

- ☐ Mark your confusion.
- ☐ Purposefully annotate the article (1-2 mature, thoughtful responses to what the author is saying)
- ☐ Write a 1+ page response to the article.

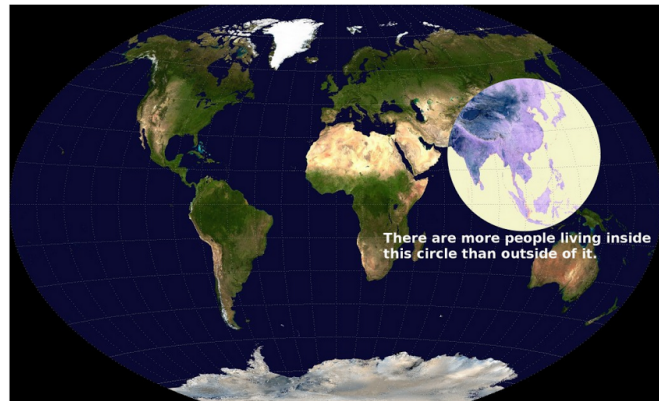
## 5 Maps and Charts That Will Surprise You By Ezra Klein for Vox, 9-23-14

A good visualization helps you see what the data is telling you. The best visualizations help you see things you never thought the data would tell you. These 22 charts and maps were, at least for me, in that category: all of them told me something I found surprising. Some of them genuinely changed the way I think about the world.

1

### More than half the world's population lives inside this circle

This map can be summed up quite simply: a ton of people live in Asia. That circle encompasses China, India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Japan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Burma, Thailand, South Korea, Nepal, Malaysia, North Korea, Taiwan, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia and Bhutan. Caitlin Dewey [checked the math](#), and found that, yes, a bit more than 51 percent of the world's population lives in those countries. "I'm glad I've moved to these parts," [wrote](#) Reddit user Valeriepieris, who posted the map. "All you guys outside the circle are just playing a sidegame."

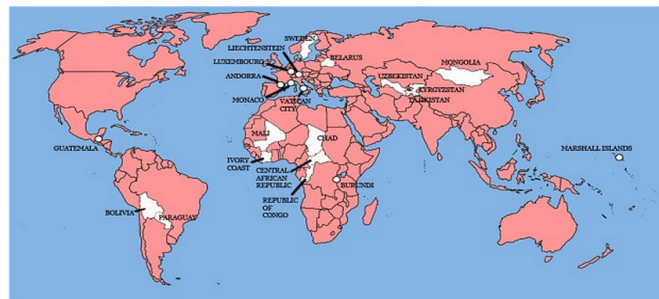


Valeriepieris

2

### The British have invaded almost every country on earth

In the book "[All The Countries We've Ever Invaded](#)", British historian Stuart Laycock writes that "out of 193 countries that are currently UN member states, [the British] invaded or fought conflicts in the territory of 171. That's not far off a massive, jaw-dropping 90 per cent." But a lot of those incursions are relatively obscure. For instance, the time British troops took the Ionian islands doesn't make it into many non-Ionian history books. Laycock's methodology is broad — he includes British pirates, privateers, and armed explorers whose activities were blessed by the government — and his research goes all the way back to the beginning. In a review, the Telegraph [notes](#) that "the earliest invasion launched from these islands was an incursion into Gaul — now France — at the end of the second century. Clodius Albinus led an army, thought to include many Britons, across the Channel in an attempt to seize the imperial throne. The force was defeated in 197 at Lyon."

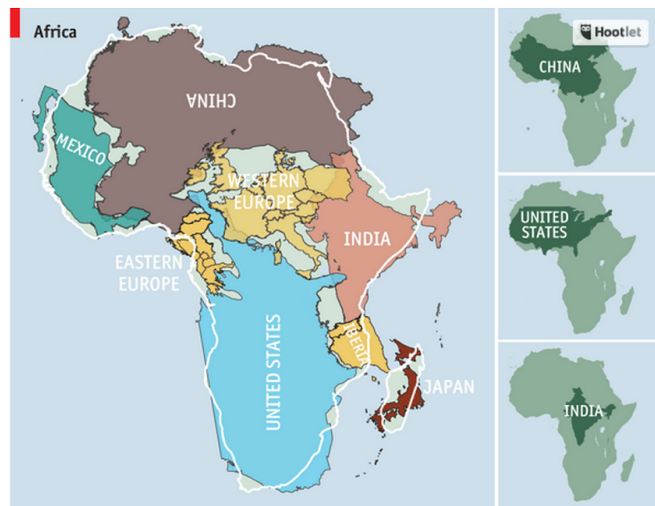


The Telegraph

3

### Africa is much bigger than you think

Most maps you see are based on the "Mercator projection," so named for Gerardus Mercator, who came up with it in 1559. The Mercator projection is excellent for sailing, as it shows constant bearing as a straight line. But it's terrible for estimating the size of large masses of land — particularly when they're close to poles. Under the Mercator projection, for instance, Africa looks to be about the same size as Greenland; it's actually 14 times larger. The *Economist* — building on work by Kai Krause — made this graphic showing Africa's true size: bigger not just than Greenland, but than China, the United States, India and Western Europe put together.

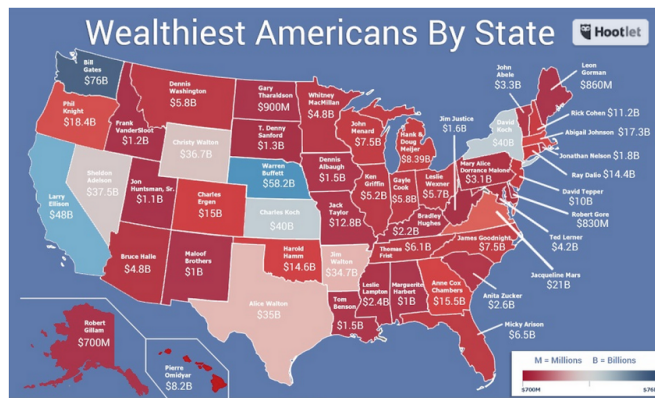


The Economist

4

### The wealthiest American in every state

The geography of wealth inequality doesn't get much attention. But it's stark. There are about 450 billionaires with American citizenship — and almost **200 of them** live in New York and California. The result is this map. In some states, the richest people are well-known names, like Bill Gates or Sheldon Adelson. But how many of you know Leslie Wexler, CEO of the L Brands corporation and, with \$5.7 billion, the richest man in Ohio? How about Anne Cox Chambers, who holds a controlling interest in Cox Enterprises and, with an estimated net worth of \$15.5 billion, is the richest person in Atlanta?



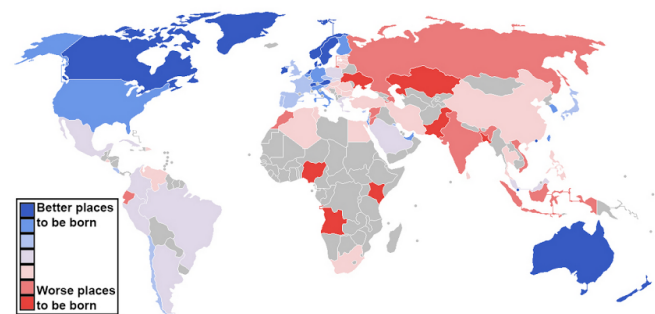
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5

### Switzerland is the best place to be born

The Economist's Intelligence Unit tried to assess which country gave its children the best chance of a happy, safe and prosperous life. "Being rich helps more than anything else," they **write**, "but it is not all that counts; things like crime, trust in public institutions and the health of family life matter too." The final measure factors in everything from income to geography to demography. When all is said and done, Switzerland leads the list, with Australia and Norway close behind. The United States tied with Germany for 16th place.



Max Fisher/Washington Post

### Possible response options:

- Which chart(s) did you find most surprising? Explain.