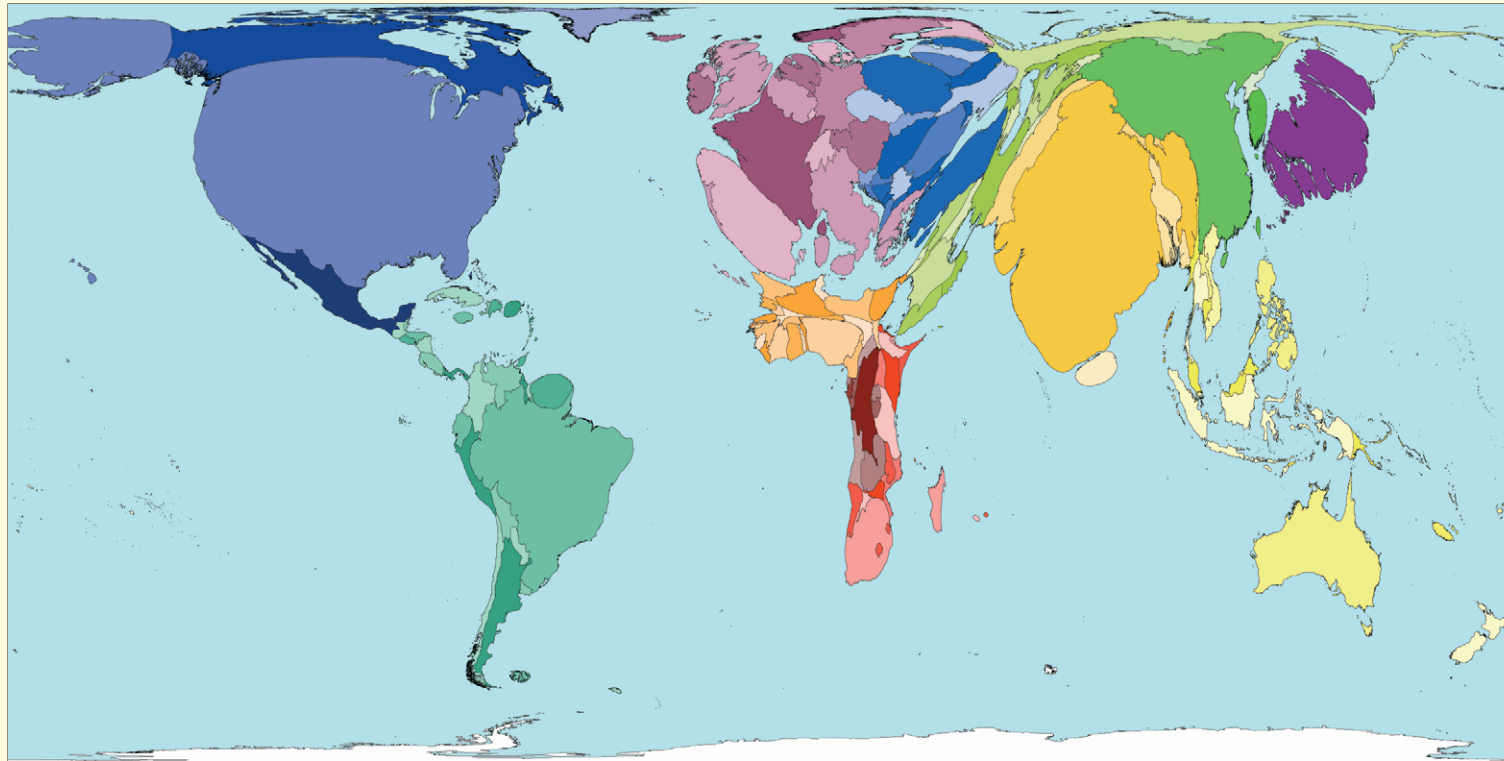


# Road Network

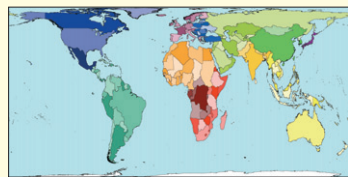


In 2002 there were 29 million kilometres of road in the world. If the network of roads were evenly spread out in a grid system, the furthest you could ever be from a road (whilst being on land) would be 4.5 kilometres.

Cities are mazes of roads, often congested with traffic. In cities most people live, work and sleep within a few metres of a road. In contrast, in some remote places people live so far from roads that they have never seen a car.

Regionally the highest number of roads per square kilometre are found in Japan and the lowest in the Middle East, where most of the world's petroleum is extracted and where some of the oldest cities are sited.

Territory size shows the proportion of all the roads in the world that are located there.



Land area

#### Technical notes

- Data source: World Bank, World Development Indicators, 2005. Data are from 2002.
- 'Roads' includes motorways, highways, main/national roads, secondary/regional roads, and all other roads in a territory.
- See website for further information.

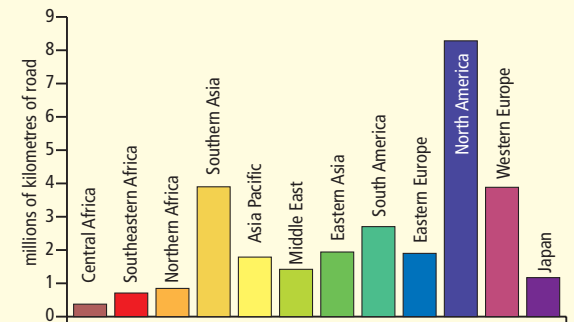
#### MOST AND LEAST ROADS

Rank	Territory	Value	Rank	Territory	Value
1	Monaco	26	191	Mongolia	31
2	Malta	7	192	Kazakhstan	31
3	Bahrain	5	193	Suriname	29
4	Singapore	5	194	Chad	27
5	Belgium	5	195	Botswana	18
6	Barbados	4	196	United Arab Emirates	13
7	Netherlands	3	197	Mali	12
8	Japan	3	198	Niger	8
9	Grenada	3	199	Mauritania	7
10	Puerto Rico	3	200	Sudan	5

kilometres of road per square kilometre of land area

metres of road per square kilometre of land area

#### LENGTH OF ROAD



*“Road transport is ... the dominant form of transport in SubSaharan Africa ... It carries 80 to 90 per cent of ... passenger and freight transport and provides the only form of access to most rural communities.” Ian Heggie, 1994*