

Population Impacts People and our Planet

Earth's resources and human ingenuity haven't kept pace with population growth. As we add 83 million people to the planet every year, we crowd out other species and over-consume natural resources.

POPULATION impacts our planet

- Deforestation, pollution, overfishing, and farming have contributed to the loss of 58% of the world's wildlife in the past 40 years. While our practices decimate animal populations, we have preserved a mere 15% of our planet for nature.¹



- Population growth makes climate change an even more difficult problem to solve. A 40% reduction in developed countries' carbon use by 2050 would be overtaken by population growth in the developing world *alone*.²

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POPULATION impacts people

As global population grows, natural resources like clean drinking water become scarcer.

- Today, nearly one in three people cannot easily access safe, clean drinking water.³ By 2050, more than 40% of the world's population will live in water-stressed areas.⁴
- Agriculture accounts for about 70% of all freshwater use globally. By 2050, farmers will need to produce 60% more food globally, and 100% more in developing countries. The world's freshwater resources cannot support this agricultural growth.⁵

Population Connection educates young people and advocates for progressive solutions to rapid population growth. By ensuring that people can plan their families through affordable access to modern contraception and reproductive health care, we can protect our planet and its resources for future generations.

Learn more and join us at
www.populationconnection.org

1 World Wildlife Fund

2 Tim Dyson, London School of Economics

3 Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: 2017 Update and SDG Baselines

4 The Lancet (By 2050, 3.9 billion people (more than 40% of the world's population) are projected to be living in river basins under severe water stress.)

5 United Nations World Water Assessment Program

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