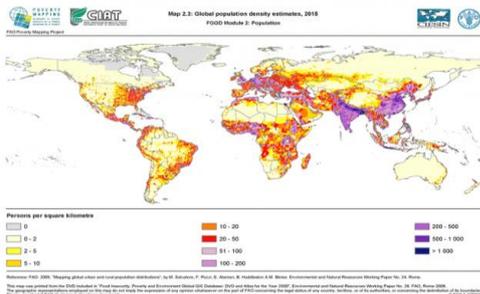


Population and Settlement (demographic processes) – the essentials!

Population



Global population Facts:-

Many people live in towns and cities along the coast.
Highest populations centred in:-
Developing nations in Asia, such as China, India and Indonesia.
Wealthier developed nations in Western Europe and North America.

Birth rate = number of live births per 1,000 of the population per year.

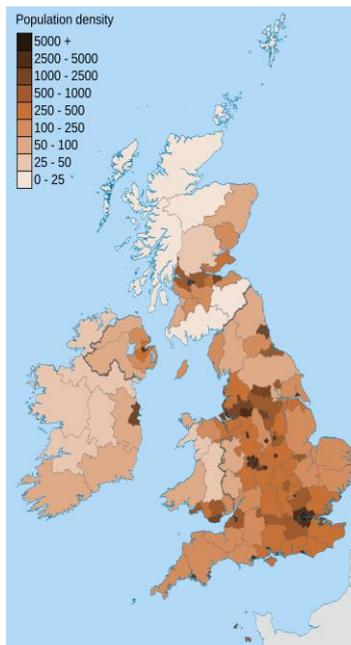
Deaths rate number of deaths per 1,000 of the population per year.

Migration = the movement of people in and out of an area.

Births and deaths are **natural causes** of population change. The difference between the birth rate and the death rate of a country or place is called the **Natural Increase**. The natural increase is calculated by subtracting the death rate from the birth rate.

Reasons for high population density: high natural population increase (increasing birth rate, declining death rate), people moving for economic reasons (main reason for population growth in most European cities now).

Reasons for low population density: inhabitable areas (e.g. Arctic, mountains of Scotland), high death rate (e.g. many countries in Africa still have high death rates but this is improving due to better medicines, aid agencies and economic progress), migration from war zones and poor agricultural areas.



Population density of the UK shows that the major cities e.g. London, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds have the highest densities.

Over 63 million people live in the UK at present – will grow to 70 million by 2050. Population explosion during Industrial Revolution when new medicines and innovations in sanitation brought death rates down. Birth rate declined during 20th Century (no longer a need for large families to work farms which became mechanised) – this led to stagnation of the population. UK now has an aging population but with more young people coming from abroad into the country.

Immigration positives = more people working means more tax is paid, so the Government can improve infrastructure and services; mix of culture and experiences, economy benefits from more workers.

Immigration negatives = added strain to infrastructure and services such as schools and hospitals, problems of ghettoisation in cities (where cultures do not mix and become isolated).

Settlement

You need to know the factors that affected early settlement location:-

What factors affect site of a settlement?

LOCATION FACTORS

- Be near a reliable supply of water (river or lakes) but be away from marshy places in order to avoid floods
- Locate a settlement in a defensive position (like at the top of a hill)
- Having materials for building their homes and develop their economic activities
- Have a supply of food and fuel for cooking and heating. At the beginning, the main fuel was wood. Then, it was coal
- Have a shelter from bad weather (like locating a settlement in a valley)
- Have access to other places

However, it was unlikely to have all those location factors at the same time

Settlements come in all shapes and sizes but there are three distinct patterns

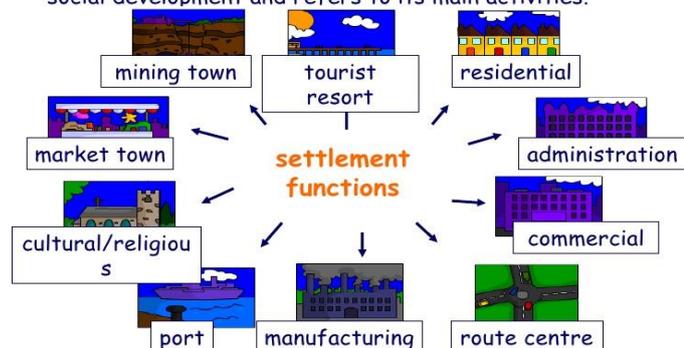
Settlement Patterns

Dispersed Linear Nucleated

What happens in settlements? The function of a settlement can dictate whether it grows or declines.

What is the function of a settlement?

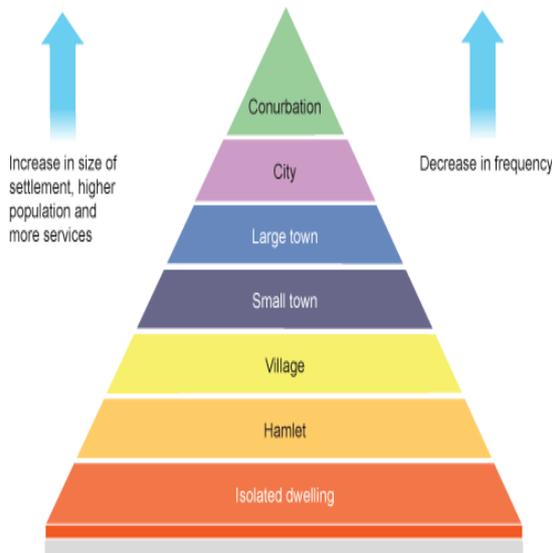
The **function** of a settlement relates to its economic and social development and refers to its main activities.



Reasons for settlement growth – lack of competition (no other major settlements nearby), plenty of flat land to expand, effective infrastructure (roads, railway lines/stations, power supply), geographic location (e.g. One of main reasons for growth of London is proximity to the EU), villages and towns near cities grow due to commuters living in them (this is called suburbanisation), new industry locates in/near a settlement it will create jobs which will encourage people to migrate to this place,

Reasons for settlement decline – no room to expand (e.g. mining villages in narrow valleys of South Wales could not physically expand beyond the hills), economic decline (e.g. towns in the North of England suffered from decline in manufacturing partly due to overseas competition).

Settlement Hierarchy



- A settlement hierarchy groups a number of settlements according to their size and shape. **As you move up the hierarchy the size of the settlement increases and the number of them decreases.**
- There are more cities than conurbations, more towns than cities, and more villages than towns.
- **The number of services that a settlement provides will increase with settlement size.** Small settlements will only provide services like a post office, doctors and newsagents. Large towns, cities and conurbations will provide more services such as leisure centres, chain stores and hospitals.
- The higher up the pyramid that you go the more people, but also there are less of them. **The population increases the higher up the pyramid that you go.**

Settlement	Services	Approximate population
Hamlet	Perhaps none	Less than 100
Village	Church, public house, convenience shop (although many are disappearing), primary school	100–2500 people
Town	Several shops, churches, secondary school, dentist, bank, small hospital (although fewer and fewer exist in towns)	2500–100 000 people
City	Cathedral, large railway station, large shopping centre, large hospital, specialist shops, museum	More than 100 000
Megacity	Cathedral, large railway station, large shopping centre, large hospital, specialist shops, museum	More than 10 million

East Village in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park - A case study of a **planned housing** project developed in an **environmentally sensitive way**



The 2012 Athletes Village has been recycled to create a new housing development called East Village. The houses are a mix of private, affordable rental and shared ownership. A total of 2818 homes have been created, with many services including a school for 3–18 year olds called Chobham Academy and a nursery. East Village is located within the 27 acres of Queen Elizabeth Park. It has 30 local independent shops and cafés and its own health facilities, the Sir Ludwig Guttmann Health and Wellbeing Centre. There are also fantastic facilities for children including Tumbling Bay playground and Wild Kingdom playground. Westfield Stratford City's array of shops is easily accessible from East Village. All London airports can be reached within an hour and the West End is only 20 minutes away.

Key **sustainability aims** of the Park Authorities in building homes on the Olympic Park site:-

Zero carbon homes.

15% reduction in emissions from actual energy use by park occupants over five years by promoting energy efficient home appliances.

25% reduction in operational emissions over five years in venues and parklands.

100% of timber products from sustainable sources.

25% minimum recycled content of major materials.

Zero municipal waste direct to landfill by 2025.

By 2020, 60% of household waste should be recycled or composted compared to a current London average of 32%.

Reduce drinking water use by Park residents to 105 litres per person per day, compared to a London average of 144 litres.

Maintain and improve upon a 40 per cent reduction in drinking water use in the venues when compared to similar venues.

All new developments to use rainwater harvesting and grey water (domestic waste water) and park irrigation to be from rainwater harvesting and treated black water (sewage).

100% of homes will have smart meters to help people monitor their energy use.

Superfast broadband and Wi-Fi in and around the park.

Problems:-

Some people were forcibly removed from their homes to make way for the new development.

Targets for recycling waste and the use of sustainable timber missed.

Lack of social housing.

Most of the housing not affordable to local residents – communities dispersed (**gentrification**).

Definition of gentrification. : the process of renewal and rebuilding accompanying the influx of middle-class or affluent people into deteriorating areas that often displaces poorer residents.