

**2013 AP<sup>®</sup> HUMAN GEOGRAPHY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

POPULATION AGE 65 OR OLDER IN 2000 AND 2050 (in percent)

Country	Population Age 65 or Older, 2000 (percent)	Population Age 65 or Older, 2050 (percent)	Change in Proportion 65 Years or Older (percent)
Belgium	17	28	65
Denmark	15	24	59
Japan	17	32	86
Russian Federation	13	25	100
Ukraine	14	27	91
United Kingdom	16	25	56

2. The average age of the population in selected developed countries listed in the table above has been increasing.
- A. Identify and explain two reasons that the average population age is increasing in developed countries.
  - B. Identify and explain one social consequence and one economic consequence that countries face as their populations age.
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3. Over the past 150 years, railroad and highway systems influenced patterns of urban growth in the United States.
- A. Identify and explain one way that railroads affected the size and one way that railroads affected the form of cities in the United States between 1870 and 1920.
  - B. Identify and explain two ways that the Interstate Highway System affected cities in the United States between 1950 and today.

**STOP****END OF EXAM**

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## Question 2

### POPULATION AGE 65 OR OLDER IN 2000 AND 2050 (in percent)

Country	Population Age 65 or Older, 2000 (percent)	Population Age 65 or Older, 2050 (percent)	Change in Proportion 65 Years or Older (percent)
Belgium	17	28	65
Denmark	15	24	59
Japan	17	32	86
Russian Federation	13	25	100
Ukraine	14	27	91
United Kingdom	16	25	56

The average age of the population in selected developed countries listed in the table above has been increasing.

#### Part A (4 points)

Identify and explain two reasons that the average population age is increasing in developed countries. (1 point for each identification to a maximum of 2 points; 1 point for explanation associated with identification to a maximum of 2 points.)

<b>Reduced Fertility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved education of women, more women working, delays in starting families</li> <li>Children are an economic liability in MDCs, too expensive to have several, societal norms (1–2 children)</li> <li>Birth control: cost, availability, accessibility, acceptance, quality</li> <li>More urban societies: less need for children to work on farms</li> <li>Government and private pensions reduce “children as pension”</li> </ul>
<b>Increased Life Expectancy</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved health care (e.g., medicine, facilities, research/knowledge, personnel, technologies, accessibility)</li> <li>Improved lifestyle (e.g., knowledge of health risks, improved diets, technology, nutrition and exercise)</li> <li>Improved food security/availability</li> <li>Less conflict (e.g., less crime, fewer wars)</li> <li>Improved work conditions (e.g., less physically demanding labor, better safety standards)</li> <li>Improved public health (e.g., sanitation, water supply, housing, standard of living)</li> <li>Improved financial security for elderly (e.g., pensions, care facilities)</li> <li>Improved safety standards (e.g., sports, transportation, building codes)</li> </ul>
<b>Out-migration of Youth</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Out-migration of youth for better lifestyle (e.g., jobs, security)</li> </ul>

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## Question 2 (continued)

### Part B (4 points)

Identify and explain one social consequence and one economic consequence that countries face as their populations age. (1 point for each identification to a maximum of 2 points; 1 point for explanation associated with identification to a maximum of 2 points.)

<b>Social Consequences</b>	<b>Explanations</b>
Changing roles of children/elders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult children tending to the personal needs of elders</li> </ul>
Increased grey power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seniors with more political/personal influence, social and political action on behalf of elderly, more elderly workers, shift in consumerism (e.g., tourism, courses, media, entertainment)</li> </ul>
Increased immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased immigration results in increased cultural diversity, perhaps social conflicts, growth of ethnic neighborhoods</li> </ul>
Changing housing stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homogeneous seniors' neighborhoods (e.g., smaller homes/condos, less maintenance), increased availability of homes for youth</li> </ul>
Decline of services for youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closure of schools, reduction in daycares</li> </ul>
Need for/growth of services for elderly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geriatric medical/social services and facilities</li> </ul>
Social conflict due to generational differences of opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elderly may resist societal changes desired by young, elders resented for requiring excessive human/capital resources</li> </ul>
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes to building code, signage (e.g., larger font, audio messages)</li> </ul>
Development of pro-natalist policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Created to sustain population</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Consequences</b>	<b>Explanations</b>
Increased cost to society due to government programs/taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical care, housing, accessibility, pensions</li> </ul>
Increased economic pressure on the labor force (dependency ratio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges sustaining the economy, fewer people working, fewer people paying taxes</li> </ul>
Labor supply issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shortage of labor, hiring of elderly, less competition among youth for jobs, need for increased immigration, automation</li> </ul>
Changes in employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growth of senior-based employment</li> <li>Decline of youth-based employment</li> </ul>
Economic pressure on adult children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financially assist their aging parents, stay at home rather than work, help pay for others to assist, help pay for nursing homes, help pay medical costs</li> </ul>