Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Human Population and Carrying Capacity WebQuest**

This activity is designed for you to see how the population of the Earth continues to change over the course of time. At some point in time the carrying capacity of the Earth may be reached. Use the links below to discover more about the human carrying capacity as well as to answer the corresponding questions.

**Click here:** <http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/popclockworld.html>

1. What is the current world population?
2. What is the current U.S. population?

**Click here:** <http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/popclock>

1. How often does a birth of a baby occur in the US?
2. How often does a death occur in the US?
3. What does that mean about the US population? (Is it growing or shrinking?)
4. Go to The United States population on July 4, 2015. Change the date to your birthday last year and show what the population was back then. How much has it grown since your birthday?

Date: Population Size: Amount of growth from birthday:

1. Scroll down to Annual Population Estimates: Growth by Region. What is the population trend from 2000 to 2015 from each region? Where are people moving to in the US the most?
2. Scroll down to Most Populous. What is the most populated state?
3. Why does Ohio have a higher population per square mile than the most populated state?
4. What is the most populated city? How many people live per sq. mile here?

**Click on the topic "Animated Map" and watch.** <http://desip.igc.org/mapanim.html>

1. Where in the world did the human population appear to start? (Start the animation at the beginning, I am looking for the continent name)
2. What was the world population in 1985?
3. What is the expected world population in 2020?

Most countries are trying to reduce their growth rate. Zero population growth means that as many people are being born as there are dying. To achieve zero population growth, each couple would need to have no more than two children (to replace the parents). Even if this number is achieved, the population will continue to grow because the parents will still live on for decades, as their children have children, and their children have children........... The rate of growth in developed nations has become more constant in recent years, while many developing nations are still growing exponentially.

**Click here for a list of least developed countries:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/ALDC/Least%20Developed%20Countries/UN-list-of-Least-Developed-Countries.aspx>

Click on **four** different countries. List the name of the country, population growth, and life expectancy.

1. Name: 14. Name:

Population Growth: Population Growth:

Life expectancy: Life expectancy:

Under 5 mortality Rate: Under 5 mortality Rate:

1. Name: 16. Name:

Population Growth: Population Growth:

Life expectancy: Life expectancy:

Under 5 mortality Rate: Under 5 mortality Rate:

1. Click on the map of LDC’s on the right. What continent are most of least developed countries located?

**Human Numbers Through Time:**: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/worldbalance/numbers.html>

* Launch the Interactive (click button to the right and follow the steps or click on the map):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Human Population** |
| 0 A.D. |  |
| 1000 |  |
| 1800 |  |
| 1927 |  |
| 1960 |  |
| 1974 |  |
| 1987 |  |
| 1999 |  |
| 2050 |  |

1. In AD 1000, what caused the decline of population in Europe?
2. In the 18th century, what raised the living standards and spurred population growth?
3. In the mid 1900’s what profoundly increased human life expectancy?
4. In the 1970’s, what helped curb population growth?
5. Where will nearly all of the further human population growth take place in the world?
6. What is the foreseeable problem with this?