

## < Weekly Challenge

## Challenge #269: Population DenCities



A solution to last week's challenge can be found  $\underline{\text{here}}.$ 

This week's challenge was submitted by  $\underline{@BeginnerMindset} \ \text{- Thank you for your submission!}$ 

When we're building spatial models or performing geospatial analysis, we often need to work with centroids; in general terms, this can be defined as the centre of mass for the polygon assuming uniform density. In other words, it's just "a dot in the middle" of whatever unit of geography we are using. However, it is usually important that we use a population-weighted centroid, which might be quite different. We're also interested in the demographics (eg. age, life-stage, affluence) - we want to know "who lives where" and ultimately "where do our target customers live?"

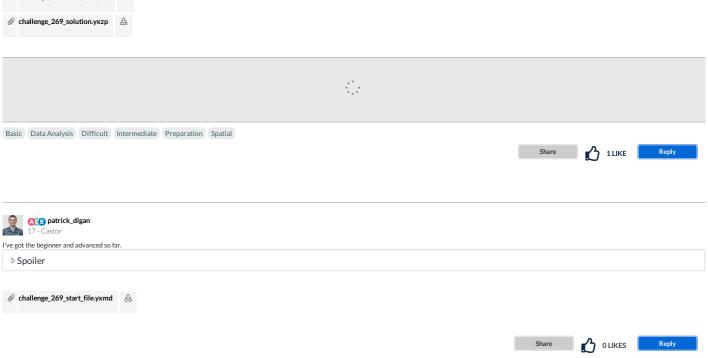
This is a three part challenge:

- 1. Map the (unweighted) centroids of each country in the UK (Beginner)
  2. Map the population-weighted centroids for England and Wales. How far away are they from the unweighted centroids (in miles) and which cardinal direction? (Intermediate)
- 3. Investigate how the Over 65s are spread across England and Wales. (Advanced)
- a) First calculate the percent of Over 65s within each Local Authority (LA).
- b) Create a thematic map to pick out the patterns. Modify the settings (colours, bands, borders) to paint a clearer picture. Include a title and a footer for the ONS copyrights.
- c) How does the proportion of Over 65s correlate with population density. Create a scatterplot and calculate the Pearson and Spearman correlations. Is there a strong relationship? Is it linear?

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