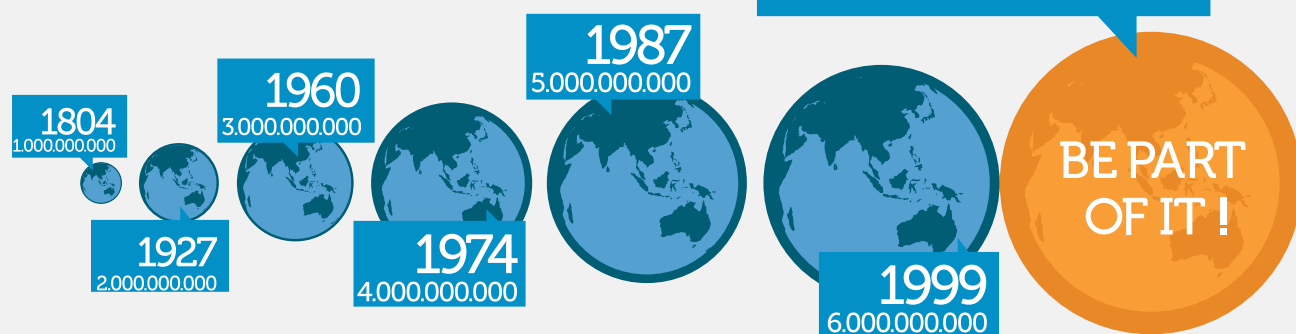




WORLD'S POPULATION REACHES

7.000.000.000

THIS YEAR...





TOPICS AND MESSAGES

OVERVIEW:

Seven Billion People - Counting on Each Other

Message: This global milestone is both a great opportunity and a great challenge.

POVERTY AND INEQUALITY:

Breaking the Cycle

Message: Reducing poverty and inequality also slows population growth.

WOMEN AND GIRLS:

Empowerment and Progress

Message: Unleashing the power of women and girls will accelerate progress on all fronts.

YOUNG PEOPLE:

Forging the Future

Message: Energetic and open to new technologies, history's largest and most interconnected population of young people is transforming global politics and culture.



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS:

The Facts of Life

Message: Ensuring that every child is wanted and every childbirth safe leads to smaller and stronger families.

ENVIRONMENT:

Healthy Planet, Healthy People

Message: All 7 billion of us, and those who will follow, depend on the health of our planet.

AGEING:

An Unprecedented Challenge

Message: Lower fertility and longer lives add up to a new challenge worldwide: ageing populations.

URBANIZATION:

Planning for Growth

Message: The next two billion people will live in cities, so we need to plan for them now.



Seven Billion People - Counting on Each Other

In October 2011, Earth's population reaches 7 billion. This global milestone is both a great opportunity and a great challenge. Although people are living longer and healthier lives, and couples worldwide are choosing to have fewer children, huge inequities persist.

The current pace of growth is adding about 78 million more people every year-the population of Canada , Australia , Greece and Portugal combined ^[1]

Nearly all that growth-97 of every 100 people is occurring in less developed countries, some of which already struggle to meet their people's needs. Gaps between rich and poor are growing. And more people than ever are vulnerable to food insecurity, water shortages, and weather-related disasters. Meanwhile, many rich and middle-income countries are concerned about low fertility, declining populations and ageing.

Whether we can live together on a healthy planet will depend on the decisions we make now. In a world of 7 billion people and counting, we need to count on each other.

1804: World population reached 1 billion	1999: 6 billion (12 years later)
1927: 2 billion (123 years later)	2011: 7 billion (12 years later)
1959: 3 billion (32 years later)	2025: 8 billion (14 years later)
1974: 4 billion (15 years later)	2043: 9 billion (18 years later)
1987: 5 billion (13 years later)	2083: 10 billion? (40 years later) ^[2]

The rate of increase appears to be slowing. But the large number of people now in their reproductive years, 3.7 billion,^[3] means world population will keep growing for several more decades.

The date we reach the next billion-and the ones after that-depends on policy and funding decisions made now about maternal and child health care, access to family planning, girls' education, and expanded opportunities for women.



THE TRENDS

- Average life expectancy worldwide has increased by 20 years since 1950, from 48 to 69 years today.^[4] Meanwhile, the death rate has steadily declined, as medical breakthroughs and access to sanitation and health care have saved millions of lives.
- The world total fertility rate has declined by nearly half in 50 years (from 5 children per woman in 1950 to 2.5 in 2010-15, with wide country variations). If current trends continue, human kind will number just over 9 billion by 2050 and more than 10 billion by the end of the century.^[5]
- Global rates mask wide disparity among countries. Japan, most European nations, Singapore and Russia have fertility rates of 1.5 children per woman or lower, while rates are 5.0 or higher in Afghanistan and many African countries.^[6] If such differences continue, they could bring significant change to the world.
- Fertility levels matter. For example, Germany at 82 million people and Ethiopia with 83 million are now similar in population size. But Germany's fertility rate is 1.4 children per woman and Ethiopia's is 4.6. By 2050, Germany's population will likely decline to 75 million while Ethiopia's will nearly double, to 145 million.^[7]
- have created instant worldwide news and views from the grassroots. Internet commerce has changed global consumption, migration and trade patterns.
- China has transformed itself into a dominant factor in every global demographic, economic and environmental equation.
- September 11, 2001, altered the U.S. role in the world and reshuffled global politics, conflict zones and the resulting migration trends.
- The Millennium Development Goals established ending poverty as world leaders' top development priority, with women's reproductive health as key.
- The global economic downturn of 2008-10 raised food prices, undermined developing countries' prospects and slowed the flow of international assistance.
- Donor assistance for family planning has stagnated at US\$400 million per year worldwide, after peaking in 2002 at \$700 million.^[8]
- HIV/AIDS has become a treatable chronic illness for those with access to the necessary drugs and medical care. For millions in poor countries, the pandemic continues to spread, and HIV/AIDS remains a certain death sentence.
- Climate change has become a much more certain prospect, with its attendant impacts on every aspect of life in every country.

NEW FACTORS IN THE NEW CENTURY

Economic, political and environmental factors are changing the way populations grow and shift. Since October 1999, when world population reached 6 billion:

- The communications revolution has spread worldwide. Cell phone technology and social media

- [1] United Nations Population Division, Online Population Database World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision: http://esa.un.org/wpp/unpp/panel_population.htm Accessed 5/4/11
- [2] United Nations Population Division, "Frequently Asked Questions - When has the world population reached or is expected to reach each successive billion?" World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision, New York: <http://esa.un.org/wpp/other-information/faq.htm>, Accessed 5/4/11
- [3] United Nations Population Division, World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision, op. cit.
- [4] United Nations Population Division, "Life Expectancy at Birth - Both Sexes," World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision, New York: <http://esa.un.org/wpp/Excel-Data/mortality.htm> Accessed 5/4/11
- [5] United Nations Population Division, "Annual Population 2011-2050 - Both Sexes" World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision <http://esa.un.org/wpp/Excel-Data/population.htm>; "Total Fertility (TFR)" <http://esa.un.org/wpp/Excel-Data/fertility.htm>, Accessed 5/4/11; and "Frequently Asked Questions - When has the world population reached or is expected to reach each successive billion?" <http://esa.un.org/wpp/Other-Information/faq.htm>, Accessed 5/4/11
- [6] United Nations Population Division, *ibid.*
- [7] Osotimehin, Babatunde, speech to UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board, UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), New York, Feb.1, 2011, p.3
- [8] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision: http://esa.un.org/wpp/unpp/panel_population.htm, Accessed 5/4/11



POVERTY AND INEQUALITY:

Breaking the Cycle

Reducing poverty and inequality also slows population growth.

While global trends point to poverty reduction, wide gaps persist between and within countries. In the poorest countries, extreme poverty, food insecurity, inequality, high death rates and high birth rates are linked in a vicious cycle. Reducing poverty by investing in health and education, especially for women and girls, can break this cycle.

As living conditions improve, parents can feel more confident that most of their children will survive. Many then choose to have smaller families. This takes pressure off families and governments, allowing greater investment in each child's health care and education, improved productivity and better long-term prospects – for the family and for the country.

Longer spacing between pregnancies improves the health of mothers and children, with long-lasting benefits to their families and communities. Women have more options to work, to earn more money, and to spend and save more.

Smaller families can give their countries a “demographic dividend,” which is a spurt in productivity, wealth and economic growth that results when populations have a large number of working-age people with relatively fewer dependents. Reducing poverty and inequality in developing countries is also the best way to reduce migration.

Educating girls and women and expanding their access to credit, training, property ownership and legal rights gives them options for their lives beyond childbearing and expands their economic potential.

THE GLOBAL SITUATION¹

- Studies show that about a third of East Asia's major economic growth between 1965 and 1990 was due to the “demographic dividend,” the productivity spurt that followed government investment in health and education, especially for women.

Family size declined and the working-age population rose in relation to the number of dependents.

- The world's poorest countries are those that discriminate most against women, sidelining half the population's productivity. In descending order, the bottom 10 countries on the UN's rankings for gender equality are Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Central African Republic, Papua New Guinea, Afghanistan, Mali, Niger, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Yemen.²
- Children in rural areas are nearly twice as likely to be underweight as urban children.
- The many dimensions of poverty are worst in South Asia. The 26 poorest African countries together have 410 million people, but eight states in India alone have 421 million people who are just as poor.³

THE INDONESIA SITUATION

- One of Indonesia's success stories has been the implementation of its Family Planning Program, which started in the 1970s and has brought significant structural changes in family size. Today Indonesia is beginning to reap the benefits of the demographic dividend, as the working age portion of the population increases. If all the people of working age could be absorbed into the labour market with decent jobs, then the level of earnings in per capita terms would have increased in Indonesia.



- Indonesia has made significant progress during the last two decades in improving nutritional status, as indicated by the decline of malnutrition prevalence among children under 5 from 31 per cent in 1989. In 2009 15.9 percent of children under age 5 in urban areas suffered from severe malnutrition; in rural areas the figure was 20.4 percent.⁵

THE GLOBAL TRENDS

- The number of people living in extreme poverty on US\$1.25 per day or less declined from 1.8 billion in 1990 to 1.4 billion in 2005. In developing regions it dropped from 46 per cent of the population to 27 per cent in that period.
- About one in four children under age 5 was underweight in 2005 in the developing world. That's down from almost one in three in 1990, with particular success in China.
- The proportion of hungry people has fallen since 1990, and most of that success came in Asia (especially East Asia). But population growth means the absolute number of the hungry has increased – from 815 million to 925 million.
- Many families in the poorest countries already spend more than half of their income on food. Since June 2010, another 44 million people were pushed below the poverty line of \$1.25 a day as a result of higher food prices.⁶
- In East Asia, the poverty rate has fallen since 1990 from nearly 60 per cent to under 20 per cent. But little progress was made in sub-Saharan Africa, where the rate fell only from 58 per cent to 51 per cent.
- The global economic crisis of 2008-2010 was expected to push another 64 million people into

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