

POPULATION GROWTH

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1 Preindustrial period:

Climate changes → 10 000 years ago → Neolithic Revolution

- Glaciers melted
- Agriculture developed
- The population became sedentary: cities

At first, population grew slowly, it was dependent on the resources available: soil for farming, climate factors.

It also was slowed down by wars, epidemic and migrations

- The increase was slowly and steadily since the first century to the Black Death (14th), that decimated the European population.

- 1st cent → 250 million
- 14th cent → 400 million
- 17th cent → 500 million
- 1800 → 700 million

2 Industrial revolution

At the beginning, world population grew because lower death rates and higher birth rates, due to the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain. It produced demographic, economic and social changes as a result, large industrial cities appeared and caused a big increase in population growth.

3. 20th century

Economic and political problems caused Europeans to emigrate to the Americas.

In this century the conditions improved and the population doubled again, despite of deaths from the two world wars and the emigration from Europe to America. There was a big growth in Africa, Asia and South America.

4. 21st century

By the year 2000, the population had reached 6.000 million, although the growth slowed down to 70-80 million per year. In Europe the population has stagnated and there is a serious ageing, although immigration has helped to offset the birth rates.

1) Increase in population growth

In 1994 the population of the world have grown 5 700 billions to 7 200 billion (three quarters have taken place in Africa and Asia) Although the growth of the population is going slowly, the projections of the Naciones Unidas expects that the population will grow up to 9 600 billion of people in the middle of the 21st century.

2) Ageing of the population

There are some countries in which the fertility has decline so there is a quickly ageing of the population and in some extreme cases there is a loss of population

Young population remains stable
Old population will keep growing

3) Changes in familiar structures

The countries are more diverse. In the extreme, there are countries where the fertility is still high and have a structure of young age and rapid increase of population. In the other extreme, the countries have a fertility below the level of replacement, There is a rapid aging of population.

4) Urban population

More than half population lives actually in urban zones. Although big urban agglomeration is increasing, many urban residents live in smaller cities. It's expected that urban zones absorb future increasing of population. It has increased the complexity of organization of urban zones.

5) Migrations

International migration has increased in the

last 20 years and have turn more diverse.
Many countries are at the same time, countries of origin, destinity as a component. In change of population (decline). A total positive migration can't avoid aging in long time.

③ Demographic models

