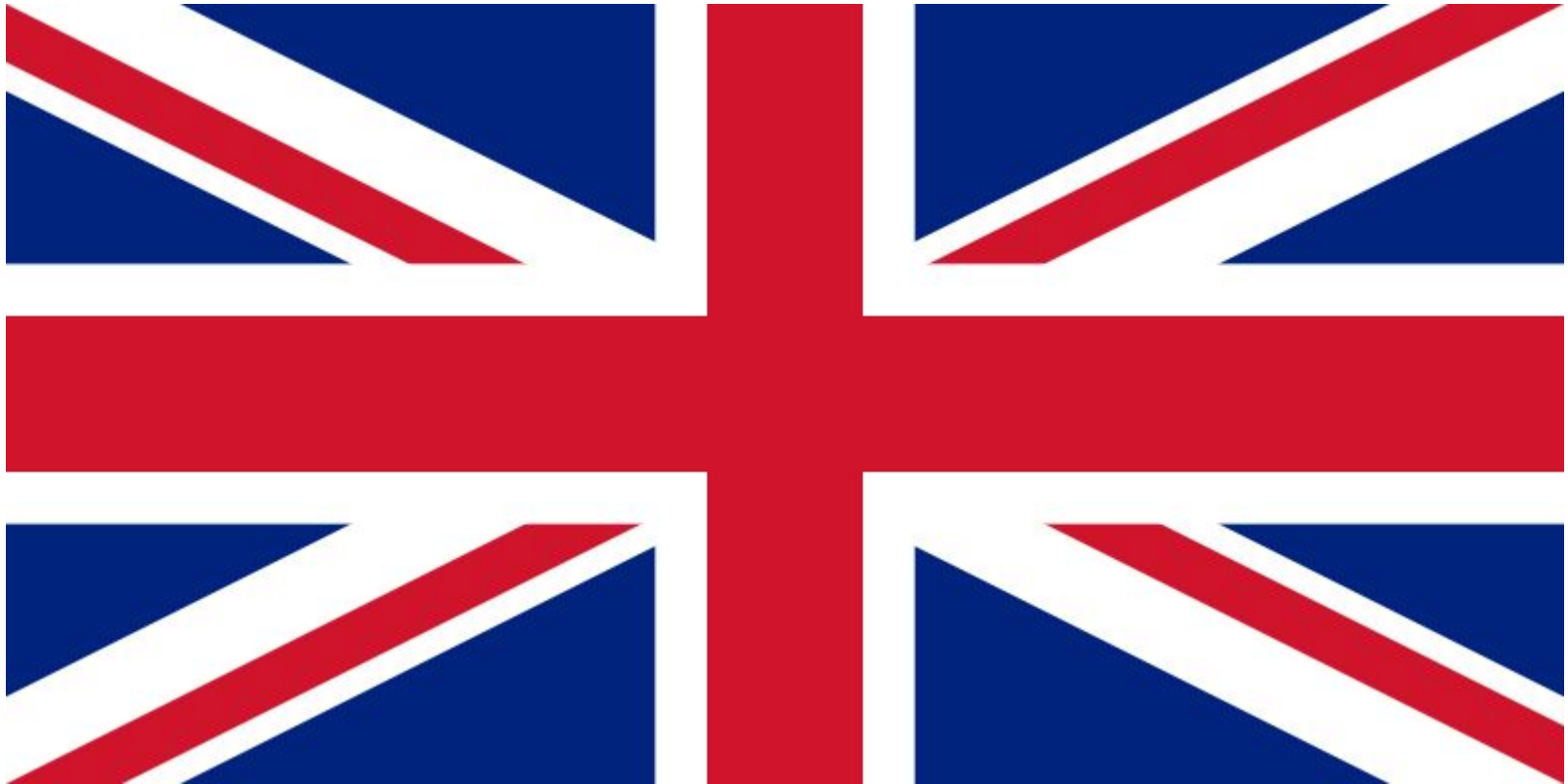


When people think of Britain, they often think of ...



The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



The United Kingdom (UK) is a Constitutional Monarchy



It is made up of 4 semi-autonomous countries: England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.



The latter 3 have devolved authorities responsible for some regulation and policy making.

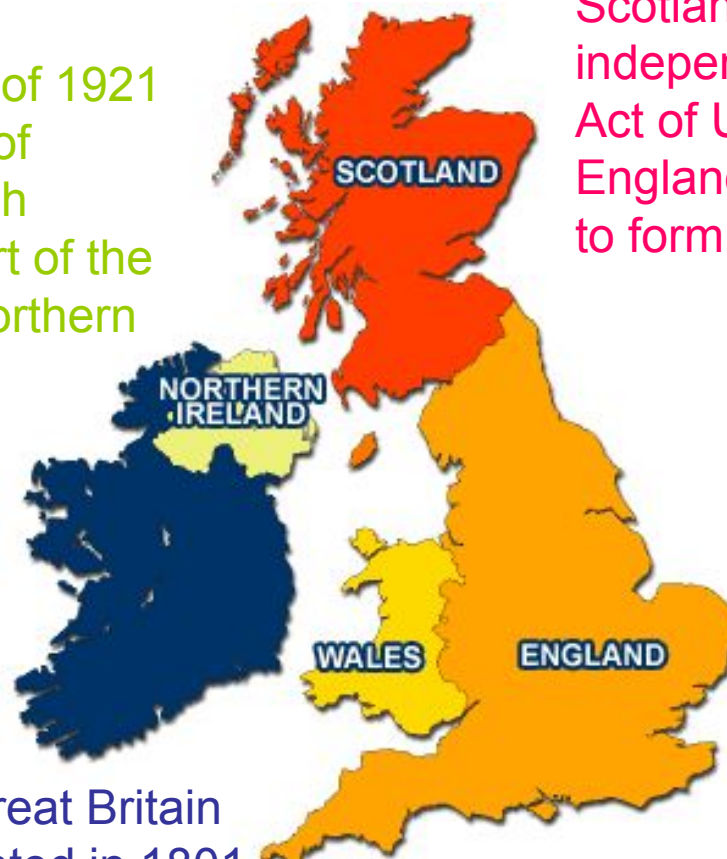
The UK covers an area of 242,500 square kilometres and has a population of about 60 million, similar to that of France and Italy.

Population: 60,776,238 (July 2007 est.)



The current name of the country, the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, was adopted in 1927

The Anglo-Irish treaty of 1921 formalised a partition of Ireland; 6 northern Irish counties remained part of the United Kingdom as Northern Ireland



Scotland was an independent nation until the Act of Union in 1707 when England and Scotland joined to form Great Britain

England has existed as a unified entity since the 10th century.

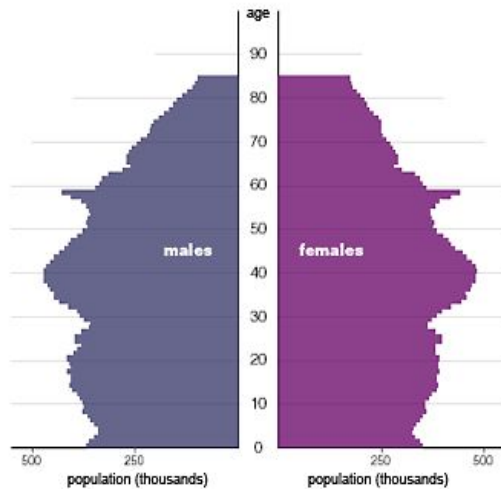
The legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland was implemented in 1801, with the adoption of the name the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

The union between England and Wales, begun in 1284 but was not formalised until 1536.



Population (mid-2005)

In mid-2005 the UK was home to 60.2 million people, of which 50.4 million lived in England.



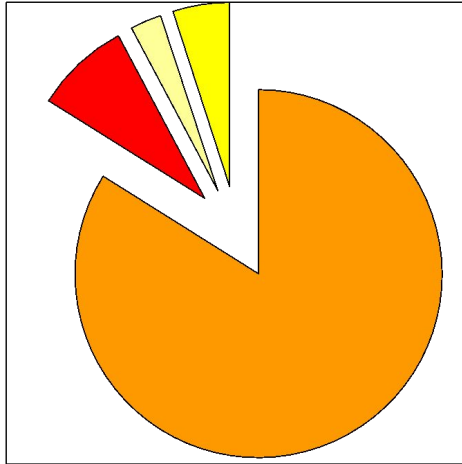
The average age was 38.8 years, an increase on 1971 when it was 34.1 years.

Approximately one in 5 people were under 16 and one in 6 people were 65 or over.

The UK population is growing (0.275%). Until the mid-1990s this growth was mainly due to the number of births exceeding deaths. While natural change has continued, since the late 1990s net international migration into the UK from abroad has been an increasingly important factor



Where do people live?



Languages:

English

Welsh (about 760,000)

Gaelic (about 60,000 in Scotland)



Total population 60.2 million

243 people/km²

Ranked 48th in the world according to the
United Nations World Populations Prospects Report

8 in 10 people live in an urban area

26% live in London and South East

1 in 9 moved in year to April 2001

1 in 12 were born overseas

1 in 8 were EU residents living in
UK

Literacy rate 99%

65% of children live with both birth
parents



Main Cities

London – 7.2 million

Birmingham – 992,000

Leeds – 720,000

Glasgow – 560,000

Sheffield – 512,000

Bradford – 467,000

Edinburgh – 450,000

Liverpool – 440,000

Manchester 420,000

Bristol – 380,000

Cardiff – 310,000

Nottingham – 285,000

Belfast – 280,000

Newcastle – 259,000

Hull – 240,000

Plymouth 240,000

Aberdeen – 215,000

Portsmouth – 186,000

York – 182,000



Population: 60,776,238 (July 2007 est.)



Religion

Christianity is the main religion in Britain

There were 41 million Christians in 2001, making up almost three quarters of the population (72%).

This includes Church of England, Church of Scotland, Church in Wales, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations.



People with no religion form the second largest group, comprising 15% of the population.

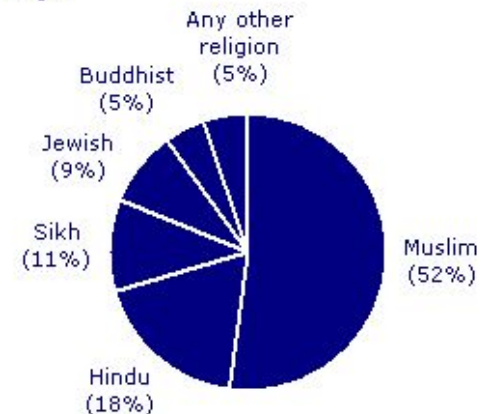
About one in 20 (5%) of the population belongs to a non-Christian religious denomination.

This includes almost 1.6 million Muslims and 600,000 Hindus

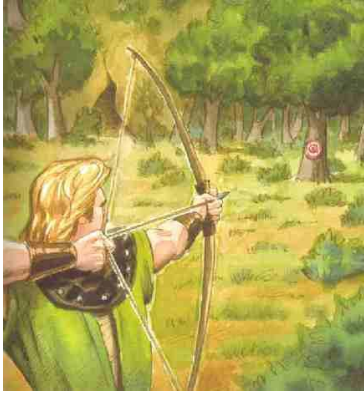
These “Minority” religious groups were concentrated in London

2005 Eurobarometer report showed that 62% did not believe in a god.

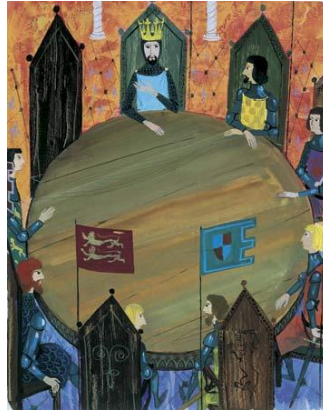
Percentages



Local Legends



Stole from the rich ...



Age of chivalry



The spider and the king



Saint George



Saint Patrick

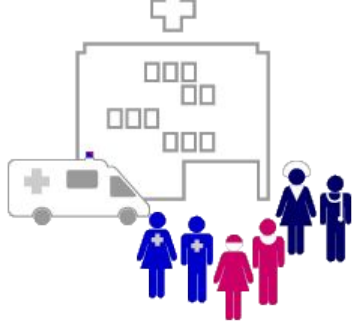


Saint Andrew



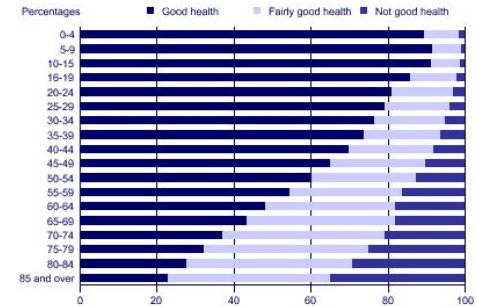
Saint David





Health

In the 2001 Census, 40 million (out of the 60 million living in the UK) rated their general health in the last year as 'good', a further 13 million rated it as 'fairly good'



Life expectancy for both men and women has continued to rise. In 2002, life expectancy at birth was 81 years for females and 76 years for males. This contrasts with 49 and 45 years respectively in 1901.

The main causes of death are:

Circulatory Disease (eg heart disease / stroke)

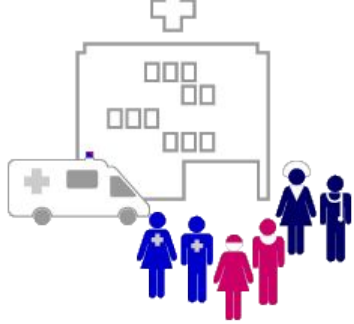
Cancers

Respiratory Diseases (Pneumonia)

Injury and poisoning

Infectious Diseases





Health

Drinking among girls continues to rise



Average of 1.66 children born/woman

Infant Mortality rate of 5.01 deaths per 1,000 live births

1 in 6 adults have a neurotic disorder

1 in 4 adults smoke

HIV prevalence <0.2% (2007)

HIV & chlamydia diagnoses increasing

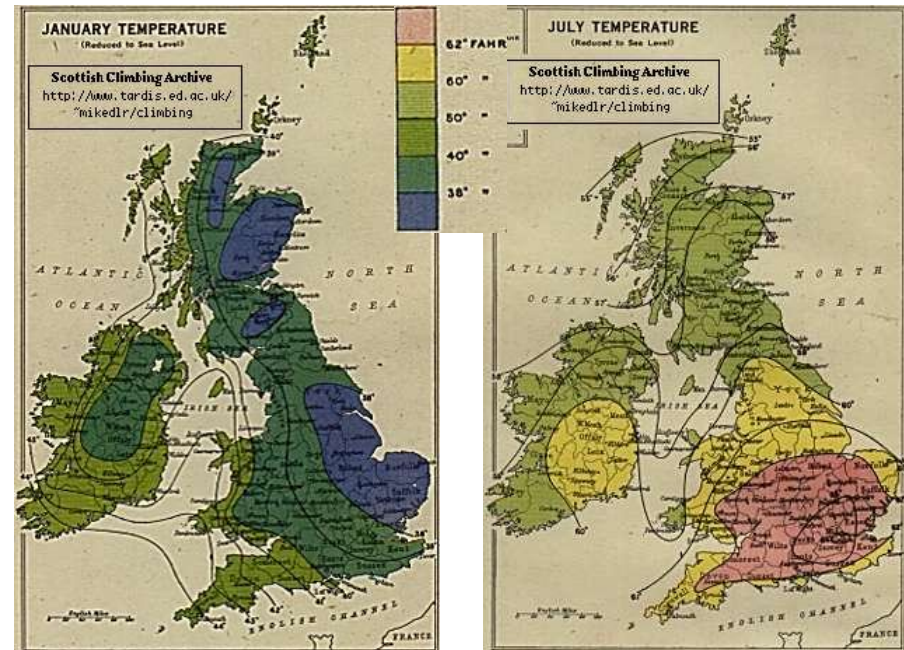
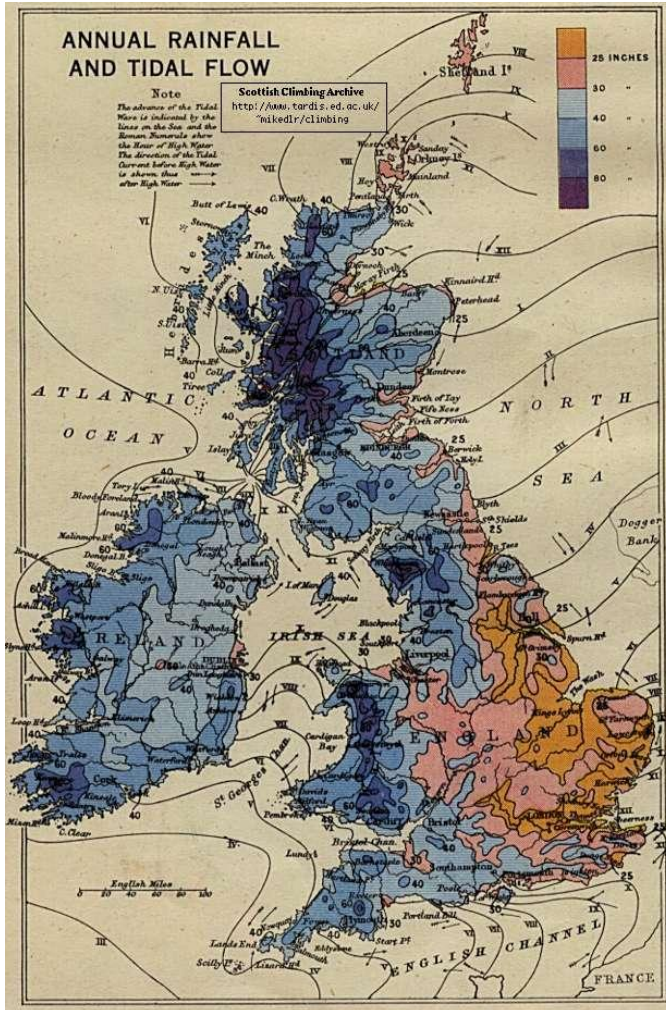
PLHA 97,423 (June 2008)

HIV/AIDS deaths – less than 500 per year

* Source – Avert, UK



Climate



temperate; moderated by prevailing southwest winds over the North Atlantic Current.

“More than half of the days are overcast”



Geography

Mostly rugged hills and low mountains – level to rolling plains in the east and southeast

Lowest point – The Fens (-4m)
Highest Point – Ben Nevis (1,343m)



Natural Resources

Primary energy production accounts for 10% of GDP;
In 2005 the sources were:

Natural Gas: 40%

Oil: 33%

Coal: 17%

Nuclear: 8%

Renewable: 2%



Resources include: Coal, Petroleum, Natural gas, Iron ore, Lead, Zinc, Gold, Tin, Limestone, Salt, Clay, Chalk, Gypsum, Potash, Silica sand, Slate, arable land.

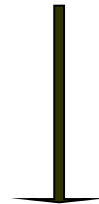


Other Resources



Services
(banking, insurance, and
business services)

Industry



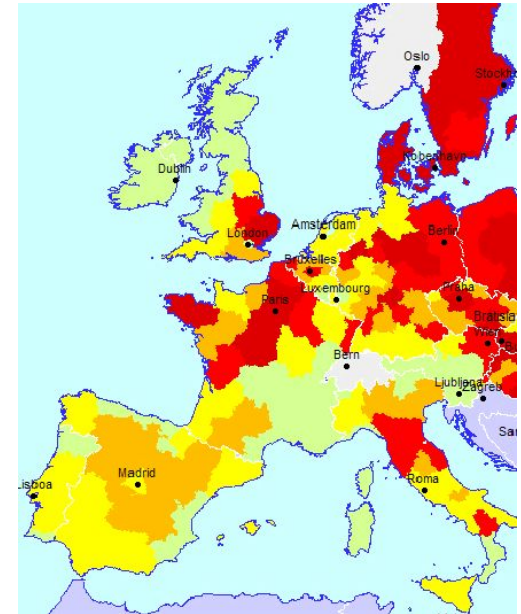
Land Use

Over 70% of the total UK land area is under agricultural use, although less than 1% is used for permanent crops.

Agriculture is intensive, highly mechanized, and efficient, producing about 60% of food needs with less than 2% of the labor force

Products include: cereals, oilseed, potatoes, vegetables; cattle, sheep, poultry; fish

Non- agricultural land uses include: machine tools, electric power equipment, automation equipment, railroad equipment, shipbuilding, aircraft, motor vehicles and parts, electronics and communications equipment, metals, chemicals, coal, petroleum, paper and paper products, food processing, textiles, clothing, other consumer goods



Natural Hazards



Winter windstorms
Floods



Money



The UK has been a member of the EU since 1973, but does not participate in the European single currency, the Euro.



Economy

Exchange rate 1 UK Pound (GBP) on 20 July 2007

US\$2.05



euro 1.49



Exchange rate 1 UK Pound (GBP) on 16 February 2009

US\$1.43



euro 1.12



Employment

- Labour force of 31.1 million
- Unemployment rate 6.1%

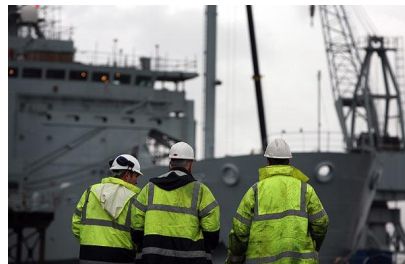
*In the 3 months to the end of Nov 08 (According to ILO)
Unemployment Benefit-Jobseeker's Allowance-New Deal*

- Occupations:

agriculture: 1.4%

industry: 18.2%

services: 80.4% (2006 est.)



Earnings

- **Average salary/wage £24,908 pa** (April 2008)
- Ranges from
 - £946 per week for top 10% to
 - under £262 per week for the lowest paid
 - Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE)
- **Minimum Wage £5.73 per hour**
 - For full time, legally resident, adult employees
- **Popln below poverty line: 17%**
- 2007 average earnings in Hull = £10,416 pa
 - Source: Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)



Politics

The UK is a long-established parliamentary democracy with a constitutional monarch as Head of State. The democracy is sustained by free elections, freedom of speech and open and equal treatment before the law.

The Parliament is made up of :
the Sovereign (Queen Elizabeth II),
the House of Lords (the upper house)
and the House of Commons (the lower house).



The House of Lords consists of approximately:
500 life peers, 92 hereditary peers and 26 clergy.

Elections are held as vacancies in the hereditary peerage arise.



Politics

Today the House of Commons is the dominant branch. The House of Commons is democratically elected body of 646 “Members of Parliament” or MPs.

MPs are elected by the first-past-the-post system of election and hold office until Parliament is dissolved (a maximum of 5 years).

Each MP is elected by and represents an electoral district known as a constituency. Elections were last held in May 2005.

Sittings of the house are open to the public and debates are broadcast on the radio and television.



The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

