

county['kavnti] *n*

1. 1) графство (административная единица в Великобритании)

home counties - шесть графств, окружающих Лондон

2) округ (административное подразделение штата в США)

2. (the county) *собр.*

1) жители графства (в Великобритании) или округа (в США)

the county voted the measure down - население графства/округа/ проголосовало против этого мероприятия

2) местная знать; помещики, дворянство

3. *исм.* поместье графа; владения графа; графство**county**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

county [county counties] *noun, adjective* BrE ['kaunti] [ⓘ] NAmE ['kaunti] [ⓘ]*noun* (pl. **counties**) (abbr. **Co.**)

an area of Britain, Ireland or the US that has its own government

- the southern counties
- county boundaries
- Orange County

see also ↑Home CountiesWord Origin:

Middle English: from Old French *conte*, from Latin *comitatus*, from *comes*, *comit-* 'companion, overseer, attendant' (in late Latin 'person holding a state office'), from *com-* 'together with' + *it-* 'gone' (from the verb *ire* 'go'). The word seems first to have denoted a periodical meeting held to transact business in the area (the shire).

Culture:**counties**

Britain is divided into small administrative regions, many of which are called **counties**. Three regions, the counties of ↑**Essex** and ↑**Kent** and the region of ↑**Sussex** (which includes the counties of East and West Sussex), have the same names and cover almost the same areas as three of the former ↑**Anglo-Saxon kingdoms**. Other counties, e.g. ↑**Dorset**, are probably based on areas where particular tribes once lived.

Counties were previously called **shires**. The original shires were the counties of the English ↑**Midlands** and the word became part of their name, e.g. ↑**Northamptonshire**. Administrative and legal affairs were dealt with by shire courts **presided** over by shire-reeves, later called **sheriffs**. Many shires were divided into smaller districts called **hundreds**. The large former county of ↑**Yorkshire** was until 1974 divided into **ridings**, North Riding, East Riding and West Riding, named after the three divisions of the 9th century ↑**Viking** kingdom of ↑**York**.

The families of people who own land in the **shire counties**, are sometimes described as **county**, as in **a county family** and **She's very county**, or are said to belong to the **county set**. Such people have a high social status and are thought to have a way of life that is typical of the ↑**upper class**.

Counties were for a long time the basis for ↑**local government**. Since 1972 there have been many changes to their boundaries and names, and to the structure of local government. Most recently, **unitary authorities** have been created throughout Wales and in many places in England, and a similar system of ↑**council areas** introduced in Scotland. The main difference is that counties have two **tiers** (= levels) of local government, at county and at district level, and unitary authorities and council areas have only one level. Some towns that were previously part of counties, e.g. ↑**Southampton**, are now separate unitary authorities. Many people are confused by all the changes and continue to use the old county names. People do not like to have changes forced upon them, and in 1974 local people were unhappy when the small county of ↑**Rutland** was **abolished** and became part of ↑**Leicestershire**. In 1996, when they had the opportunity to change, the people of Rutland chose to have their own separate unitary authority.

In the US most states are divided into counties, which are the largest units of local government. There are over 3 000 counties in the US; Delaware has just three, while Texas has 254. ↑**Connecticut** and ↑**Rhode Island** have none. In ↑**Louisiana**, similar units of local government are called **parishes**, and in ↑**Alaska** they are called **boroughs**. In some urban areas, such as ↑**Philadelphia** and ↑**Boston**, the city takes up almost the entire county.

Example Bank:

- Fairfax County Department of Family Services
- He returned to his home county in North Carolina.
- He was elected MP for his native county of Merioneth.
- London and its surrounding counties
- London and the home counties
- She represents the county in Parliament.
- The river forms the county boundary.
- Trowbridge is the county town of Wiltshire.
- people who live in this county
- the Welsh border counties
- the historic county of Westmorland
- the town of Sierra Blanca, the county seat of Hudspeth County, Texas
- Originally, county boundaries often followed the course of a river.
- The US state of California is divided into 58 counties.

- The pit closures had the greatest effect in the northern counties of England.

adjective (BrE, usually disapproving)
 typical of English upper-class people

Word Origin:

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county

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

county **W2** /'kaunti/ *BrE* " *AmE* " *noun* (plural **counties**) [countable]

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: conté 'area ruled by a count', from Medieval Latin comitatus, from Latin comes; ⇒ ↑count²]

an area of a state or country that has its own government to deal with local matters:

" Fairfax County, Virginia

county

Freakuency Pack

12500 **979**^{MCW}

15000 **1353**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** COUNTY ³¹⁹⁹³

county ²⁴⁸⁹⁷

counties ⁷⁰⁹⁶

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

9401 **1743**²⁴⁶¹¹ *nn1*

191 **45323**²⁶⁷ *np1*

12 **233636**¹² *nnu*

7 **313165**⁷ *jj*