Max Fisher stated that ‘maps can be a remarkably powerful tool for understanding the world and how it works.’ His website contains interesting maps covering the Australian Curriculum: Geography.


**Video – Inspecting maps that explain the world**


1. **Perspective map – spatial distribution of population**


More than half of humanity lives within the circle. The numbers check out.

When the world population was roughly 7,083,460,000 in 2011: **China:** 1,349,585,838 people; **India:** 1,220,800,359; **Indonesia:** 251,160,124; **Bangladesh:** 163,654,860; **Japan:** 127,253,075; **Philippines:** 105,720,644; **Vietnam:** 92,477,857; **Thailand:** 67,448,120; **Burma:** 55,167,330; **South Korea:** 48,955,203; **Nepal:** 30,430,267; **Malaysia:** 29,628,392; **North Korea:** 21,675,648; **Cambodia:** 15,205,539; **Laos:** 6,695,166; **Mongolia:** 3,226,516; **Bhutan:** 725,296.

*Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2013/05/07/map-more-than-half-of-humanity-lives-within-this-circle/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2013/05/07/map-more-than-half-of-humanity-lives-within-this-circle/)*

2. **Best and worst places to be born**

*Year 10 Geographies of Human Wellbeing*


There were five measurements used – **risk of maternal death, infant mortality rate, number of years child spends in school, GDP per capita and participation of women in government.** Bluer countries are best for mothers, red countries the worst and purple somewhere in the middle. ‘Northern Europe is the best place for mothers and sub-Saharan Africa the worst.’

What is the relationship between best and worst places to be born and GDP?

The firm looked at 80 countries, scoring them across 11 variables to determine - best opportunities for a healthy, safe and prosperous life in years ahead. Generally countries with highest GDP were preferred places to be born. However ‘money can’t buy you happiness, though it will get you 2/3 of the way.’ Top-ranked countries included Australia, Canada and Scandinavian countries as well as Asia’s Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan. China, India and Russia are still not great places to be born.

‘The best countries to be born were small, peaceful, homogenous, liberal democracies.’ … and ‘countries with violence, poverty or political oppression ranked poorly.’

3. **Where to be born index 2013 table**

*Source: [http://25.media.tumblr.com/f00fcb438f8003929d4b1b7b2c1614/tumblr_mfzvl3uZU91qd65vgo1_500.png](http://25.media.tumblr.com/f00fcb438f8003929d4b1b7b2c1614/tumblr_mfzvl3uZU91qd65vgo1_500.png)*

4. **Best and worst places to be a mother**


There were five measurements used – **risk of maternal death, infant mortality rate, number of years child spends in school, GDP per capita and participation of women in government.**
The average mother in ten bottom-ranked countries lived in Africa. Statistics indicated:

- 1 in 30 women died from pregnancy related causes
- 1 in 7 children died before fifth birthday.
- 8 out of 10 women were likely to suffer loss of a child in their lifetime’

India makes up 29% of all first-day deaths around the world. Approximately 47% of Indian girls marry by 18 years. However 75% of girls are in the lowest income group. An estimated 28% of infants in South Asia are born underweight, which is often a product of poor maternal health, early marriage and lack of skilled care at birth (e.g. doctors and nurses).

5. Mothers’ Index Rankings 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10</th>
<th>Bottom 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


AGTA Conference, January 2015

The AGTA 2015 conference will be held from Sunday 11– Friday 16 January 2015 in Rotorua, New Zealand.

Full details are available on the Group Events website including special group flights from Australia, earlybird registrations, conference accommodation as well as pre and post conference tours.

To benefit from discounted earlybird flights, pre and post conference tour options, and conference accommodation packages it is essential that participants complete and submit an expression of interest form and registration form before 20 June 2014.