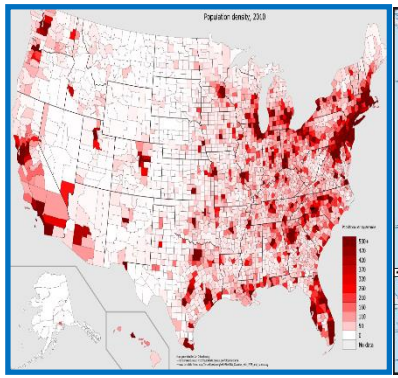
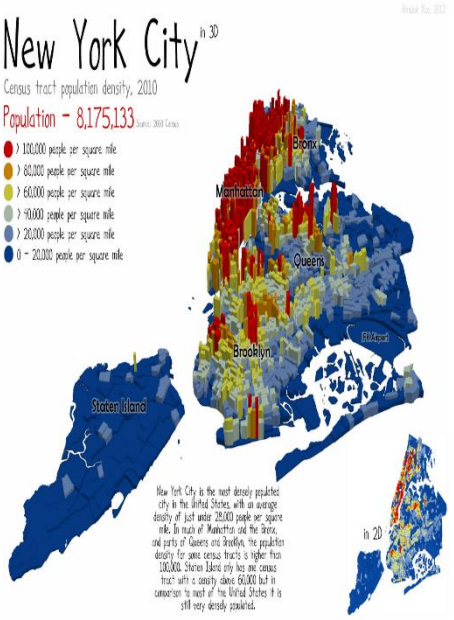
Year 5 – Is New York City the most densely populated area in the USA?

Key Vocabulary	
Densely populated	A location where lots of people live and closely together too.
Sparsely populated	A location where few people live and often far apart from each other.
Population distribution	The way people are spread across a location or area.
grassland	A biome made up of large open areas of grasses.
deforestation	The deliberate clearing (chopping down) of forest land.
desert	A dry area of land that receives no more than 25cm of rain per year.
Push/pull factors	Push factors "push" people away from their home, such as war. Pull factors "pull" people to a new home and include things like better opportunities.
retail	The activity of selling goods or services to buyers for personal, family or household use.
banking	The business of protecting money for others.
freshwater	Water found in ponds, lakes, river etc. with very low levels of salt.
canyons	A narrow, deep valley cut by a river through rock.
Agricultural	The use of land for cultivating the soil, growing crops and raising livestock.
landslides	the movement of a mass of rock, debris, or earth down a slope.

Did you know?

Lightning strikes the Empire State Building an average of 25 times every year.





Geography skills and knowledge

- The USA has richly diverse physical geography: mountains, rivers, volcanoes, forests, grasslands and deserts.
- High populations in the USA are mainly found on the east and west coasts – with very low population areas in the centre of the country.
- The city of New York has very high population density although this changes – high during working hours and lower after working hours.
- There are different reasons for changes in population levels in the city – these are called 'push' and 'pull' factors.
- Some of New York's major 'pull' factors are its tourism, retail and banking sectors.
- USA and particularly New York City import a lot of food and other goods. Fast-living in the city means there is a lot of demand, waste and environmental impact.