

1992
projection
11.5 billion
by 2150

Six Billion ... and Counting



On Oct. 12, 1999, give or take a few days, the world's population reached an alarming milestone. But the growth rate has begun to ease, and the 21st century's rise will not be as steep as modern-day Malthusians once predicted

► The worst crunch is coming to the poorest regions



Growth is slowing ...

As recently as 1987, the head count rose by 1.7%, or 86 million. In 1999 the increase is down to 1.3%, or 78 million. Experts think the population may stabilize at 10 billion after 2200 if the deceleration continues

... for diverse reasons ...

Increased education and use of family planning have pushed down fertility rates all over the globe. On the negative side, mortality has been driven up by the spread of AIDS, especially in Africa

... but threats remain

If poor countries develop their economies in the same wasteful way industrial nations have, population growth will put an increasing burden on food and water supplies and the habitat of endangered species

6 billion

Expected
Oct. 12,
1999

5 billion

Reached
in 1987

4 billion

Reached
in 1974

3 billion

Reached
in 1960

2 billion

Reached
in 1927

1 billion

Reached
in 1804

► In the future, a new world order looms

Most populous countries, 1999

- China 1,267 million
- India 998 million
- U.S. 276 million
- Indonesia 209 million
- Brazil 168 million
- Pakistan 152 million
- Russia 147 million
- Bangladesh 127 million
- Japan 127 million
- Nigeria 109 million

Population will keep soaring in less developed countries, North America's will plateau, and Europe's will start to fall



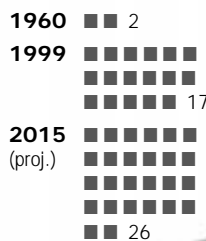
Region	1999 (%)	2050 (proj.) (%)
Asia	61%	60%
Africa	13%	20%
Europe	12%	9%
S. America	9%	7%
N. America	5%	4%

Most populous countries, 2050

- India 1,529 million
- China 1,478 million
- U.S. 349 million
- Pakistan 345 million
- Indonesia 312 million
- Nigeria 244 million
- Brazil 244 million
- Bangladesh 212 million
- Ethiopia 169 million
- Congo 160 million

► Megacities will multiply

The number of cities with 10 million or more people is expected to keep surging



Sources: Keith Clarke and Ann Ricchiuzzi (NCGIA), Jason Simpson (ADL)/UC at Santa Barbara; United Nations Population Fund
TIME Graphic by Joe Zeff



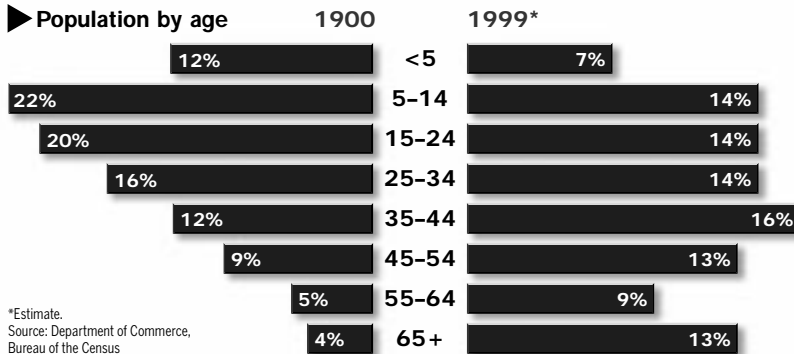
POPULATION Americans moved from industrial cities of the Northeast to the Sun Belt of the South and West

► 10 most populous cities



AGE Since people are living longer, the population profile has evened out

► Population by age



IMMIGRATION Latinos now surpass Europeans as immigrants

1901-1910

Europe, 91%
 Asia, 4%
 North America, 4%
 Other, 1%

1998*

North America, 38.3%
 Asia, 33.3%
 Europe, 13.7%
 South America, 6.9%
 Africa, 6.2%
 Other, 1.7%

*Preliminary numbers. Note: 'North America' includes Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and Canada. 'Other' includes Oceania. Source: Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service

DEATH Some diseases that once were top killers have been brought under control

► 10 leading causes

of death, rate per 100,000

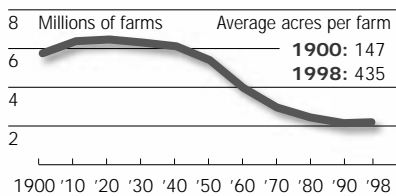
1900	1998*
1. Pneumonia, influenza 202.2	1. Heart disease 268.0
2. Tuberculosis 194.4	2. Cancer 199.4
3. Diarrhea, enteritis, ulcers 142.7	3. Stroke 58.5
4. Heart disease 137.4	4. Pulmonary diseases 42.3
5. Stroke 106.9	5. Pneumonia, influenza 35.1
6. Acute kidney infection 88.6	6. Accidents 34.5
7. Accidents 72.3	7. Diabetes 23.9
8. Cancer, malignant tumors 64.0	8. Suicide 10.8
9. Senility 50.2	9. Acute kidney infection 9.7
10. Diphtheria 40.3	10. Chronic liver disease, cirrhosis 9.2

*Preliminary numbers. Source: National Center for Health Statistics

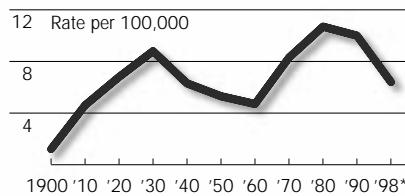
COST OF LIVING It costs more today to make a hamburger, less to make an omelet

	Inflation 1900 adjusted	1999
Sugar (1 lb.)	\$0.04	\$0.78
Eggs (1 dozen)	\$1.14	\$2.75
Butter (1 lb.)	\$0.24	\$4.70
Beef (1 lb.)	\$0.07	\$1.37
Coffee (1 lb.) on the commodity exchange	\$0.07	\$1.37
Kodak camera*	\$5	\$98
Lionel electric train	\$6	\$117
Train ticket**	\$13	\$254
First-class stamp	\$0.02	\$0.39

FARMS Texas leads the nation, with 132 million acres in farms and ranches



HOMICIDES Murder rates have hit their lowest in almost four decades



* Pocket Model D in 1900, APS (Advanced Photo System) in 1999
 ** From St. Paul, Minn., to Minot, N.D., on the Great Northern Railway
 Sources: *The People's Chronology*, *Uncommon Grounds*, Lionel LLC, Eastman Kodak Co., Amtrak, *The Great Northern Railway—A History*, *The Traveller's Official Railway Guide*, U.S. Postal Service
 Compiled by Deborah Wells and Lina Lofaro. Graphics by Eliot Bergman



Maps and Graphs in Focus

On pages 4 and 5 of the *Current Events Update*, you'll find a feature titled "Indicators," a set of maps and graphs with population projections and data chronicling demographic changes that occurred during the 20th century. The graphics are packed with information, but what do all the statistics mean? Use this page to sharpen your skills in reading and interpreting graphics.

World Population

a. According to the graph on page 4, what is the current world population?

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b. What is the rate of population growth? How has the growth rate changed since 1987? What caused this shift?

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c. What is the world's most populous country today? What country is expected to be the most populous in 2050?

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d. What is the current projection for world population in 2150?

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e. In your opinion, are the data on this page cause for concern or relief? Why?

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The Century

a. According to the data on page 5, what trend has occurred concerning America's most populous cities?

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b. What was the biggest age group within the U.S. population in 1900? What is the largest group today?

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c. In 1900, what was the leading cause of death in the U.S.? Where does this disease rank today?

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d. What diseases that were leading causes of death for Americans in 1900 are no longer on the top 10 list?

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e. Compare the cost of a first-class stamp in 1999 to the cost in 1900 (adjusting the 1900 cost for inflation). Which is more expensive? Explain.

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f. Which items in the Cost of Living chart were more expensive in 1900 than they are today?

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g. In the early part of the century, from where did the majority of immigrants to the U.S. come?

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h. In 1998, what percentage of immigrants to the U.S. came from Asia? How has this percentage changed since the first decade of the century? What explains this shift?

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