

# Rural Migration News

## Blog 296

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### Global Population to 2050

The world's population is expected to reach eight billion on November 15, 2022. The UN projected that there will be 8.5 billion people in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050, reflecting annual population increases of almost 80 million from 135 million births and 55 million deaths a year.

Over half of the world's people, 52 percent, live in seven of the world's 200 countries. The US is third after China and India with 338 million people, followed by Indonesia with 276 million people, Pakistan with 236 million, Nigeria with 219 million, and Brazil with 215 million.

China and India each have 1.4 billion people and together they include a third of the world's people.

Most of the increase in the world's population between 2022 and 2050 is projected to be in sub-Saharan Africa, where the average woman has almost five children, double the global average of 2.3 births per woman. The average fertility rate for women globally was five in 1950 and is 2.3 today, slightly above the 2.1 rate needed to keep a population stable.

The world's population was a billion in 1820, and a century was required for the global population to double. Between 1927 and 2022, the world's population quadrupled from two billion to eight billion.

By region, 61 percent of the world's people live in Asia (4.7 billion), 17 percent in Africa (1.3 billion), 10 percent in Europe (750 million), eight percent in Latin America and the Caribbean (650 million), and five per cent in Northern America (370 million) and Oceania (43 million).

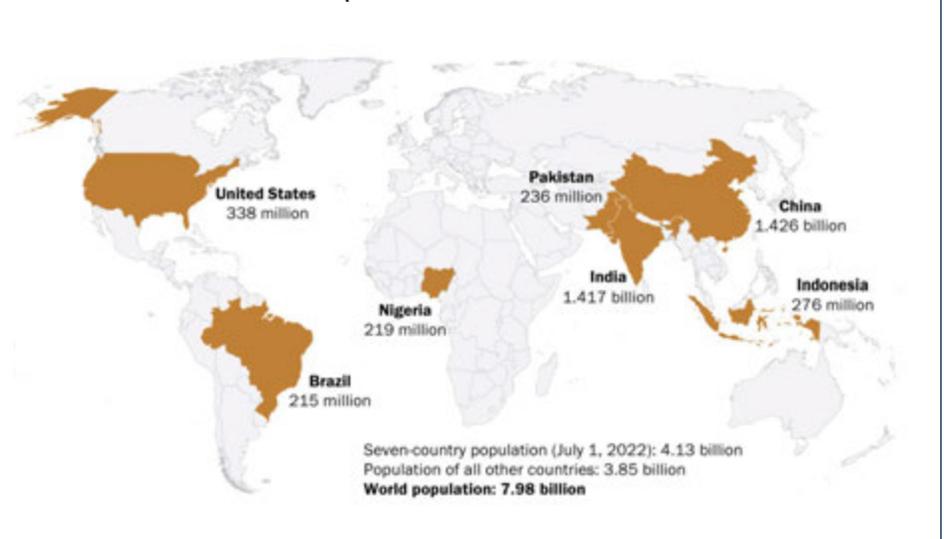
The UN expects populations to decline in 61 countries by 2050; most countries with declining populations are in Europe and East Asia. The Baltic states, Bulgaria, and Ukraine are expected to have 20 percent fewer people by 2050. Cuba is the only country in the Western Hemisphere expected to have a declining population.

Most countries in sub-Saharan Africa are expected to have growing populations; almost all of the 36 countries where women have an average four or more children are in Africa. In the countries with the highest fertility, over half of adults are illiterate.

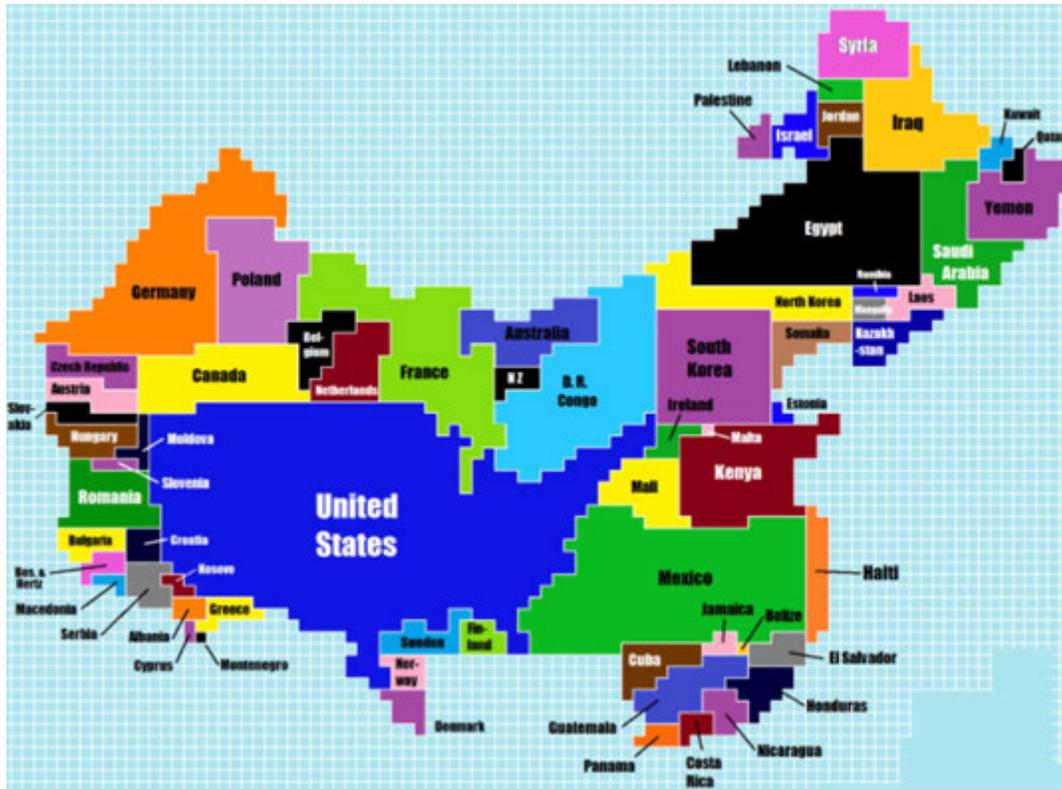
Collectively, eight countries are expected to add a billion people by 2050, accounting for half of the world's population increase: Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and Tanzania.

The UN projects the world's population to stabilize at about 10.4 billion in the 2080s. By 2100, India is expected to have more people than China, Nigeria more than the US, and half of the world's most populous countries are expected to be in Africa.

Over Half of the World's People Live in 7 of the World's 200 Countries



## China and India have 2.8 Billion People, More than Dozens of Countries Combined

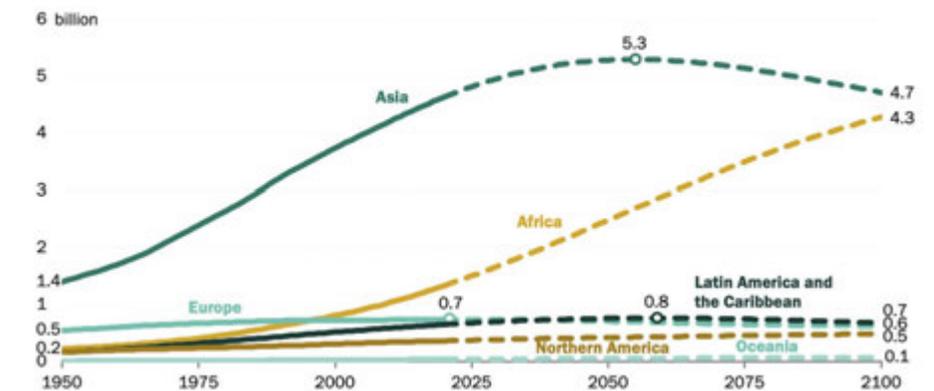


High fertility explains most of the expected changes in country populations between 2020 and 2100. About 250 babies were born each minute in 2022 or 1,000 every four minutes, including half in Asia and a third in Africa.

The median age, meaning that half of residents are older and half are younger, varies by region. Globally, the median age rose from 25 in 1950 to 33 in 2020. Africa's high fertility results in a low median age of 20 in 2022, while Europe's low fertility translates into a median age of 43. Africa's median age has not risen much due to continued high fertility.

## Half of the 2 Billion Increase in World Population by 2050 is Projected to be in Sub-Saharan Africa

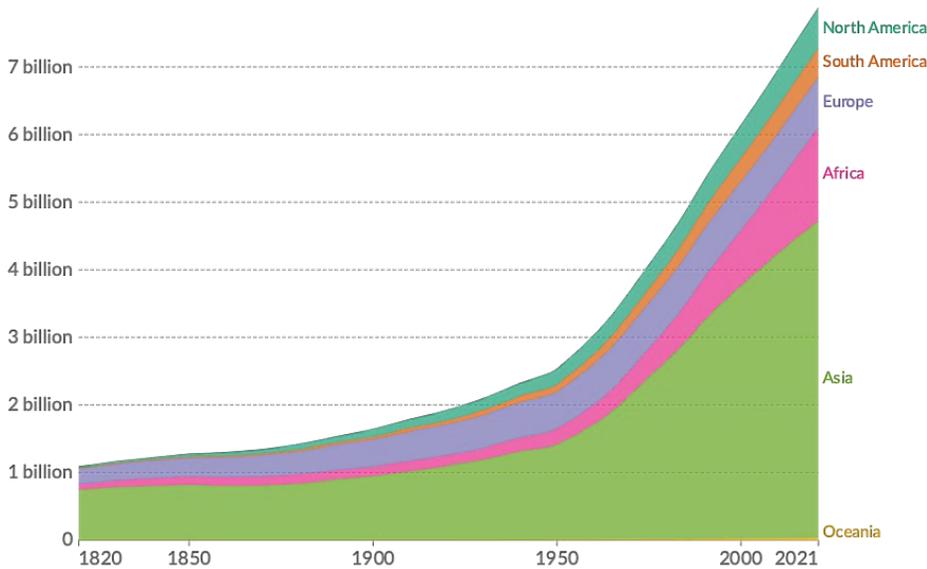
Population by region, in billions



# The World's Population Rose 4x from 2 Billion to 8 Billion Between 1927 and 2022

## World population by region

Our World in Data



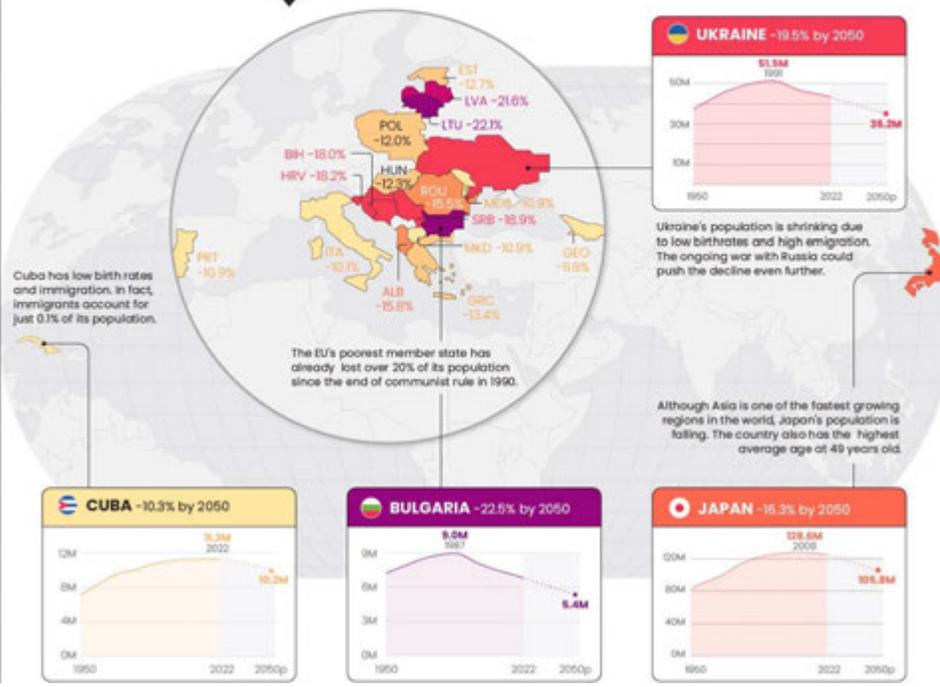
Source: Gapminder (v6), HYDE (v3.2), UN (2019)

OurWorldInData.org/world-population-growth/ • CC BY

## Most Countries with Declining Populations are in Europe

### Top 20 Countries by POPULATION DECLINE

These 20 countries have the fastest shrinking populations. All but one are located in the Eastern Hemisphere.



Population Growth and Rural-Urban Migration are Projected to Swell Cities in Asia and Africa



In 2100, 5 of the 10 Most Populous Countries are Expected to be in Africa

*Countries with largest population, in millions*

<b>1950</b>		<b>2020</b>		<b>2100</b>	
China	554	China	1,439	India	1,450
India	376	India	1,380	China	1,065
U.S.	159	U.S.	331	Nigeria	733
Russia	103	Indonesia	274	U.S.	434
Japan	83	Pakistan	221	Pakistan	403
Germany	70	Brazil	213	D.R. Congo	362
Indonesia	70	Nigeria	206	Indonesia	321
Brazil	54	Bangladesh	165	Ethiopia	294
UK	51	Russia	146	Tanzania	286
Italy	47	Mexico	129	Egypt	225

Half of Babies Born in 2022 are in Asia and a Third in Africa

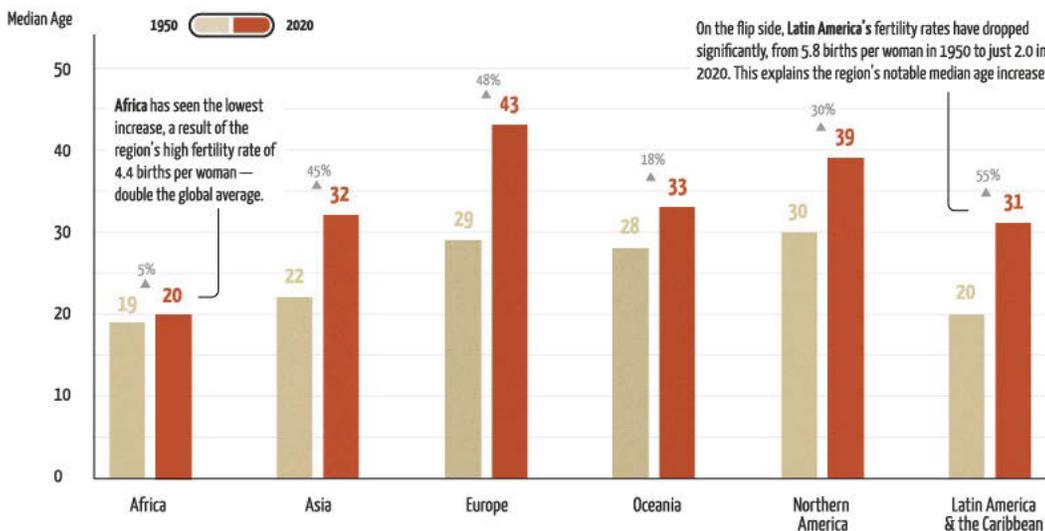
## Where will the next 1000 babies be born?

estimated for 2022



The World's Median Age was 33 in 2022, and Ranged from 20 in Africa to 43 in Europe

### CHANGE IN MEDIAN AGE BY REGION, 1950-2020



### References

UN DESA. 2022. World Population Prospects 2022.

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/content/World-Population-Prospects-2022>

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