

# World's Most Isolated Countries

*World Policy Journal* ranks the top 10 most isolated countries based on a weighted series of criteria including number of countries directly connected by plane, the percentage of individuals on the Internet, the number of foreign visitors, the percentage of the total population that are immigrants, and imports per capita in dollars.

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## 1. NORTH KOREA

Visitors to the Hermit Kingdom are forbidden to bring publications of any kind.



Overall Score 185.5	
	3
	0.00
	32,000
	0.2
	144

## 2. SOMALIA

In 2010, a Canadian tourist named Mike arrived in Mogadishu, baffling local officials.



Overall Score 181.55	
	6
	1.25
	18,000
	0.2
	132

## 3. MYANMAR

Myanmar is the only country to forgo a metric or imperial-based measurement system and invent its own.



Overall Score 177.8	
	8
	0.98
	311,000
	0.2
	124

## 4. MADAGASCAR

After a violent uprising in 2009 ousted the elected president, foreign investment, tourism, and trade to the island fell drastically.



Overall Score 174.15	
	8
	1.90
	196,000
	0.2
	177

## 5. BURUNDI

Landlocked and boasting a single television station, Burundi is ranked the world's worst in enabling trade by the World Economic Forum.



Overall Score 173.9	
	4
	1.11
	201,000
	0.7
	63

## 6. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

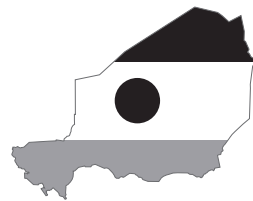
In a country five times the size of California, less than 1 percent of roads are paved.



Overall Score 170.05	
	13
	1.20
	75,000
	0.7
	129

## 7. NIGER

Eight percent of the population are hereditary slaves despite this practice being officially illegal.



Overall Score 167.25	
	9
	1.30
	66,000
	1.3
	138

## 8. TIMOR-LESTE

Electricity only reached district capitals in the 1980s, and 95 percent of the island's population lives without power.



Overall Score 167.1	
	3
	0.90
	40,000
	1.2
	586

## 9. GUINEA-BISSAU

Economic isolation has helped make this west African nation the primary shipping point for cocaine en route to Europe.



Overall Score 165.45	
	7
	2.67
	30,000
	1.2
	212

## 10. PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The two largest cities, less than 200 miles apart, are only connected by plane.



Overall Score 164.6	
	7
	2.00
	114,000
	0.4
	580

SOURCES: AFP, BBC News, New York Times, World Bank, UNJL, CIA World Factbook, U.S. State Department, The Economist

10% of Score

Number of countries directly connected by plane (2011)  
*(International Air Transport Association (IATA), Musings of The Global Traveler)*

35% of Score

Percentage of individuals using Internet (2011)  
*(International Telecommunications Union)*

10% of Score

International tourist arrivals (2010) and foreign military personnel  
*(World Tourism Organization, Yearbook of Tourism Statistics, Compendium of Tourism Statistics)*

25% of Score

Immigrants as percentage of total population (2009)  
*(United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs)*

20% of Score

Imports per capita in dollars (2011)  
*(World Bank, CIA World Factbook)*