

Population Distribution and Density

Chapter 11: Population · Topic 1

Key Concept

India's population is unevenly distributed, with fertile river plains like the Ganga basin being densely populated, while regions like the Thar Desert and mountainous areas have sparse populations.

Population density is calculated by dividing the total population by the total land area, usually expressed as people per square kilometre.

Factors affecting population distribution include climate, availability of water, fertile soil for farming, and economic opportunities like jobs in cities.

Understanding population distribution helps governments plan resources, infrastructure, and services more effectively, addressing challenges in both overcrowded and sparsely populated areas.

Quick Revision Notes

- Population distribution shows how people are spread across a region.
- Population density measures people per unit area.
- India's Ganga basin is densely populated.
- The Thar Desert has sparse population.
- Density is population divided by area.
- Density is usually measured per square kilometre.
- Climate, water and jobs affect population distribution.
- Understanding distribution helps resource and infrastructure planning.

Practice Questions

- 1 Calculate the population density of your city or town if data is available.
- 2 Discuss why the Ganga basin is densely populated.
- 3 Research why the Thar Desert has low population density.
- 4 Explain how climate affects where people live.
- 5 Discuss a challenge caused by uneven population distribution.
- 6 Create a simple map showing high and low density areas in India.