

Chapter 13 – Human Geography

What is 'human geography'?

- simply, it's the study of people on the Earth: where they live, how often they reproduce, and how we manage the world around us

We begin with **DEMOGRAPHY**:

- the statistical study of human population
 - looks at the causes and consequences of population change in the world
 - the world recently reached its 7th billionth person, so this is a very important area of study
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- we study people and their growth by taking censuses
 - censuses taken can vary from country to country
 - a **developed country** like Canada will be fairly accurate
 - a **developing country** like Ecuador, chances are, will not be accurate

- here is how we determine population growth in a country:

$(\text{births} - \text{deaths}) + (\text{immigrants} - \text{emigrants}) = \text{population increase/decrease}$

- demographers use "rates per thousand" – changes in pop.

- **Crude Birth Rate** – number of births % population and multiplied by 1000
- **Crude Death Rate** – number of deaths % population and multiplied by 1000

- **Natural Increase = Births – Deaths**

- arithmetic growth vs. exponential growth

- arithmetic = 1, 2, 3, 4...

- exponential = 1, 2, 4, 8, 16...

-population tends to grow exponentially in many parts of the world – why?

- what are the dangers of exponential growth

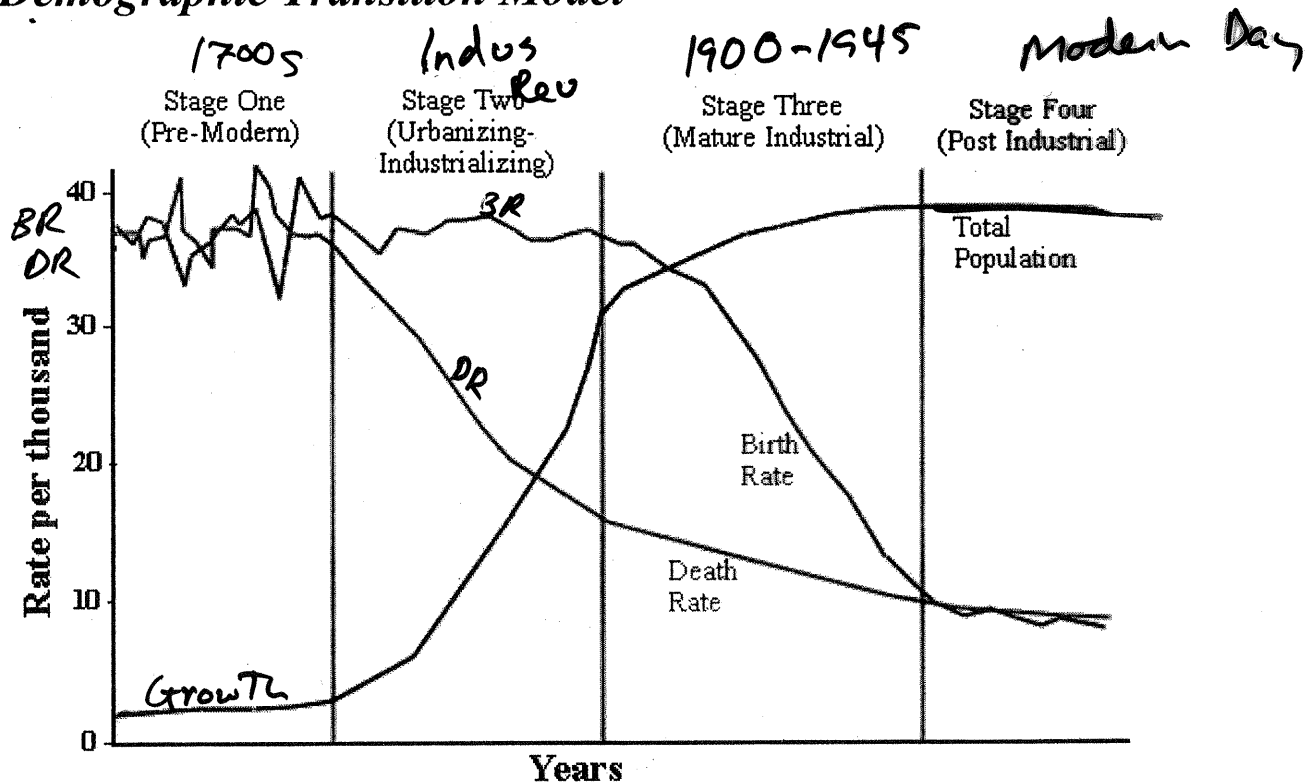


Demographic Revolution

- **life expectancy** – the average number of years that a person is expected to live

- In 1700s, disease, poor health care, poor nutrition, and unsanitary living conditions kept life expectancy low
- Families had to be big to guarantee that some children survived
- When this improved, population jumped
- Eventually families lessened in size and population has leveled out

Demographic Transition Model



Stage 1: High birth/death rates due to disease and plague keep population numbers low (eg. 1500s Europe)

Stage 2: Improved health care, sanitation, and food supplies drop death rate, but birth rate remains high. Population rises rapidly (eg. most of Africa)

Stage 3: Population begins to decline. Industrialization leads to the desire for families to be smaller (eg. China)

Stage 4: Population is level to falling. Birth rates have caught up with death rates (eg. Canada)

- it is believed that all countries will go through “demographic transitions” as they modernize
- some countries, particularly in Africa and other parts of the developing world, are slower to modernize

How does this impact how Canada deals with other countries in foreign aid?