

Population growth is ultimately decided by the amount of births and deaths, and the balance of the main inputs and outputs of population, inputs to the population being births and immigrants, outputs being the deaths and emigrants. The proportion to which is what really matters.

The demographic transition model accounts for the rise and fall in population, the birth rate, death rate, population size and growth. Different cultures, society's and geographical places have different reasons for being either under or over populated. For example, the Philippines, a mainly catholic country, is very overpopulated, because of the religion of the vast majority of the country, they don't use contraception or family planning, and so families can end up having many more children than is the 'norm' for say England, where the average number of children per household is 2, whereas, in the Philippines the average number of children per house is 5, and so the population rises.

However, in places like Canada, where the population is around 33,000,000 people, so why does Canada have a low population density? It's because Canada is such a large country, the whole population is distributed very sparsely and there are only 3.4 people in a km². Canada is in stage four of the DTM, this means that:

- 🌀 The birth rate is falling
- 🌀 The death rate is low
- 🌀 There is no population growth
- 🌀 And the population size is high and steady.

All these factors take place because overall wealth in the country is improving, but that also means the cost of living is becoming higher, as more people can afford luxuries. This has an immediate effect to the amount of children people are having, because having is now not a priority for most people, the changing roles of women come into this, and don't spend time at home, but they go and get an education and a job, they only have time to have one or sometimes two children. This means that overall, lifestyles are changing in many different ways. The population occasionally fluctuates due to baby booms or an epidemic of illness. However these are very infrequent and illness especially is unlikely to have a noticeable effect on the population. These are the main social reasons for affecting population

Economic factors also play a part in the population, as well as the fact that children are becoming too expensive to raise, the need for them has decreased, in the 1800's parents would possibly have twelve or more children, because they would send them to factories to bring in an income from the age of five, however we have moved on, children no longer work in factories, they go to school, where they aren't making any money, there are better economic initiatives to take, like for women to work.

Population in poorer countries like Asia is a cycle, if there is a country say Pakistan, it has a 'rainy season' from around June to September, when rain is almost

permanent, and they get a lot of floods, meaning that the government pays for people to get back to normal after them, this means that they don't have enough money to run other basic things, once the rainy season is over, they save up for a year, until the rain comes again and brings the floods with it, and so on. This is part of the reason why some countries are poorer than others.

There is some disagreement as to whether there is such a thing as a stage five in the DTM, if there is then Britain, France and Germany are all in it, the populations are high for now, but are in decline, due to the falling birth rate and the aging population. The Death rate is low because of the further advances in medicine and health care, and in Britain especially, the free NHS, meaning that the population is slowly ageing, because of again the increased cost of living means people are still not having children.

Most LEDC's are in stage two, stage one being the Amazonian tribes. MEDC's are in stage three, four and five, with the occasional NIC, or Newly Industrialised Country, like Brazil.

So to summarise, in parts of the world population is growing, in some parts it is falling, due to social, cultural, economic and environmental factors:

- 🌀 Better health care
- 🌀 Higher life expectancy
- 🌀 Better hygiene
- 🌀 The changing roles of women
- 🌀 Increased standard of living
- 🌀 Better family planning
- 🌀 Cost implications of having children

There will always be extremes Like china, where there is a one child per family limit, to attempt to get the population under control!