Where People Live

Compare population shares and density across time.

GHW.3.1 "Map and analyze the distribution of the world's human population for different time periods, noting the population characteristics and population density for specific regions."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the definitions of population share and density, circle each percentage in the table, and put a star beside one sentence that warns you about a map's limits.

Two Dates, Two Kinds of Maps

1 Imagine two blank world maps, one labeled 1900 and the other 2020. A population map can show where people live, but its colors need a clear meaning. A region's share of world population is its portion of all people on Earth. A density map instead shows how many people live in each square kilometer of land.

2 The table compares selected continents in 1900 and 2020. Its shares are approximate because older population counts are estimates, and continent boundaries can vary by source. The listed regions do not include every continent, so their percentages need not add to 100. Density is reported only for 2020 and is rounded to whole people.

APPROXIMATE POPULATION SHARES AND 2020 DENSITY

Region	Share in 1900	Share in 2020	People per km² in 2020
Asia	57%	60%	104
Europe	25%	10%	73
Africa	8%	17%	44
North America	5%	8%	24

3 A mapmaker might shade a whole continent with one color, but people are not spread evenly across it. Cities can be crowded while deserts and mountains have few residents. A regional average can hide these contrasts. When you compare maps from different years, check the date, the measure in the legend, and whether the same regions are shown.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. On maps showing population share, which two listed regions would have the largest shares in 1900? Which two would have the largest shares in 2020?

2. Which listed region had the largest change in population share from 1900 to 2020? State the change in percentage points.

3. Compare Africa and Europe in 2020. Which had the larger share of world population, and which had the higher population density? Include the figures.

4. If you shaded the listed regions on a 2020 map by population density, which would get the darkest shade and which the lightest? Cite their densities.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 65 to 90 word caption for a pair of maps showing population share in 1900 and 2020. Compare three listed regions across both years, include the 2020 densities of at least two of them, and explain why a population-share map and a density map could tell different stories.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the definitions of population share and density, circle each percentage in the table, and put a star beside one sentence that warns you about a map's limits. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	On maps showing population share, which two listed regions would have the largest shares in 1900? Which two would have the largest shares in 2020?	**In 1900, Asia and Europe. In 2020, Asia and Africa.**
2	Which listed region had the largest change in population share from 1900 to 2020? State the change in percentage points.	**Europe fell from 25% to 10%, a decrease of 15 percentage points.**
3	Compare Africa and Europe in 2020. Which had the larger share of world population, and which had the higher population density? Include the figures.	**Africa had the larger share, 17% versus Europe's 10%. Europe had the higher density, 73 versus 44 people per km².**
4	If you shaded the listed regions on a 2020 map by population density, which would get the darkest shade and which the lightest? Cite their densities.	**Asia would be darkest at 104 people per km², and North America would be lightest at 24 people per km².**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On my 1900 map, Asia has the largest share of the world's population at about 57%, followed by Europe at 25%. By 2020, Asia's share is about 60%, while Europe's falls to 10% and Africa's rises from 8% to 17%. Europe's 2020 density is about 73 people per square kilometer, compared with Africa's 44. A darker shade for Europe on a density map would not mean Europe contains more people than Africa. The legend must name the measure.

Accept any three listed regions if both years' shares are compared accurately and two 2020 densities are correct. The caption should distinguish a region's share of world population from people per square kilometer.