Introduction

Population density is the number of people living in a particular area, e.g. the population density of the UK is approximately 259 people per km2. Some areas will be much higher than others, e.g. cities such as London, Portsmouth and Liverpool. The population density in a city is always very high, e.g. in 2011, Greater London had a population density of approximately 5,200 people per km2.

Student tasks

Use the table on the next page.

1. Which region of the UK had the highest population density in 2011?

1. Which region of the UK had the lowest population density in 2011?

1. What was the average density for all of the Uk in 2011?

1. Which region of the UK was nearest the average population density in 2011?

1. The average density in Scotland was approximately 67 people per km². Name an area or place in Scotland that has a higher population density.

1. Construct a bar graph of the population densities of the UK in 2011. Use a vertical scale of 1 cm to 1,000 people per km2.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Region** | **Population (2011)** | **Population density (2011)** |
| England | 53,012,456 | 406.55/km² |
| * South East * Greater London * North West * East * West Midlands * South West * Yorkshire and Humber * East Midlands * North East | 8,634,750 8,173,941 7,052,177 5,846,965 5,601,847 5,288,935 5,283,733 4,533,222 2,596,886 | 452.20/km² 5199.71/km²  497.86/km²  305.80/km²  430.00/km²  221.95/km²  342.65/km²  290.09/km²  302.24/km² |
| Scotland | 5,295,000 | 67.22/km² |
| Wales | 3,063,456 | 147.43/km² |
| Northern Ireland | 1,810,863 | 130.81/km² |
| **United Kingdom** | **63,181,775** | **259.16/km²** |

Data adapted from Office of National Statistics, under [Open Government Licence v3.0](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/)

[ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration)

Extension task

Use the table of population densities of the UK in 2011 to construct a bar graph of regional population densisties on the map on the next page:



Map used courtesy of NordNordWest, 2008

Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license.