

Section 4.—Statistics of World Population

World population figures given in Table 28 are from the United Nations *Population and Vital Statistics Reports* for April 1958 and, except as otherwise noted, are official mid-year estimates for 1956. The area figures are from the United Nations *Statistical Yearbook, 1957*.

Estimated Population of the World by Continents.—The statement below presents adjusted estimates of the 1956 mid-year population of the world by continental divisions. These aggregates do not coincide exactly with the sum of the figures for individual countries because they include, in addition, adjustments for over- and under-enumeration, over-estimation, categories of population not regularly included in the official figures, and approximations for those countries that have not provided official 1956 data. The estimates are as follows:—

Continental Division	No.
Africa ¹	220,000,000
North America.....	246,000,000
South America.....	129,000,000
Asia ²	1,514,000,000
Europe ³	412,000,000
Oceania.....	15,100,000
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.....	200,200,000 ⁴
WORLD TOTAL.....	2,736,300,000
Commonwealth countries.....	664,600,000

¹ Excludes Syria, a province of the United Arab Republic. ² Excludes U.S.S.R. Includes Syria and Asiatic Turkey. ³ Excludes U.S.S.R. Includes European Turkey. ⁴ For Apr. 1, 1956.

28.—Areas and Populations of the Countries or Areas of the World 1956

NOTE.—Commonwealth countries are indicated with an asterisk(*).

Continent and Country	Area	Population	Continent and Country	Area	Population
	sq. miles	'000		sq. miles	'000
Africa			Africa—continued		
Ethiopia and Eritrea, Federation of.....	457,267	20,000	TERRITORIES AND DEPENDENCIES—continued		
*Ghana.....	91,843	4,691	France—concluded		
Liberia.....	43,000	1,250	French Somaliland.....	8,494	68
Libya.....	679,360	1,118	French West Africa ¹⁰	1,789,186	18,890
Morocco—			Madagascar.....	227,800	4,905
Former French Zone.....	150,888	8,580 ¹	Réunion.....	969	295
Former Spanish Zone ²	7,589	1,068	Southern and Antarctic Territories ¹¹	2,918	..
Tangier.....	135	175	Portugal—		
Sudan.....	967,501	10,226 ³	Angola.....	481,352	4,317
Tunisia.....	48,332	3,800	Cape Verde Islands.....	1,557	178
*Union of South Africa ⁴	472,359	13,915	Mozambique.....	297,732	6,105
United Arab Republic—			Portuguese Guinea.....	13,948	547
Egypt.....	386,101 ⁵	23,516 ⁶	São Tomé and Príncipe.....	372	56 ³
Syria.....	71,228	3,970 ⁷	Spain—		
TERRITORIES AND DEPENDENCIES			Possessions in North Africa.....	82	144
Belgium—			Possessions in West Africa.....	115,975	52 ³
Belgian Congo.....	905,565	12,811	Spanish Guinea.....	10,831	209
France—			United Kingdom—		
Algeria ⁸	919,593	9,620 ⁹	*Basutoland.....	11,716	642
Comoro Islands.....	838	177 ³	*Bechuanaland.....	275,000	327 ¹²
French Equatorial Africa ⁹	969,114	4,824	*British Somaliland.....	68,000	640
			*Gambia (Colony and Protectorate).....	4,003	285 ¹³

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 174.