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| GRADE 10 | TERM 3 | SOCIAL SCIENCES (GEOGRAPHY) UNIT 1: POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND DENSITY |
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Population characteristics

There are many different aspects to population geography and population data can be collected in different ways:

1. National Register of Births and Deaths.
2. General Census – our last census was held in 2011.
3. Population data can be collected by organisations such as the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations (UN).

Population data is also often unreliable or incomplete because:

1. Many developing countries are unable to submit reliable/complete data.
2. Some countries make no attempt to collect population data.
3. Some countries have only recently made an attempt to collect population data.
4. Different countries have different methods of collection.
5. The classification of data and definitions varies between countries.

What do we mean by population distribution and density?

Density refers to _____

Distribution refers to _____

Arithmetic density

Distribution maps show how many people live in an area by means of dots. These dots represent a number of people. An area with many dots would show a high population whereas areas with fewer dots would show areas of lower population density.

Density maps are more accurate as they show how many people there are per square kilometre.

Arithmetic density is the _____.

The World’s population is unevenly distributed. Mankind is massed into four main regions:

1. Western and Central Europe
2. East coast of North America
3. Indian sub-continent
4. Eastern Asia

Outside of these four main regions, population density is also high in:
Brazil, Nigeria, Java, New South Wales, South Eastern Brazil and California.

There are areas, often of great size which are sparsely population and density would then be low (Amazon Basin, Northern Canada, Sahara)

Population density is a way of measuring population distribution and shows whether an area is sparsely or densely populated. Population density is calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Population density} = \text{total population} \div \text{total land area in km}^2$$

Figures 1 and 2 below show examples of maps showing density and distribution.

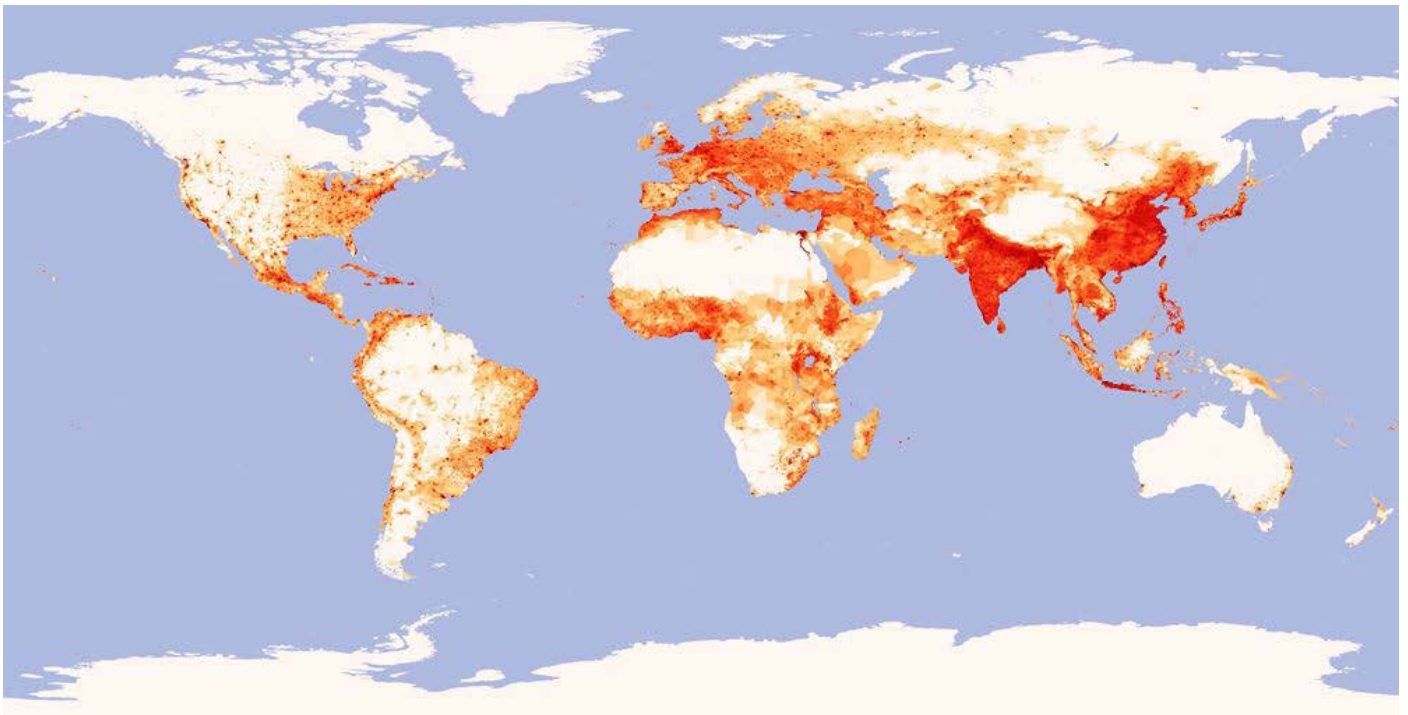


Figure 2: Population Distribution (<http://goo.gl/KNqGvG>)

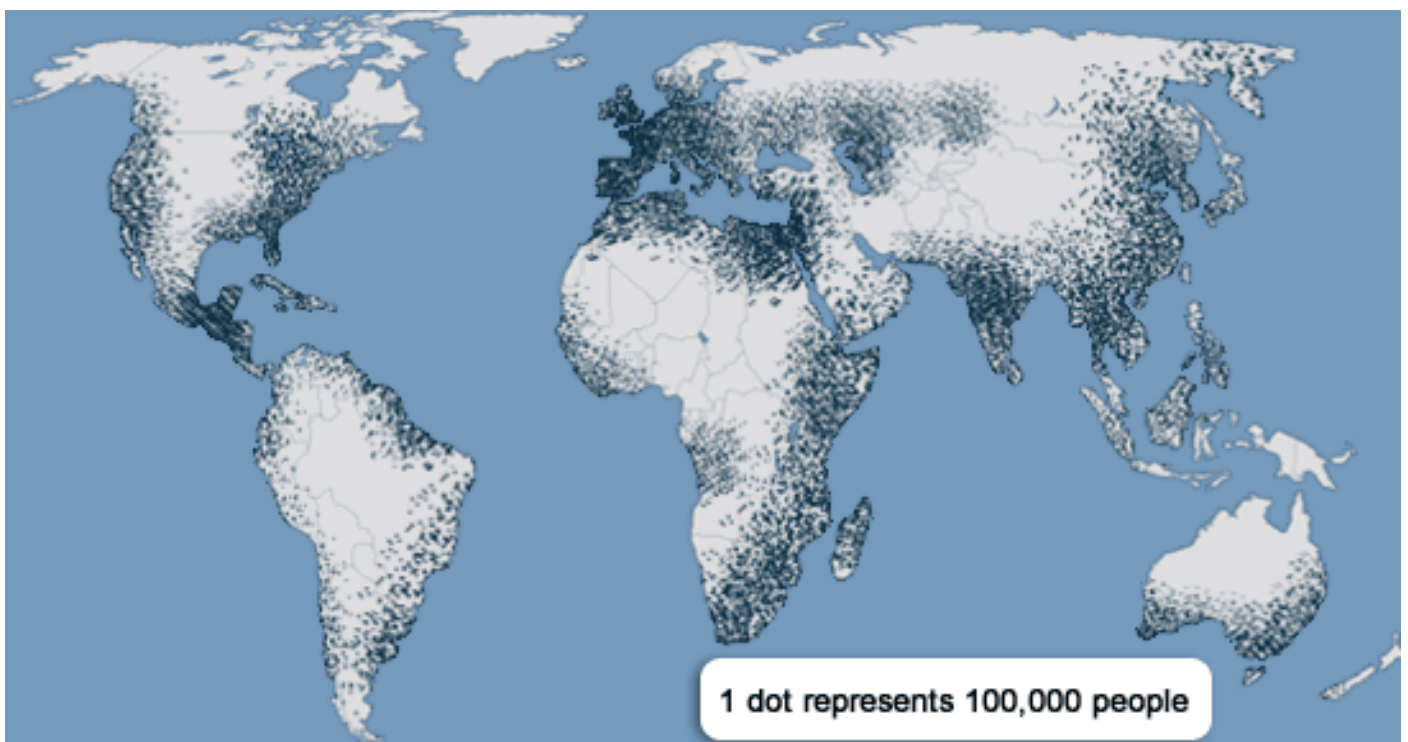


Figure 1: Population Density (<http://goo.gl/zVKbsD>)

Factors affecting population density and distribution

There are a range of human and physical factors that affect population density. Complete the tables below.

Table 1: Physical factors affecting density and distribution

| Factors | High density | Low density |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| Relief (shape and height of land) | | |
| Resources | | |
| Climate | | |

Table 2: Human factors affecting density and distribution

| Factors | High density | Low density |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Political | | |
| Social | | |
| Economic | | |