

Graph Activities

Estimate when your grandchildren or great grandchildren will be 30 years old. What will be the global population? How will this impact their lives?

J-Curve talking points:

- This graph shows the growth of the human population from 1 AD to 2050 AD
- When Population Connection was founded as Zero Population Growth, or ZPG, in 1968, there were 3.5 billion people on the planet. Since then, world population has more than doubled—with no end in sight.
- World population grows by 83 million people each year—that's like adding a city the size of Philadelphia or Phoenix every week.
- It now takes just 12 years for the world to add the most recent billion people. This is the shortest period of time in human history for a billion people to be added.

Population Projections talking points:

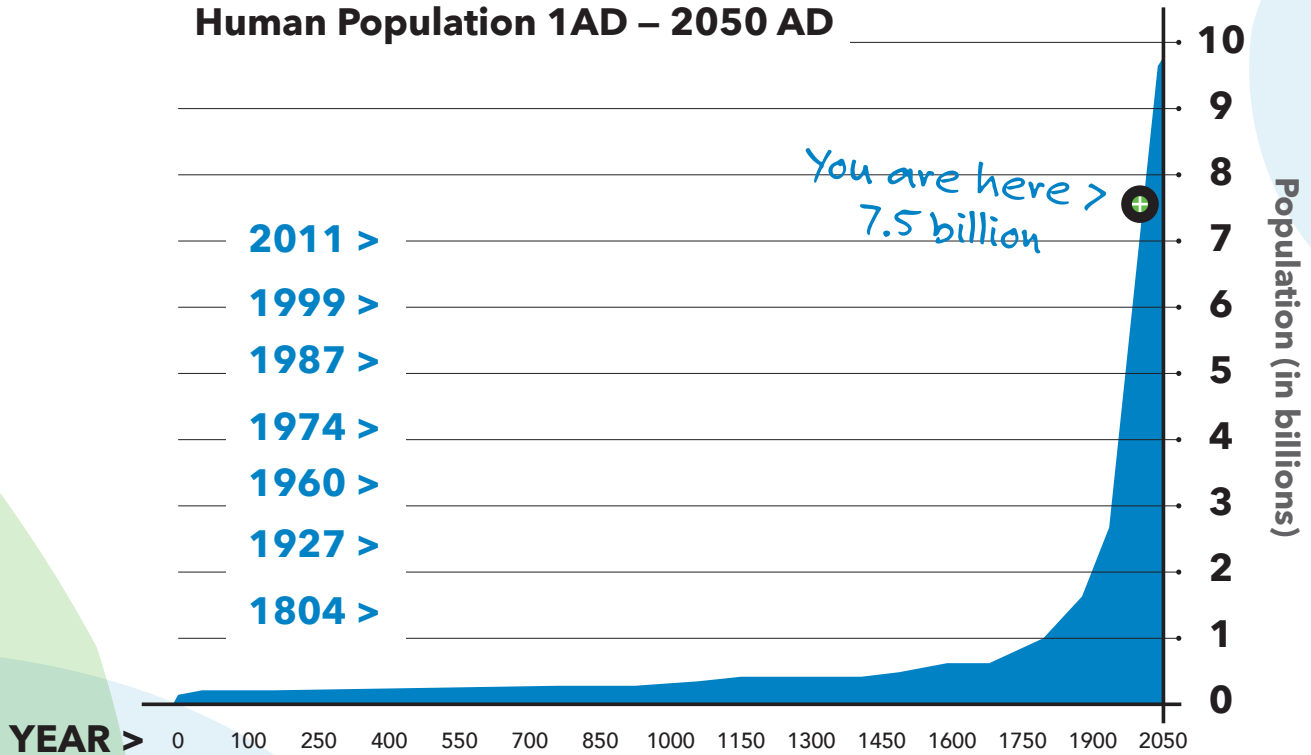
- Point to where we are now on the graph (where the black dots end on the projection graph)
- Future population growth is highly dependent on the path that future fertility will take. Relatively small changes in fertility behavior, when projected over decades, can generate large differences in total population. In other words, the work we do now has major implications for the quality of life for everyone in the future!
- Check out the bottom blue dotted line. If every country's fertility rate were half a child per woman below the median projection, it would mean global population would peak before 2050 and then begin to decline.
- The red dotted lines project what future population growth will look like within a range of certainty of 80-95%.
- The policies we enact now can and will influence these projections!

Facts:

- There would be 21 million fewer births each year globally between 2015 and 2020 if all countries immediately moved from today's fertility rates to replacement-level fertility (2.1 births per woman).
- Demographers project that world population will reach 8 billion between 2025 and 2040.
 - > If the current fertility rate continues, we'll cross the 8 billion mark before 2025.
 - > If the fertility rate declines significantly, the population will stabilize and begin to decline around mid-century

Population J-Curve

Human Population 1AD – 2050 AD



Population Projections to 2100

