

Country Profile: Malawi

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Malawi 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (Metric)	MW-DOS	1:50,000	1986 - 1998	9
Malawi 1:250,000 Scale Topographic Maps (Metric)	MW-DOS	1:250,000	1991 - 1996	10
Malawi 1:250,000 Scale Topographic Maps (SD)	MW-DOS	1:250,000	1976	10
Malawi 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (Z742 / DOS 425)	DOS	1:50,000	1964 - 1971	12
Malawi 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps	MSD	1:50,000	1962 - 1996	158

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Malawi Nautical Charts (All Scales)	MW-DOS	Varies	2003 - 2004	8

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Tanzania 1:2,000,000 Scale Geological Map	BRGM	1:2,000,000	2004	1
Malawi 1:100,000 Scale Geological Maps	GSD	1:100,000	1960 - 1984	29
Malawi 1:250,000 Scale Geological Maps	GSD	1:250,000	1970 - 1992	10
Malawi 1:1,000,000 Scale Geological Map	GSD	1:1,000,000	1966	1
Malawi 1:1,000,000 Scale Mineral Resources Map	GSD	1:1,000,000	1990	1
Malawi 1:1,000,000 Scale Aeromagnetic Map	HGG	1:1,000,000	1986	1

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000		2
Zambia Political Administration Maps	SD	1:750,000	1990 - 1991	4

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

Year

2018

Questions / Answers

12 / 297

ADM Level

3

Polygons at ADM

409

Data Points

121,473

Global Geography Library

Collection Name	Item Count	Published	Index Map / Title List
Malawi Topographic 50K	153	1962-1996	index map / title list

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	VTU GSh	Varies	1944 - 2003	3,020
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:100,000	1947 - 1999	24,897
Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:200,000	1949 - 2009	17,799
Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:500,000	1953 - 1998	3,093

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	NGA	Varies	1943 - 2013	4,517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG 1501A) 1:250,000 - Aeronautical	DMA	1:250,000	1958 - 2007	4,204
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:500,000	1967 - 2006	598
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:1,000,000	1969 - 2001	243
Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:2,000,000	1971 - 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:5,000,000	1981 - 1999	27

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:1,000,000	1948 - 1994	1,089

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

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Country Profile (PDF)

Topographic

The national mapping agency in Malawi is the **Survey Department (MSD)** which is responsible for the publication of official mapping of the country including topographic and some thematic surveys. **MSD** was set up in its present form in 1950, but prior to independence in 1960 mapping was largely carried out in British colonial programs administered through the **Federal Surveys of Rhodesia and**

Nyasaland by the British **Directorate of Overseas Surveys (DOS)** (now **Ordnance Survey International (OSI)**). 1:50,000 scale mapping was instigated in the 1950s, on the Transverse Mercator projection, modified Clarke 1880 ellipsoid, and using quarter-degree sheet lines. Contoured editions were introduced in the 1960s, the latest specification of this series had 50 ft intervals and the series was completed in 1971. Revision continued until the mid-1980s, when sheets in a new metric series on UTM grid zone sheet lines started to appear. This new map has 20 m contours and will eventually replace the old quarter-degree mapping, but sheets from the older series will continue to be available until the new series is completed. New 1:250,000 scale mapping in 10 sheets was completed between 1991 and 1996, replacing earlier mapping at this scale on different sheet lines. This scale also conforms to UTM specifications, and has 100 m contours. New single-sheet 1:1,000 000, scale mapping also follows UTM specifications and is published as a tourist edition, complete with inset town plans and a smaller scale map on the reverse.

Soviet military topographic mapping of Malawi exists at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (3 sheets, complete coverage, published in 1985); 1:500,000 (8 sheets, complete coverage, published 1983-1985) and 1:200,000 (30 sheets, complete coverage, published 1981-1984). These products are available in print, digital raster and digital vector GIS formats from **East View Geospatial**.

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Geological/Scientific

Earth science mapping in Malawi is carried out by the **Geological Survey Department (MGSD)** in Zomba. Maps are issued with accompanying explanatory bulletins. 1:100,000 scale full-colour maps of the whole country were compiled in conjunction with **DOS** between 1958 and 1975. 1:250,000 scale mapping in the *Geological atlas* started in the 1970s and was completed in 1992. A More recent effort has focused upon the provision of geophysical maps and data. Complete coverage at 1:50,000; 1:100,000 and 1:250 000 scales was compiled in the 1980s in conjunction with **Hunting Surveys** and published as single-color maps showing magnetic contours, or four different radiometric contour themes. These data were interpreted into a single national series with sheets published in the late 1980s at 1:100,000 or 1:250,000 scales.

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Soil

The **Agricultural Department** has carried out a number of resource mapping projects. These include 1:250,000 scale soil and agricultural mapping of the whole country, with some larger scale local surveys. An erosion map at 1:1,000,000 scale was prepared with funding from the **Food and Agriculture Organization**, and the detailed agroclimatic mapping of Malawi established in the 1980s and 1990s now represents one of the richest African bases for agricultural policy development. An electoral map of the country was recently published by **Kachere Series**, Zomba.

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Atlas

Thematic mapping is also issued by **MSD**. The national atlas published in 1985 includes numerous themes at 1:2,000,000 scale.

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Cadaster

A wide program of larger-scale mapping is published as diazo prints for different townships, including orthophoto maps. Many of these plans are published at 1:2,500 scale and coverage around Blantyre has been digitized.

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