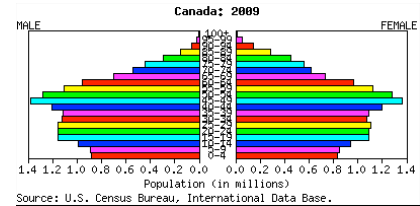


Name/Date:

Social Studies 11: Human Geography (U1 Too Big For Our Planet?)

Assignment: Demographic Case Study¹



References

- Counterpoints Chapter 11
- US Census Bureau website -- search "us census bureau population pyramid" or try this link: <http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/informationGateway.php>
- other websites (or books) as necessary — feel free to go above and beyond

Task

Conduct some demographic research on a country from the list below (you will be assigned a number, but can switch with a classmate if you wish). Prepare a summary of your results on two slides that will be shown to the class, together with a 100 second talk to accompany your three slides.

Focus

Your two slides will relate to a) the current situation in the country, and b) the past and future of the country. Therefore the first slide will include Each slide will include a population pyramid, and other images and data that make sense. To generate a pyramid from the US Census site, pick population pyramid from the Report drop-down menu, pick year, pick country, and click Submit.

Pyramids

Find an old pyramid, perhaps from the 1980s or 1990s, a pyramid from the present, and a pyramid from the future, perhaps from 2030-2045. If the census bureau doesn't produce these graphs for you, try a different site. Take a close look at the pyramids you end up with — what they say about the age structure of the population? Realize that the pyramids are the result of geographic, economic, political, and cultural factors. They are objects that show you what a country's population (and therefore situation) looks like at a particular period in time.

Data

You can get the graphs and data from pretty much anywhere, just search for it, but the US Census Bureau site is the most versatile. Wikipedia is a good source for learning basic facts about a country. The CIA has a great site called "The World Fact Book" -- google it or check it out at <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>. There are plenty of other sites you can use for this assignment.

Your first slide should contain:

- small labelled map of the country
- a flag plus any other symbols or images you think help represent the country
- a current population pyramid of the country
- any key words or facts that will help you with your presentation

Your second slide should contain:

- small labelled map of the country
- any symbols or images you think help represent the country's past and future
- a population pyramid from the country's past (e.g. 15-35 yrs ago)
- a population pyramids for the country's future (e.g. 15-35 yrs from now)
- any key words or facts that will help you with your presentation

Avoid fancy effects, transitions, or moving objects on your slides — these will not be preserved. Save early and save often -- our network is notorious for failure. When you hand in your powerpoint file — be sure it is saved to your H-Drive home folder and closed first, then drag it to the teachers's folder on the Computer's "Dropbox" folder. Name your file with "yourname yourcountry" .ppt or .pptx

¹ Note - this handout is also in the **HANDOUT** folder as a Word file

Presentation

Your teacher will place all of the slides together, add a transition between them, and time them for 50 seconds each. That means you will have 50 seconds to talk about your country's current situation and then 50 seconds to talk about the past and future in this country. What will you talk about?

- for each pyramid, indicate the stage of population development (based on the shape - early expanding, expanding, stable, contracting)
- for each pyramid, indicate the stage of demographic transition (based on the 5-stage Demographic Transition Model or DTM)²
- describe in your own words how what each population pyramid means in terms of the amount of old and young in the country, and why this might be this way
- very brief, relevant facts about the country which have an impact on population (e.g. health issues, state of the economy, life expectancy, income, dependency ratio, GDP, etc.)
- any other observations or insights which relate to population change and issues in the country, including pressures they faced in the past, will face in the future, and what they might have to do to address them
- use your own words for the spoken parts -- don't copy and read a bunch of junk off the internet³
- if you use any quotes or detailed material from a site other than the US Census site, included the reference on your slide/s.
- either write/print out your 100-second presentation, or jot down rough notes (if you prefer to "wing it")

Assessment -- We're looking for:

- 1) understanding of population issues and demographic concepts
- 2) collection of balanced, concise, and useful evidence of these issues and concepts from one country
- 3) ability to construct a clear/clean demonstration of learning using graphs and graphics
- 4) developing skill at expressing ideas in verbal form

Countries

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 11. Germany | 21. New Zealand |
| 2. Argentina | 12. Great Britain | 22. Philippines |
| 3. Australia | 13. Haiti | 23. Russia |
| 4. Bolivia | 14. India | 24. Rwanda |
| 5. Botswana | 15. Indonesia | 25. Singapore |
| 6. Brazil | 16. Iraq | 26. Sweden |
| 7. Chad | 17. Israel | 27. Switzerland |
| 8. China | 18. Japan | 28. Syria |
| 9. Egypt | 19. Kenya | 29. USA |
| 10. France | 20. Mexico | 30. Vietnam |

² Generally speaking, early expanding pyramids = DTM Stage 2, expanding pyramids = DTM Stage 3 (or 4), stable pyramids = DTM Stage 4 (or 5), contracting pyramids = DTM Stage 5

³ By the way, are you familiar with our school's rules about plagiarism? If not, ask your teacher or the librarian.