



NPG 2011 POPULATION FACT SHEET

Introduction to Students: Why Population Matters to You

From the moment you are born you become a key participant in shaping the population dynamics of our country. Throughout your life, you will hopefully share in America's rich opportunities and help make our nation a better place to live. You will also compete for your individual portion of our country's limited resources.

Each step of the way you will put your own personal imprint on our nation. And you will interact with hundreds of millions of fellow citizens who, like you, will be looking to enjoy a decent quality of life and pursue the American Dream.

The results of the recently completed U.S. Census found that America's population stood at 308.7 million people as of April 1, 2010. As you read this 2011 Population Fact Sheet we will have added almost 3 million people to that figure in just one year. In 40 years, the U.S. population is expected to rise to 438 million – a number that will create a far different quality of life than we all currently enjoy. This growth is unsustainable in the long term.

The information below is provided to stimulate discussion about population growth. Understanding the dangers of our ever-increasing population is especially important as we celebrate Earth Day each year.

Remember, as you project these facts into the future where there will be tens of millions more people in America, you are part of the generation that has so much to gain by demanding responsible and sound population policies today.

World Population:

- ◀ The United Nations estimated world population reached 6 billion in 1999. It is currently estimated to be 6.9 billion and is expected to reach 7 billion in 2012.

U.S. Population Info:

- ◀ With 311 million people, the United States ranks as the third most populated country in the world behind China and India.
- ◀ America's population increased by 27.3 million people between 2000 and 2010 – one of the largest increases in any decade in our nation's history. We are effectively adding a city the size of Chicago to our population every year. Every day, we add more than 7,000 new people to the United States.
- ◀ The fastest growing states in the U.S. in the past 10 years include: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah.
- ◀ According to the U.S. Census Bureau, one birth is expected to occur every 8 seconds in the U.S. this year and one death every 12 seconds. Net international migration – including immigration – will increase the population by one person every 37 seconds. The end result is that in 2011 our population will grow by 1 person every 14 seconds.

Environment and Habitat:

- ◀ Despite making strides to protect our fragile environment in recent years, evidence exists that the impact of population growth is negating many positive environmental victories.
- ◀ U.S. coastal areas have the highest population density in the country and continued development puts coastal habitats at even greater risk.
- ◀ Numerous fish and wildlife species and their habitats within areas such as the Great Lakes Basin, the Everglades, and the Chesapeake Bay, face serious threats.
- ◀ Increased population will greatly contribute to global warming.

POPULATION BY STATE 1970-2010

	1970	1990	2010	*Projected 2030
Alabama	3,444,165	4,040,587	4,779,736	4,874,243
Alaska	302,173	550,043	710,231	867,674
Arizona	1,772,482	3,665,228	6,392,017	10,712,397
Arkansas	1,923,295	2,350,725	2,915,918	3,240,208
California	19,953,134	29,760,021	37,253,956	46,444,861
Colorado	2,207,259	3,294,394	5,029,196	5,792,357
Connecticut	3,032,217	3,287,116	3,574,097	3,688,630
Delaware	548,104	666,168	897,934	1,012,658
District of Columbia	756,510	606,900	601,723	433,414
Florida	6,789,443	12,937,926	18,801,310	28,685,769
Georgia	4,589,575	6,478,216	9,687,653	12,017,838
Hawaii	769,913	1,108,229	1,360,301	1,466,046
Idaho	713,008	1,006,749	1,567,582	1,969,624
Illinois	11,113,976	11,430,602	12,830,632	13,432,892
Indiana	5,193,669	5,544,159	6,483,802	6,810,108
Iowa	2,825,041	2,776,755	3,046,355	2,955,172
Kansas	2,249,071	2,477,574	2,853,118	2,940,084
Kentucky	3,219,311	3,685,296	4,339,367	4,554,998
Louisiana	3,643,180	4,219,973	4,533,372	4,802,633
Maine	993,663	1,227,928	1,328,361	1,411,097
Maryland	3,922,399	4,781,468	5,773,552	7,022,251
Massachusetts	5,689,170	6,016,425	6,547,629	7,012,009
Michigan	8,875,083	9,295,297	9,883,640	10,694,172
Minnesota	3,805,069	4,375,099	5,303,925	6,306,130
Mississippi	2,216,912	2,573,216	2,967,297	3,092,410
Missouri	4,677,399	5,117,073	5,988,927	6,430,173
Montana	694,409	799,065	989,415	1,044,898
Nebraska	1,483,791	1,578,385	1,826,341	1,820,247
Nevada	488,738	1,201,833	2,700,551	4,282,102
New Hampshire	737,681	1,109,252	1,316,470	1,646,471
New Jersey	7,168,164	7,730,188	8,791,894	9,802,440
New Mexico	1,016,000	1,515,069	2,059,179	2,099,708
New York	18,241,266	17,990,455	19,378,102	19,477,429
North Carolina	5,082,059	6,628,637	9,535,483	12,227,739
North Dakota	617,761	638,800	672,591	606,566
Ohio	10,652,017	10,847,115	11,536,504	11,550,528
Oklahoma	2,559,253	3,145,585	3,751,351	3,913,251
Oregon	2,091,385	2,842,321	3,831,074	4,833,918
Pennsylvania	11,793,909	11,881,643	12,702,379	12,768,184
Rhode Island	949,723	1,003,464	1,052,567	1,152,941
South Carolina	2,590,516	3,486,703	4,625,364	5,148,569
South Dakota	666,257	696,004	814,180	800,462
Tennessee	3,924,164	4,877,185	6,346,105	7,380,634
Texas	11,196,730	16,986,510	25,145,561	33,317,744
Utah	1,059,273	1,722,850	2,763,885	3,485,367
Vermont	444,732	562,758	625,741	711,867
Virginia	4,648,494	6,187,358	8,001,024	9,825,019
Washington	3,409,169	4,866,692	6,724,540	8,624,801
West Virginia	1,744,237	1,793,477	1,852,994	1,719,959
Wisconsin	4,417,933	4,891,769	5,686,986	6,150,764
Wyoming	332,416	453,588	563,626	522,979
Total United States	203,235,298	248,709,873	308,745,538	363,584,435

Farmland:

- ◀ One acre of natural habitat or farmland is converted to built-up space or highway for each person added to the U.S. population. We are losing our most fertile and productive land the fastest as urban sprawl brings new houses, roads, malls, and office buildings.
- ◀ Every minute of every day, America loses two acres of farmland.

Energy:

- ◀ The United States consumes more energy than any other nation in terms of total use. We now consume three times more energy than we did in 1950 when our population was only 150 million.
- ◀ The majority of America's energy is derived from: Petroleum (40%), Coal (23%), Natural Gas (23%), Nuclear Power (8.4%), and Hydroelectric Dams (7.3%).

Water:

Water is essential for all life – human, animal and plant. It's needed to run businesses, farms and factories. Groundwater provides 31% of the water used in U.S. agriculture and it is presently being used faster than it can be replaced.

- ◀ Much of America's water supplies are contained in large underground aquifers..
- ◀ Agriculture consumes about 85% of all fresh water consumed by Americans.
- ◀ Future water supplies are among the most worrisome issues as the population grows. Droughts are unpredictable and population growth in the western U.S. could potentially trigger "water wars" as cities and states compete for dwindling water supplies.

What You Can Do To Protect Your Future

There is a huge price to pay if our nation continues to let our population numbers spin out of control. You are made aware of this growing crisis everyday via TV, the Internet or problems right in your own home town.

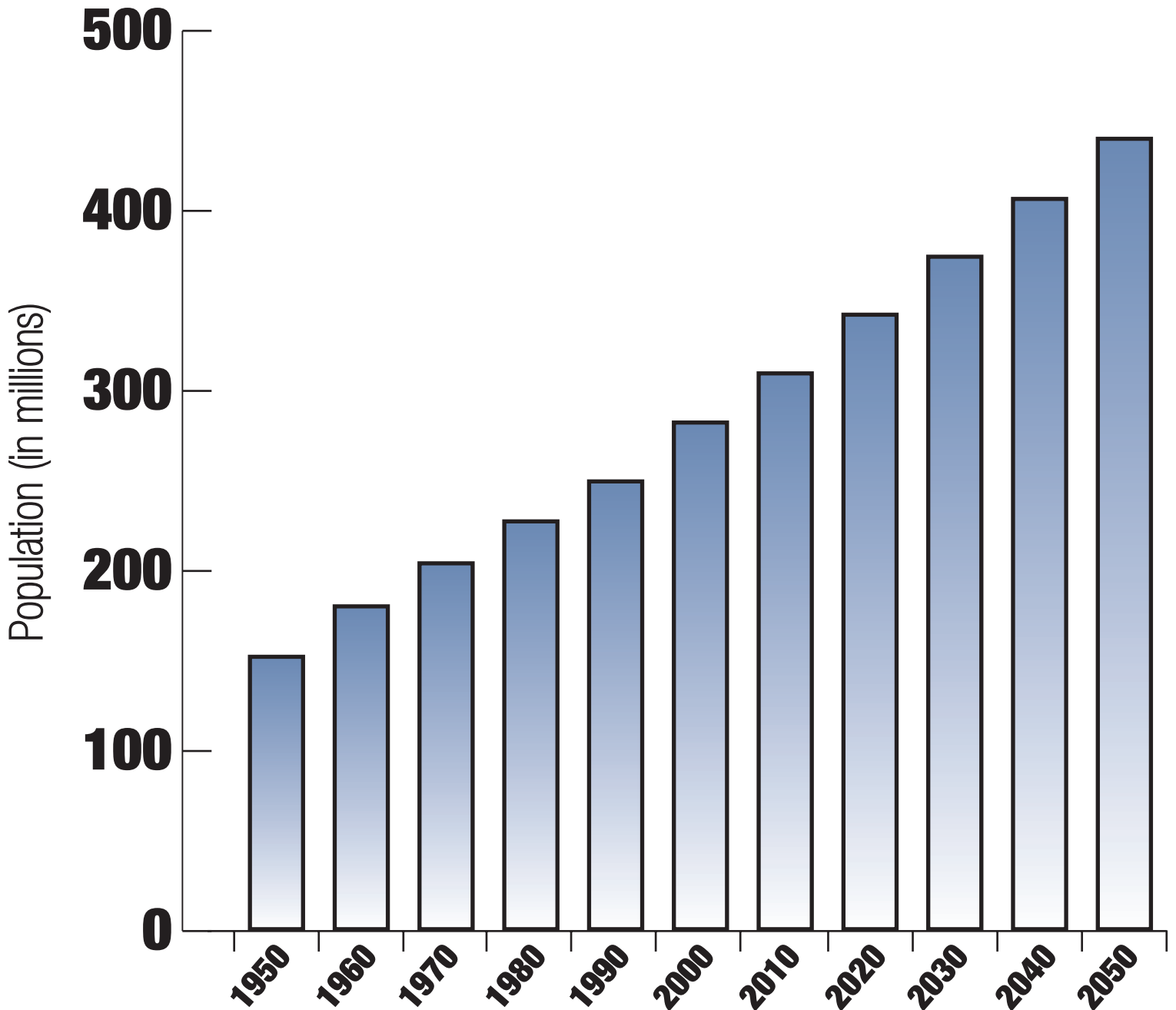
We already have too many people in many of our cities and communities who are contributing to critical problems such as overcrowded schools and hospitals, traffic gridlock and rising crime rates. Other serious damage that is not fully visible on a daily basis includes: competing for limited fresh water, increasing demand for energy, polluting our air, the loss of open spaces, forests and farmland and destroying America's fragile environment.

It is vitally important that our government leaders – on the federal, state and local levels – take steps to halt and reverse today's soaring population growth through actions that can restore our population to a manageable size.

As part of the generation that has so much to lose if our nation continues to ignore our population problems it is important that you speak up, get involved, demand responsible and sound population policies, and work to shape a more livable nation.

Negative Population Growth – NPG – is a national membership organization founded in 1972 to educate the American public and political leaders about the detrimental effects of overpopulation on our environment, resources and quality of life. NPG advocates a smaller and truly sustainable United States population accomplished through voluntary incentives for smaller families and reduced immigration levels. For additional information about population issues, please visit our website at www.npg.org.

UNITED STATES POPULATION 1950-2050



The above bar graph reflects America's population growth for the years 1950 to 2050 -- a time period that encompasses an era when the grandparents of most of today's students were born all the way through to the years when they will themselves become grandparents!