

Conservation 1404 - Chapter 9, Human Population
Review of Pages 171 - 178
“The Least You Should Know”

Vocabulary:

Demographers, demography
Birth rate = crude birth rate
Death rate, AKA crude death rate
Fertility
Replacement-level fertility
Total Fertility rate, TFR
Life expectancy
Infant mortality rate
Migration
 Immigration and emigration

Concepts:

Approx. world population now is 6.6 billion
 1.4 billion do not get basic life support needs
Know about the growth curve of human population for the last 10,000 years.
Estimated population in 2050 is 10.6 billion, at current rates.
Population change = (Births + immigration) – (deaths + emigration)
Birth and death rates are in number of events per 1,000 people per year.
Countries with largest populations:
 1) China with 1 in 5 world citizens
 2) India with 1 in 6 world citizens
 3) US with about 300 million people
 a. World’s 3rd largest population, but
 b. Only 4.5% of total world population

Replacement-level fertility is around 2.1 in developed countries and around 2.5 in developing countries. Reaching replacement – level fertility will still not halt population growth and understand why.

Baby-boom in US was 1946 – 1964 and TFR was around 3.7 at the peak.

US is somewhere less than TFR currently, but population still increases:
 Only 56% of our population come from births that outnumbered deaths.
 Rest is from immigration – legal and illegal.

Reasons for a high TFR:

- 1) importance of children as part of the labor force
- 2) cost of raising and educating children
 - a. currently \$250,000 in US.
- 3) availability of pension systems
- 4) urbanization

- 5) educational and employment opportunities for women
- 6) infant mortality rate
- 7) average age at first marriage
- 8) availability of abortions
 - a. 190 million women become pregnant each year;
 - b. 46 million of these are aborted – half legal and half not.

-> The rapid growth of human population in the last 100 years is not a result of a rise in birth rate, but a) decline in death rate b) a normal result of the J-shaped population growth curve.

Infant mortality is viewed “as the best single measure of a society’s quality of life because it reflects a country’s general level of nutrition and health care”. The US has dropped its IMR from 165 in 1900 to 6.7, but still rank #46 among the developed nations. If Oklahoma were a separate nation, its IMR would be quite low, similar to many Central American nations.

Know the three main factors for a high IMR in the US (pg 177)

Know the difference between immigration and emigration – every immigrant is also an emigrant.

Most immigrants into the US are seeking economic improvement, but there are also many avoiding religious persecution, and 19.2 million (worldwide) environmental refugees – predicted to be 250 million by 2050.

The US, since 1820, has admitted twice as many immigrants and refugees as the rest of the world combined.

Latinos make up 14% of the US population – will be 25% by 2050, and 2/3 are from Mexico.

One in 8 people living in the US is a legal, foreign-born immigrant.