This is a tutorial from the librarians at Lone Star College – North Harris. The purpose of this tutorial is to teach library users how to use the database CountryWatch.

CountryWatch is a database of information about political, economic, and cultural conditions around the world.

When you open CountryWatch, you’ll see a list of the database products to which the Lone Star College System Libraries subscribe.

If you want information about countries around the world, click on CountryReviews.

To select a country, open the drop-down menu on the left and click on the country of your choice. As an example, let’s select Angola.

Here is the profile for Angola. Basic geographic, political, and demographic data, as well as current news, are provided on the front page.

On the left side of the page, you can click on links that will take you to specific factsheets on particular political, economic, financial, social, and environmental issues. As an example, let’s click on “Status of Women” under the Social Overview.

Here is information about the status of women in Angola. If you’d like to print the page, scroll to the bottom and click on “Print This Page”.

Now let’s find a map that places the social conditions of Angola into a larger context. Scroll up and look at the section in the sidebar entitled “Your Subscriptions”. Click on Country Maps.

This section of the database allows us to generate maps. We can create either thematic, physical, political, or global thematic maps. Select “Thematic”. Choose the category Human Development. Now select “Life Expectancy”. Now click on “View Maps”. Here is the map. To view a larger size, click on “Click for a larger version”.

Now here is a map that places the life expectancy of people in Angola in a global context.