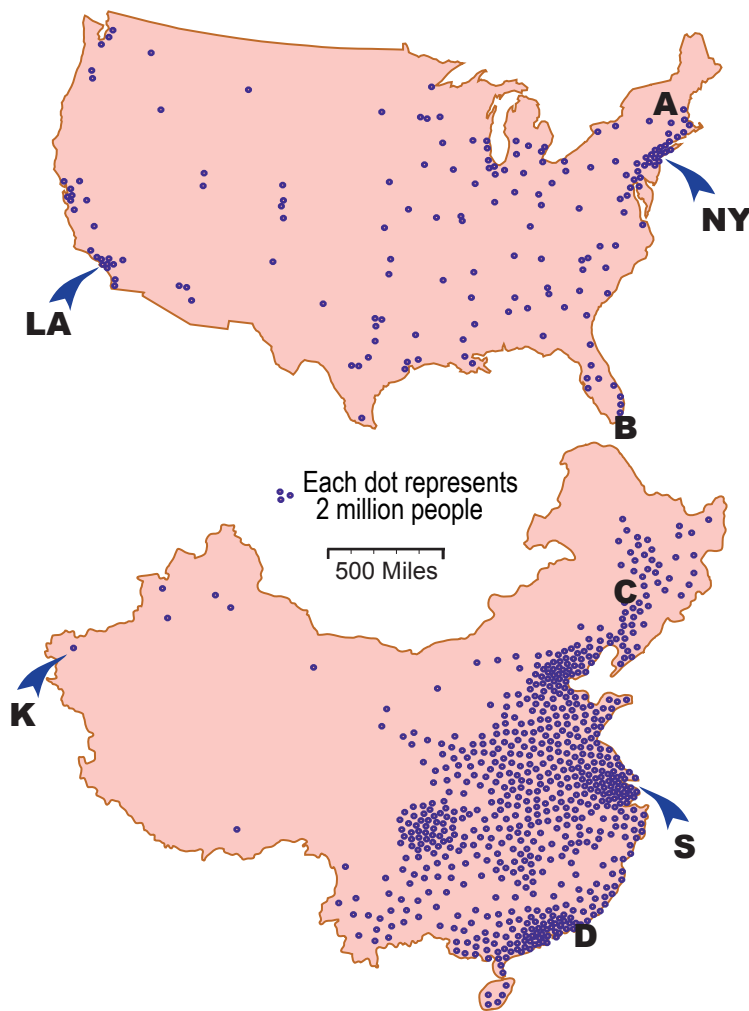


Comparing Populations: China and the United States



China and the United States are two of the largest countries in the world. These two countries are similar in many ways.

1. They are about the same size.

Use the map scale to estimate the distance from Los Angeles (LA) to New York City (NY).

Circle the best estimate:

1500 2500 3500 miles

2. Circle the best estimate of the distance in miles from Kashgar (K) to Shanghai (S):

1500 2500 3500 miles

China and the United States are also about the same latitude (distance north of the equator).

As a result, many places in China have weather that is similar to places in the United States.

3. The two countries, however, have different populations. Each dot on the maps represents 2 million people. Put an X by the most accurate statement:

- China has twice as many people as the United States.
- China has 4-5 times as many people as the United States.
- China has 20-25 times as many people as the United States.

4. Put an X by the best generalization about how the populations are similar:

- Most people in both countries live in the northern half of the country.
- Most people in both countries live in the eastern half of the country.

5. There are 25 dots (50 million people) near the west edge of the United States.

Write two sentences to explain why few people live near the west edge of China. Your first sentence should identify an important way in which the two countries are different. Your second sentence should explain how that difference might cause fewer people to want to live near the western edge of China.