



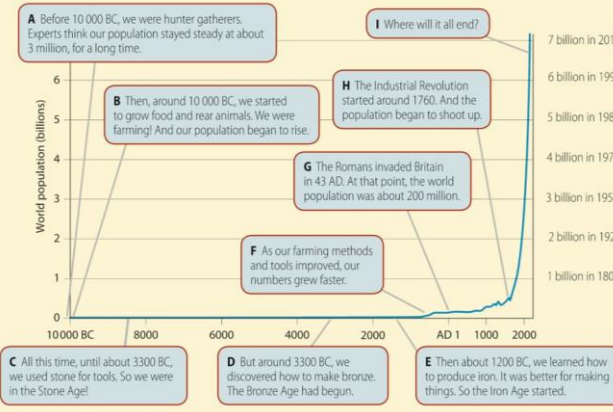
Topic overview

- How has the global population changed over time?
- What do we mean by population distribution?
- How have birth rates and death rates changes?
- What is a population pyramid?
- What happens when there are too many people?
- How can we manage population growth?
- Are there too many old people in the UK?
- How does migration affect people and places?
- How will our population change in the future?

Keywords

- **Population:** how many people live in a place.
- **Population distribution:** how the people in a country are spread around.
- **Population density:** the average number of people living in a place, per square kilometre.
- **Overpopulation:** when the population of an area becomes too large for it to be supported by the number of resources available, such as water and food.
- **Migration:** the movement of people from one area to another, this could be within a country or between countries.

Global population change

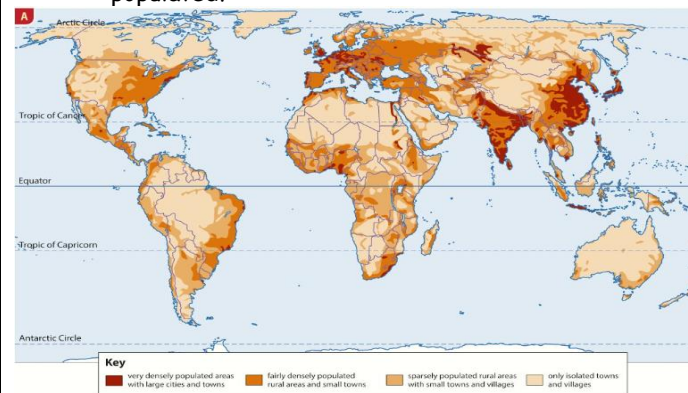


Humans first appeared about 200,000 years ago. The blue line on the graph above shows that our population particularly began to grow since 10,000 BC. **Birth rates** have fallen in the UK over time, this is because families are choosing to have less children as they no longer need them to work for them, there is also more chance of children surviving due to better health care and women are now able to build careers for themselves rather than staying at home. **Death rates** are also falling as medical care improves and lifestyles become healthier.

Population distribution

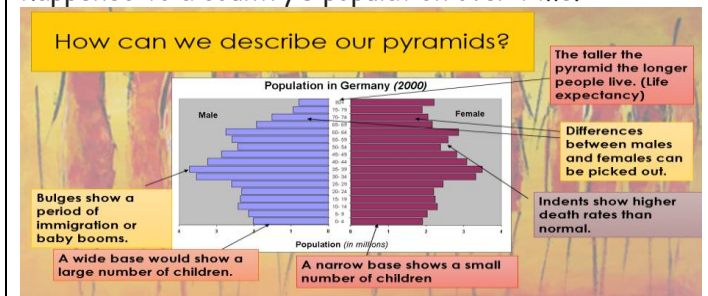
The map below is a **choropleth map**, or a shaded map, where the darker shades show where many people live (**densely populated**) and the lighter shades show where there are fewer people living (**sparsely populated**). Many different factors affect how many people live in a place. These include the **relief** of the land (how mountainous it is), the **climate** (how hot or cold, and wet or dry, it is), and the **accessibility** to other countries (how easy it is to trade with others).

- Why do you think the UK is densely populated?
- Why do you think China is densely populated?
- Why is Australia sparsely populated?
- Why are many African countries sparsely populated?

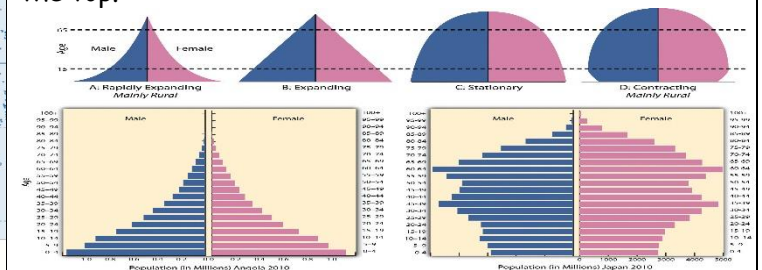


Population pyramids

Population pyramids show us the age-sex structure of a country. They offer us many clues about what has happened to a country's population over time.



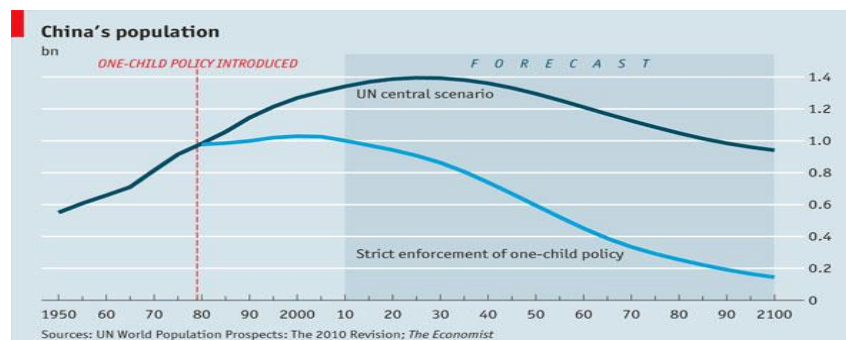
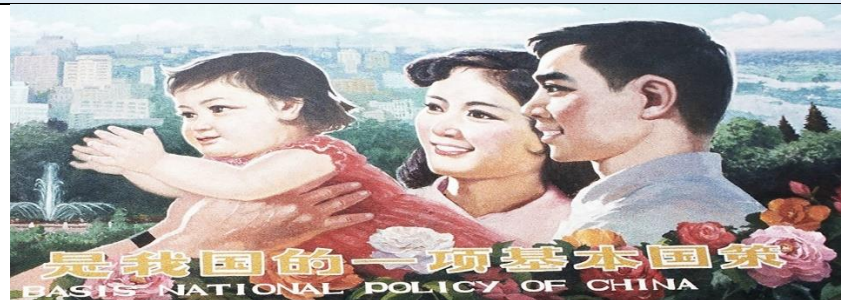
Population pyramids vary in shape depending on how developed a country is. Lower Income Countries (LICs) tend to have a wide base and narrow as the age increases, whereas, Higher Income Countries (HICs) tend to have a narrower base than LICs and a broader width towards the top.



Case Study: China's one child policy

In the early 1970s, the Chinese population grew rapidly and the government realised the country was headed for famine unless severe changes were made quickly. The one-child policy was introduced in 1979. It said that: Couples must not marry until their late 20s, must have only one successful pregnancy, must be sterilised after the first child or abort any future pregnancies, and they would receive a 5-10% salary rise for limiting their family to one child. The punishments for disobeying the rules were: A 10% salary cut, a fine so large that it would bankrupt most households, and the family would have to pay for the education of both children and health care for all the family.

The policy led to many problems, including a gender imbalance in the country with far more men than women. This was due to the idea that Chinese society had a preference for sons over daughters, which resulted in female infanticide or girls being placed in orphanages. The policy also led to 'Little Emperor' syndrome as only children were often spoiled. However, the policy has been successful at reducing China's population growth and the expected famine in the 1970s never occurred. The policy was abolished on the 1st January 2016, and replaced with the two-child policy however couples still have to gain permission to have a second child.



'The UK's ageing population will only bring challenges to the country!' discuss this view (8 marks)

The UK's ageing population will bring many challenges, particularly when it comes to healthcare, however, I disagree with this statement as an ageing population could bring some benefits too rather than 'only' challenges.

The benefits of an ageing population are that retired grandparents will be able to care for their grandchildren while the parents are at work. The grandchildren benefit from this as they are cared for by people they know and the UK economy will benefit as parents are able to work rather than having to stay at home to look after children. Furthermore, our elderly population have a lot of knowledge they can pass on to others.

On the other hand, there are lots of challenges as there will be a greater need for healthcare, a greater need for services such as meals on wheels, a shortage of suitable housing e.g. bungalows, and a higher cost to the government and the working population's taxes as more people living in the UK would be claiming a pension.

In conclusion, I agree that there are certainly more challenges than benefits for an ageing population, but there aren't 'only' challenges so I disagree with the statement.

Where could I find out more information?

Tasks:

1. Learn the 5 keywords.
2. Describe the global population distribution.
3. Research China's one child policy (anti-natalist policy) and produce a powerpoint about it. Extension: compare it to France's population policy which encourages people to have children (this is called a pro-natalist policy).
4. Peer assess the 8 mark question - and come up with a WWW and an EBI. Could you write a better conclusion?

Useful websites:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg7nvcw>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z3grsg8/revision/5>