

UKs human landscape:

Uneven population distribution:

High population density in cities (urban) e.g. Manchester & London + their conurbations

Uplands e.g. Wales are rural & sparsely populated

Economic activity:

Urban cores: have 60% of jobs in secondary & tertiary sectors with higher pay

Rural areas: primary industry dominates employment & have: seasonal tourism industries plus commuter settlements

Age structures:

Young, economically active live in urban core

Older, retired people partake in urban-rural migration

Rural poverty:

Isolated areas on the UKs periphery are inaccessible = depopulation as youth leave = less jobs = less workers = less services (multiplier effect) e.g. in the Midlands where the loss of the manufacturing industry = mass unemployment

UK & EU policies to reduce wealth disparities:

Enterprise zones:

55 zones across UK

Include: reduction in taxes/tax breaks & better infrastructure e.g. broadband to encourage new businesses in rural areas to create jobs

E.g Dorset Green has 2 IT firms, creating 2000+ jobs

Transport infrastructure:

UK gov created HS2 (high speed rail line) connecting London, Manchester, Leeds ect to promote industry in the rural north

Lancashire county built a road to link themselves to the M6 = encourages investment as reduces congestion & travel times and creates jobs for rural people

Regional development:

ERDF used to fund high-tech & training to rural businesses e.g. the EU funded super fast broadband in Cornwall attracting businesses e.g. Gravitass

CAP ensures EU farmers make a living wage & gives subsidies for rural diversification projects BUT in 2016, the UK left the EU so the future is uncertain!

Migration:

>1980s migration to the UK has increased

Distribution: young migrants move to major cities e.g London for university, counter-urbanisation is evoked by old wealthy people leaving London for rural areas (better quality of life) upon retirement

Age structure: Lots of young migrants increases birth rate as they're of a child bearing age- accounting for 27% of the babies born

UK immigration policy:

>WW2, UK encouraged immigration from Commonwealth countries to fill gaps in the UKs skilled workforce

Entry was restricted later by work VISAs = 10% of the UKs population is of Asian & Caribbean ethnicity

>1995, the EU has allowed free movement & mass international migration e.g. of Eastern Europeans has induced cultural diversity

The UK economy:

>1960s, the mining (primary) industry has declined due to fossil fuel imports & manufacturing (secondary) industry jobs declined due to the global shift e.g. steel works in Sheffield closed

The service sector (tertiary) e.g retail & healthcare has risen, London is the banking capital

Quaternary sectors e.g. IT are increasing (making use of skilled uni graduates), 2013: £30b spent on R&D

Burnley:

Town in Lancashire

Had a thriving textile economy until 1914 when the UK began exporting cheap cotton

1980s = last cotton mill closed

1990s = factories shut but low operating costs have attracted aerospace engineering firms

Now: employment rate is 65% & Burnley still relies on manufacturing industries

UK links with the wider world:

FDI: TNCs buy UK firms or locate their operations in the UK

2010-2014: FDI rose by £300 billion

Due to...

Globalisation: transport systems allow TNCs to operate in the UK & London is a global finance centre e.g.

Deutsche located to Canary Warf (for the business culture & networking opportunities)

Privatisation: increasing number of PLCs since Thatcher allowed foreign firms to merge & takeover UK

businesses e.g. Scottish power is owned by a Spanish energy company (lead to revenue for the UK government in the short term but profits were sent abroad & the public are subjected to large price hikes)

Free trade policies: EU allows for free movement of people & goods, attracting investors who want access to European markets

TNCs:

Pros:

Create jobs

Fund infrastructure projects

Cons:

Over reliance on TNCs e.g the 2009 recession lead to redundancies in Nissan's factories in Sunderland

Issues if TNCs relocate (most farmers are dependent on 2 major TNCs to buy their produce)

Domestic businesses struggle e.g Starbucks has lead to the closure of local coffee shops

Money leaves host country & less cooperation tax to fund services

Rural Cornwall:

540k population, 4 million tourists every August along the 700km coastline

Problems:

No motorway so slow travel across 140km

St Austell is the biggest village with just 23,000 people, so small population centres don't attract TNCs

No knowledge economy (due to studentification of LDN)

Low wage seasonal tourism industry

Decline in primary employment:

Farming: 60% fall in dairy farming since 2000 as milk prices were driven down by supermarkets so farmers switched to arable farming to make livelihoods

Fishing: overfishing of UK fish stocks by EU fishing boats

China clay quarrying: St Austell had clay mine owned by French TNC: Imerys, had 10,000 jobs in the 1960s now only has 1,000, the quarry was left as a wasteland

Tin mining: low global market price so not economically viable for costly extracting, last mine closed in 1998

Health & services: 38% of villages have GP access, 70% of villages have bus access (buses come 3/4 times daily) & Truro is the largest hospital (but is 30km away from west Cornwall so not ideal in medical emergencies), high costs to travel for education

Regeneration project: Eden Project

Site of plastic domes for concerts, art, zip wires ect replaced China clay quarry in St Austell in 2001

Has brought 13 million visitors +, money spent on accommodation + food generated £1 billion for Cornish economy, 700 jobs created

Farm shops:

Lob's project (selling dairy & meat to 200,000 visitor market) was funded by a £200k EU grant, has a 700k annual turnover (induces the multiplier effect on Cornwall's local economy)

Tourist accommodation:

Barn conversions & camp sites with leisure complexes house tourists but destroy bird habitat