

Events that changed the world



Key Events		
1939	1 st September	German troops invade Poland.
	3 rd September	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
1940	10 th May	The Battle of France begins.
	26 th May	Allied forces are evacuated from Dunkirk in France.
	10 th July	The Battle of Britain begins.
	7 th September	The Blitz begins.
1941	22 nd June	Germany invades the USSR (Soviet Union).
	7 th December	Japan bombs Pearl Harbor in the US.
1943	16 th and 17 th May	The Dambusters bombing raid is carried out.
1944	6 th June	The D-Day landings.
1945	7 th May	Germany surrenders to the Allies.
	6 th and 9 th August	The US drops atomic bombs on two cities in Japan.



Evacuation

During World War II, over 3.5 million children, along with some of their teachers and helpers, mothers with very young children, pregnant women and people with disabilities, were evacuated from the cities to the countryside, where it was believed they would be safer from bombing ALL evacuees had to take their gas mask, ration book and identity card. When they reached their destination, a billeting officer would arrange a host family for them. Evacuation happened in waves, beginning on 1st September 1939 Other waves occurred at the start of the Battle of Britain and at the start of the Blitz.

The Holocaust

The Holocaust is the term for the killing of over six million Jewish people before and during World War II, organised by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party. Even before the war, they wanted to blame the Jews for the problems in Germany and used propaganda to promote widespread public hatred of them. Jewish people were openly bullied, persecuted, abused and discriminated against. Many Jews were sent to concentration camps where they were forced to work like slaves. Many died through infection, starvation or exhaustion. Others were sent to death camps where they were killed in gas chambers. This form of mass killing is called genocide.

How Did World War II Start?

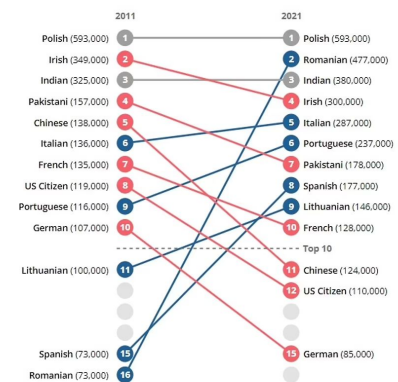
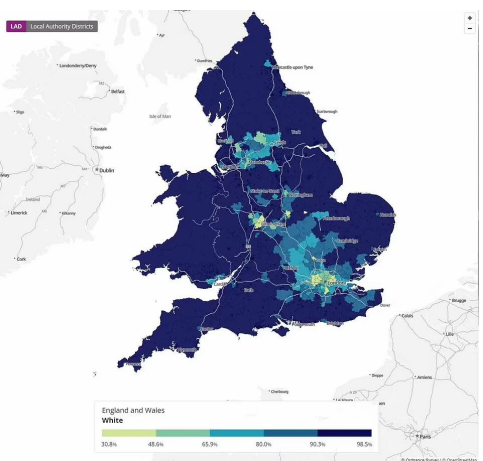
The leader of Germany, Adolf Hitler, had plans to take over other countries. In March 1938, Germany invaded and annexed Austria, which made other countries worried. On 29th September 1938, British, French, German and Italian leaders signed a treaty called the Munich Agreement. This allowed Hitler to annex the Sudetenland (an area of Czechoslovakia) if he agreed not to invade anywhere else. However, in August 1939, Hitler broke the agreement and invaded the rest of Czechoslovakia, followed by Poland on 1st September. Britain, France and Poland had made a pact to support each other, so Britain and France declared war on Germany.

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Allies	The United Kingdom, France and Poland, later joined by other Allies countries, including the USSR (Soviet Union), the United States of America and China.
Axis	The Axis Powers were originally Germany, Japan and Italy. Other countries joined them later.
Nazi Party	A German political party with racist and anti-Jewish ideas, led by Adolf Hitler.
Atomic Bomb	TA very high-energy bomb made of radioactive material.
Annex	To take another country's land and make it part of your country.
Czechoslovakia	A European country. Now two countries: the Czech Republic and Slovakia.
Propaganda	Information designed to promote political idea or opinion.
Active Service	Taking part in a military operation as part of the armed forces.
Rationing	Allowing each person to have only a fixed amount of a commodity.
Evacuee	a person evacuated from a place of danger.

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Diverse	showing a great deal of variety.
Population	all the inhabitants of a particular place.
Census	an official count or survey, especially of a population.
Ethnicity	the quality or fact of belonging to a population group or subgroup made up of people who share a common cultural background or descent.
Culture	the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society
Britain	Britain is an informal name for Great Britain, the island consisting of England, Scotland, and Wales.
United Kingdom	The United Kingdom is used to describe the political unit consisting of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.
Windrush Generation	Denotes the people who emigrated from the Caribbean to Britain between the arrival of the HMT Empire Windrush on 22 June 1948.



2021 Census

- 46.2% Christian
- 37.2% No religion
- 6.5% Muslim
- 1.7% Hindu
- 0.9% Sikh
- 0.5% Buddhist
- 0.5% Jewish
- 0.6% Other



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The Role of Women

Before the war, most women stayed at home and didn't go out to work. Those who did work were paid less than men and were generally restricted to 'women's jobs', such as nursing or working as a shop assistant. However, when men were called up for active service, women were needed to do jobs such as making weapons, driving buses and trains or working in engineering or shipbuilding. Some joined the armed forces themselves. After the war, many women lost their jobs. However, their experiences led them to campaign for equal working rights and pay so that they could carry on leading more independent lives.

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