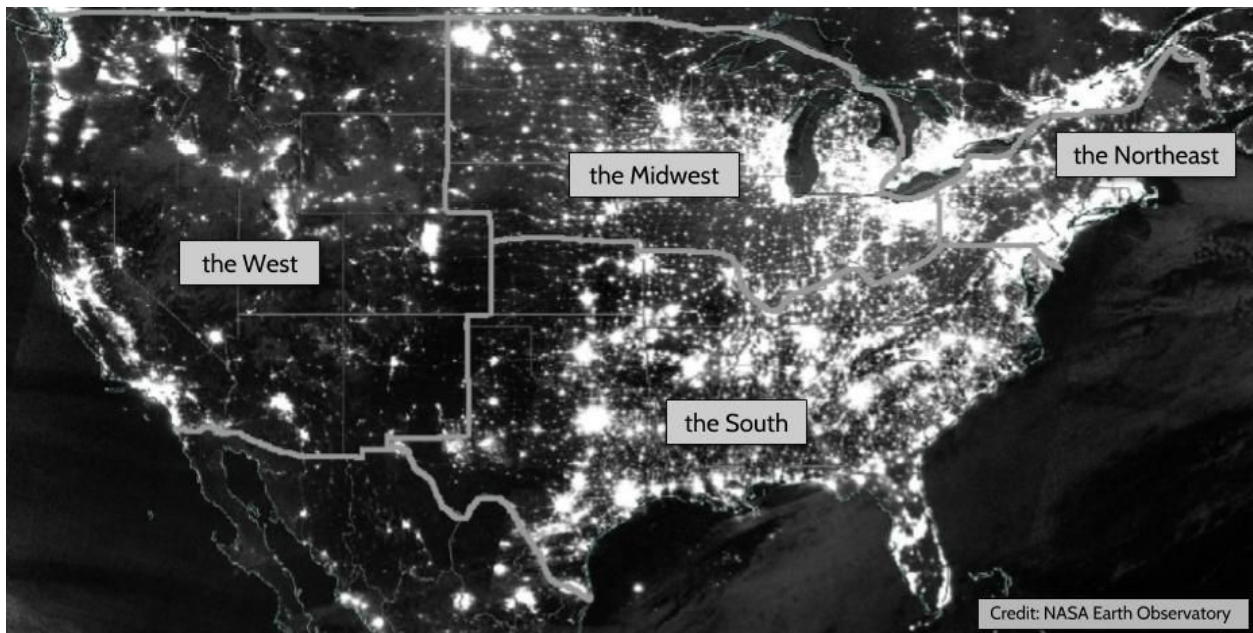


## Looking at the Population of the United States



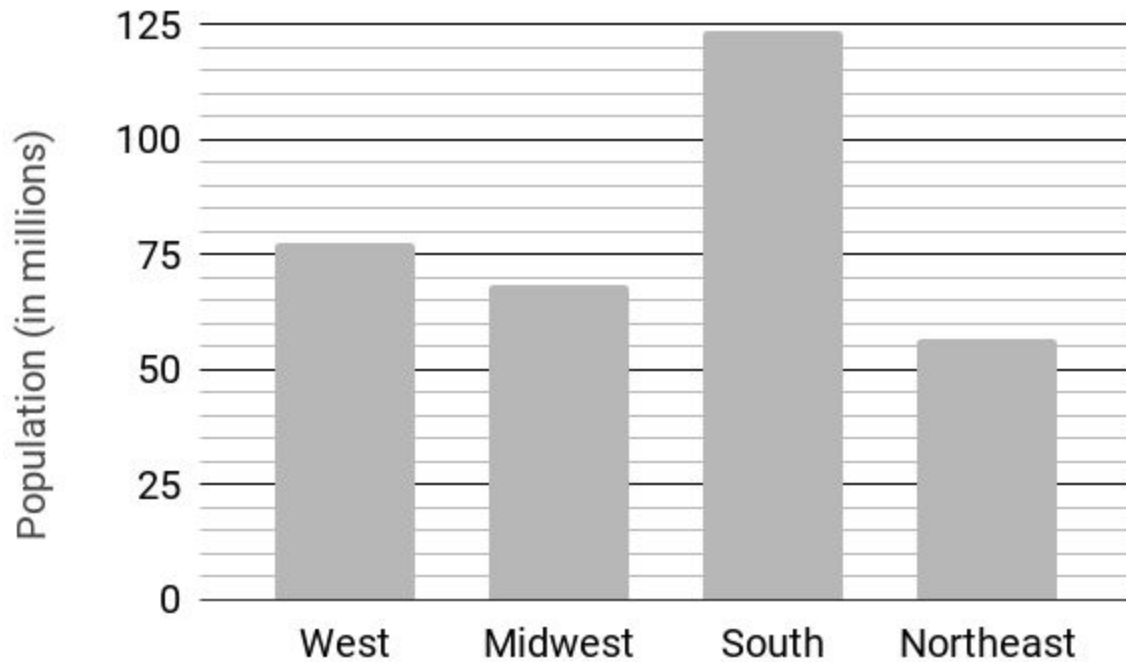
The United States can be separated into four regions: the West, the Midwest, the South, and the Northeast. This satellite image of the continental United States was taken in 2012. The photograph captures light at night.

- 1) What do you notice?

Answer these questions using the photograph of the United States at night.

- 2) Which region do you think has the biggest area?
- 3) Which region do you think has the most people? How do you know?
- 4) Which region do you think is the most crowded with people?
- 5) What U.S. states are not included in this satellite photo?

## Population of U.S. Regions (Chart)

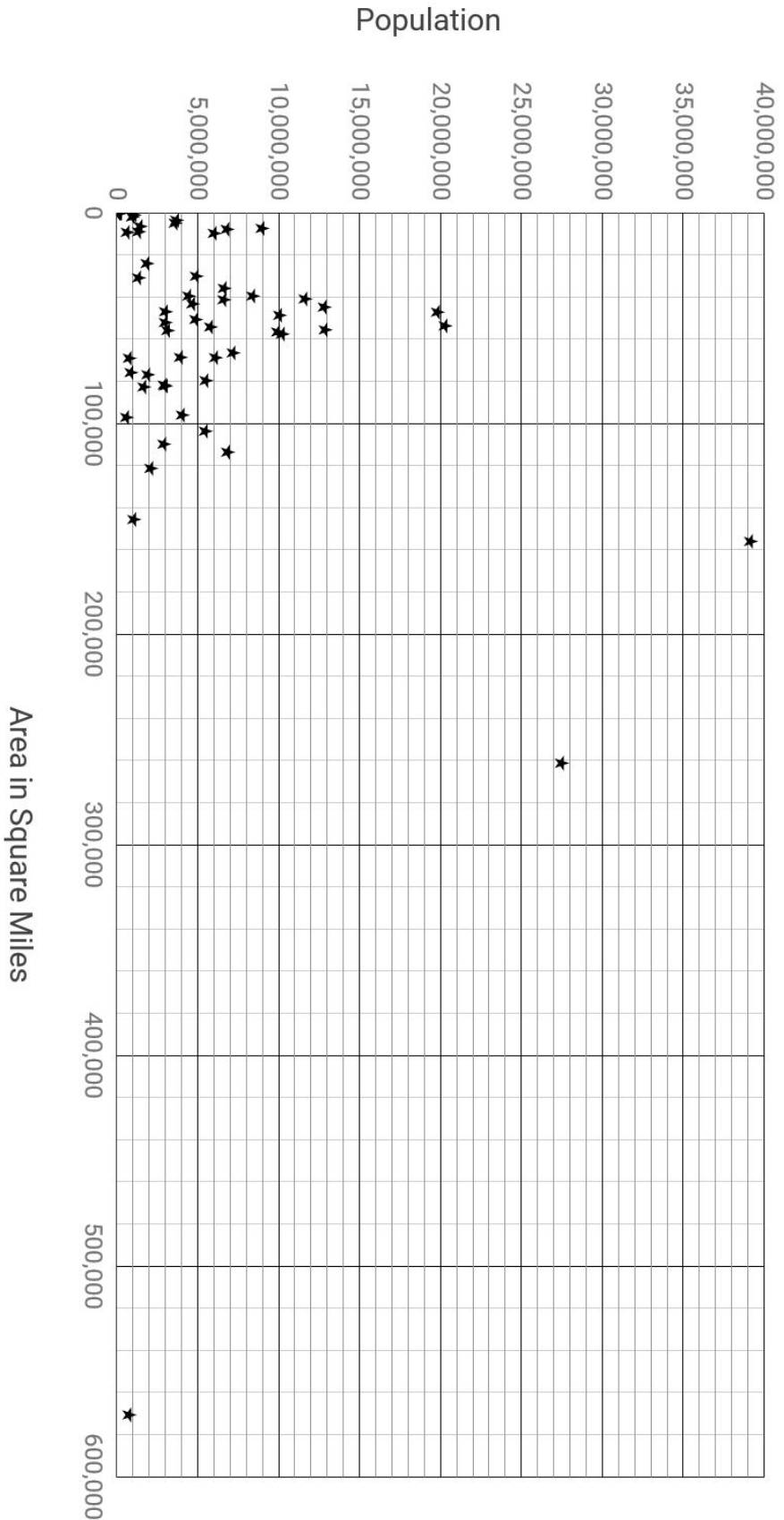


- 6) Based on the graph above, **estimate** the population of each region of the United States. Then calculate the population density of each region. (The symbol ~ also means that the number after is approximate, since it's an estimate.)

Region	Population	Approximate Area (sq. mi.)	Population Density (people per sq. mi.)
West	~ 77,000,000	1,900,000	
Midwest	~	600,000	
South	~	870,000	
Northeast	~	160,000	



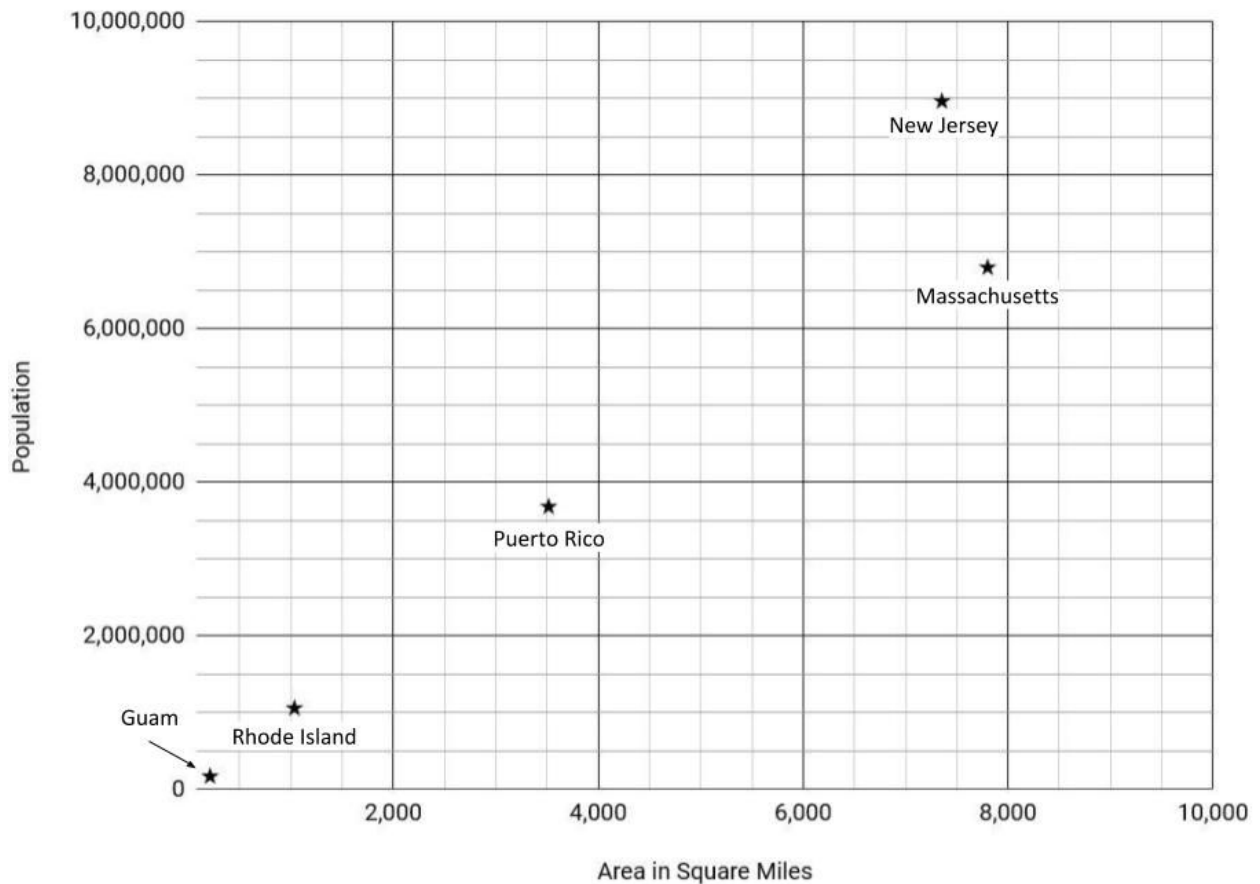
## Area and Population of U.S. States and Territories



13) Write three things you notice about this chart.

The chart on the previous page has a star for each of the 50 states and 5 territories of the United States. Did you try counting the stars? It might not seem possible, but there really are 55 stars on the chart. Some of the stars are very close or are overlapping, which makes it hard to count them all. A smaller version of the chart below shows a sample of places with high population density.

Five U.S. States and Territories with Highest Population Density



14) Use your best estimate of the population and area of each place to complete the table below. *Reminder:* The ~ symbol means that the numbers are approximate.

State or Territory	Guam	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Puerto Rico	Rhode Island
Population	~200,000	~6,800,000		~3,700,000	
Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )			~7,400		~1,000
Density (ppl/mi <sup>2</sup> )	~1,000			~1,050	

## Area and Population of U.S. States and Territories (Table)

Use the table to check your estimates on the previous page. How close were you to the actual population, area and density?

State/Territory	Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Population	Density (ppl/mi <sup>2</sup> )
Alabama	50,645	4,860,000	96
Alaska	570,641	740,000	1
American Samoa	77	60,000	721
Arizona	113,594	6,830,000	60
Arkansas	52,035	2,980,000	57
California	155,959	39,140,000	251
Colorado	103,642	5,460,000	53
Connecticut	4,842	3,590,000	742
Delaware	1,949	950,000	485
Florida	53,625	20,270,000	378
Georgia	57,513	10,210,000	178
Guam	210	170,000	809
Hawaii	6,423	1,430,000	223
Idaho	82,643	1,650,000	20
Illinois	55,519	12,860,000	232
Indiana	35,826	6,620,000	185
Iowa	55,857	3,120,000	56
Kansas	81,759	2,910,000	36
Kentucky	39,486	4,430,000	112
Louisiana	43,204	4,670,000	108
Maine	30,843	1,330,000	43
Maryland	9,707	6,010,000	619
Massachusetts	7,800	6,790,000	871
Michigan	56,539	9,920,000	175
Minnesota	79,627	5,490,000	69
Mississippi	46,923	2,990,000	64
Missouri	68,742	6,080,000	89
Montana	145,546	1,030,000	7

State/Territory	Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Population	Density (ppl/mi <sup>2</sup> )
Nebraska	76,824	1,896,190	25
Nevada	109,781	2,890,000	26
New Hampshire	8,953	1,330,000	149
New Jersey	7,354	8,960,000	1,218
New Mexico	121,298	2,090,000	17
New York	47,126	19,800,000	420
North Carolina	48,618	10,040,000	207
North Dakota	69,001	760,000	11
Northern Mariana Islands	179	60,000	308
Ohio	40,861	11,610,000	284
Oklahoma	68,595	3,910,000	57
Oregon	95,988	4,030,000	42
Pennsylvania	44,743	12,800,000	286
Puerto Rico	3,515	3,680,000	1,047
Rhode Island	1,034	1,060,000	1,022
South Carolina	30,061	4,900,000	163
South Dakota	75,811	860,000	11
Tennessee	41,235	6,600,000	160
Texas	261,232	27,470,000	105
Virgin Islands	134	110,000	799
Utah	82,170	3,000,000	36
Vermont	9,217	630,000	68
Virginia	39,490	8,380,000	212
Washington	66,456	7,170,000	108
West Virginia	24,038	1,840,000	77
Wisconsin	54,158	5,770,000	107
Wyoming	97,093	590,000	6

## Questions about the Area and Population of U.S. States & Territories

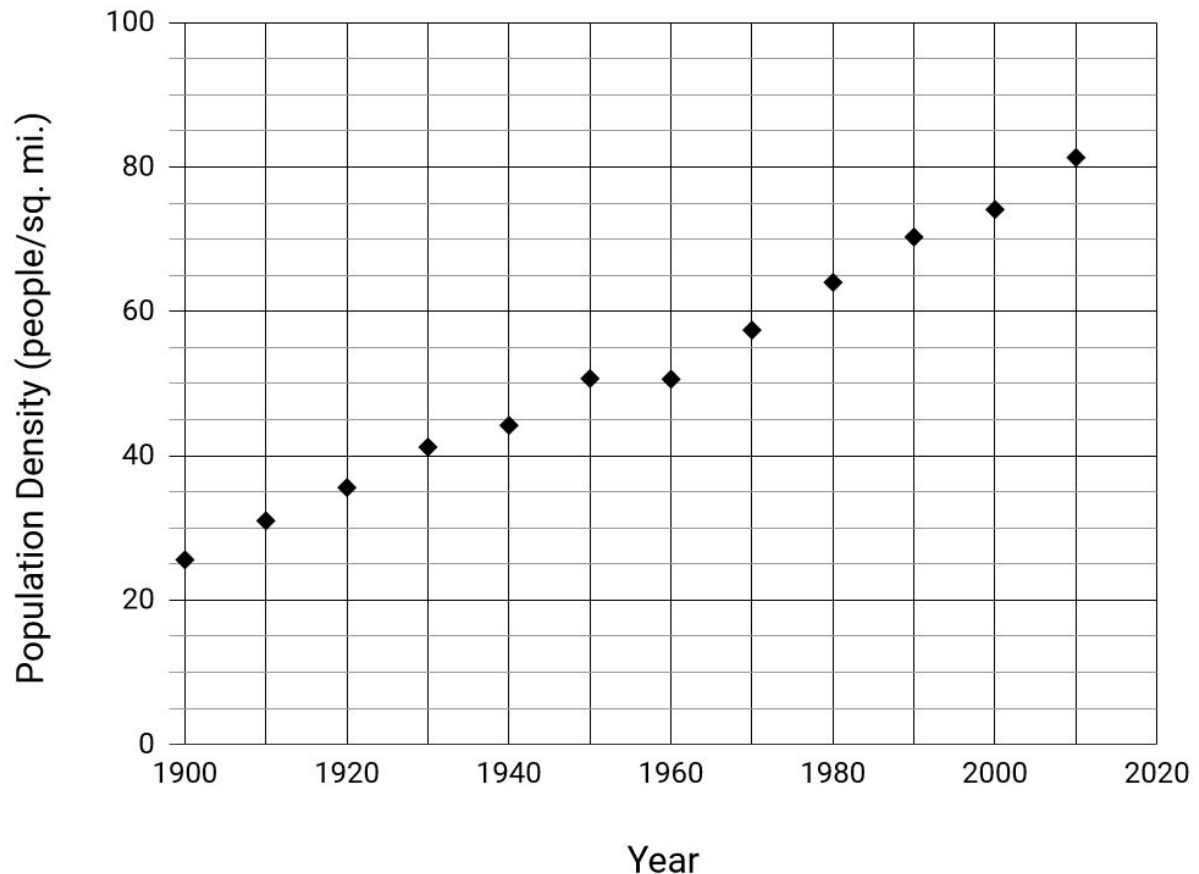
- 15) Which two states or territories have the largest population?
- 16) Which two states or territories have the smallest population?
- 17) Which two states or territories have the largest land area?
- 18) Which two states or territories have the smallest land area?
- 19) Which two states or territories have the highest population density?
- 20) Which two states or territories have the lowest population density?
- 21) Missouri and Oklahoma are both about 69,000 square miles in area. Which state is more crowded? Explain your answer.
- 22) Utah and Mississippi both have about 3,000,000 people. Which state is more crowded? Explain your answer.

## A Practice Question

This practice question

23) Look at the chart below and then answer the question below.

### The History of Population Density in the United States



Which of these answers is the best prediction of what the population density of the United States will be 2020, based on historical data?

- A. 81 people per square mile
- B. 87 people per square mile
- C. 92 people per square mile
- D. 100 people per square mile