



**Contents:**

5-1 How Populations Grow

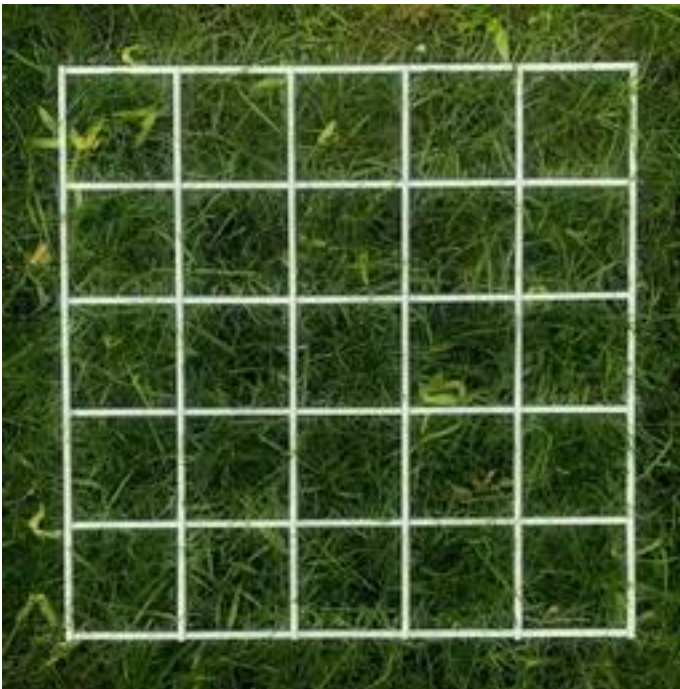
5-2 Limits to Growth

5-3 Human Population Growth

**5.1 How Populations Grow**

Describing Populations

- **Population:** a group of organisms of the same species that lives in a given area.
- **Sampling:** a technique sometimes used to estimate population size. In this procedure, the organisms in a few small areas are counted and projected to the entire area.
  - **Random quadrant sampling:** counting numbers in small, randomly located, squares within the total area.
    - $\text{Population size} = (\text{mean number per quadrat} \cdot \text{total area}) / \text{area of each quadrat}$



- **Capture-mark-release-recapture**

- Population size= $(n1 \cdot n2)/n3$
- $n1$ =# of initially caught& marked
- $n2$ =# of second caught
- $n3$ =# of marked (in the first step) in the second sample

Scientists study population's:

- **Geographic Range**
  - The area inhabited by a population
  - Vary depending on the species
- **Density and Distribution**
  - Population density: the number of individuals per unit area
  - Vary depending on the species
  - Spatial distribution: the pattern of spacing of a population
    - Clumped: aggregate in patches; resource availability and behavior
    - Uniform: evenly spaced; social interactions (e.g. territoriality)
    - Random: independent position; No strong attractions or repulsions.
- **Growth Rate**
  - Determines whether the population size increases, decreases, or stays the same
    - Zero growth rate: neither increase nor decrease in size
    - Positive (high) growth rate: increase in size
    - Negative growth rate: decrease in size
- **Age Structure**
  - The number of males and females of each age a population contains
    - Most species reproduce until they reach a certain age
    - Among animals, only females produce offspring
  - Age structure can be graphed in population pyramid, a type of double sided bar graph

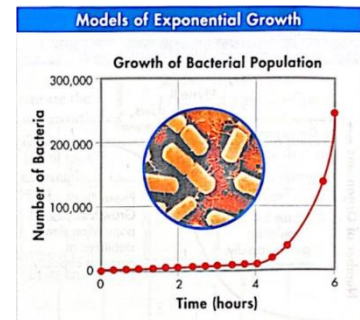
Population Growth

- The factors that can affect population size are
  - **Natality** (crude birth rate) – The number of birth in a population, expressed per 1000 population per year
  - **Mortality** (crude death rate)- The number of death in a population, expressed per 1000 population per year

- **Immigration**- members arriving in the population
- **Emigration**- members leaving the population
- **Growth**:  $I+N>E+M$
- **Stability**:  $I+N=E+M$
- **Decline**:  $I+N<E+M$

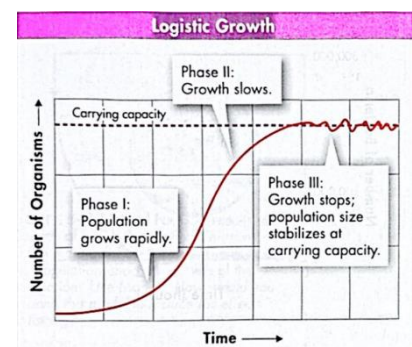
- **Exponential Growth**

- Under ideal conditions with unlimited resources, a population will grow exponentially
- J-shaped growth curve
  - Lag phase- slow growth period
  - The growth rate is proportional to the size of the population



- **Logistic Growth**

- Logistic growth occurs when a population's growth slows and then stops, following a period of exponential growth, at the population's carrying capacity
  - Carrying capacity (K): The maximum number of individuals in a species that an environment can support for the long term
  - Carrying capacity is limited by:
    - Food & water availability
    - Space for territories & nesting
    - Availability of mates
    - Disease
    - Predation
    - Environmental change
- S-shaped curve
  - Phase 1: Exponential growth phase
    - Few predators
    - Less disease
    - Plentiful resources, no competition
    - Population grows exponentially
  - Phase 2: Transitional phase
    - Predators increase
    - Disease



- Competition increase
- N decreasing, M increasing
- Population grows slower
- Phase 3: Plateau phase
  - $I+N=E+M$
  - The population begins to stop growing

## 5.2 Limits to Growth

### Limiting Factors

- Determine the carrying capacity of an environment
- Controls the growth of a population
- **Density dependent limiting factor** has varied impact based on the population density
- **Density independent limiting factor** impacts the population no matter the population size
- How do distinguish between these factors?
  - Ask your self this question: If there are only 10 people on this planet, is this factor still a prevalent issue? If the answer is yes, the factor is a density independent factor. Otherwise, it is a density dependent factor.

### Density dependent limiting factor

- **Competition** of resources such as food, water, space, sunlight, mates, etc.

- **Predation and Herbivory**

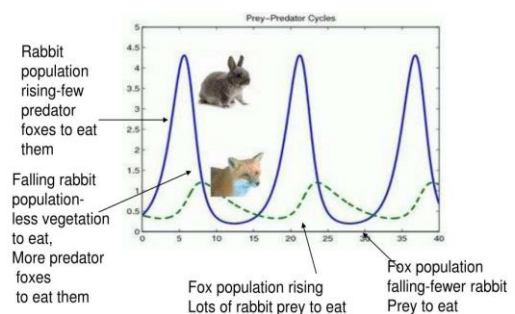
- **Predator-Prey Relationship**

Population of predator and prey cycle up and down over time.

- **Herbivore Effects** Also cycle up and down, similar to predator-prey relationship.

- Tips on describing graph question: The response should say the population is **fluctuating**, how does the species **impact** each other (which species' increase causes the other species' increase/decrease in population) , and **how long** is each cycle.
- Top down factor: pressure applied at high trophic level

### Predator Prey Relationships



- Bottom up factor: involve resource scarce at lower trophic level
- Parasitism and Disease
  - The denser the host population, the more easily parasites can spread from one host to another.
  - If the organisms are sparsely distributed, diseases decline.
  - Example: Starlings and lice, oak trees and fungal diseases.
- Stress from overcrowding
  - Weaken immunity, females neglect (kill or eat their offspring), lower birth rates, higher death rates, increase rates of emigration.
  - e.g. Norwegian lemmings stress collapse.

### Density Independent Limiting Factors

- Affect all populations in similar ways, regardless of population size, age, and density.
- E.g. environmental changes: hurricane, drought, wildfire, flood.

### Controlling Introduced Species

- **Endemic species** are species that are native to an area.
- **Alien species** are species that are not native but are introduced by humans.
  - **Invasive species** are alien species that lack predators. They outcompete endemic species.
    - Solution: Introduce **infertile predators** so that the predators would not grow out of control.

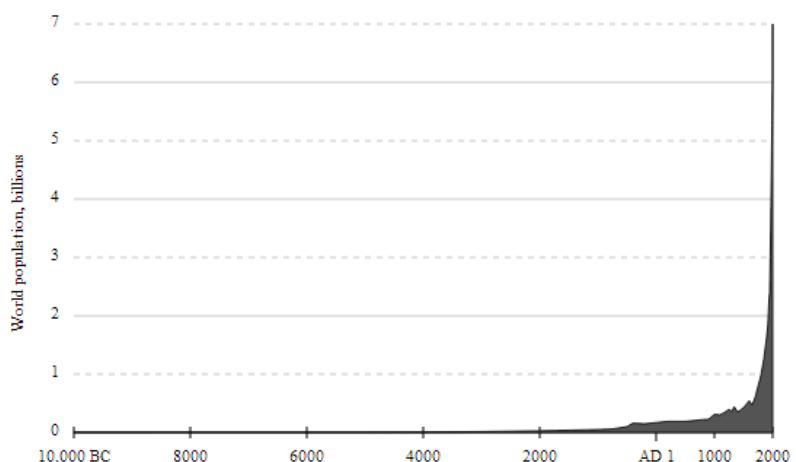
## 5.3 Human Population Growth

### Demography

- The study of population size, density, distribution, movement, birth / death rates

### Historical Overview of Human Population

- English economist Thomas Malthus thought that

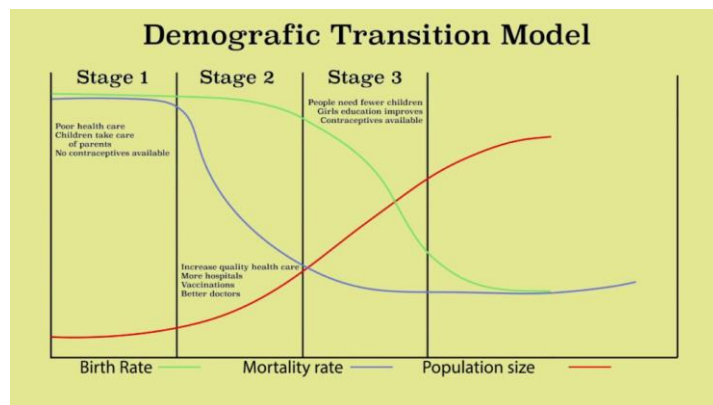


human population would be regulated by: competition (war), limiting resource, disease, and other factors.

- Key time periods
  - **10,000 BC** Agriculture begins, but environment was harsh. Predation and disease causes high death rate. Only about 1 billion
  - **1700 AD** Industrial revolution begins, so civilization advances. Life became easier, better medical and healthcare infrastructure, so population increased rapidly since then. Death rate lowered significantly. Grew exponentially and to 8 billion currently.
  - **Top three population country in the world India China and Us**

### Demography Transition

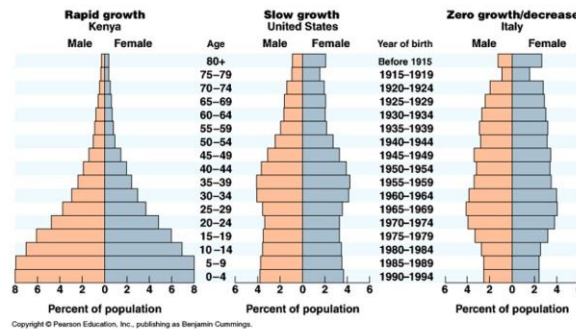
- A change from high birthrates and death rates to low birthrates and death rates.



- **Stage 1** High birthrate and deathrate due to poor medical infrastructure and education.
- **Stage 2** High birthrate due to lack of education, but low death rate due to improved nutrition and medication.
- **Stage 3** Low birthrate and deathrate due to improved living standards, education, and medical care.

### Age Structure and Population Growth

# Age Structure



In the diagram the first shows a preindustrial stage country the second shows a transitional stage the last shows a industrial stage

- **Age structure** refers to the number of males and females in each stage.
  - Pre-reproductive stage (below 15)
  - Reproductive stage (15 to 45)
  - Post reproductive stage (Above 45)
- Can be used to predict future population growth.

## Future Population Growth

- Human population will reach 9 billion people by 2050
- May level out to a logistic growth curve and become stable