

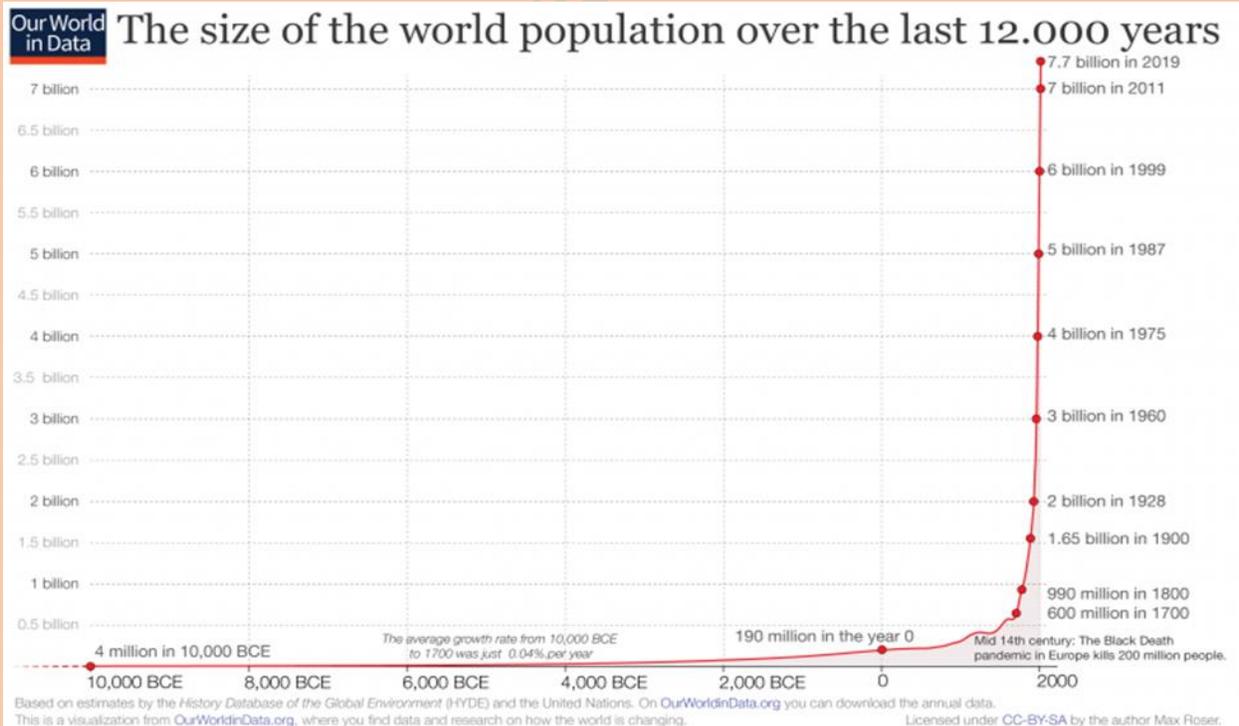
**S.S. COLLEGE, JEHANABAD  
( GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT )**

**B.A. PART - 3 ( POPULATION GEOGRAPHY : PAPER - 7)**

**TOPIC : GROWTH OF POPULATION IN THE WORLD**

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**Population growth** is the increase in the number of individuals in a population. Global human population growth amounts to around 83 million annually, or 1.1% per year. The global population has grown from 1 billion in 1800 to 7.774 billion in 2020. It is expected to keep growing, and estimates have put the total population at 8.6 billion by mid-2030, 9.8 billion by mid-2050 and 11.2 billion by 2100. Many nations with rapid population growth have low standards of living, whereas many nations with low rates of population growth have high standards of living.



The chart shows the increasing number of people living on our planet over the last 12,000 years. A mind-boggling change: The world population today that is 1,860-times the size of what it was 12 millennia ago when the world population was around 4 million – half of the current population of London.

Historical demographers estimate that around the year 1800 the world population was only around 1 billion people. This implies that on average the population grew very slowly over this long time from 10,000 BCE to 1700 (by 0.04% annually). After 1800 this changed fundamentally: The world population was around 1 billion in the year 1800 and increased 7-fold since then.

Around 108 billion people have ever lived on our planet. This means that today's population size makes up 6.5% of the total number of people ever born.

## FACTORS INFLUENCING THE POPULATION GROWTH

### 1. Fertility rates

Future population growth is highly dependent on the path that future fertility will take. According to the World Population Prospects (2019 Revision), global fertility is projected to fall from 2.5 children per woman in 2019 to 2.2 in 2050.

### 2. Increasing longevity

Overall, significant gains in life expectancy have been achieved in recent years. Globally, life expectancy at birth is expected to rise from 72.6 years in 2019 to 77.1 years in 2050. While considerable progress has been made in closing the longevity differential between countries, large gaps remain. In 2019, life expectancy at birth in the least developed countries lags 7.4 years behind the global average, due largely to

persistently high levels of child and maternal mortality, as well as violence, conflict and the continuing impact of the HIV epidemic.

### 3. International migration

International migration is a much smaller component of population change than births or deaths. However, in some countries and areas the impact of migration on population size is significant, namely in countries that send or receive large numbers of economic migrants and those affected by refugee flows. Between 2010 and 2020, fourteen countries or areas will see a net inflow of more than one million migrants, while ten countries will see a net outflow of similar magnitude.

#### POPULATION GROWTH BY WORLD REGION

Two hundred years ago the world population was just over one billion. Since then the number of people on the planet grew more than 7-fold to 7.7 billion in 2019.

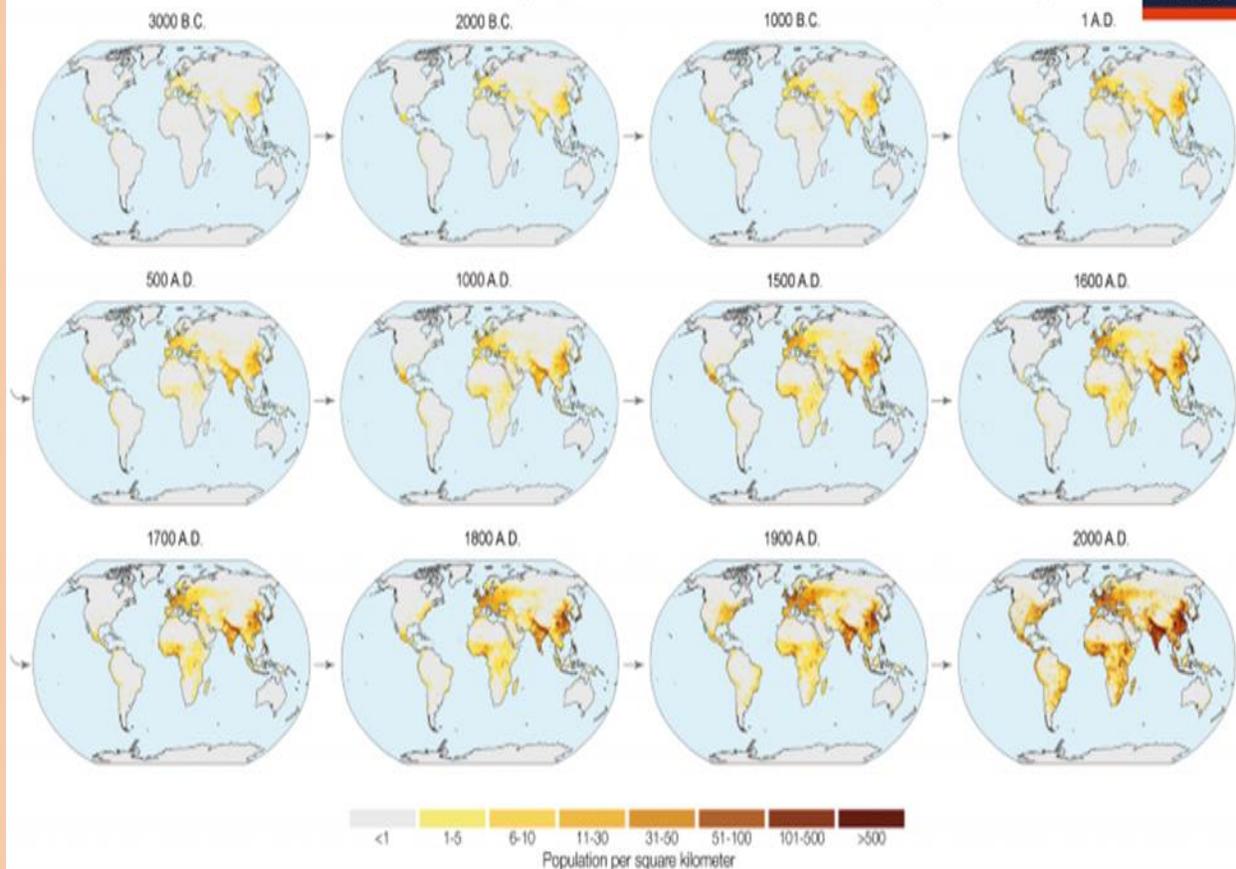
In this visualization we see historical population estimates by region from 1820 through to today.

Most people always lived in Asia: Today it is 60% two hundred years ago it was 68%. If you want to see the relative distribution across the world regions in more detail you can switch to the relative view.

The world region that saw the fastest population growth over last two centuries was North America. The population grew 31-fold. Latin America saw the second largest increase (28-fold). Over the same period the population Europe of increased 3-fold, in Africa 14-fold, and in Asia 6-fold.

The distribution of the world population is expected to change significantly over the 21st century.

## The distribution of the world population over the last 5,000 years Our World in Data



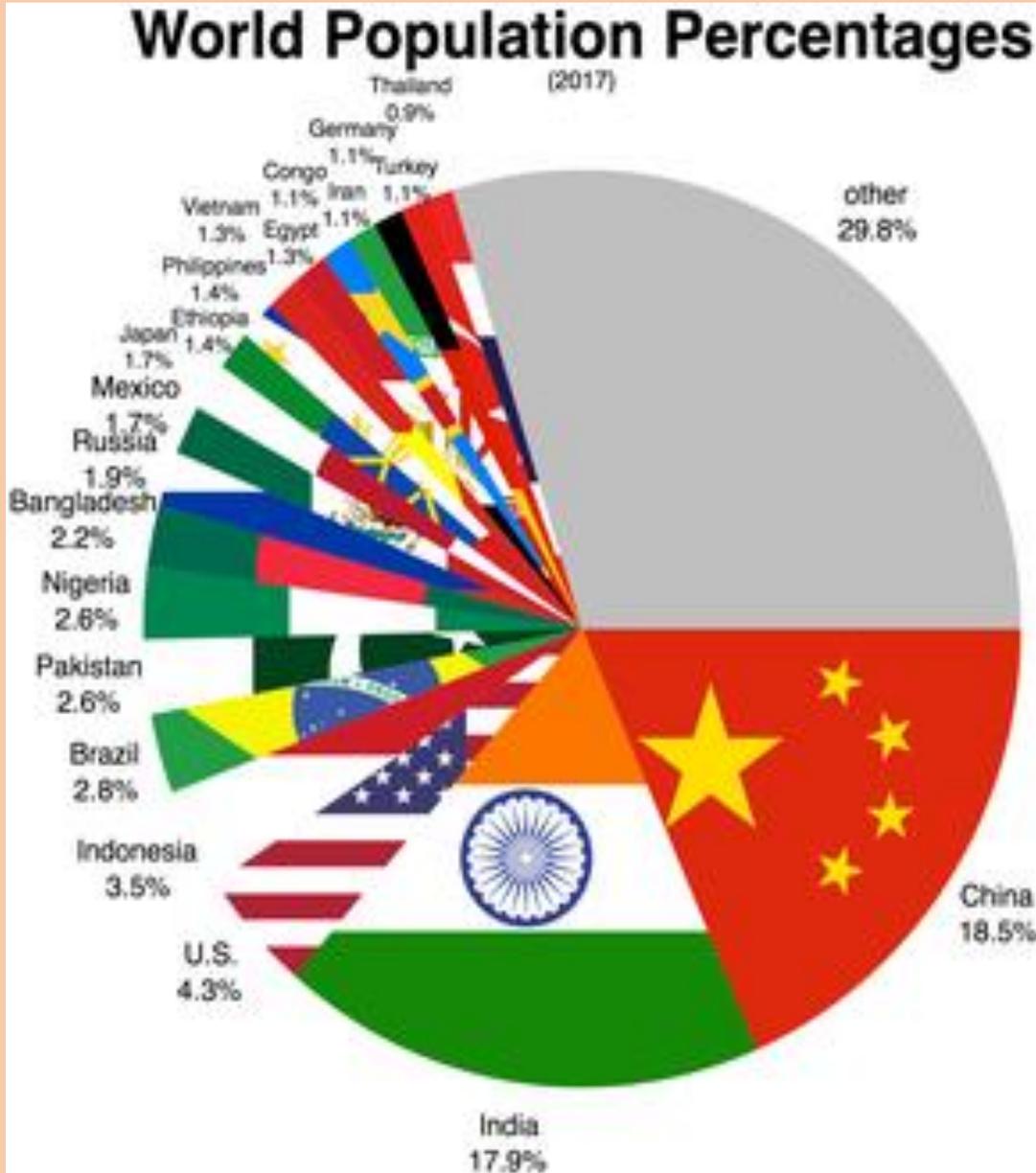
Source of the original visualization: Klein Goldewijk, Beusen and Janssen (2010) - Long-term dynamic modeling of global population and built-up area in a spatially explicit way: HYDE 3.1. In *The Holocene* 20(4) 565-573. The original visualization was adapted by OurWorldInData.org

### POPULATION GROWTH BY COUNTRY

Here we see that the top five most populous countries are:

- (1) China (1.42 billion)
- (2) India (1.37 billion)
- (3) United States (329 million)
- (4) Indonesia (269 million)
- (5) Brazil (212 million)

For several centuries, China has been the world's most populous country. But not for long: it's expected that India will overtake China within the next decade. You can learn more about future population growth by country.



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