

A Letter From PRB's President

Dear PRB Member:

Last year, PRB made the strategic decision to make our websites a focal point of our communications effort.

We added significant new content to our websites to meet increasing demands in the United States and overseas for demographic information and analysis. We expanded our programs and staff working on electronic communications and reallocated resources to fund these new initiatives.

This website expansion effort is clearly the most successful communications project that PRB has ever launched. In a typical month, more than 70,000 distinct hosts from around the world log on to a PRB website. By contrast, a best-selling PRB print publication distributed in the United States will reach, on average, only a few thousand readers per year.

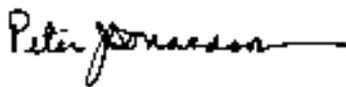
As part of our strategic plan, we have decided to cease publication of *Population Today* and to reallocate the resources used to publish *Population Today* to increase our online coverage of important U.S. and international population issues. This decision was not an easy one, given that we have been publishing *Population Today* since 1975. But over the past several years, the costs of producing and printing this newsletter have increased dramatically. We had many discussions about raising membership dues, but we would have had to raise dues substantially to adequately fund *Population Today* and our Internet initiative.

While the November/December issue will be the last, as a PRB member you will continue to receive your other publications—the *Population Bulletin*, the *World Population Data Sheet*, and *PRB Reports on America*. From time to time we will also send you selected publications on important population issues, thanks to funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and other organizations that support PRB's publication and dissemination activities.

Your PRB membership means a great deal to us and to our effort to increase awareness of population issues and to promote the use of demographic research to better inform important policy decisions. I hope that we can continue to count on your support and that you will use our publications and visit our websites at www.prb.org.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Donaldson
President

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Homeownership Rates Divide U.S. Racial and Ethnic Groups

by Mark Mather

Homeownership is an American dream that cuts across all racial, ethnic, and geographic boundaries. But there are well-documented differences in homeownership rates between whites and other groups. In 2000, about 72 percent of non-Hispanic whites owned homes, compared with 53 percent of Asians and 46 percent of African Americans and of Hispanics.

For blacks, the difference in homeownership rates was greatest in the Northeast and in the northern Midwest, particularly in North Dakota, where 68 percent of whites owned homes in 2000, but only 18 percent of blacks did. Blacks account for a small proportion of the population in North Dakota (less than 1 percent) and tend to live in cities and towns, where homeownership is less common. In contrast, blacks were only slightly less likely than whites to own homes in the South.

Mark Mather is a policy analyst at PRB.

The difference in rates for Hispanics and for non-Hispanic whites was most pronounced in New York, where 65 percent of whites owned homes, compared with 20 percent of Hispanics. In 2000, over 75 percent of Hispanics in the state lived in New York City. Rates of homeownership were more similar in western states, where Hispanics were less concentrated in urban areas.

The difference in rates for Asian Americans and for whites was less pronounced, and in one state—Hawaii—the percentage of Asians who owned homes (69 percent) exceeded the percentage for non-Hispanic whites (49 percent). However, the white homeownership rate exceeded that of Asian Americans by a substantial margin in most states in the Northeast and Midwest.

Over the past decade, the gap between rates of homeownership has narrowed, due in part to an increasing number of mortgage loans to low-income, minority households. According to a recent report

from the Brookings Institution, mortgage lending increased by 98 percent for African American homebuyers and by 125 percent for Hispanic homebuyers during the 1990s. Rising rates of homeownership among minorities represent a positive step toward closing the wealth gap between whites and other groups. But recent economic data, showing increases in unemployment and mortgage foreclosures, suggest that many families are still struggling to make their dream of homeownership a reality. ■

For More Information:

This article appears under the "Race/Ethnicity" topic on PRB's AmeriStat website, along with graphics and links to data sets and other sources of information. AmeriStat is a joint production of PRB and the Social Science Data Analysis Network. (www.ameristat.org)

Nicolas P. Retsinas and Eric S. Belsky, eds., *Low-Income Homeownership: Examining the Unexamined Goal* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2002), accessed online at www.brookings.org/dybdocroot/savingsforthe poor/low_income_homeownership.htm, on Oct. 21, 2002.

Sandra Fleishman, "2nd-Quarter Foreclosure Rates Highest in 30 Years," *The Washington Post*, Sept. 14, 2002.

Webwise

www.prb.org • www.ameristat.org • www.popnet.org • www.measurecommunication.org

The following were posted recently on the PRB network of websites:

A First Look at Children in the U.S. Virgin Islands

This report, based on data from the 2000 U.S. Census, examines the situation of children in the Virgin Islands—how it has changed over time and how it compares with conditions of children in the country as a whole. The report is part of a series on the 2000 Census prepared

for the nationwide network of KIDS COUNT projects. It was produced jointly by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Population Reference Bureau. (www.ameristat.org)

Translating Reproductive Rights Into Reality

Despite a global clamor for women's reproductive health and rights, preventable deaths and injuries related to pregnancy and childbirth continue, as does the spread of sexually

transmitted infections. While this article details the obstacles women in developing countries face in obtaining reproductive health care, it points out that a lack of money need not limit progress in overcoming such obstacles. It cites as an example a community-based program in India's Maharashtra state that has, with limited resources, improved the health of the rural poor. (www.prb.org)

How Many People Have Ever Lived on Earth?

by Carl Haub

“How Many People Have Ever Lived on Earth?” is the most requested PT article. It first appeared in February 1995.

The question of how many people have ever lived on Earth is a perennial one among information calls to PRB. One reason the question keeps coming up is that somewhere, at some time back in the 1970s, a now-forgotten writer made the statement that 75 percent of the people who had ever been born were alive at that moment.

This factoid has had a long shelf life, even though a bit of reflection would show how unlikely it is. For this “estimate” to be true would mean either that births in the 20th century far, far outnumbered those in the past or that there were an extraordinary number of extremely old people living in the 1970s.

If this estimate were true, it would indeed make an impressive case for the rapid pace of population growth in this century. But if we judge the idea that three-fourths of people who ever lived are alive today to be a ridiculous statement, have demographers come up with a better estimate? What might be a reasonable estimate of the actual percentage?

Any such exercise can be only a highly speculative enterprise, to be undertaken with far less seriousness than most demographic inquiries. Nonetheless, it is a somewhat intriguing idea that can be approached on at least a semi-scientific basis.

And semi-scientific it must be, because there are, of course, absolutely no demographic data available for 99 percent of the span of the human stay on Earth. Still, with some speculation concerning prehistoric populations, we can at least approach a guesstimate of this elusive number.

Prehistory and History

Any estimate of the total number of people who have ever been born will depend basically on two factors: (1) the length of time humans are thought to have been on Earth and (2) the average size of the human population at different periods.

Fixing a time when the human race actually came into existence is not a straightforward matter. Various ancestors of *Homo sapiens* seem to have appeared at least as early as 700,000 B.C. Hominids walked the Earth as early as several million years ago. According to the United Nations’ *Determinants and Consequences of Population Trends*, modern *Homo sapiens* may have appeared about 50,000 B.C. This long period of 50,000 years holds the key to the question of how many people have ever been born.

At the dawn of agriculture, about 8000 B.C., the population of the world was somewhere on the order of 5 million. (Very rough figures are given in the table on page 4; these are averages of an estimate of ranges given by the United Nations and other sources.) The slow growth of population over the 8,000-year period, from an estimated 5 million to 300 million in 1 A.D., results in a very low growth rate—only 0.0512 percent per year. It is difficult to come up with an average world population size over this period. In all likelihood, human populations in different regions grew or declined in response to famines, the vagaries of animal herds, hostilities, and changing weather and climatic conditions.

In any case, life was short. Life expectancy at birth probably averaged only about 10 years for most of human history. Estimates of average life expectancy in Iron Age France have been put at only 10 or 12 years. Under these conditions, the birth rate would have to be about 80 per 1,000 people just for the species to survive. Today, a high birth rate would be about 45 to 50 per 1,000 population, observed in only a few countries of Africa and in several Middle Eastern states that have young populations.

Our birth rate assumption will greatly affect the estimate of the number of people ever born. Infant mortality in the human race’s earliest days is thought to have been very high—perhaps 500 infant deaths per 1,000 births, or even higher. Children were probably an economic liability among hunter-gatherer societies, a fact that is likely to have led to the practice of infanticide. Under these circumstances, a disproportionately

Continued on page 4

A Semi-Scientific Population Estimate *Continued from page 3*

How Many People Have Ever Lived On Earth?

Year	Population	Births per 1,000	Births Between Benchmarks
50,000 B.C.	2	—	—
8000 B.C.	5,000,000	80	1,137,789,769
1 A.D.	300,000,000	80	46,025,332,354
1200	450,000,000	60	26,591,343,000
1650	500,000,000	60	12,782,002,453
1750	795,000,000	50	3,171,931,513
1850	1,265,000,000	40	4,046,240,009
1900	1,656,000,000	40	2,900,237,856
1950	2,516,000,000	31-38	3,390,198,215
1995	5,760,000,000	31	5,427,305,000
2002	6,215,000,000	23	983,987,500
Number who have ever been born			106,456,367,669
World population in mid-2002			6,215,000,000
Percent of those ever born who are living in 2002			5.8

Source: Population Reference Bureau estimates.

large number of births would be required to maintain population growth, and that would raise our estimated number of the “ever born.”

By 1 A.D., the world may have held about 300 million people. One estimate of the population of the Roman Empire, from Spain to Asia Minor, in 14 A.D., is 45 million. However, other historians set the figure twice as high, suggesting how imprecise population estimates of early historical periods can be.

By 1650, world population rose to about 500 million, not a large increase over the 1 A.D. estimate. The average annual rate of growth was actually lower from 1 A.D. to 1650 than the rate suggested above for the 8000 B.C. to 1 A.D. period. One reason for this abnormally slow growth was the Black Death. This dreaded scourge was not limited to 14th-century Europe. The epidemic may have begun about 542 A.D. in western Asia, spreading from there. It is believed that half the Byzantine Empire was destroyed in the sixth century, a total of 100 million deaths. Such large fluctuations in population size over long periods greatly compound the difficulty of estimating the number of people who have ever lived.

By 1800, however, world population had passed the 1 billion mark, and it has continued to grow since then to the current 6 billion.

Guesstimates

Guesstimating the number of people ever born, then, requires selecting population sizes for dif-

ferent points from antiquity to the present and applying assumed birth rates to each period (see table). We start at the very, very beginning—with just two people (a minimalist approach!).

One complicating factor is the pattern of population growth. Did it rise to some level and then fluctuate wildly in response to famines and changes in climate? Or did it grow at a constant rate from one point to another? We cannot know the answers to these questions, although paleontologists have produced a variety of theories. For the purposes of this exercise, it was assumed that a constant growth rate applied to each period up to modern times. Birth rates were set at 80 per 1,000 per year through 1 A.D. and at 60 per 1,000 from 2 A.D. to 1750. Rates then declined to the low 30s by the modern period. (For a brief bibliography of sources consulted in the course of this alchemy, see “For More Information.”)

This semi-scientific approach yields an estimate of about 106 billion births since the dawn of the human race. Clearly, the period 8000 B.C. to 1 A.D. is key to the magnitude of our number, but, unfortunately, little is known about that era. Some readers may disagree with some aspects—or perhaps nearly all aspects—of the table, but at least it offers one approach to this elusive issue. If we were to make any guess at all, it might be that our method underestimates the number of births to some degree. The assumption of constant population growth in the earlier period may underestimate the average population size at the time. And, of course, pushing the date of humanity’s arrival on the planet before 50,000 B.C. would also raise the number, although perhaps not by terribly much.

So, our estimate here is that about 5.8 percent of all people ever born are alive today. That’s actually a fairly large percentage when you think about it. ■

For More Information:

Nathan Keyfitz, *Applied Mathematical Demography* (New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1976).

Judah Matras, *Population and Societies* (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1973).

Colin McEvedy and Richard Jones, *Atlas of World Population History* (New York: Facts on File, 1978).

United Nations, *Determinants and Consequences of Population Trends* (New York: United Nations, 1973).

United Nations, *World Population Prospects as Assessed in 1963* (New York: United Nations, 1966).

United Nations, *World Population Prospects: The 2000 Revision* (New York: United Nations, 2001).

Carl Haub holds the Conrad Taeuber Chair of Population Information at PRB.

The Health Divide in Europe

A report by the World Health Organization examining health throughout Europe emphasizes the connection between health and poverty. *The European Health Report 2002*, which analyzes health evidence collected over the last 10 years, notes widening gaps among countries of the region.

People living in the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union (NIS) die younger than their Western European counterparts. The average life expectancy in the NIS is 56 years, compared with 70 years in the West, even though life expectancy for the region as a whole has increased. The report says there is "practically no precedent for changes of this magnitude in peacetime."

The shorter lives are also harder. In central and eastern Europe and in the NIS, the share of the population living on less than US\$4 a day rose from 3.3 percent in 1988 to 46 percent at the end of the 1990s; in western Europe, roughly 10 percent of people are estimated to live below the poverty line.

The report explores major determinants of health, from unhealthy behavior to environmental factors such as air pollution. It also highlights disparities among health systems, using indicators such as the number of doctors per 1,000 population and per capita spending on medicines.

The report is found on the WHO website: www.who.dk/europeanhealthreport.

Announcement

Nominations for the Nordberg Award

The Olivia Schieffelin Nordberg Award is conferred every two years by the Population Council for excellence in writing and editing in the population sciences. The award recognizes an individual for one of the following achievements:

- Writing in the field of population that combines exceptional scholarship with clear exposition and imaginative pre-

U.S. Jewish Population Aging and Shrinking

The five-year National Jewish Population Survey (NJPS), released in October, shows that the number of Jews in the United States fell by 5 percent over the last decade, from 5.5 million to 5.2 million. Officials of the United Jewish Communities, which conducted the survey, attributed the decline to an aging Jewish population and to delayed child-bearing among young Jews.

Survey findings include:

- Children now account for 19 percent of the Jewish population, down from 21 percent 10 years earlier.
- The median age of American Jews rose from 37 in 1990 to 41 in 2000.
- Fifty-two percent of Jewish women ages 30 to 34 have not had any children, compared with 27 percent of all American women.

Jewish women nearing the end of their reproductive years (ages 40 to 44) have had approximately 1.8 children, below the replacement level of around 2.1.

The United Jewish Communities administered a 300-question survey to 4,500 Jews. Respondents were considered Jewish if they named Judaism as their current religion or professed "a Jewish background and no competing current religion."

Findings from the NJPS are available on the Web: www.ujc.org. Other sources of information on religion include the General Social

Survey (www.norc.uchicago.edu/projects/gensoc.asp), conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago. The U.S. census does not collect information on religious affiliation.

Survey (www.norc.uchicago.edu/projects/gensoc.asp), conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago. The U.S. census does not collect information on religious affiliation.

Judge Orders U.S. Census Figures Released

On Oct. 8, 2002, a federal appeals court ordered the U.S. Census Bureau to release its statistically adjusted population counts for all states, counties, and cities. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling upheld an earlier district court ruling ordering the government to release the counts, which reveal the undercount or number of people missed in the 2000 Census. Those missed include minority groups, low-income households, and transient populations. The U.S. Justice Department had objected to releasing the numbers, saying that they are not reliable and that releasing them would have a "potentially chilling effect" on how the population is counted.

While the ruling does not require the Census Bureau to use the adjusted numbers in place of the unadjusted numbers, states and local governments would be free to use the adjusted numbers for redistricting challenges and for distributing tax dollars, and the adjusted numbers might eventually be used for determining federal funding.

At press time, the U.S. Justice Department had not issued a decision on whether to appeal the ruling. ■

sentation in a style both accessible and appealing to a broad readership; or

- A record of excellence in editing technical material on population to make it accessible to varied audiences.

The next award will be made in April 2003. Nominations may be submitted by individuals or organizations and should include name, professional or home mailing address, present occupational title, and institu-

tional affiliation of the nominee; a brief statement of the individual's contributions in the population field; and evidence of contributions (for writer, cite one to three articles or other publications; for editor, identify sample publications). Mail nomination by March 1, 2003, to Ethel Churchill, Director of Publications, Population Council, One Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, New York, NY 10017. ■

Following are titles of articles and regular features that appeared in the eight issues of Population Today in 2002. Titles are cross-indexed by subject.

Censuses and Surveys

- Census-Taking and the Invisibility of Urban American Indians (May/June)
- Population Growth Continues to Hinder Nepal's Economic Progress (July)
- U.S. Children With Difficulty Speaking English (May/June)

Education

- Affirmative Action Alternative Put to the Test in Texas (July)
- Declining School Enrollment in Africa (May/June)
- Illiteracy Worldwide (Oct.)
- Making Maps: The Untold Story (April)
- Science Scores of U.S. Students, by Race/Ethnicity (Jan.)
- U.S. High School Exit Exams (Oct.)

Employment

- Jobs Needed for a Billion-Plus Youth (Jan.)
- Short Work Lives, Long Retirements Make Saving Difficult (May/June)
- A Spiraling Shortage of Nurses (Feb./March)
- Unemployment in the Arab Region (Aug./Sept.)
- U.S. Elder Care Is in a Fragile State (Jan.)

Environment

- The Gender-Environment Dynamic (Feb./March)
- Mountains: Sources of Water, Sites of Poverty and War (Aug./Sept.)
- Per Capita Water Use by World Region (Nov./Dec.)

Family/Marriage

- Increased Cohabitation Changing Children's Family Settings (Oct.)
- Shotgun Weddings a Sign of the Times in Japan (July)
- Tracking the Trends in Low-Income Working Families (Aug./Sept.)

Family Planning/Reproductive Health

- Abortion Rates for Poor Women in the U.S. Increasing (Nov./Dec.)
- Contraceptive Use Worldwide, Late 1990s (July)

Fertility

- Fertility Down, but Population Decline Still Not in Sight (May/June)

- Iran Achieves Replacement-Level Fertility (May/June)
- No Decrease in Fertility Rate for Mali (Feb./March)
- Post-9/11 Baby Boom Unlikely (Oct.)

Gender

- The Gender-Environment Dynamic (Feb./March)
- Human Trafficking Exposed (Jan.)
- Young Women in Sub-Saharan Africa Face a High Risk of HIV Infection (Feb./March)

Health

- Obesity Among Adults in OECD Countries (Aug./Sept.)
- A Spiraling Shortage of Nurses (Feb./March)
- U.S. Elder Care Is in a Fragile State (Jan.)

HIV/AIDS

- AIDS Increases Child Mortality Rates (Jan.)
- For Botswana, No Easy Answers in Dealing With Burgeoning AIDS Epidemic (Aug./Sept.)
- Young Women in Sub-Saharan Africa Face a High Risk of HIV Infection (Feb./March)

Income/Poverty

- Easing Urban Poverty Key to Economic Growth in Central America (Oct.)
- Homeownership Rates Divide U.S. Racial and Ethnic Groups (Nov./Dec.)
- Migrant Street Children on the Rise in Central America (Feb./March)
- Mountains: Sources of Water, Sites of Poverty and War (Aug./Sept.)
- Poverty in the U.S., 1999 (July)
- Tracking the Trends in Low-Income Working Families (Aug./Sept.)

Migration/Urbanization

- Asylum-Seeking in Selected OECD Countries (Feb./March)
- Easing Urban Poverty Key to Economic Growth in Central America (Oct.)
- Foreign-Born Make Up Growing Segment of U.S. Black Population (April)
- Harmonizing Immigration and Refugee Policy Between the U.S. and Canada (Feb./March)
- Human Trafficking Exposed (Jan.)
- Migrant Street Children on the Rise in Central America (Feb./March)
- U.S. Census Shows Different Paths for Domestic and Foreign-Born Migrants (Aug./Sept.)

Mortality

- AIDS Increases Child Mortality Rates (Jan.)
- For Botswana, No Easy Answers in Dealing With Burgeoning AIDS Epidemic (Aug./Sept.)
- Risk of Homicide High for U.S. Infants (May/June)

Older Population

- Boomers' Retirement Wave Likely to Begin in Just 6 Years (April)
- Short Work Lives, Long Retirements Make Saving Difficult (May/June)
- U.S. Elder Care Is in a Fragile State (Jan.)

Population Trends

- Demographic Winners of the 2002 Olympics (April)
- Has Global Growth Reached Its Peak? (Aug./Sept.)
- How Many People Have Ever Lived on Earth? (Nov./Dec.)

Racial, Ethnic, and Other Minorities

- Affirmative Action Alternative Put to the Test in Texas (July)
- Census-Taking and the Invisibility of Urban American Indians (May/June)
- Foreign-Born Make Up Growing Segment of U.S. Black Population (April)
- Homeownership Rates Divide U.S. Racial and Ethnic Groups (Nov./Dec.)
- Out of the Closet and Onto the Census Long Form (May/June)
- Recession Pounds U.S. Hispanics (April)
- Science Scores of U.S. Students, by Race/Ethnicity (Jan.)

Youth

- AIDS Increases Child Mortality Rates (Jan.)
- Increased Cohabitation Changing Children's Family Settings (Oct.)
- Jobs Needed for a Billion-Plus Youth (Jan.)
- Migrant Street Children on the Rise in Central America (Feb./March)
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- Young Women in Sub-Saharan Africa Face a High Risk of HIV Infection (Feb./March) ■

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Population Today is published 8 times a year by the Population Reference Bureau (PRB). PRB is the leader in providing timely, objective information on U.S. and international population trends and their implications. PRB informs policymakers, educators, the media, and concerned citizens working in the public interest around the world through a broad range of activities including publications, information services, seminars and workshops, and technical support. PRB is a nonprofit, nonadvocacy organization. The views and opinions of *Population Today's* contributors do not necessarily reflect those of PRB.

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PRB members receive annually four **Population Bulletins**, the **World Population Data Sheet**, **PRB Reports on America**, and select specialty publications.

Individual	\$49
Educator*	\$39
Student/People 65+*	\$34
Library/nonprofit organizations	\$64
Other organizations	\$225

Note: Members with addresses outside the United States should add \$15 for international postage and handling.

* Educators, students, and people over 65 should send supporting documentation.



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Numbers You Can Use

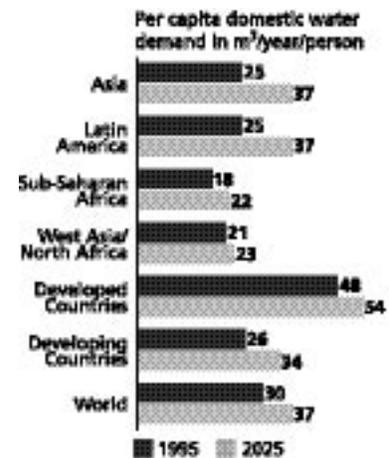
Latest data and estimates

Speaking Graphically

Per Capita Water Use by World Region, 1995 and 2025

A new publication by the International Food Policy Research Institute indicates that, without changes in current water policy and investment, the global food supply will be threatened, further environmental damage will ensue, and health risks will increase for the hundreds of millions of people lacking access to clean water.

Due in part to rapid population growth and urbanization in developing countries, water use for households, industry, and agriculture will increase by at least 50 percent in the next 20 years. Total domestic consumption will increase by 71 percent, thanks to rising per capita water use (see figure). Increased competition for water will severely limit the availability of water for irrigation, which in turn will seriously constrain the world's production of food.



Source: M. Rosegrant et al., *Global Water Outlook to 2025: Averting an Impending Crisis* (www.ifpri.org/pubs/fpr/fprwater2025.pdf, accessed Oct. 29, 2002).

World Population

As of Nov. 2002 6,241,000,000
Annual growth 79,000,000

Source: Extrapolated from the mid-2002 population on PRB's 2002 *World Population Data Sheet*.

Population of the United States

As of Nov. 5, 2002 288,436,595

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (www.census.gov).

U.S. Vital Stats

	January–December			
	Number		Rate	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
Live births	4,028,000	4,063,000	14.5	14.8
Fertility rate	—	—	67.0	67.6
Deaths	2,419,000	2,408,000	8.7	8.8
Infant deaths	27,600	27,200	6.9	6.7
Natural increase	1,609,000	1,655,000	5.8	6.0
Marriages	2,327,000	2,329,000	8.4	8.5
Divorces	—	—	4.0	4.2

Note: Fertility rate is given per 1,000 women ages 15–44; infant deaths per 1,000 live births; other rates per 1,000 population. Number of divorces not available.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports 50*, no. 14 (www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr50/nvsr50_14.pdf, accessed Oct. 16, 2002).

Spotlight Statistic

Abortion Rates for Poor Women in the U.S. Increasing

Age Group	1994	2000	% Increase 1994–2000
Younger than 20	42	51	21
20 or older	34	43	26

Note: Abortion rates are calculated per 1,000 women in the stated group. "Poor" refers to women living at less than 100 percent of the federal poverty level.

Source: R.K. Jones et al., "Patterns in the Socioeconomic Characteristics of Women Obtaining Abortions in 2000–2001," *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health* (www.agi-usa.org/journals/toc/psrh3405toc.html, accessed Oct. 29, 2002).

According to a survey by researchers with the Alan Guttmacher Institute, abortion rates for poor women rose substantially between 1994 and 2000, even as the rates for other groups declined. The researchers conclude that the high level of abortion among poor and low-income women was partly the result of a very high pregnancy rate, which they link to difficulties that these women encountered in accessing family planning services.

WebSittings

Your Guide to Virtual Resources

Data Online for Population, Health & Nutrition (DOLPHN) Database (USAID)

www.phnip.com/dolphn

DOLPHN provides demographic and health trend data relevant to the management of U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) global health programs. Categories of the available indicators include child survival, demographic statistics, family planning, HIV/AIDS prevention, infectious disease control, maternal health, and socioeconomic data.

Health InterNetwork

www.healthinternetwork.org/

The UN and the World Health Organization launched this initiative to provide access to major journals in biomedical and related social sciences. Institutions in countries with per capita gross national product below US\$3,000 are eligible for free or nearly free access.

International Migration 2002 (UN Population Division)

[www.un.org/esa/population/](http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/ittmig2002/ittmig2002.htm)

[publications/ittmig2002/ittmig2002.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/ittmig2002/ittmig2002.htm)
This report presents the latest available information on international

migration for all countries and regions of the world, including estimates of migrant stock, net migration flows, refugees, and workers' remittances. These estimates are supplemented with information concerning governments' views and policies on international migration and the status of ratification by countries of UN instruments regarding international migration.

Reproductive Health Gateway

www.rhgateway.org

The gateway is an information portal that indexes over 65 international websites with content on reproductive health. The site also includes links to a calendar of events, databases, glossaries, directories, photo resources, and publications, and resources on selected topics including adolescent health, family planning, HIV/AIDS, maternal health, and training.

Sprawl City

www.sprawlcity.org/index.html

This is a website about consumption growth and population growth and their roles in urban sprawl. It in-

cludes questions and answers about sprawl in the United States, studies, news articles, definitions, charts and graphs using U.S. census data and conservation survey data, and links to other websites about sprawl.

YouthNet (Family Health International)

www.fhi.org/en/youth/youthnet/ynetindex.html

YouthNet is a global program sponsored by USAID to improve reproductive health and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS among people ages 10 to 24. The website provides resources by topic, news and events, research, and programs. It also features information on family life and sexuality education and answers to frequently asked questions. ■

www.popnet.org

These listings were prepared by PRB librarian Zuuli H. Malsawma, who maintains our PopNet website. For more listings like these, visit PopNet, the most comprehensive directory of population related websites available (www.popnet.org).



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