

Geography: GIS Assignment #1 - Global Population Change in the 21st Century

Questions (page 12 -13):

1. African nations will have the most growth in the next several decades population wise. European nations will have the least growth in the next several decades population wise.
2. Features on ArcGIS Online Map include Map Viewer, Group Layers, 3D Display, etc.
3. –
4. China, India, USA, Nigeria & Indonesia are expected to have the largest populations by 2050. In 2015, all countries with the highest population were present except for Nigeria which was replaced by Indonesia in the 4th position while Pakistan was in the 5th position.
5. India is projected to have a high population growth between 2015 and 2050.
6. Bosnia and Herzegovina is projected to have a low population growth between 2015 and 2050.
7. –
8. Countries that had population growth below 100 million in 2014 which will be above 100 million in 2050 are Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Short Essay (page 13):

The article mentions how shifts in population growth can impact the environment while also providing brief mentions of certain issues driving population growth such as teenage pregnancies. As per the interactive map, certain Asian countries will see a rise in population alongside many African nations will see a rise in population. While certain countries such as the US, Canada, & Australia will see a rise in population, it will not be to the same extent as lesser developed countries and an important driving factor for increase in population in these countries will be immigration. Many nations, especially in the non African developing world, will reach a population peak by the middle of the century which is similar to the interactive map. Likewise, many (especially African) nations will double their population by the middle of the century. The article, unlike many I have read, seems to express a somewhat optimistic view of population growth in the 21st century. It expresses hope while using a somewhat recent UN report that human population growth will peak at 10.3 billion instead of 8.2 billion in the 2080s and eventually decline to 10.2 billion by the end of the century though fertility rates are lower than predicted in some regions and declining more in more fertile regions; therefore, this rise and fall should create less pressure on the environment due to the dipping fertility rates in certain regions. However, the article emphasizes caution of human population growth's impact on the

environment to reiterate the fact that simply reducing human population will not deter the detrimental effects of human impact on the environment. Even with declining fertility rates, as per the article, countries must take steps to manage the impact of the population's environment and address problems like teen pregnancies with rising populations as many nations' populations will continue to rise till at least the 2050s.

Sources:

Lay, Kat. "Global Population Predictions Offer "Hopeful Sign" for Planet, UN Says." *The*

Guardian, The Guardian, 11 July 2024,

www.theguardian.com/global-development/article/2024/jul/11/global-population-predictions-offer-hopeful-sign-for-planet-un-says.