



Africa is often referred to as one big country, despite being a continent as big as China, India, the United States AND most of Europe put together.

The continent is more than 30m sq. km, but this is not reflected correctly in standard Mercator maps. Europe, for instance, is the world's [second-smallest continent](#) by surface area, covering about 10,180,000 square kilometres, with approximately 50 countries (of which 28 belong to the European Union).

The True Size of Africa

A small introduction to the light appears to report on geography by Bartolucci
 But the illustrations are only intended to be a guide for the user's eye.

COUNTRY	AREA (km ²)
USA	9,826,637
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India	3,287,263
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France	643,801
Spain	505,992
Papua New Guinea	462,863
Sweden	449,964
Japan	377,915
Germany	357,022
Turkey	783,562
Italy	301,330
New Zealand	271,500
Indonesia	1,904,569
Spain	505,992
Bangladesh	147,570
Switzerland	41,284
TOTAL	30,186,000
AFRICA	30,321,000



Top 100 Countries

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In addition to the well known world issue of literacy and numeracy, there also should be such a concept as 'numeracy', meaning numerical geographical knowledge.

A survey with random American school kids in their game the population and land area of their country, not entirely unexpected, but still rather surprising, the majority chose 'too little' and 'larger' as the correct responses.

Data with Latin and European college students, geographical awareness was often off by factor of 2.5. This is partly due to the highly distorted nature of the predominantly used mapping projection (such as the Mercator).

A particularly common example is the worldwide miscalculation of the true size of Africa. This might happen due to not fully the realization that Africa is larger than the USA, China, India, Japan and all of Europe ... combined!

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