

Where do people live?

Where do people live in the world and why do they live there?



Population density is the number of people living in each km². Some places of the world are **densely** populated and some places are **sparsely** populated. In 2010 the examination paper



gave candidates a blank map of the world and asked them to draw on and annotate reason for sparsely populated areas. You should practice this for both densely populated and sparsely populated locations.

Reasons for Different Population Densities	
Densely	Sparsely
• Temperate climate	• Too hot
• Adequate rainfall	• Too cold
• Fertile soils	• Too dry
• Valuable natural resources	• Too high
• Natural features	• Few natural resources
• Government policies	• Government policies

What are the push / pull factors that produce rural - urban migration in LEDCs and urban-rural migration in many MEDCs?

Urbanisation is the dominant process affecting LEDC cities. Urbanisation is a type of **migration** - our case study is people in rural parts of Eastern Uganda migrating to urban Mbale. They migrate because of a combination of **push factors** (bad things in the countryside) and **pull factors** (good things in the city).

Push Factors	Pull Factors
• Drought & harvest failures	• Good free schools
• No/poor schools	• Hospitals and healthcare
• Long walk to nearest doctor	• Clean water/sanitation
• Little paid employment	• Paid employment
• Poor sanitation and disease	• Security/safety
• Overpopulation/land shortage	• Food available - shops
• Poor security - war	• Amenities - leisure

Counter-urbanisation is the new process which is dominating many MEDC cities. This where people choose to leave urban areas and move to more rural locations - this can lead to problems within cities in which areas become depopulated and these areas often attract in problems such as crime and drugs. Rural areas also have problems as wealthier migrants buy houses and drive up prices above what farm/tourist workers can afford. They also put pressure on local services.

Push Factors	Pull Factors
• Noise	• Beautiful scenery
• Pollution	• Clean air
• Anti-social behaviour	• Quiet
• Crime	• Better communities
• Danger	• Safety

What will happen to the world population?

What are the factors that influence birth and death rates?

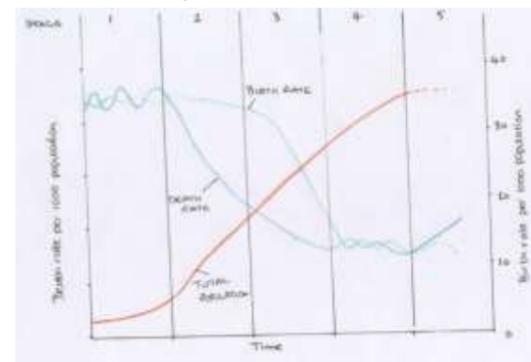
Populations change because people **migrate** or because of **natural increase** - this is the birth rate minus the death rate.

- The **birth rate** is the number of live births per thousand of the population.
- The **death rate** is the number of deaths per thousand of the population.

Reasons for Changes	
Death Rates	Birth Rates
• Clean Water	• Better education
• Improved sanitation	• Available contraception
• Better medical care	• Government policies
• Improved food supply	• Gender equality
• Better safety - less war	• Better healthcare

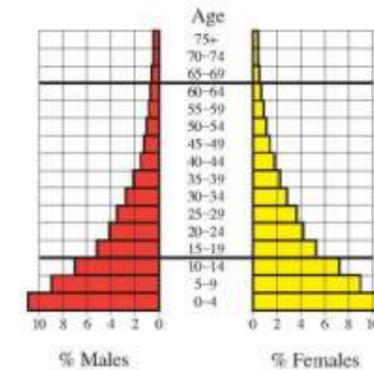
How do differences in birth and death rates affect population numbers and structures in South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and Western Europe?

We understand how changes in death rates & birth rates affect countries by using the **Demographic Transition Model**. Few places in the world are at stage 1 where death rates and birth rates are high - maybe a failed state such as Somalia. Most countries in **Sub-Saharan Africa** like Uganda are in **stage 2** - Death rates are falling but birth rates stay high so population is



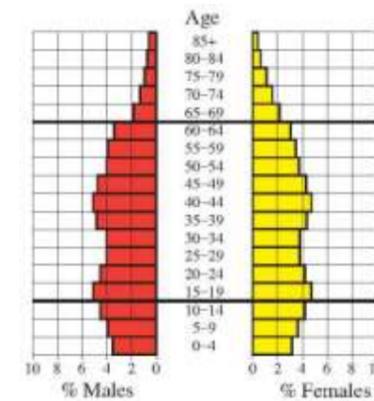
growing quickly. Many countries in **South Asia** such as **India** are in **stage 3** where death rates are lower and birth rates are starting to fall so the population is growing but more slowly. Countries such as the **UK** in **Western Europe** are at **stage 4** where birth rates and death rates are both low and population levels become stable.

In 2010 the exam board gave a question asking candidates to describe these two population pyramids:



This first pyramid is Kenya - **stage 2**:

- **Wide base** - lots of young people - high birth rate.
- **Narrow top** - few old people - still quite high death rate.
- **Triangular shape** showing rapidly growing population.



The second pyramid is UK - **stage 4**.

- **Narrow base** - few young people - low birth rate.
- **Wider/longer top** - more old people - low death rate.
- **More vertical shape** - shows a population which is not increasing and is likely to age over time.

How may these differences change in the future?

LEDC's will suffer from a continuing population explosion until a likely disaster such as famine stops it - unless the government starts a policy to reduce birth rates - e.g. India (Kerala):

• Provide contraception	• Better Healthcare
• Family planning campaigns	• Better Education
• Gender equality	• Minimum Wage

MEDC's will eventually go into stage 5 (such as Italy) where populations age and also start to drop. There are not enough young people and workers to support the old people.

Government policies to stop this include:

• Encourage children - child benefits and tax credits	• Better childcare
• Encourage immigration	• Flexible employment
	• Raise the retirement age