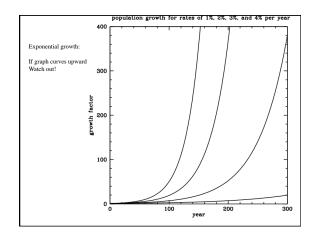
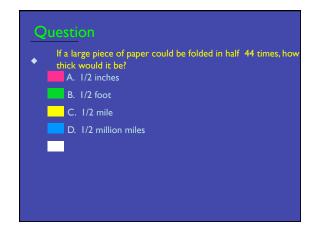


Environmental Studies ENVR 30: Intro to Science of the Environment





Chapter 2

HUMAN POPULATION GROWTH

Introduction

• The current world population of more than 6.9 billion people is a cause for concern among many.

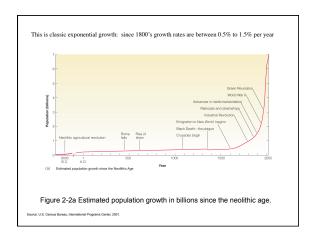


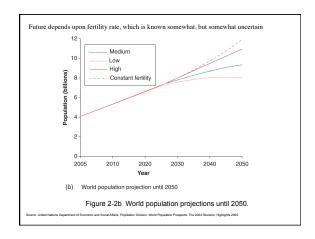
- Although the exponential world population growth rate has declined recently, world population continues to grow rapidly
- Will the world be able to feed and support the 8 to 10 billion people that will be on Earth by the middle of the twenty-first century?
- At what cost to the environment and standards of living?
- How many people can the Earth comfortably support?

Population History

- The total human population on the planet was small and increased slowly through most of human history. Maybe 1 million humans 125,000 years ago, growing only to 5-10 million by 10,000 years ago
- The population started to grow more rapidly due to human inventions: first agriculture, then industrial technology, and finally fertilizers and mechanized agriculture

- 1000 BCE 50 million (0.05 billion) - 0 CE 0.15 billion - 1000 CE 0.25 billion - 1500 CE 0.5 billion (r < 0.1%: 8000BCE to 1650 CE: $t_{1/2}$ =1000yr) - 1800 CE 1 billion (r = 0.46%: 1650CE to 1800 CE: $t_{1/2}$ =150yr) - 1930 CE 2 billion (r = 0.54%: 1800CE to 1930 CE: t_{1/2}=130yr) 3 billion (r = 2%: 1960's and 70's: $t_{1/2}$ =35yr) - 1960 CE - 1974 CE 4 billion - 1987 CE 5 billion - 1999 CE - 2009 CE 6.79 billion (r drop to 1.1%: 1970's to now) - 2010 CE 6.9 billion





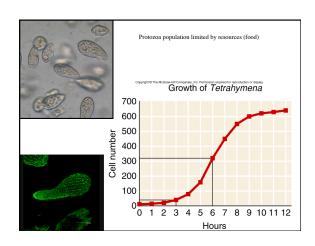
Population increase depends upon: number born - number dying. Number born is related to TFR (total fertility rate) = average of number of children women bear: TFR=2.1 will keep population constant. TFR>2.1 => exponential increase Roughly equivalent To place this in perspective currently Anaheim 360,000 people born every day 150,000 people die every day Oceanside 210,000 people added to the heap every day Irvine AND, if population continued to double every ~40 years (1%/year growth rate) ... 2045– 13 billion Can human population continue to 2085- 26 billion grow like this? Do we want this? 2125– 52 billion 2165– 104 billion

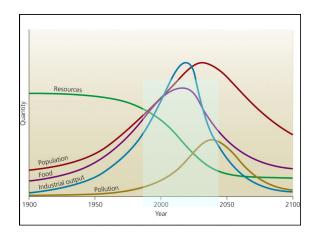
Carrying Capacity

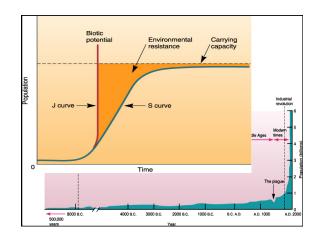
- Carrying capacity is the number of individuals of a certain population that can be supported in a certain area for a prolonged period of time by the resources of that area.
- When a population lives within its carrying capacity, it does not degrade the resources upon which it depends.

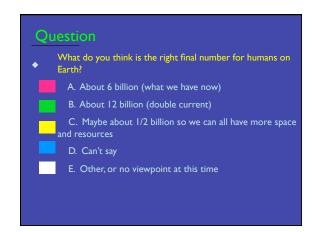
Carrying Capacity

- While we are degrading our resources, we are globally producing enough food to feed our current population (although 15% of it is undernourished).
- Some observers speculate that we have already overshot our carrying capacity.
- What is carrying capacity?, i.e. how many humans on Earth is the right number? Long term, certainly not above the carrying capacity.









4) Human Demography

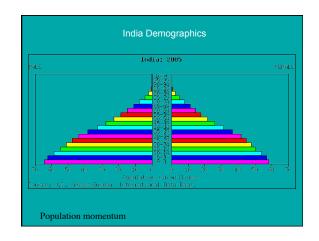
- **Demography** vital statistics about people, such as births and deaths
- Two demographic worlds
 - Less-developed counties represent 80% of the world population, and more than 90% of projected growth
 - Many richer countries have zero or negative growth rates

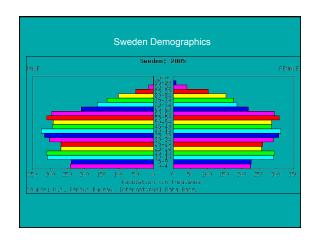


Fertility and Birth Rates

- Fecundity physical ability to reproduce
- Fertility the actual production of offspring
- Crude birth rate number of births per year per thousand people
- Total fertility rate number of children born to an average woman during her reproductive life
- Zero population growth (ZPG) occurs when births + immigration just equal deaths + emigration

	Top Ten Contributors Top 10 Contributors to World Population Growth, Mid 2005 (Net Annual Additions in Thousands)			
TABLE				
No.	Country and 2001 Population	Net Addition	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
1.	India, 1.008 billion	15,929	20.7	20.7
2.	China, 1.275 billion	9,246	12.0	32.7
3.	Pakistan, 141 million	3,818	5.0	37.7
4.	Nigeria, 113 million	3,172	4.1	41.8
5.	Bangladesh, 137 million	3,023	4.0	45.8
6.	Indonesia, 212 million	2,679	3.4	49.2
7.	United States of America, 283 million	2,567	3.3	52.5
8.	Brazil, 170 million	2,136	2.8	55.3
9.	Democratic Republic of the Congo, 50 million	1,852	2.4	57.7
10.	Ethiopia, 62 million	1,611	2.1	59.8
	Subtotal	46,033	59.8	59.8
	World total	76,857	100	100





Consequences of Overpopulation

- Overpopulation is putting an increasing burden on the Earth's natural resources and environment.
- Resources which take millennia (soils) to hundreds of millions of years (ores, fossil fuels) to accumulate are being consumed and dispersed on time-scales of centuries (fuels, ores) to decades (water, soils, species).

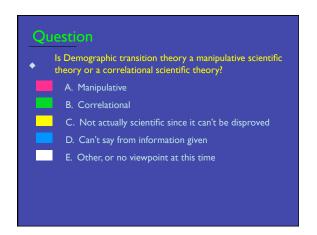
Consequences of Overpopulation

- Persons in rich, industrialized nations create a much bigger per capita impact on the environment than persons in poor, nonindustrialized countries.
- The U.S. has less than 5% of the world's population but consumes about 25% of the world's natural resources and produces about 25% of the world's pollution.
- Even if U.S./European populations do not grow, impact can grow if consume more

Social Effects of Overpopulation

- Rapid population growth and overpopulation lead to increased urbanization, increased unemployment, and spreading poverty as well as putting the earth under increasing strain.
- Projections indicate that 60% of the world's population will live in urban areas by 2025.
- Increasing population pressures lead to political instability and political and civil rights abuses.

Why lower pop growth in rich coutries? **Demographic Transition?** · The theory of demographic transition implies that as a nation undergoes technological and economic development, its population growth rate (birth rate) will decrease. Figure 2-9 Increasing GNP per capita correlates with decreased birth rates.



Problems with the Demographic Transition Model

- Most developed nations achieved development by degrading their environments and exploiting resources from other parts of the world.
- The Earth does not have sufficient resources to permit the developing nations to reach the developed nations' level of affluence.

Reducing Population

- There does not appear to be a necessary causal relationship between development, industrialization, and fertility rates.
- · Partial or stalled development leaves countries with populations growing faster than the nation's resources can support.
- Evidence suggests that fertility rate declines are caused primarily by rising levels of education, nutrition, and infant survivorship.

Factors that Reduce Fertility Rates

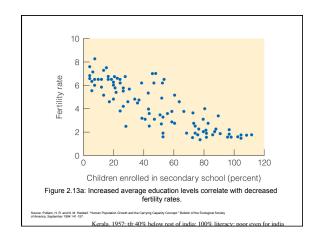
- Education, especially for young girls and women
- Family Planning availability and affordability
- Employment opportunities, economic security
- Access to the "means of production" (e.g. land, financial capital)
- Health and nutrition, better pre- and post-natal care and reduced infant mortality
- Urbanization, modernization
- Improved "status" of women in society, changes in societal definitions of what a "successful" woman is.

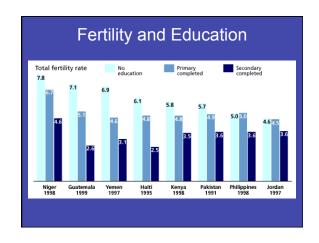
Education of Women

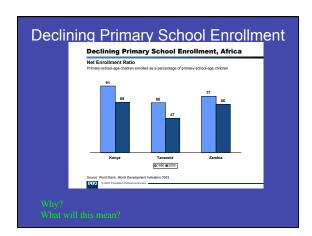
- · Perhaps best ways to decrease the growth rate of a particular population is to increase the average educational and societal status of women.
- Improved education results in better healthcare and nutrition, effective contraceptive use, and increased status and prestige.



Figure 2-13b: Women attending class in Afghanistan.







Is educating the world's girls possible?

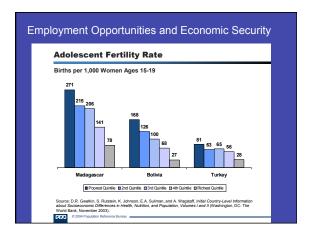
One estimate is that it would cost around \$6.5 billion/ year to bring all women to the same educational level as men.

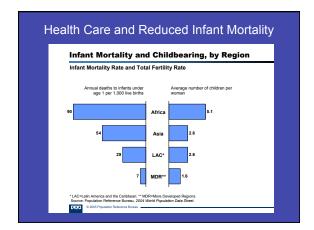
That is less that is spent on lawn care in the U.S., and small fraction of what is spent on video games each year. It is less than is spent in one month of war in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Economic Incentives and Government Regulation of Childbearing

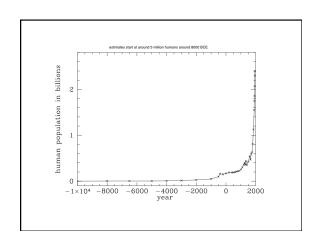
- Some governments have used economic incentives and disincentives to promote population control.
- Another approach is increasing accessibility to modern birth control methods and family planning information without mandating the number of children a family may have.
- Strict government policies have been mandated at times; for example, in 1979 China implemented a one child per couple policy.











Population Changes Over Time World population reached: - 1 billion in ~1800

- - 2 billion in 1930 (130 years later)
 - 3 billion in 1960 (30 years later)
- 4 billion in 1974 (14 years later) - 5 billion in 1987 13 years later)
- 6 billion in 1999 (12 years later)
- World population may reach:
 - 7 billion in 2013 (14 years later)
 - 8 billion in 2027 (14 years later)
 - 9 billion in 2045 (18 years later)



