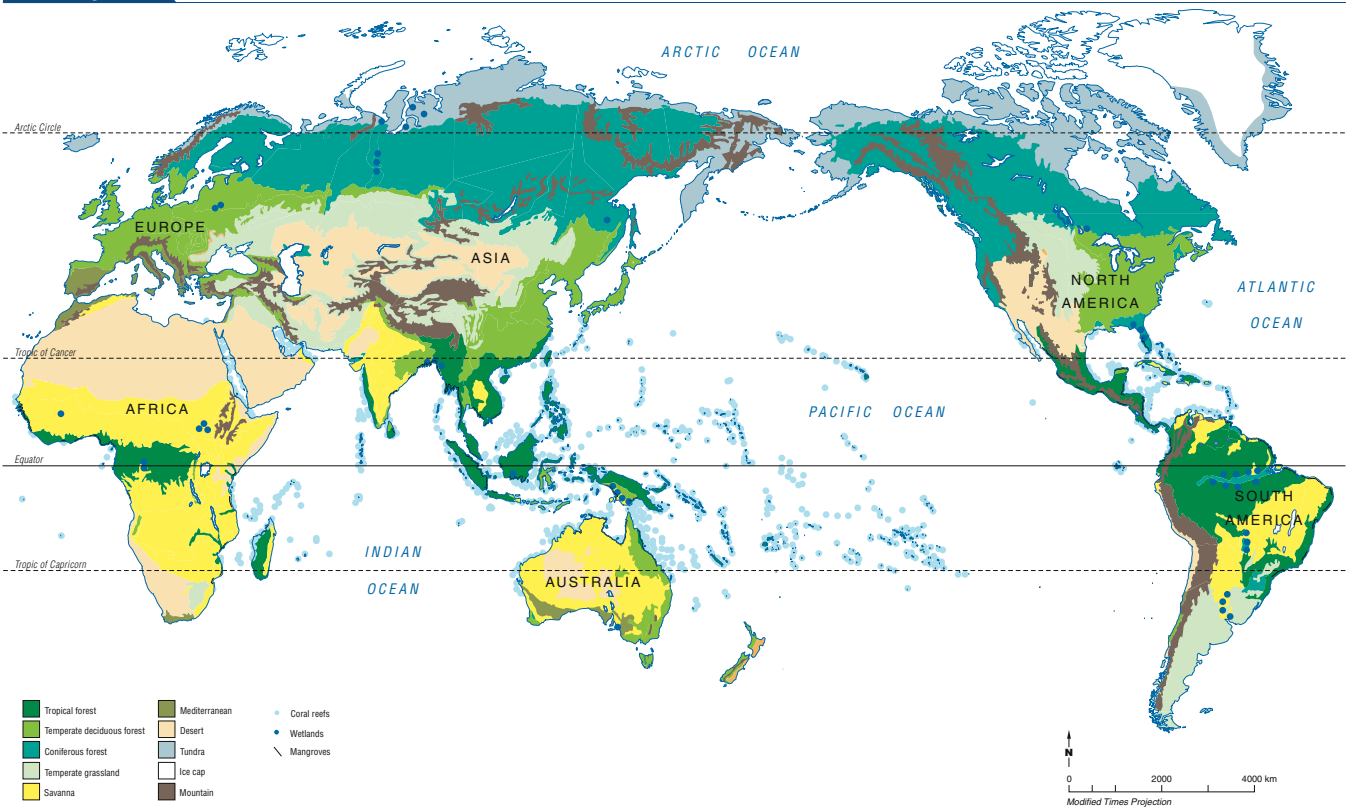
Ice-free days and polar bear population growth



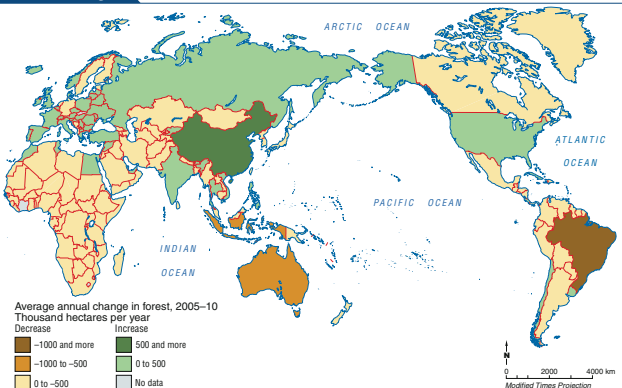
Polar bear, Spitsbergen



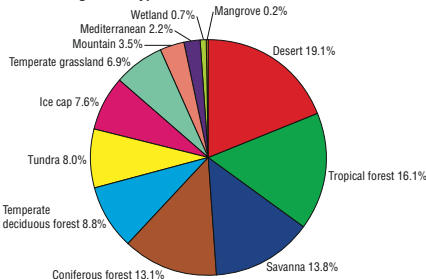
Natural vegetation



Forest change



Extent of vegetation types



Tropical forest



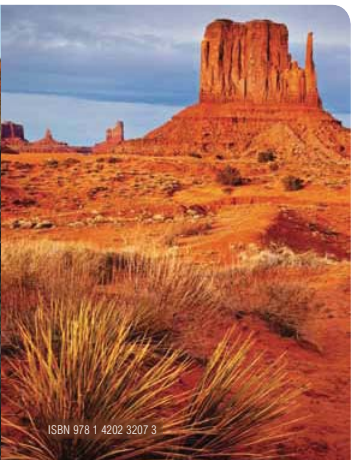
Coniferous forest



Temperate deciduous forest



Desert



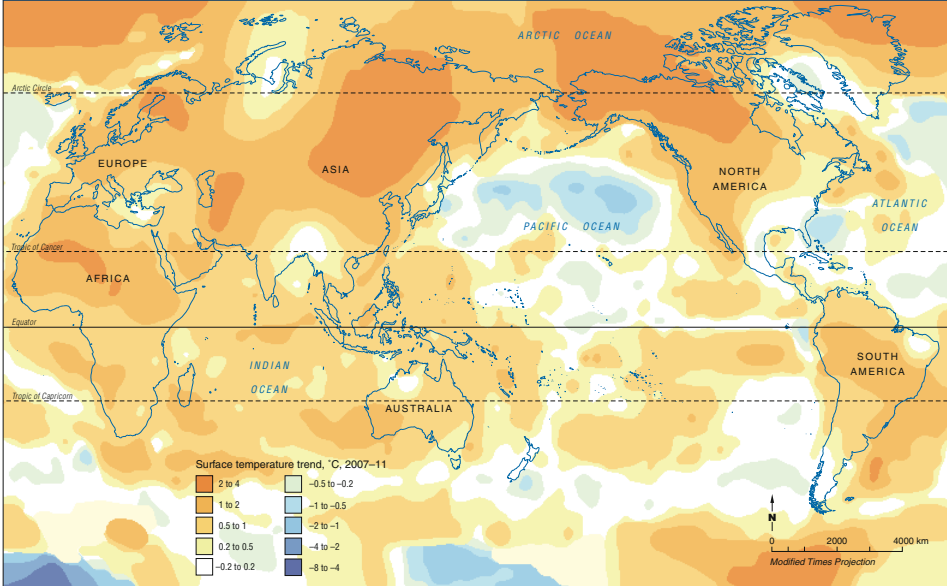
Savanna



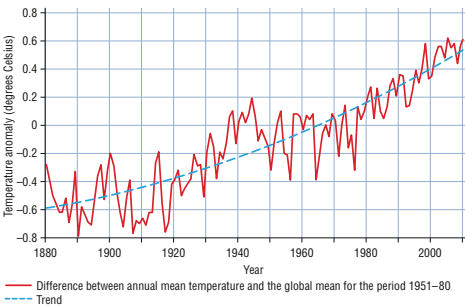
Tundra



Global temperature change



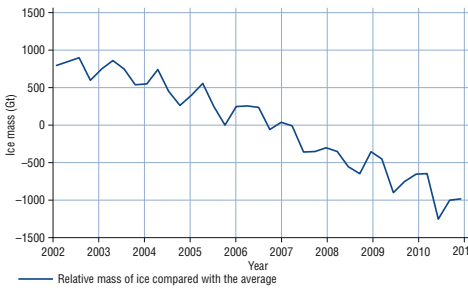
Global temperature change, 1880–2010



Pedersen Glacier in Alaska, 1917



Loss of Greenland's ice mass, 2002–11

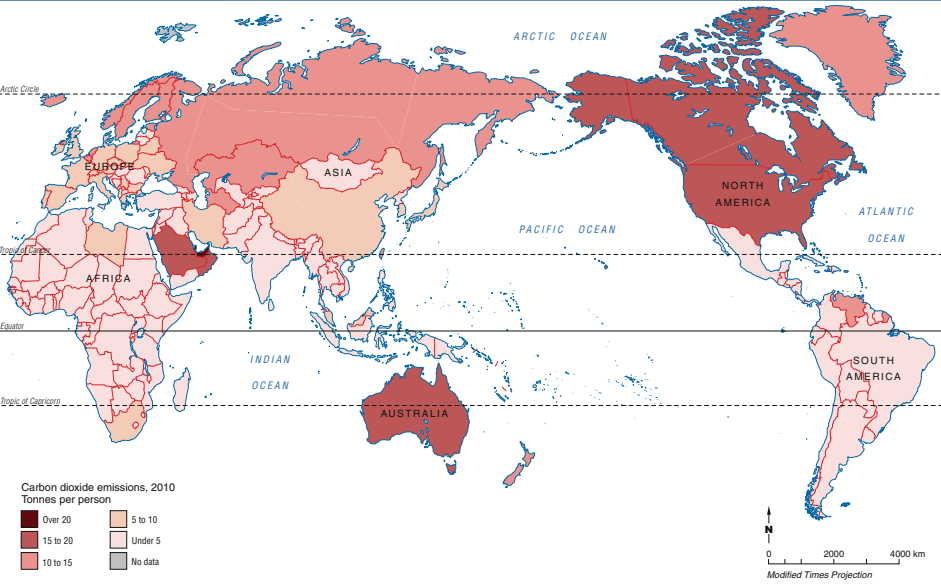


Pedersen Glacier in Alaska, 2005

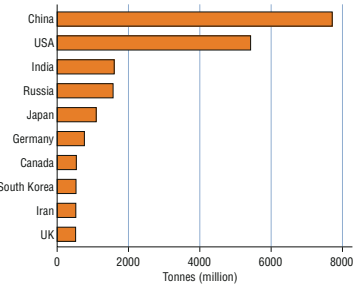


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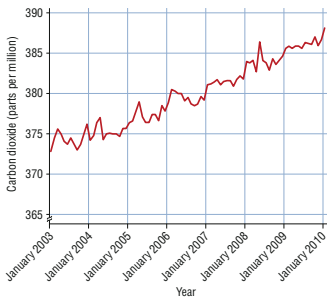
Carbon dioxide emissions



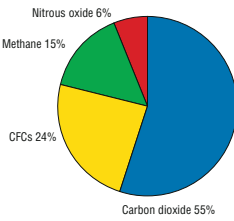
Total carbon dioxide emissions, 2010



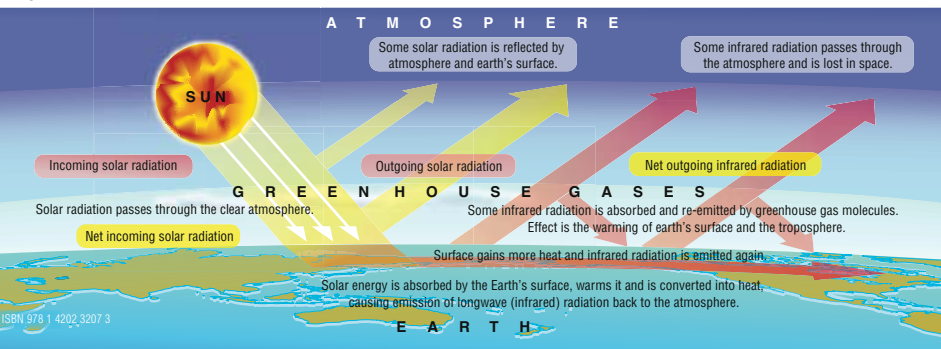
Carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere, 2003–10



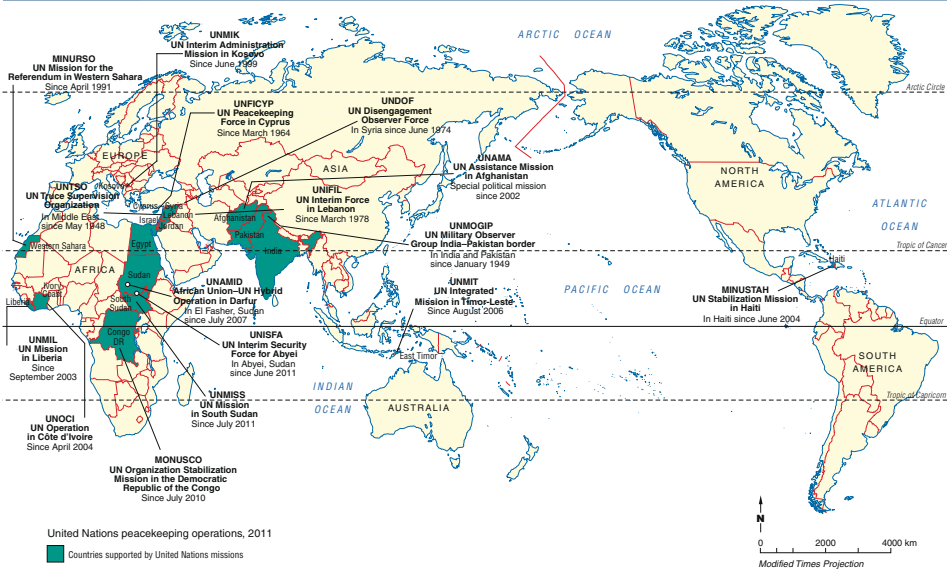
Greenhouse gases



The greenhouse effect



Peacekeeping

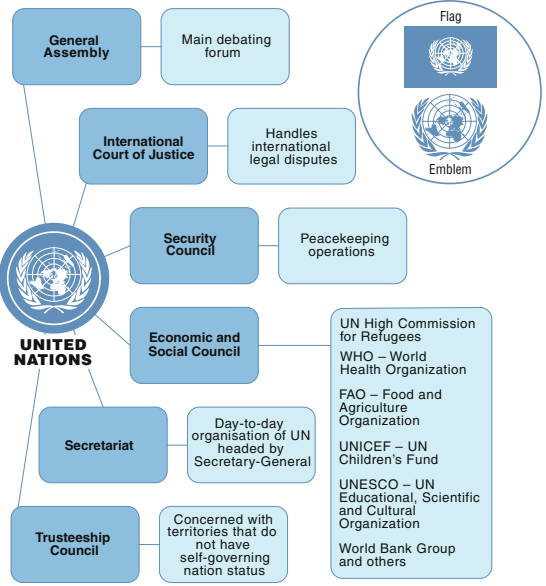


UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations (UN) was formed in 1945, immediately after World War II, with the aim to help keep world peace and to protect human rights. Fifty-one member nations signed the UN Charter on 24 October and this day is now celebrated around the world as United Nations Day. In 2012 there were 193 member states.

The land and buildings of the UN headquarters in New York City are international territory. The UN has its own flag and emblem. The emblem is the world being held within the 'olive branches of peace'. The UN even has its own stamps and post office.

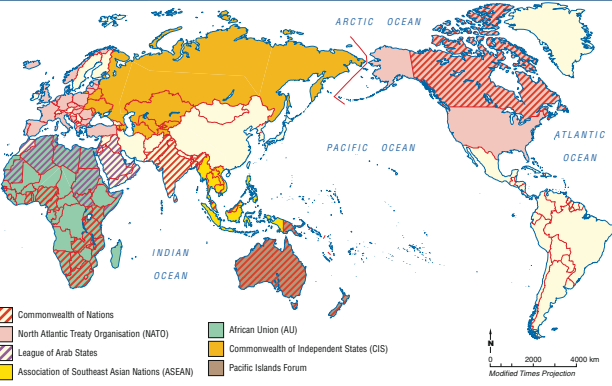
Six official languages are used at the United Nations: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The senior officer of the United Nations Secretariat is the Secretary-General.



A UN peacekeeper from India posted in Haiti



World alliances



WORLD ALLIANCES

African Union (AU)—Founded in July 2002. It consists of 54 member states.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Founded on 8 August 1967. It has 10 member states.

Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)—Founded on 8 December 1991. Its member states are former Soviet republics. It has 10 official members and one participating member, Ukraine.

Commonwealth of Nations—Formerly known as the British Commonwealth. It has 54 member states; all but two of its members were part of the British Empire.

League of Arab States—Also known as the Arab League. Founded on 22 March 1945. Its membership has grown from 6 to 22 member states in Africa and Asia.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)—A military alliance of 28 countries in North America and Europe that have agreed to a mutual defence response to attacks from an external country. Founded on 4 April 1949.

Pacific Islands Forum—Founded in August 1971. Formerly known as the South Pacific Forum. It consists of 16 member states.

INTERNATIONAL AID

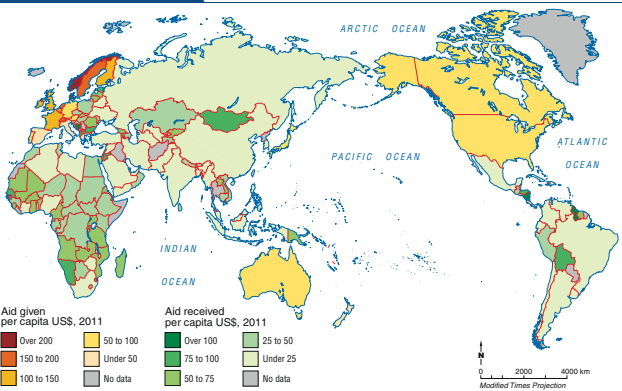
Many of the world's countries give aid to less-developed countries through their foreign-aid projects in the form of monetary grants and/or goods and services. They also lend them money at an interest rate that is lower than usual and with repayment periods that are longer than usual. Governments allocate an annual budget to their foreign-aid projects and usually have a special agency that administers it. Twenty-two member nations give aid through the UN's Official Development Assistance (ODA) program.

Non-governmental organisations

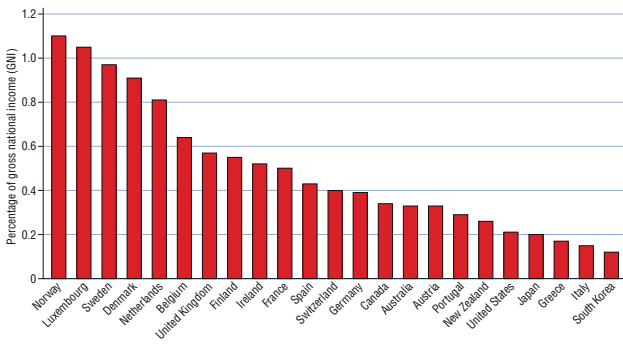
Besides governments, there are international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) whose work aims to make the world a fairer and more sustainable place. The term NGOs was first used when the United Nations was created in 1945. NGOs are organisations run by citizens, but some aid money from governments is also channelled into NGO projects.

NGOs are important because they work with people at a local level, help ensure that aid is used effectively in self-help projects, help train volunteers, and raise public awareness in more fortunate countries. The work that NGOs do covers many global issues at both humanitarian and environmental levels.

Aid between countries



Official development assistance, 2010



Food distribution in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake



Statistics



Country	Official name	Capital city	Area (km²)	Population (million) 2012	Official language	Official currency	GDP per capita (PPP) int\$ 2011	Life expectancy male/female	Pop. with improved sanitation %
AUSTRALIA									
Australia	Commonwealth of Australia	Canberra	7 692 024	21.5	English	Australian dollar	36 410	80/84	100
THE PACIFIC									
Fiji	Republic of the Fiji Islands	Suva	182 270	0.9	Eng, Hindi, Fijian	Fij dollar	4 590	67/72	83
Kiribati	Republic of Kiribati	Tarawa	811	0.1	Gilbertese, Eng	Australian dollar	3 480	59/66	n/a
Marshall Islands	Republic of the Marshall Islands	Majuro	181	0.1	English	US dollar	n/a	69/73	75
Micronesia	Federated States of Micronesia	Palikir	702	0.1	English	US dollar	3 610	68/70	n/a
Nauru	Republic of Nauru	Yaren	21	0.01	Australian, Eng	n/a	6 067	n/a	n/a
New Zealand	New Zealand	Wellington	268 021	4.4	English	New Zealand dollar	28 970	79/83	100
Palau	Republic of Palau	Ngerulmud	458	0.02	English	US dollar	12 330	68/74	100
Papua New Guinea	Independent State of Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby	462 840	6.1	Eng, Pidgin, Hiri Motu	Kina	2 590	61/65	45
Samoa	Independent State of Samoa	Apia	2 944	0.2	Samoa, Eng	Tala	4 430	70/76	98
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands	Honiara	284 550	0.6	Eng, Neo-Mel Pidgin	Solomon Is dollar	2 360	66/69	n/a
Tonga	Kingdom of Tonga	Nukualofa	748	0.1	Tongan, Eng	Pa'anga	4 690	69/75	96
Tuvalu	Tuvalu	Funafuti	26	0.01	Tuvaluan, Eng	Australian dollar	n/a	63/71	85
Vanuatu	Republic of Vanuatu	Port Vila	12 200	0.2	Bislama, Fr, Eng	Vatu, Australian dollar	4 500	65/73	57

ASIA									
Afghanistan	Islamic State of Afghanistan	Kabul	647 500	29.1	Pushtu, Dari	Afghani	1 060	48/48	37
Armenia	Republic of Armenia	Yerevan	29 800	3.0	Armenian, Russian	Dram	6 140	71/77	90
Azerbaijan	Republic of Azerbaijan	Baku	86 600	8.3	Azeri, Russian	Manat	9 020	68/74	82
Bahrain	Kingdom of Bahrain	Manama	665	0.7	Arabic	Bahraini dinar	21 240	75/78	n/a
Bangladesh	People's Republic of Bangladesh	Dhaka	144 000	156.1	Bengali	Taka	1 940	68/70	56
Bhutan	Kingdom of Bhutan	Thimphu	47 000	0.7	Dzongkha	Ngultrum	5 480	66/69	44
Brunei	Brunei Darussalam	Bandar Seri Begawan	5 770	0.4	Malay, Chinese, Eng	Brunei dollar (Ringgit)	49 790	75/80	n/a
Cambodia	Kingdom of Cambodia	Phnom Penh	181 040	14.5	Khmer, Vietnamese	Riel	2 260	61/64	31
China	People's Republic of China	Beijing	9 596 960	1 330.0	Chinese	Yuan	8 450	72/75	64
Cyprus	Republic of Cyprus	Nicosia	9 250	1.1	Greek, Turkish	Euro	30 910	77/82	100
East Timor	Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste	Dili	14 300	1.2	Portuguese	US dollar	5 210	62/63	47
Georgia	Republic of Georgia	Tbilisi	69 700	4.6	Georgian, Russian	Lari	7 070	59/73	95
India	Republic of India	New Delhi	3 287 590	117.3	Hindi, Eng	Indian rupee	3 620	64/67	34
Indonesia	Republic of Indonesia	Jakarta	1 919 440	243.0	Indonesian	Rupiah	4 530	68/71	54
Iran	Islamic Republic of Iran	Tehran	1 648 000	76.9	Persian (Farsi)	Rial	11 400	73/75	100
Iraq	Republic of Iraq	Baghdad	439 072	29.7	Arabic	Iraqi dinar	3 770	65/72	73
Israel	State of Israel	Jerusalem	20 770	7.4	Hebrew, Arabic	Shekel	27 120	80/83	100
Japan	Nippon	Tokyo	377 835	127.3	Japanese	Yen	35 530	80/86	100
Jordan	Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	Amman	89 300	6.4	Arabic	Jordanian dinar	5 970	66/69	93
Kazakhstan	Republic of Kazakhstan	Almaty	2 173 300	15.3	Kazakh, Russian	Tenge	11 310	64/73	97
Kuwait	State of Kuwait	Kuwait City	17 820	2.8	Arabic	Kuwaiti dinar	5 380	74/76	100
Kyrgyzstan	Kyrgyz Republic	Bishkek	198 500	5.5	Kyrgyz, Russian	Som	2 290	65/73	93
Laos	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Vientiane	236 800	6.4	Laotian	Kip	2 600	66/69	63
Lebanon	Lebanese Republic	Beirut	10 400	4.1	Arabic	Lebanese pound	14 000	70/75	n/a
Malaysia	Federation of Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	329 750	28.3	Malay	Malaysian dollar (Ringgit)	15 190	72/77	96
Maldives	Republic of Maldives	Male	300	0.4	Divehi	Maldivian rupee	8 540	67/78	97
Mongolia	People's Republic of Mongolia	Ulan Bator	1 565 000	3.1	Khalkha Mongolian	Tugrik	4 360	65/68	51
Myanmar (Burma)	Union of Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw	678 000	53.4	Burmese	Kyat	n/a	58/64	n/a
Nepal	Kingdom of Nepal	Kathmandu	140 800	29.0	Nepali	Nepalese rupee	1 260	68/70	31
North Korea	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Pyeongyang	120 540	2.3	Korean	Won (KPW)	n/a	66/72	80
Oman	Sultanate of Oman	Muscat	30 500	3.0	Arabic	Rial	25 710	69/76	99
Pakistan	Islamic Republic of Pakistan	Islamabad	803 940	184.4	Urdu, Punjabi	Pakistani rupee	2 880	64/66	48
Philippines	Republic of the Philippines	Manila	300 000	99.9	Filipino, Eng	Philippine peso	4 160	66/72	74
Qatar	State of Qatar	Doha	11 437	0.8	Arabic	Qatari riyal	87 030	79/78	100
Saudi Arabia	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	1 960 582	25.7	Arabic	Saudi riyal	24 870	73/75	n/a
Singapore	Republic of Singapore	Singapore	692	4.7	Malay, Ch, Eng, Tamil	Singapore dollar	59 790	79/84	100
South Korea	Republic of South Korea	Seoul	98 480	48.4	Korean	Won (KRW)	30 340	77/84	100
Sri Lanka	Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka	Colombo	65 610	21.5	Sinhala, Tamil, Eng	Sri Lanka rupee	5 560	72/77	92
Syria	Syrian Arab Republic	Damascus	165 180	22.2	Arabic	Syrian pound	5 090	74/77	95
Taiwan	Taiwan	Taipei	35 980	22.9	Chinese (Mandarin)	New Taiwan dollar	n/a	75/81	n/a
Tajikistan	Republic of Tajikistan	Dushanbe	143 100	7.5	Tajik, Russian	Tajik ruble	2 310	64/71	94
Thailand	Kingdom of Thailand	Bangkok	514 000	67.1	Thai	Baht	9 390	71/78	96
Turkey	Republic of Turkey	Ankara	780 590	77.8	Turkish	Lira	17 340	72/78	90
Turkmenistan	Republic of Turkmenistan	Ashgabat	488 100	4.9	Turkmen, Russian	Manat	8 350	61/69	98
United Arab Emirates	United Arab Emirates	Abu Dhabi	82 880	5.0	Arabic	UAE dirham	48 220	76/78	98
Uzbekistan	Republic of Uzbekistan	Tashkent	447 400	27.9	Uzbek, Russian	Som	3 440	65/71	100
Vietnam	Socialist Republic of Vietnam	Hanoi	339 500	89.6	Vietnamese, Thai	Dong	3 390	73/77	76
Yemen	Republic of Yemen	Sana'a	527 970	23.5	Arabic	Rial	2 180	64/67	53

EUROPE									
Albania	Republic of Albania	Tirana	28 748	3.0	Albanian	Lek	8 900	74/80	94
Andorra	Principality of Andorra	Andorra la Vella	468	0.08	Catalan	n/a	81/86	n/a	100
Austria	Republic of Austria	Vienna	83 858	8.2	German	Euro	42 080	78/83	100
Belarus	Republic of Belarus	Minsk	207 600	9.7	Belorussian, Russian	Ruble	14 560	65/77	93
Belgium	Kingdom of Belgium	Brussels	30 510	10.4	Dutch, Fr, Ger	Euro	39 270	77/83	100
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo	51 120	4.6	Serbo-Croatian	Dinar	8 920	73/78	95
Bulgaria	Republic of Bulgaria	Sofia	110 910	7.1	Bulgarian	Lev	13 960	70/77	100
Croatia	Republic of Croatia	Zagreb	56 542	4.5	Serbo-Croatian	Kuna	19 330	72/79	99
Czech Republic	Czech Republic	Prague	78 866	10.4	Czech	Koruna	24 280	74/81	98
Denmark	Kingdom of Denmark	Copenhagen	43 094	5.5	Danish	Krone	27 010	77/81	100
Estonia	Republic of Estonia	Tallinn	45 226	1.3	Estonian, Russian	Kroon	20 600	71/81	95
Finland	Republic of Finland	Helsinki	337 030	5.2	Finnish	Euro	38 500	77/83	100
France	French Republic	Paris	547 030	64.8	French	Euro	35 650	78/85	100
Germany	Federal Republic of Germany	Berlin	357 021	81.8	German	Euro	39 970	78/83	100
Greece	Hellenic Republic	Athens	131 940	11.0	Greek	Euro	25 090	78/83	98
Hungary	Republic of Hungary	Budapest	93 030	9.9	Hungarian	Forint	20 260	71/78	100
Iceland	Republic of Iceland	Reykjavik	103 000	0.3	Icelandic	Icelandic krona	30 760	80/84	100
Ireland	Republic of Ireland	Dublin	70 280	4.6	Irish, Eng	Euro	32 320	78/83	99
Italy	Italian Republic	Rome	301 230	60.3	Italian	Euro	32 710	79/84	100
Kosovo	Republic of Kosovo	Pristina	10 877	1.8	Albanian, Serbian	Euro	n/a	n/a	n/a
Latvia	Republic of Latvia	Riga	64 589	2.2	Latvian, Russian	Lats	17 820	69/78	78
Liechtenstein	Principality of Liechtenstein	Vaduz	160	0.037	German	Swiss franc	n/a	76/83	100
Lithuania	Republic of Lithuania	Vilnius	65 200	3.6	Lithuanian, Russian	Litas	16 990	68/79	86
Luxembourg	Grand Duchy of Luxembourg	Luxembourg	2 586	0.5	Fr, Ger, Letzburgeresch	Euro	64 410	78/83	100
Macedonia	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Skopje	25 333	2.1	Macedonian	Dinar	11 490	73/77	88
Malta	Republic of Malta	Valetta	316	0.4	Maltese, Eng	Euro	24 170	79/83	100
Moldova	Republic of Moldova	Chisinau	33 843	4.3	Moldovan, Russ, Rom	Leu	3 670	66/73	85
Monaco	Principality of Monaco	Monte Carlo	2	0.03	French	Euro	n/a	76/84	100
Montenegro	Montenegro	Podgorica	14 008	0.7	Montenegrin	Euro	13 720	72/77	90
Netherlands	Kingdom of Netherlands	Amsterdam, The Hague	41 528	16.6	Dutch	Euro	32 360	79/83	100
Norway	Kingdom of Norway	Oslo	324 220	5.0	Norwegian	Norwegian krone	62 970	79/83	100
Poland	Republic of Poland	Warsaw	312 685	38.5	Polish	Zloty	20 480	72/81	90
Portugal	Portuguese Republic	Lisbon	92 391	10.7	Portuguese	Euro	24 480	76/82	100
Romania	Romania	Bucharest	237 500	22.0	Romanian, Hungarian	Leu	15 140	70/77	73
Russia	Russian Federation	Moscow	17 100 000	140.7	Russian	Ruble	19 940	63/75	70
San Marino	Republic of San Marino	San Marino	61	0.03	Italian	Euro	n/a	80/86	n/a
Serbia	Republic of Serbia	Belgrade	89 361	7.3	Serbian	Serbian dinar	11 640	71/77	92
Slovakia	Slovak Republic	Bratislava	48 845	5.5	Slovak	Koruna	22 230	72/79	100

Statistics

Country	Official name	Capital city	Area (km²)	Population (million) 2012	Official language	Official currency	GDP per capita (PPP) int\$ 2011	Life expectancy male/female	Pop. with improved sanitation %
Slovenia	Republic of Slovenia	Ljubljana	20 273	2.0	Slovene	Euro	26 960	76/83	100
Spain	Kingdom of Spain	Madrid	504 782	46.5	Spanish	Euro	31 660	79/85	100
Sweden	Kingdom of Sweden	Stockholm	449 964	9.0	Swedish	Swedish krona	42 200	80/84	100
Switzerland	Swiss Confederation	Bern	41 290	7.6	Ger, Fr, Italian	Swiss franc	52 320	80/85	100
Ukraine	Ukraine	Kyiv	454 500	45.4	Ukrainian, Russian	Hryvnia	6 537 000	71/84	94
United Kingdom	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	London	244 820	62.3	English	Pound sterling	35 940	79/82	100
Vatican City	The Holy See	Vatican City	0.44	0.001	Italian	Euro	n/a	n/a	100
AFRICA									
Algeria	People's Democratic Republic of Algeria	Algiers	2 381 740	34.6	Arabic	Dinar	8 370	72/75	95
Angola	Republic of Angola	Luanda	1 246 700	21.3	Portuguese	Angolan escudo	5 290	50/53	58
Benin	Republic of Benin	Porto Novo	112 620	9.1	French, Fon, Adja	CFA franc *	1 630	54/58	13
Botswana	Republic of Botswana	Gaborone	600 370	2.0	Setswana, Eng	Pula	14 560	54/52	62
Burkina Faso	Democratic Republic of Burkina Faso	Ouagadougou	274 200	16.2	French, Mossi, Dyula	CFA franc *	1 310	54/56	17
Burundi	Republic of Burundi	Bujumbura	27 830	9.9	Fr, Kirundi, Swahili	Burundi franc	610	49/52	46
Cameroon	Republic of Cameroon	Yaounde	475 440	19.3	French, Eng	CFA franc *	2 360	51/53	49
Cape Verde	Republic of Cape Verde	Praia	4 033	0.5	Portuguese, Creole	Cape Verde escudo	4 000	70/78	61
Central African Republic	Central African Republic	Bangui	622 984	4.8	French, Sango	CFA franc *	810	47/50	34
Chad	Republic of Chad	N'Djamena	1 284 000	10.5	French, Arabic, loc	CFA franc *	1 370	48/51	13
Comoros	Union of Comoros	Moroni	2 170	0.8	Fr, Arabic, Comoran	CFA franc *	1 120	59/62	36
Congo	Republic of Congo	Brazzaville	342 000	3.0	French, Kongo, loc	CFA franc *	3 280	56/59	18
Congo (DR)	Democratic Republic of Congo	Kinshasa	703 454 010	73.9	French, Lingala, Swahili	CFA franc *	360	54/58	24
Djibouti	Republic of Djibouti	Djibouti	23 000	0.7	Somali, Fr, Arabic	Djibouti franc	2 450	56/59	50
Egypt	Arab Republic of Egypt	Cairo	1 001 450	80.5	Arabic	Egyptian pound	6 160	71/75	95
Equatorial Guinea	Republic of Equatorial Guinea	Malabo	28 051	1.0	Spanish, loc	Ekuéke	24 110	50/52	n/a
Eritrea	State of Eritrea	Asmara	121 300	5.8	Amharic, Tigrinya	Shilling	580	58/61	14
Ethiopia	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	1 127 127	88.0	Amharic, Eng, Arabic	Ethiopian birr	1 110	58/61	21
Gabon	Gabonese Republic	Libreville	267 667	1.5	French, Fang, loc	CFA franc *	13 650	62/64	33
Gambia, The	Republic of The Gambia	Banjul	11 300	1.6	English, loc	Dalasi	2 060	57/60	68



AUSTRALIA



Australia

PACIFIC



Fiji



Kiribati



Marshall Islands



Micronesia



Nauru



New Zealand



Palau



Papua New Guinea



Samoa



Solomon Islands



Tonga



Tuvalu



Vanuatu

ASIA



Afghanistan



Armenia



Azerbaijan



Bahrain



Bangladesh



Bhutan



Brunei



Cambodia



China



Cyprus



East Timor



Georgia



India



Indonesia



Iran



Iraq



Israel



Japan



Jordan



Kazakhstan



Kuwait



Kyrgyzstan



Laos



Lebanon



Malaysia



Maldives



Mongolia



Myanmar



Nepal



North Korea



Oman



Pakistan



Philippines



Qatar



Saudi Arabia



Singapore



South Korea



Sri Lanka



Syria



Taiwan



Tajikistan



Thailand



Turkey



Turkmenistan



United Arab Emirates



Uzbekistan



Vietnam



Yemen

EUROPE



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Andorra



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Belarus



Belgium



Bosnia and Herzegovina



Bulgaria



Croatia



Czech Republic



Denmark



Estonia



Finland



France



Germany



Greece



Hungary



Iceland



Ireland



Italy



Kosovo



Latvia



Liechtenstein



Lithuania



Luxembourg



Macedonia*



Malta



Moldova



Monaco



Montenegro



Netherlands



Norway



Poland



Portugal



Romania



Russia



San Marino



Serbia



Slovakia



Slovenia



Spain



Sweden



Switzerland



Ukraine



United Kingdom



Vatican City

*Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

AFRICA



Algeria



Angola



Benin



Botswana



Burkina Faso



Burundi



Cameroon



Cape Verde



Central African Republic



Chad



Comoros



Congo



Congo (DR)



Djibouti



Egypt



Equatorial Guinea



Eritrea



Ethiopia



Gabon



The Gambia



Ghana



Guinea



Guinea Bissau



Ivory Coast



Kenya



Lesotho



Liberia



Libya



Madagascar



Malawi



Mali



Mauritania



Mauritius



Morocco



Mozambique



Namibia



Niger



Nigeria



Rwanda



Sao Tome and Principe



Senegal



Seychelles



Sierra Leone



Somalia



South Africa



South Sudan