

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 12th



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Class : 12th

Subject : Geography

Chapter : 2

Chapter Name : The World Population Distribution, Density and Growth

Q1 Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below.

(i) Which one of the following continents has the highest growth of population?

- (a) Africa
- (b) South America
- (c) Asia
- (d) North America

(ii) Which one of the following is not an area of sparse population?

- (a) The Atacama
- (b) South-east Asia
- (c) Equatorial region
- (d) Polar regions

(iii) Which one of the following is not a push factor ?

- (a) Water shortage
- (b) Medical/educational facilities
- (c) Unemployment
- (d) Epidemics

(iv) Which one of the following is not a fact ?

- (a) Human population increased more than ten times during the past 500 years.
- (b) It took 100 years for the population to rise from 5 billion to 6 billion.
- (c) Population growth is high in the first stage of demographic transition.

Answer.

- (i) (a) Africa
- (ii) (b) South-east Asia
- (iii) (b) Medical/educational facilities
- (iv) (b) It took 100 years for the population to rise from 5 billion to 6 billion.

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Q2 Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

- (i) Name three geographical factors that influence the distribution of population.
- (ii) There are a number of areas with high population density in the world. Why does this happen?
- (iii) What are the three components of population change?

Answer.

(i) The three geographical factors that influence the distribution of population are :

- Landforms : People chose to reside on gentle slopes and flat plains. This is because they can grow crops here easily and build roads and industries.
- Water availability : Water is the most important factor for life so places where freshwater is available easily and in abundance are preferred by people to live.

- Soils : The regions where soil is fertile is populated as agriculture tasks and allied activities can be easily performed.
- Climate : People chose to live in places that do not have extreme weather conditions. An extreme climate such as very hot or cold deserts are uncomfortable for human habitation.

(ii) There are a number of areas with high population density in the world, this happens because such places have at least one or multiple factors favourable for human population's settlement. Whenever people find that a place has favourable factors for residing, they start settling there. As population grew with time, these areas had thick population density. There are several factors responsible like Geographical factors, Economic factors, Social and Cultural factors that has led to this situation.

For example : Mega cities of the world attract a large number of migrants every year because these cities offer better employment opportunities, educational and medical facilities.

(iii) The three components of population change are :

- Crude Birth Rate (CBR) : It is the number of live births during a year per thousand of population in a given region.
- Crude Death Rate (CDR) : It is number of deaths at a place per thousand population in a region.
- Migration : It is no of people moving in and out of a place due to economic, political and social reasons.

Page : 15 , Block Name : Short Answer

Q3 Distinguish between:

- Birth rate and death rate.
- Push factors and pull factors of migration.

Answer.

(i)

Birth Rate	Death Rate
It is no of live births per thousand of population during a year in a region.	It is no of death per thousand of population during a year in a region.
$CBR = (Bi/P)P * 100$	$CDR = (D/P) * 100$

<p>CBR = Crude Birth Rate P=Mid year population of the area Bi = live births during the year</p>	<p>CDR=Crude Death Rate P=Estimated mid-year population of that year. D = no of deaths</p>
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(ii)

Push Factor	Pull Factor
Such factors make a place less attractive for human settlement.	These factors make a place attractive for human settlement.
Due to these factors, people start moving out, hence they face emigration.	It forces people's inflow - hence there is immigration.
E.g poor living conditions, unemployment, natural disasters, political turmoil, etc.	E.g. Pleasant climate, employment opportunities, security of property and life

Page : 15, Block Name : Short Answer

Q4 Answer the following questions in about 150 words.

- (i) Discuss the factors influencing the distribution and density of population in the world.
- (ii) Discuss the three stages of demographic transition.

Answer.

(i) The factors influencing the distribution and density of population are :

- Geographical Factors

-Water Availability : It is an important factor to survive. People choose to live in areas where the freshwater is already available. Water is used for various purposes like bathing, drinking, cooking, etc. It is also essential to carry out agricultural activities.

-Climate : People choose to live in areas that do not have harsh climatic conditions. The places that have average rainfall and humid climate have high population density. E.g Mediterranean region.

-Land Reforms : People choose to live in the places which have gentle slopes and flat lands. Uneven and mountainous regions obstruct human growth. So, they are less populated.

-Soils : If a place has fertile loamy soil, then we can find more human settlements as these places easily support intensive agriculture.

- Economic Factors

-Urbanisation : Cities offer better medical and educational facilities, high employment rate, good transport and communication system are reasons why people prefer cities. Thus, rural-urban migration occurs and cities grow in size.

-Minerals : If a place is rich in minerals, it would attract industries. Mining and related activities generate employment on a large scale. The workers who are skilled and semi-skilled move to these regions and it becomes densely populated. E.g. Africa's Katanga Zambia Copper belt

-Industrialization : Industrial belts offer good job opportunities and attracts a large section of workers. It also includes other professionals such as Doctors, teachers, Transport operators, etc.

- Social and Cultural Factors

Few places attract people because they have cultural or religious significance. If a place is facing political unrest, then people tend to move away from such areas.

(ii) Demographic transition theory predicts and describes the future population of any region. It states that an area's population changes from high deaths and high births to low deaths and low births as the society starts progressing from rural, illiterate and agrarian to industrial, urban and literate society. Such changes occur in stages which is called demographic cycle collectively.

The first stage has a high mortality rate and high fertility rate because people reproduce more so that they could compensate for deaths due to variable food supply or epidemics. There is slow growth in population. Most people are farmers and have large families. Most people are illiterate and have low life expectancy. Nearly two hundred years ago countries were in this stage.

In the second stage, fertility is high in the beginning but it declines with time. Reduced mortality rate accompanies it. Sanitation and health condition improves and mortality rate declines. Due to this gap, net addition to population is high. India is an example

In the last stage, mortality and fertility declines. The population grows slowly or is stable. It becomes literate, urbanised and highly technical. It controls family size. Due to this, a region faces negative population growth. E.g. Western countries

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