

GEODATA GUIDE

World Factbook Multiyear and Chiefs of State

Summary

What is it? The *World Factbook* is published by the United States Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) Directorate of Intelligence. The *World Factbook* is a compendium of statistics and general information about the geography, economy, people, government and infrastructure of 263 countries, territories and oceans of the world. ISciences produced a multiyear version of the *World Factbook* (2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006) as an interesting demonstration of time series capabilities in ISciences' *TerraViva!* global data-viewing software. Data users should note that the data provider (CIA) explicitly states that these data are not comparable from year to year, and that the data provider does not endorse any use of these data as evidence of longitudinal trends.

World Factbook includes over one hundred variables, such as geographic size and location, population, birth rate, telephones, and gross domestic product; and includes country flags, maps and descriptions of many other facets of each country, such as systems of government. *World Factbook* also includes information pertaining to oceans and the world in general, as well as human institutions such as the United Nations, and global environmental treaties. Detailed notes and definitions can be found in Help > GeoData > World Factbook Multiyear > Background Info. *TerraViva!* supplements the *World Factbook* database with a second CIA publication called *Chiefs of State* that provides listings of current leaders.

Source of the *World Factbook Multiyear*. Statistical data for variables in *World Factbook Multiyear* are derived from the *World Factbook* 2002-2006 editions, prepared by the United States Central Intelligence Agency's Directorate of Intelligence. Information for *World Factbook* is provided by Antarctic Information Program (National Science Foundation), Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center (Department of Defense), Bureau of the Census (Department of Commerce), Bureau of Labor Statistics (Department of Labor), Central Intelligence Agency, Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs, Defense Intelligence Agency (Department of Defense), Department of Energy, Department of State, Fish and Wildlife Service (Department of the Interior), Maritime Administration (Department of Transportation), National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (Department of Defense), Naval Facilities Engineering Command (Department of Defense), Office of Insular Affairs (Department of the Interior), Office of Naval Intelligence (Department of Defense), US Board on Geographic Names (Department of the Interior), US Transportation Command (Department of Defense), Oil & Gas Journal, and other public and private sources. Detailed information about the history of the *World Factbook* can be found in Help > GeoData > World Factbook Multiyear > Background Info.

Data for Country Profiles in *TerraViva!* are derived from the *World Factbook 2006*, downloaded from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html> at 3:34pm on 17 July 2006. Similarly, the following supplemental materials are derived from the *World Factbook 2006*: Reference Maps ("Cartographic Maps" in *TerraViva!*); Detail Maps;

Flags of the World; Appendix A: Abbreviations, Appendix B: International Organizations and Groups; Appendix C: Selected International Environmental Agreements; Appendix D: Cross-Reference List of Country Data Codes; Appendix E: Cross-Reference List of Hydrographic Data Codes; Appendix F: Cross-Reference List of Geographic Names; Appendix G: Weights and Measures. *Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Governments (Chiefs of State in TerraViva!)* was downloaded from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/chiefs/index.html> on 17 July 2006.

Why is the *World Factbook* created? The *World Factbook* is prepared by the Central Intelligence Agency for the use of US Government officials. The style, format, coverage, and content are designed to meet their specific requirements. The *World Factbook* is also a valuable source of data for analysts and the general public.

How is the *World Factbook* made? The US Government CIA, as part of its responsibility to provide factual and objective information to US policy makers, maintains the *World Factbook* as part of its knowledge base. Analysts consult available sources (described above) to accumulate, update and enhance *World Factbook* statistics on an ongoing basis. Since November 2001 the *World Factbook* has been updated online every two weeks. Prior to that the web site and the annual published edition of the *World Factbook* were only updated annually. Currently, the annual printed version of the *World Factbook* is usually released about midyear.

There have been some significant changes to the latest edition of the *World Factbook*:

- The successful secession referendum held in Montenegro in May of 2006 allowed Montenegro to legally leave its union with Serbia the following month. These two Balkan countries have now been formally recognized and are listed separately in the *World Factbook*.
- A new Appendix G lists Weights and Measures. The appendix includes information on mathematical notation and metric interrelationships, as well as over 400 examples of standard conversion factors.
- Revision of some individual country maps, first introduced in the 2001 edition, is continued in this edition. Several regional maps have also been updated to reflect boundary changes and place name spelling changes.

Also, the *World Factbook* features several new or revised fields. In the "Economy" category, the *World Factbook* is now reporting national GDP figures in US dollars converted at Official Exchange Rates (OER) in addition to GDP at Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) rates, since both measures contain useful information. Traditionally, only PPP-converted GDP values had been reported. In the "Transportation" category, the former "Highways" entry is now "Roadways", while "Ports and harbors" has been retitled "Ports and terminals".

The online directory of *Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Governments* is updated weekly. The directory is intended to be used primarily as a reference aid and includes as many governments of the world as is considered practical, some of them not officially recognized by the United States. Regimes with which the United States has no diplomatic exchanges are indicated by the initials NDE.


Governments are listed in alphabetical order according to the most commonly used version of each country's name. The spelling of the personal names in this directory follows transliteration systems generally agreed upon by US Government agencies, except in the cases in which officials have stated a preference for alternate spellings of their names.

NOTE: Although the head of the central bank is listed for each country, in most cases he or she is not a Cabinet member. Ambassadors to the United States and Permanent Representatives to the UN, New York, have also been included.


How was the *World Factbook* modified for use in *TerraViva!* ? Data from 2002-2006 editions of the *World Factbook* were compiled by ISCIENCES, L.L.C. (makers of *TerraViva!*) to produce the time-series dataset *World Factbook Multiyear*. Statistical data for variables is derived from this compilation. Original data and information are fully reproduced. No changes are made to any facts, descriptions or statistics. As with other data in *TerraViva!*, we rely on the original sources to guarantee the quality of reported information. Though we cannot guarantee accuracy, we report suspect data to the original sources. All available data is included, though some newer variables do not exist in earlier years and some variables included in earlier years were not continued in later years. Ex: "Electricity production by source" is not available for later years. Data for Country Profiles in *TerraViva!* are derived from the *World Factbook 2006*, downloaded from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html> at 3:34pm on 17 July 2006. Similarly, the following supplemental materials are derived from the *World Factbook 2006*: Reference Maps ("Cartographic Maps" in *TerraViva!*), Detail Maps, Flags of the World, and Appendices. *Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Governments* (*Chiefs of State* in *TerraViva!*) was downloaded from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/chiefs/index.html> on 17 July 2006.

TerraViva! enhances the utility of the data in several important ways. The data are fully integrated in a relational database for use with maps. Left-click on a map anywhere within a country boundary and the Profile window is presented. Profiles house descriptive data and attributes of a geo-referenced entity (if supplied by the data provider). Users can also access tools designed for analysis of data through the Tools menu. Data can be plotted, mapped, or exported for use with other software programs. Variable definitions, footnotes, and sources can be viewed (if supplied by the data provider).

Accessing and Analyzing Data

World Factbook Multiyear data can be viewed and analyzed in several ways: as a Country Profile in Info mode , as a Dynamic Map from the MapLibrary menu; and, as various plot styles through the Tools menu.

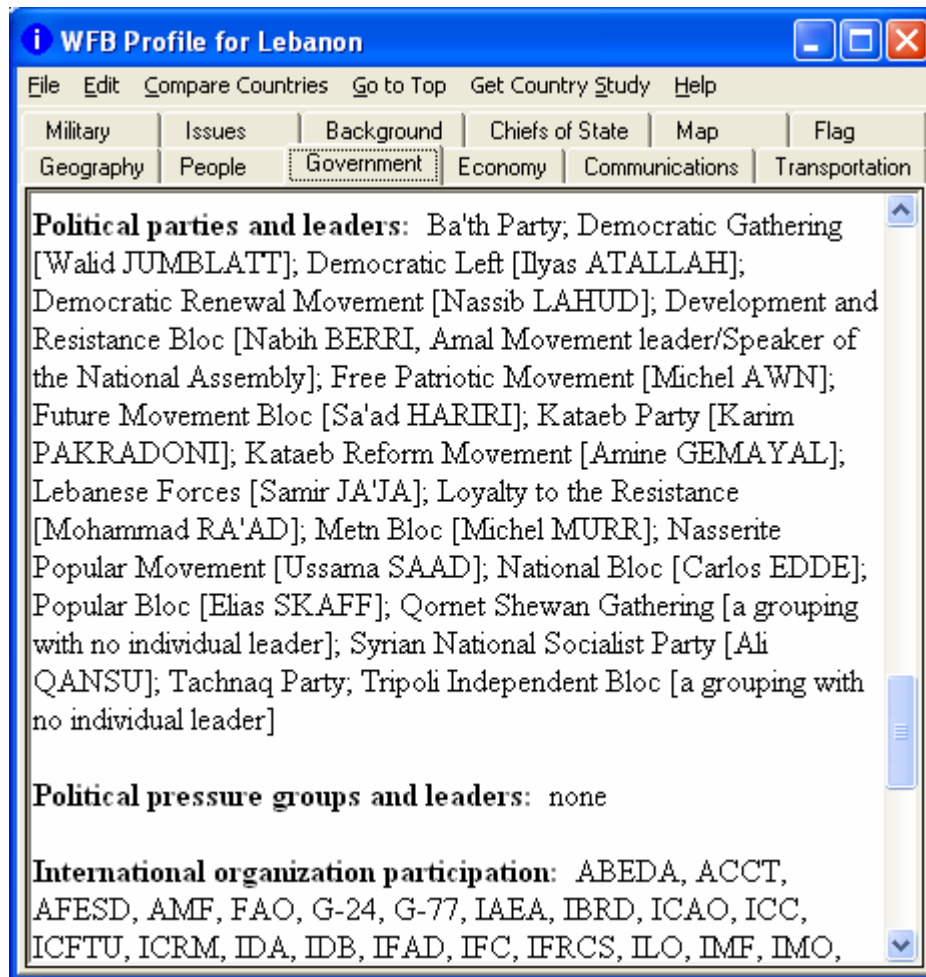
Profiles

Profiles house descriptive data and attributes of a geo-referenced entity. Country Profiles in *World Factbook Multiyear* are derived from *World Factbook 2006*. To view a Profile, go to GeoData > World Factbook Multiyear > Set as Default Database. Then, depress the InfoMode button  and left-click on the map anywhere within a country boundary. The

corresponding *World Factbook 2006* text is retrieved and placed in a Profile window as illustrated below. Folder tabs correspond to any major categories of information provided in the *World Factbook 2006* dataset. The following supplemental material can also be accessed from the tabs: Chiefs of State (*World Factbook 2006: Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Countries*), Map (Detail Map), and Flag (*World Factbook 2006: Flags of the World*). Use Edit > Find to assist in locating specific information within a tab. Select Compare to compare countries and to view the rank order.


NOTE: You can also set the default database directly from the Profile window menu: Choose File > Select Default GeoData > World Factbook Multiyear.


Country Profile: World Factbook 2006



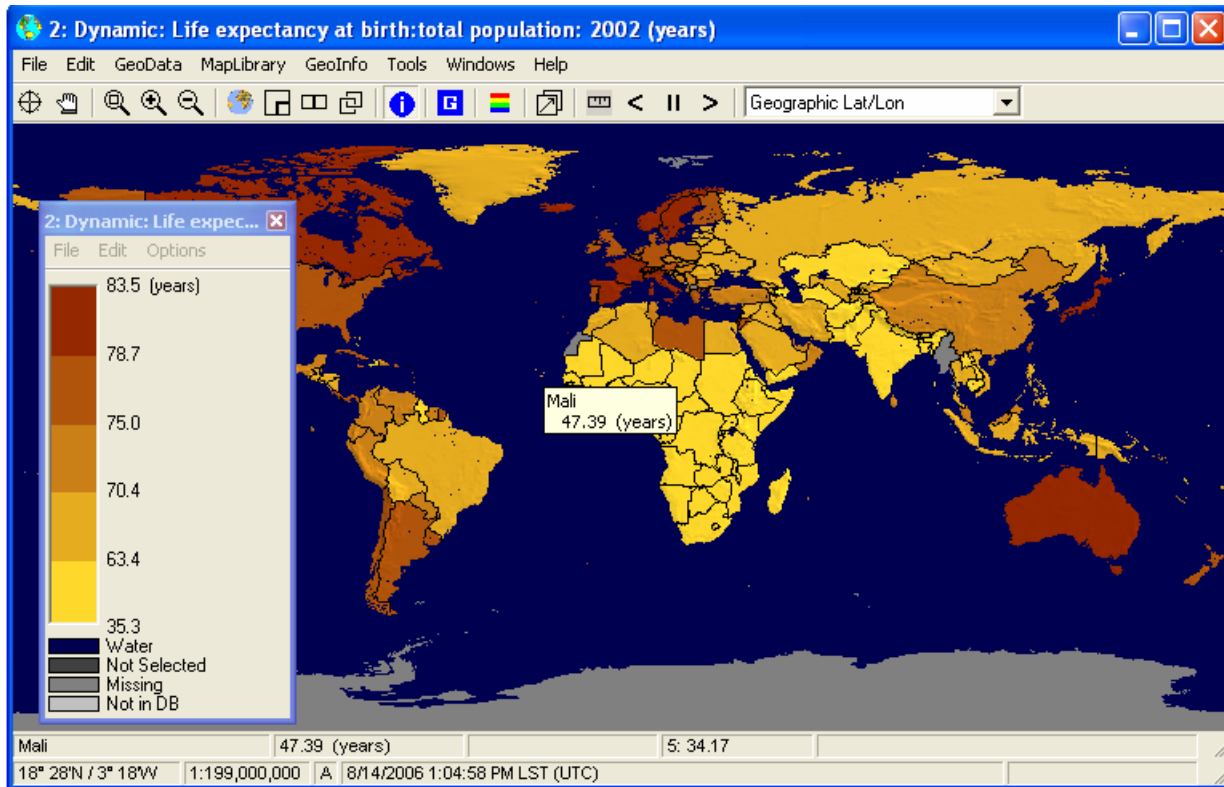
Dynamic Maps

A Dynamic Map is a color-coded map of a selected variable based on country boundaries. A color scheme is employed on the map that enables you to quickly visualize the relative rankings and identify other patterns, such as continents or regions that have similar values for the selected variable. The map visually corresponds to the list presented in the Compare window (see "Compare Countries" below). You can create a Dynamic Map based on any variable from any year in the *World Factbook Multiyear* dataset. To create a Dynamic Map select MapLibrary > Create a Dynamic Map and then select a

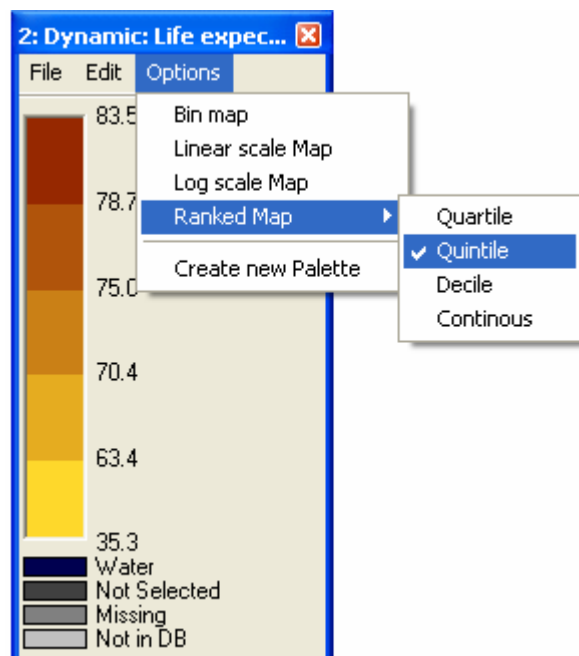
year from the "Choose Year" box. You can also create a Dynamic Map from Tools > Plot GeoData > 

You can select among color options for the dynamic map . The default ramp depicted below illustrates rankings. A notation of the scale is made on the Dynamic Map legend depending on the variable displayed.


Dynamic Map: Life expectancy at birth: total population: 2002



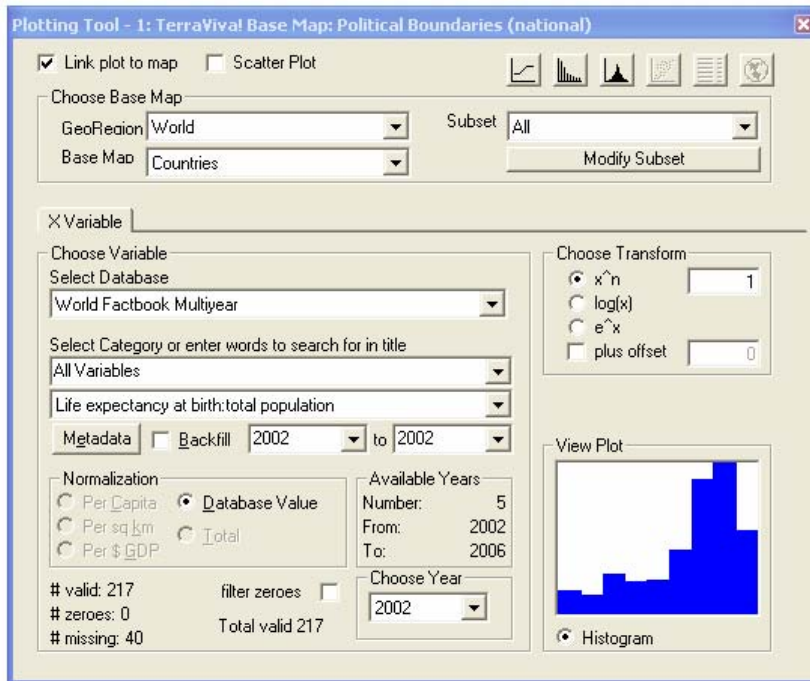
Dynamic Map Legend



Compare Countries






You can easily create a data table that allows you to examine how countries rank relative to a selected variable. Follow the menu path Tools > Plot GeoData. Select a variable, and then use the Create Table button . The variable can be modified using several radio buttons on the Plotting Tool window: Per capita, Per sq km, Per \$GDP, Total. NOTE: You can also use Compare from the Profile window menu.

Plotting Tool and Compare Countries Data Table

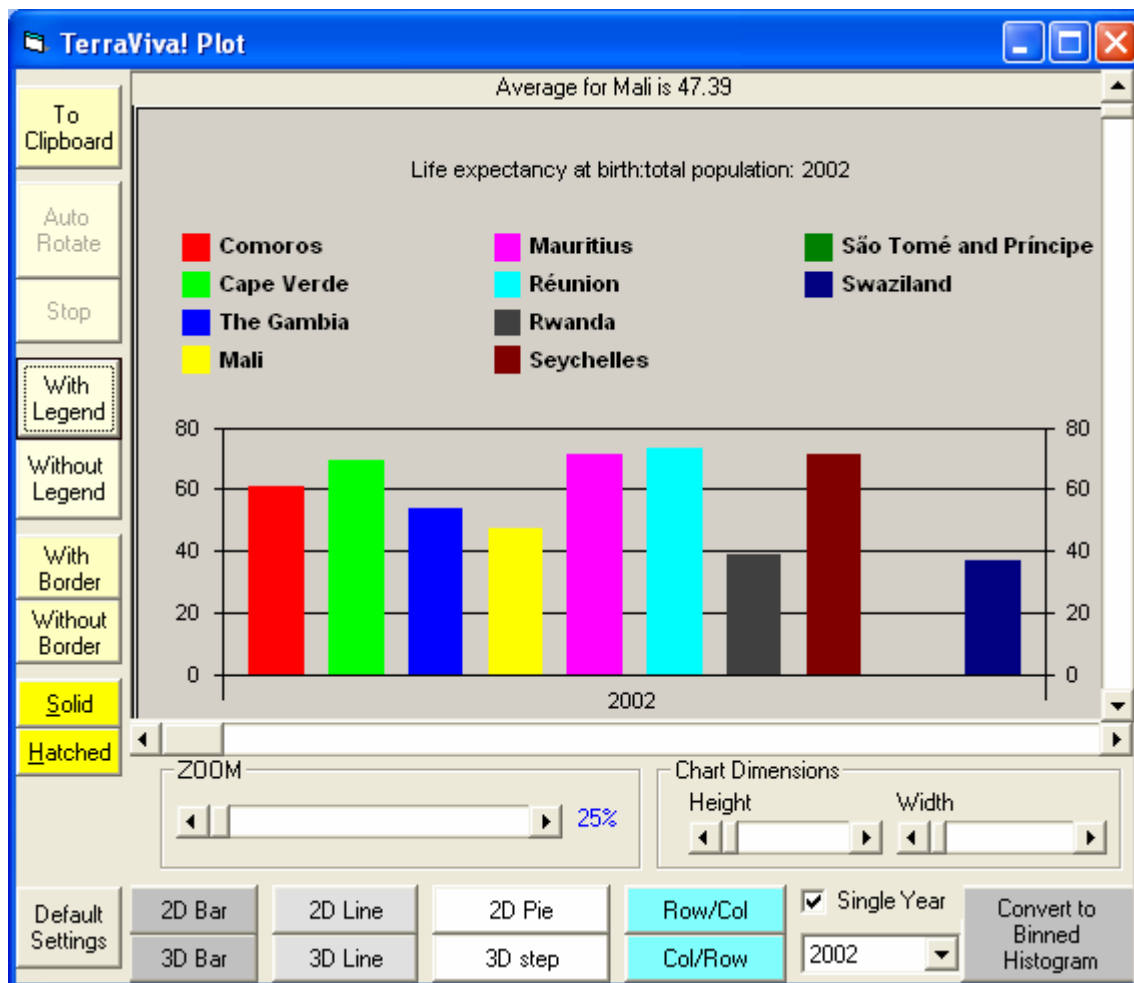


Compare Countries			
Life expectancy at birth:total population 2002			
Order		years	Year
1	Andorra	83.48	2002
2	Macau	81.78	2002
3	San Marino	81.33	2002
4	Japan	80.91	2002
5	Singapore	80.29	2002
6	Australia	80.00	2002
7	Guernsey	79.90	2002
8	Switzerland	79.86	2002
9	Sweden	79.84	2002
10	Hong Kong	79.80	2002
11	Canada	79.69	2002
12	Iceland	79.66	2002
13	Italy	79.25	2002
14	Gibraltar	79.23	2002
15	Cayman Islands	79.18	2002
16	Monaco	79.12	2002
17	Liechtenstein	79.10	2002
18	Spain	79.08	2002
19	France	79.05	2002
20	Norway	78.94	2002
21	Israel	78.86	2002

Plots

You can quickly plot data using a time-series plot, a column plot or pie chart, a histogram, or a scatter plot. Follow the menu path Tools > Plot GeoData. Select a variable, and then choose one of the plot style buttons:     .

Column Plot: Life expectancy at birth: total population: 2002



Metadata and Appendices

Metadata - information about a variable - is easily accessed in *TerraViva!*. Variable definitions, footnotes, and sources can be displayed from the Plotting Tool window by clicking the “Metadata” button. To automatically display metadata go to Tools > My TerraViva! > Program Options and check the option “Show variable metadata when variable is selected.” NOTE: Metadata is included for a variable if it is available from the data provider.

World Factbook Notes and Definitions be accessed from: Help > GeoData Guides > World Factbook Multiyear > Background Info. For other useful information derived from *World Factbook* appendices go to: GeolInfo > Reference Information.

Export Data

Data can be extracted from the database and exported to Excel® or other software package by selecting Tools > Export GeoData. The export tool creates a *.txt file in “My Documents” which can then be opened using standard spreadsheet software, such as Excel®. In the example below data was exported and then saved as an Excel® file.

Export: Life expectancy at birth: total population: 2002

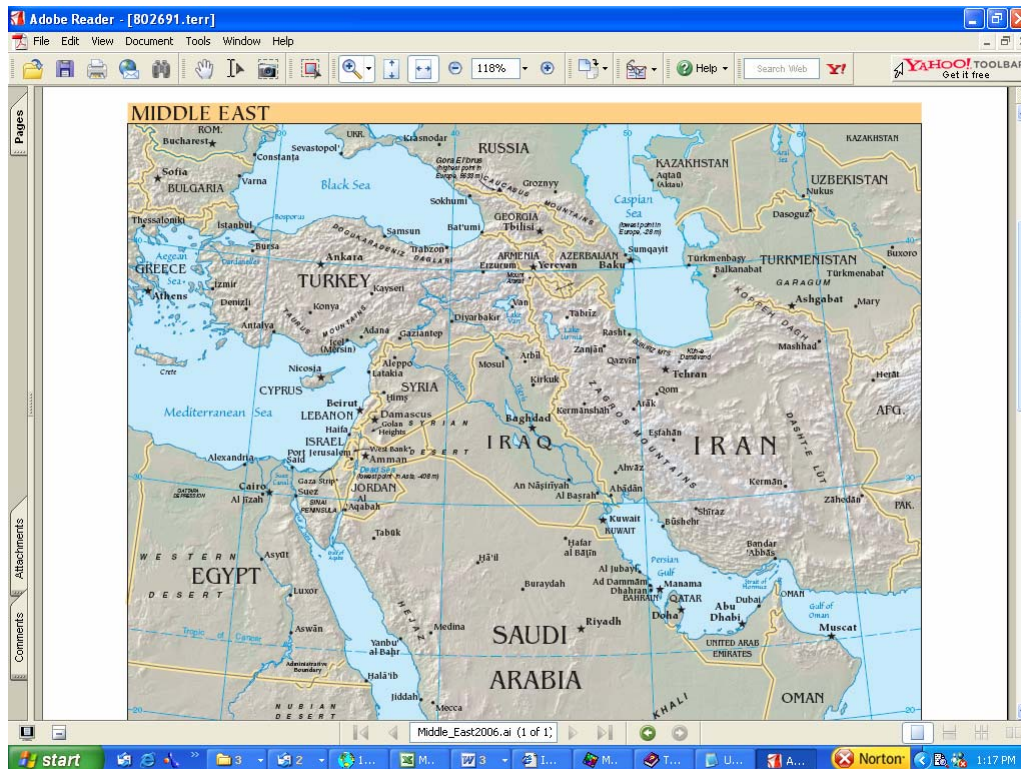
The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C
1	Countries	Life expectancy at birth:total population, 2002	Literacy:female, 2002
2	Comoros	60.79	50.4
3	Cape Verde	69.52	63.8
4	The Gambia	53.98	37.1
5	Mali	47.39	31
6	Mauritius	71.53	78.8
7	Réunion	73.18	80
8	Rwanda	38.66	45
9	Seychelles	70.97	60
10	São Tomé and Príncipe		
11	Swaziland	37	78.4
12			

Cartographic Maps

A Cartographic Map is a traditional “paper” map displayed in Adobe® Acrobat format. Cartographic maps have no underlying digital data and are simply drawn in the traditional manner. Cartographic Maps in the *World Factbook Multiyear* are derived from *World Factbook 2006: Reference Maps*. To view a Cartographic Map, select MapLibrary > Cartographic Maps.

Cartographic Map: Middle East



Detail Maps

A Detail Map is small, detailed map of an individual country. Detail Maps have no underlying digital data and are simply drawn in the traditional manner. Detail Maps in the *World Factbook Multiyear* are derived from *World Factbook 2006*. To view a Detail Map, right-click on the country of choice and select Show Detail Map. A Detail Map can also be accessed from the Profile window by clicking on the Map tab.

Detail Map: Lebanon



Sources and Acknowledgements

The *World Factbook* and *Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Governments* are products of the United States Government Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Directorate of Intelligence, and are available for public use.

References

Directorate of Intelligence, United States Central Intelligence Agency (2006). *Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Governments*. Retrieved July 17, 2006 from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/chiefs/index.html>.

Directorate of Intelligence, United States Central Intelligence Agency (2006, July). *The World Factbook 2006*, ISSN 1553-8133. Retrieved July 17, 2006 from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>.