

WHAT IS DEMOGRAPHY? 157

the study of population size and composition

WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY? 164

a new sociological paradigm that evaluates how the environment influences society, and vice versa

HOW CAN GOVERNMENTS CONTROL POPULATIONS? 168

they can promote or discourage fertility, create fertility policies, and implement tax deductions.

get the topic: **WHAT IS DEMOGRAPHY?**

Population by the Numbers 157

Malthusian Theory 162

Demographic Transition Theory 163

Issues Associated with

Population Growth 163

Human Exemptionalism 164

Environmental Sociology 164

Population Control Programs 168

Theory

FUNCTIONALISM 167

- looks at what part a growing population plays in society
- increases opportunities
- growing populations increase demand on resources
- humanity will not last if population is larger than the planet's carrying capacity

CONFLICT THEORY 167

- Malthusian point of view: population will outgrow food availability
- haves vs. have-nots will lead to war and discord
- people must learn to adapt

SYMBOLIC INTERACTIONISM 167

- looks at how society affects population growth
- culture shapes a society's population
- society's attitude toward children affect birth rates
- education of women, the use of birth control, and the delay of marriage result in fewer births and decreased population growth

Key Terms

demography is the study of population size and composition. 157

demographic variables are variables such as population size, age, racial composition, birth rates, and death rates used to discuss populations. 157

fertility rate is the number of births that occur in a population. 157

crude birth rate is the number of births for every 1,000 people each year. 157

age-specific birth rate is the number of births for every 1,000 women in a specific age group. 157

total fertility rate (TFR) is the average number of births expected from any woman in a population to bear in her lifetime. 157

zero population growth is a TFR of two, meaning that each woman has two children to replace the mother and the father. 157

mortality rate is the number of deaths that occur in a population. 158

crude death rate is the number of deaths for every 1,000 people each year. 158

age-specific death rate is the number of deaths for every 1,000 persons of a given age group. 158

infant mortality rate is the number of children for every 1,000 born alive who die before they reach the age of one year. 158

life expectancy is the average number of years a person is expected to live. 158

lifespan is the maximum length of time a person can possibly live. 158

population pyramids are tools that visually represent data related to the age and sex of a country's population. 158

baby boomers are children born after WWII through the early 1960s. 159

population momentum is a surge in growth due to a large number of people who are of birthing age. 159

migration is the movement of people from one area to another area. 159

immigration is the movement of people into a nation-state. 159

emigration is the movement of people out of a nation-state. 159

push-pull or **neo-classical migration theory** suggests that migration depends on the supply and demand for labor, both in the sending area and the receiving one. 160

rate of natural increase (RNI) determines population growth and/or decline by subtracting the crude death rate from the crude birth rate and then dividing by 10. 160

birth dearth is declining birth rates. 160

(continued)

doubling time refers to the number of years it takes for a population to double. 161

Malthusian theorem is a population projection that suggests the population will exceed the available food supply because populations grow at geometric rates, while food supplies grow at arithmetic rates. 162

demographic transition theory is a projection that suggests people control their own fertility

as they move from agrarian to industrial societies. 163

environmental sociology is the study of how the environment influences society, and vice versa. 164

human exemptionalism is the belief that considers humans as being different from other species on earth. 164

carrying capacity is the number of a specific species that can exist in a given environment. 164

underpopulation occurs when a species' population lives under the carrying capacity, resulting in abundant resources. 165

overpopulation occurs when a species' population lives beyond the carrying capacity, resulting in too few resources. 165

environmental justice is the impact of environmental factors on social classes. 165

pro-natalist means concerned with promoting population growth. 168

anti-natalist means concerned with limiting population growth. 168

Sample Test Questions

These multiple-choice questions are similar to those found in the test bank that accompanies this textbook.

- Which of the following is used by demographers as an indicator of the quality of a population's health care and standard of living?
 - Age-specific death rate
 - Age-specific birth rate
 - Infant mortality rate
 - Crude death rate
- Countries entering the fourth stage of transition in the demographic transition theory are
 - not yet industrialized.
 - in a postindustrial economy.
 - established as industrialized nations.
 - entering the initial phase of industrialization.
- Which relationship is generally true of birth rates?
 - They are lower among women from ethnic minorities.
 - They are lower among women with less education.
 - They are higher among women with lower income.
 - They are higher among women with poor health.
- Which of the following is of major concern for Japan's demographic future?
 - The birth rate is increasing.
 - There will be too many workers and too few jobs.
 - There will be significantly fewer children than there are now.
 - The number of people of retirement age will decrease significantly.
- Which of the following is an example of human exemptionalism in action?
 - Wildlife conservation
 - Mandated recycling
 - Underpopulation
 - Air pollution

ESSAY

- Why doesn't population growth generally affect the income and wealth of developed countries?
- How do sociologists describe a population's environmental footprint?
- How can reducing one's environmental footprint help reduce climate change and global warming?
- Describe the arguments for and against anti-natalist policies such as China's.
- How do social factors affect birth rates?

WHERE TO START YOUR RESEARCH PAPER

To find more facts and figures for countries around the world, go to the World Factbook Web site at

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

For U.S. statistics and reports, go to the U.S. Census Bureau Web site at <http://www.census.gov/>

For more information on immigration in the United States, go to <http://www.cis.org/>

To learn more about the world population and issues that arise with growing numbers, go to <http://www.overpopulation.org/> and www.prb.org

To find out more about what countries are doing to control their populations, go to <http://www.popcouncil.org/>

To see what people do to celebrate Earth Day, go to <http://www.earthday.net/> and <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/>