



POPULATION DIVISION
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES BY MAJOR AREA AND REGION OF THE WORLD

Africa

| <i>Eastern Africa</i> | <i>Middle Africa</i> | <i>Northern Africa</i> | <i>Western Africa</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Burundi | Angola | Algeria | Benin |
| Comoros | Cameroon | Egypt | Burkina Faso |
| Djibouti | Central African Republic | Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | Cape Verde |
| Eritrea | Chad | Morocco | Côte d'Ivoire |
| Ethiopia | Congo | Sudan | Gambia |
| Kenya | Democratic Republic of the Congo | Tunisia | Ghana |
| Madagascar | Equatorial Guinea | Western Sahara | Guinea |
| Malawi | Gabon | | Guinea-Bissau |
| Mauritius ¹ | São Tomé and Príncipe | <i>Southern Africa</i> | Liberia |
| Mayotte | | Botswana | Mali |
| Mozambique | | Lesotho | Mauritania |
| Réunion | | Namibia | Niger |
| Rwanda | | South Africa | Nigeria |
| Seychelles* | | Swaziland | Saint Helena ² * |
| Somalia | | | Senegal |
| Uganda | | | Sierra Leone |
| United Republic of Tanzania | | | Togo |
| Zambia | | | |
| Zimbabwe | | | |

Asia

| <i>Eastern Asia</i> | <i>South-Central Asia</i> ³ | <i>South-Eastern Asia</i> | <i>Western Asia</i> |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| China | Afghanistan | Brunei Darussalam | Armenia |
| China, Hong Kong SAR | Bangladesh | Cambodia | Azerbaijan |
| China, Macao SAR | Bhutan | Indonesia | Bahrain |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | India | Lao People's Democratic Republic | Cyprus |
| Japan | Iran (Islamic Republic of) | Malaysia | Georgia |
| Mongolia | Kazakhstan | Myanmar | Iraq |
| Republic of Korea | Kyrgyzstan | Philippines | Israel |
| | Maldives | Singapore | Jordan |
| | Nepal | Thailand | Kuwait |
| | Pakistan | Timor-Leste | Lebanon |
| | Sri Lanka | Viet Nam | Occupied Palestinian Territory |
| | Tajikistan | | Oman |
| | Turkmenistan | | Qatar |
| | Uzbekistan | | Saudi Arabia |
| | | | Syrian Arab Republic |
| | | | Turkey |
| | | | United Arab Emirates |
| | | | Yemen |

¹ Including Agalega, Rodrigues, and Saint Brandon.

² Including Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha.

³ The regions Southern Asia and Central Asia are combined into South-Central Asia.

CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES (*continued*)

Europe

| <i>Eastern Europe</i> | <i>Northern Europe</i> | <i>Southern Europe</i> | <i>Western Europe</i> |
|-----------------------|---|--|-----------------------|
| Belarus | Channel Islands ⁴ | Albania | Austria |
| Bulgaria | Denmark | Andorra* | Belgium |
| Czech Republic | Estonia | Bosnia and Herzegovina | France |
| Hungary | Faeroe Islands* | Croatia | Germany |
| Poland | Finland ⁵ | Gibraltar* | Liechtenstein* |
| Republic of Moldova | Iceland | Greece | Luxembourg |
| Romania | Ireland | Holy See ⁶ * | Monaco* |
| Russian Federation | Isle of Man* | Italy | Netherlands |
| Slovakia | Latvia | Malta | Switzerland |
| Ukraine | Lithuania | Montenegro | |
| | Norway ⁷ | Portugal | |
| | Sweden | San Marino* | |
| | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ⁸ | Serbia | |
| | | Slovenia | |
| | | Spain | |
| | | The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ⁹ | |

Latin America and the Caribbean

| <i>Caribbean</i> | <i>Central America</i> | <i>South America</i> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Anguilla* | Belize | Argentina |
| Antigua and Barbuda* | Costa Rica | Bolivia |
| Aruba | El Salvador | Brazil |
| Bahamas | Guatemala | Chile |
| Barbados | Honduras | Colombia |
| British Virgin Islands* | Mexico | Ecuador |
| Cayman Islands* | Nicaragua | Falkland Islands (Malvinas)* |
| Cuba | Panama | French Guiana |
| Dominica* | | Guyana |
| Dominican Republic | | Paraguay |
| Grenada | | Peru |
| Guadeloupe | | Suriname |
| Haiti | | Uruguay |
| Jamaica | | Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of) |
| Martinique | | |
| Montserrat* | | |
| Netherlands Antilles | | |
| Puerto Rico | | |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis* | | |
| Saint Lucia | | |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | | |
| Trinidad and Tobago | | |
| Turks and Caicos Islands* | | |
| United States Virgin Islands | | |

⁴ Refers to Guernsey, and Jersey.

⁵ Including Åland Islands.

⁶ Refers to the Vatican City State.

⁷ Including Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands.

⁸ Also referred to as United Kingdom.

⁹ Also referred to as TFYR Macedonia.

CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES (*continued*)

Northern America

Bermuda*
Canada
Greenland*
Saint Pierre and Miquelon*
United States of America

Oceania

Australia/New Zealand

Australia¹⁰
New Zealand

Melanesia

Fiji
New Caledonia
Papua New Guinea
Solomon Islands
Vanuatu

Micronesia

Guam
Kiribati*
Marshall Islands*
Micronesia
(Federated States of)
Nauru*
Northern Mariana Islands*
Palau*

Polynesia

American Samoa*
Cook Islands*
French Polynesia
Niue*
Pitcairn*
Samoa
Tokelau*
Tonga
Tuvalu*
Wallis and Futuna Islands*

Sub-Saharan Africa

Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoros
Congo

Côte d'Ivoire
Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Djibouti
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau

Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mayotte
Mozambique
Namibia

Niger
Nigeria
Réunion
Rwanda
Saint Helena
São Tomé and Príncipe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa

Sudan
Swaziland
Togo
Uganda
United Republic
of Tanzania
Zambia
Zimbabwe

¹⁰ Including Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, and Norfolk Island.

CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES (*continued*)

Least developed countries

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Afghanistan | Gambia | Rwanda |
| Angola | Guinea | Samoa |
| Bangladesh | Guinea-Bissau | São Tomé and Príncipe |
| Benin | Haiti | Senegal |
| Bhutan | Kiribati | Sierra Leone |
| Burkina Faso | Lao People's Democratic Republic | Solomon Islands |
| Burundi | Lesotho | Somalia |
| Cambodia | Liberia | Sudan |
| Central African Republic | Madagascar | Timor-Leste |
| Chad | Malawi | Togo |
| Comoros | Maldives | Tuvalu |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | Mali | Uganda |
| Djibouti | Mauritania | United Republic of Tanzania |
| Equatorial Guinea | Mozambique | Vanuatu |
| Eritrea | Myanmar | Yemen |
| Ethiopia | Nepal | Zambia |
| | Niger | |

NOTE: Countries with fewer than 100,000 inhabitants in 2009 are marked by an asterisk (*).

The designations employed in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The designations “more developed regions” and “less developed regions” are used for statistical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgment about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process. The term “country” as used in this publication also refers, as appropriate, to territories or areas.

The more developed regions comprise all regions of Europe plus Northern America, Australia/New Zealand and Japan. The term “developed countries” is used to designate countries in the more developed regions.

The less developed regions comprise all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan) and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The term “developing countries” is used to designate countries in the less developed regions.

The group of least developed countries, as defined by the United Nations General Assembly in resolutions 59/209, 59/210 and 60/33, as of January 2008 comprises 49 countries, 33 of which are located in Africa, 10 in Asia, one in Latin America and the Caribbean, and five in Oceania (Botswana graduated in 1994 and Cape Verde in December 2007 from the group of least developed countries).

The designation sub-Saharan Africa is commonly used to indicate all of Africa except northern Africa, with the Sudan included in sub-Saharan Africa.

Countries and areas are grouped geographically into six major areas: Africa; Asia; Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean; Northern America; and Oceania. These major areas are further divided into 21 geographical regions.

Country names and the composition of geographical areas follow those presented in “Standard country or area codes for statistical use” (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev.3), available at:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>.

Names of cities or urban agglomerations are presented in their original language, following the names used by National Statistical Offices or the United Nations Demographic Yearbook. For cities with names in more than one language, different names are separated by a hyphen. If the country uses non-Latin scripts, a transliteration of the original spelling into Latin script is used. If cities have established alternative names or English names, those names are presented in brackets. When necessary, the administrative subdivision to which a city belongs is appended to the city name to identify it unambiguously.