

Chapter 31 Vocabulary

Essential Question: How does population density affect the way people live?

1. population density: the average number of people who live in a unit of area, such as a square mile. Population density measures how crowded an area is.
2. climate: the pattern of weather over a long period of time
3. tectonic plates: a large piece of Earth's crust that floats on liquid mantle
4. volcanoes: a break in Earth's crust where magma and other material erupts from Earth's interior
5. tsunamis: a huge destructive wave caused by an earthquake or volcanic eruption
6. arable land: land suitable for growing crops
7. population distribution: where people live in a country, whether crowded together in cities or spread out across the countryside
8. arithmetic population density: the population of a country divided by its total land area
9. physiologic population density: the population of a country divided by its arable land area
10. commute time: the amount of time spent traveling to and from work
11. extended families: a family made up of parents, children, grandparents, and sometimes more distant relatives
12. nuclear families: a family made up of parents and their children
13. earthquake zone: an area where earthquakes are likely, often where tectonic plates meet
14. earthquake-resistant construction techniques: building methods used to make structures safer during earthquakes
15. wetlands: an area where the soil is usually wet or covered with water
16. terracing: the creation of flat areas on mountain slopes for the purpose of farming
17. sewage: solid and liquid waste from homes and other buildings that is carried away by sewers and drains
18. waste-water: water that has been used; for example, for washing or producing goods
19. acid rain:
20. toxic chemicals:
21. life expectancy:
22. recycling:
23. natural resources:

